



Forests Action Day Report

12 November 2017

From the content group to the Champions

Short term (2018) and mid-term (2020) priority actions from the forests perspective that could have significant impact and deliver concrete results aligned with the long-term aims of the Paris Agreement and feed into the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue are:

SHORT TERM PRIORITIES FOR 2018

Scaling up progress on forests

- Private sector: In 2018, companies to accelerate actions to meet their 2020 deforestation free supply chain commitments;
- Governments: Governments build capacity and access to technology to stem illegal logging operations, increasing transparency and strengthening governance;
- Indigenous peoples: Formalization of indigenous and local community forest tenure and use rights;
- Finance: Financial priorities and investment needs to be increased to match the enormous climate potential of forests (i.e. forests receive 2% of climate finance and provide 1/3 of the solution).

Adaptation and resilience of forests and societies

- *Develop and implement innovative plans for forest adaptation to climate change for forest protection and socioeconomic programs to increase the resilience of the communities – in particular for most vulnerable states such as Small Island Developing States (SIDS).*

Integrate forests and other land uses

- Align priorities in the land use sector so that incentives and policies put in place in one land use sector are not undermining the priorities of the others -- especially regarding agricultural subsidies that promote deforestation and forest degradation -- to more efficiently implement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Scaling up finance

- Mobilize financing for the NDCs commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation related to the forest and land sector, to assist developing countries -- in particular vulnerable countries such as SIDS -- in implementing their national REDD+ strategies and National Adaptation Plans, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Assist developing countries in updating their NDCs, as appropriate, to include more ambitious mitigation as well as adaptation activities in the forest sector, consistent with national REDD+ and low emissions development strategies aligned with the SDGs.



MID-TERM PRIORITIES FOR 2020

- Mobilize multi-stakeholder partnerships to implement the goals of the New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF) -- with special focus on Goals 1, 2, 3, 5 with a 2020 milestone -- and promote accountability in the measurement of progress, and track progress, through an annual assessment action towards the NYDF goals;
- Strengthen forest governance frameworks, build national and local capacity and mobilize finance to implement forest related climate change adaptation commitments under the NDCs as well as forest and land use content of National Adaptation Plans;
- Strengthen subnational action to encourage more ambitious forest related climate change mitigation and adaptation goals under the NDCs.

New initiatives or commitments on climate action announced at COP 23.

- Green Climate Fund (GCF) allocates USD 500 million for Forests;
- Gabon cracks down on illegal logging operation to prevent emission of 20 million tons of CO₂;
- Ecuador pioneers access to GCF financing to accelerate forest action;
- Mars Inc. adopts policy to significantly reduce carbon footprint in its global operations;
- Walmart launches policy to remove deforestation from supply chains;
- Green Fund established to de-risk public-private investments in protecting forests;
- Indigenous Peoples' make progress on Traditional Knowledge Platform.