



## **Submission from Norway to the COP 30 Presidency Roadmap on Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation by 2030**

27 March 2026

Norway welcomes the opportunity to engage in the COP 30 Presidency led discussions on how to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. The Global Mutirão decision from Belem reflects Parties' commitment to the Paris Agreement, placing science and international cooperation at the centre of our efforts.

The COP30 presidency roadmap should be guided by the consensus to pursue efforts to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees, and reflect the findings of the first Global Stocktake, 1/CMA.5, including paragraph 33 and 34, and the need for reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions of 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035.

As reiterated in the *Global Mutirão* decision, Parties remain strongly committed to the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, placing science and multilateral cooperation at the center of our response. Suggested actions, knowledge, and solutions must draw on the best available science, in particular the IPCC. While responding to the GST1, the roadmap should provide insights ahead of GST2 in 2028, enabling Parties to enhance their NDCs and the implementation of them.

We encourage substantial and meaningful consultations with parties and stakeholders for the roadmap to be clear and applicable and as useful as possible, and to build a shared political understanding of the urgency. We welcome signals by the Presidency to conduct consultations on the roadmap in the margins of other meetings already scheduled for 2026.

Reduced conversion of forests and other ecosystems has amongst the highest total mitigation potential. Norway's input to the roadmap for forests focus on tropical forests, and is based on almost two decades of experience in supporting tropical forest countries in their efforts to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation. The roadmap should set the stage for scaling up efforts to the level needed to reach the agreed 2030 target for halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation.

Our common efforts are not starting from scratch. Key tropical forest countries have demonstrated leadership and results in reducing deforestation. We need to work together to support and replicate these success stories and align incentives for the long term. We have seen important commitments from global commodity players that must be implemented and supported. New technologies have become available to ensure transparency and traceability in supply chains. Halting and reversing global forest loss is within reach, even if there are new and emerging pressures on land and forests. However, it will require enhanced and sustained political leadership and global collaboration commensurate with the globally

systemic importance of forests, for climate stability, for nature, for national economies, and for future local and global food security.

### **The most critical barriers preventing the halting and reversing of deforestation and forest degradation by 2030**

Drivers of forest loss are local, national, regional and global. The barriers to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation are therefore context specific and vary with the circumstances.

One main overarching main barrier, however, is insufficient recognition of the value of the ecosystem services provided by forests. Forests are not sufficiently valued for the services they provide, such as the contribution of forests to limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees, and their role in providing global common goods and ecosystem services, including forests' role as carbon stock, climate regulators, biodiversity hotspots, barriers against floods and clean water providers. Intact ecosystems such as forests are also key as providers of climate resilience and adaptation.

Producers of sustainably produced commodities and products are not given a premium that reflects the added cost of sustainable production, or the added value that comes with environmental and social integrity. Most commodities today are traded at a price that does not factor in the negative external effects of deforestation, such as cascading risks that also affect the economy at large, representing a market failure.

Another main barrier is insufficient policy coherence. The importance of forests is often not sufficiently reflected in land use policies. Examples include policies directed at increasing agricultural production, land-based energy production, infrastructure, or minerals extraction, which may all act as drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Such drivers are often strengthened through subsidies or specific policy mandates that increase the pressure, both directly and indirectly, on forest areas.

In areas where the local population, due to economical constraints, have fewer alternative energy sources to biomass, this may work as a driver of deforestation and forest degradation due to the risk of overharvesting or overexploitation. This underlines the importance of viewing deforestation and forest degradation in the context of all three pillars of sustainable development.

In many geographies illegalities and entrenched illegal economies undermine efforts to implement sustainable land use policies. Organized crime linked to drugs, logging and mining too often operate with a low risk, high reward calculus, and offer local communities more attractive livelihood opportunities than sustainable economic activities.

Climate change in itself is also affecting tropical forests, intensifying heatwaves and drought, causing forest degradation and less resilience. Reducing all emissions is therefore important also to reduce deforestation and forest degradation and ensure resilient ecosystems.

These represent policy challenges that must be addressed nationally, regionally and through international cooperation. Both market failure, lack of policy coherence, and poverty, may be addressed through policy measures and scaled up or repurposed investments and incentives.

### **Potential levers for accelerating the implementation of the commitment to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation, and country, regional and sector experiences, best practices and lessons learned**

Halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation is a key aspect of economic, social and environmental development.

According to the IPCC AR6 rapid and far-reaching transitions across all sectors and systems are necessary to achieve deep and sustained emissions reductions and secure a livable and sustainable future for all. Conservation, improved management, and restoration of forests and other ecosystems offer amongst the largest share of economic mitigation potential, of which reduced deforestation in tropical regions having the highest total mitigation potential. Options such as conservation of high-carbon ecosystems (e.g., peatlands, wetlands, rangelands, mangroves and forests), deliver immediate benefits, while others, such as restoration of high-carbon ecosystems, take decades to deliver measurable results.

To keep global warming below 1.5 degrees, the world must cut greenhouse gas emissions by 22 gigatonnes annually by 2030. Halting deforestation could reduce emissions by 4 gigatons a year<sup>1</sup>, Protecting and restoring forests is one of many nature-based solutions that countries can use to limit greenhouse gas emissions. Reaching the goals requires political will to develop, implement and enforce relevant policies at local, national and global level, and as such, reflect the costs and consequences of deforestation and forest degradation, including the potential consequences of an ecosystem collapse, in global, national and local policies. This requires policy coherence, and the need to integrate forests as a part of the wider economy- and climate policy. More often than not, alternatives to policies causing deforestation exist, such as directing production to non-forested areas or enhancing productivity on existing lands.

Norway encourages all parties to submit ambitious, economy-wide NDCs, covering the forest and land use sectors, and using this as a point of departure for strengthening policy development and provide incentives for further action.

There are several examples of existing policy measures that reduce deforestation and forest degradation. These overarching and complementary policy measures include:

- national reforms of forest and land use regulations,
- stronger law enforcement to combat illegalities in the forest and land use sector,

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<sup>1</sup> According to the [UN-REDD Programme](#), a partnership between UNEP, the UN Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. [How halting deforestation can help counter the climate crisis](#)

- land use planning in line with ambitious NDCs and NBSAPs, reducing emissions, safeguarding carbon stocks and reducing loss of biodiversity,
- forest friendly fiscal policies, including economic subsidy schemes,
- recognition of the tenure rights of Indigenous Peoples', people of African descent, and local communities,
- establishment of national parks and other protected areas,
- community forestry schemes,
- sustainable management of forests,
- policies and incentives for improved agricultural practices,
- promotion of forest- friendly local livelihoods and value chains,
- green procurement,
- enhanced transparency,
- Incentives for sustainable import, export and trade in commodities that cause, deforestation and forest degradations, such as EUDR.

Countries have noted that sustainable management of forests requires economic incentives and alignment with societal needs such as income generation through agroforestry, sustainable timber supply and climate-resilient food systems, recognizing the role of forests not only as carbon sinks but as sources of livelihood, biodiversity and food system stability<sup>2</sup>.

A key lesson is that whilst the international level might provide a facilitative international policy environment, incentive regimes such as results-based payments for REDD+, and better designed trade rules and corporate action to reduce deforestation, specific policies related to land use must be developed and implemented within the context of the appropriate national or sub-national authority.

Scaling up and strengthening land tenure rights for Indigenous Peoples, people of African Descent, and local communities, in line with the Intergovernmental Land Tenure Commitment<sup>3</sup>, endorsed by countries as part of the Action Agenda at COP30, has proven to be an effective approach to reduce deforestation and forest degradation of tropical forests. This will also have positive effects on poverty as a driver of deforestation, as lack of tenure exacerbates economic insecurity.

Furthermore, stronger law enforcement and concerted action against forest crime is needed, including combatting transnational crimes. Both national and local authorities hold key responsibilities in this regard, but enhanced international cooperation is also of importance to ensure that appropriate tools and resources are available, and to address transboundary and transnational crime.

In Norway's experience, transparency is also important in the work to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation. Publicly available information on the forest, its condition, land ownership, relevant permits and licenses, and similar data, is important for an

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<sup>2</sup> [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sb2025\\_11.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sb2025_11.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [COP30 Intergovernmental Land Tenure Commitment - The Forest & Climate Leaders' Partnership \(FCLP\)](#)

informed public discussion on policies. This again enables efficient policy implementation and facilitates required adjustment of policies throughout implementation.

Another key approach is to address how corporate supply chain policies can be developed to better recognize the value of ecosystem services provided by forests, and to create favorable conditions for commodities produced without deforestation. Roadmaps for deforestation-free commodities such as the Agricultural Sector Roadmap to 1.5C<sup>4</sup> and the Forest Positive Coalition<sup>5</sup> must be developed and implemented at the global, national and local level, and we encourage all economies to channel demand towards such products, taking note of the framework of “avoid, shift, improve”<sup>6</sup>. This could include policy action both at the international level through trade policies and regulation, and at the national and local level. To be effective, demand signals should support traceability systems and collaboration with farmers and producers to achieve sustainable production.

Financial levers include proven solutions like Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). REDD+ rewards developing countries that successfully reduce deforestation and forest degradation against an agreed baseline. Further development of the compliance and voluntary markets for jurisdictional REDD+ credits with high social and environmental integrity is important to unleash the needed financial rewards to developing countries.

Norway welcomes the innovative approach presented by the Tropical Forest Forever Facility, as a complementary incentive to REDD+. We encourage contributions to this important new initiative. Furthermore, there is a need to mobilize additional economic resources to halt and reverse deforestation in forest countries, including repurposing subsidies. The Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework states that governments must eliminate, phase out, or reform harmful subsidies by 2030. The Forest Finance Roadmap for Action<sup>7</sup> provides a useful guide for additional economic levers.

In our view, the goal of halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030 should also be part of the broader climate finance discussion. This should, amongst others, take into account Article 2.1(c) of the Paris Agreement, and reflect the importance of a multitude of finance flows from national resource mobilization and financial markets to private investments and traditional aid.

## **Conclusion**

To conclude, Norway welcomes the initiative by the COP 30 President on the Roadmap to halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. We encourage continued consultations with the parties and all relevant stakeholders to make the roadmap as useful as

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<sup>4</sup> [Ag Sector Roadmap Updates | Tropical Forest Alliance](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Commodity Roadmaps - The Consumer Goods Forum](#)

<sup>6</sup> This framework suggest that policies that avoid emissions should have the highest priority, followed by policies that shift actions to alternatives with less emissions, and subsequently policies that improve current actions.

<sup>7</sup> [34 Governments Launch the Forest Finance Roadmap for Action - The Forest & Climate Leaders' Partnership \(FCLP\)](#)

possible for the achievement of the target of halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030 and look forward to contributing to the process.