

# Financing sustainable forest management: a key component of sustainable COVID-19 recovery

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## Increasing international financial support to vulnerable countries

While many developed countries provide stimulus packages, most developing countries, especially Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDC), lack the financial resources and monetary capacity to roll out ambitious recovery measures. International support should be protected and increased, whenever possible, to assist these countries in their recovery efforts. Technical or financial support could be provided in different ways, for example, by reducing debt pressure or through “debt-for-nature/forests swaps”.<sup>1</sup>

International financing entities have a role to play in supporting green components of the post-pandemic recovery packages. For example, GCF’s Readiness Programme can be deployed to finance portion of climate-related actions in stimulus measures (GCF, 2020). The UN Economic Commission for Africa and the Government of Ethiopia kicked off a US\$ 3.6 million project to support the Government to stimulate green jobs, improve community livelihoods, enhance the health

