

Views of the UNFCCC

Introduction

The role of forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation in the context of the Paris Agreement

actions in the land use, land-use change and forestry sector among priority areas for the implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions. At the same time, the multiple benefits provided by forests in addition to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and removals are also equally well recognized by the UNFCCC. Actions to reduce emissions as well as enhance removals in the forest sector as part of low carbon development strategies contribute to other benefits such as protection of water resources and biodiversity ensuring food security, maintenance and

This vision for action is in line with the goal of the 2030 Agenda to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Furthermore, the Agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change through strengthening climate resilience.

In the context of the objective and aim of the Convention, its Protocol and Paris Agreement, the actions and responses by Parties consider the important role of terrestrial and marine ecosystems as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases. This is well captured in commitments under Article 4, paragraph 1(d) of the Convention, in which Parties commit to promote sustainable management, and promote and cooperate in the conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, including biomass, forests and oceans as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems. This commitment and its political significance, is reiterated in Article 5 of the Paris Agreement. Annex I country Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, in order to promote sustainable development, have committed to promote sustainable forest management practices, afforestation and reforestation as part of their actions to enhance sinks and reservoirs and to achieve their agreed emissions reduction targets (Article 2, paragraph 1(a)(ii), Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4). Afforestation and reforestation activities undertaken as part of the clean development mechanism (CDM) are for the purpose of assisting non-Annex I Parties to achieve sustainable development while assisting Annex I Parties to achieve their emission reduction targets (Article 12, Kyoto Protocol).

Parties not only consider forests in their actions to mitigate climate change but also the role of forests in meeting their adaptation needs and addressing their vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change.

Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17.

| SDG Goal | Key contributions of forests under the UNFCCC as noted in key Articles, decisions and/or mandates of the COP/CMP |
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| 1 | <p>Convention Article 2, Article 3, paragraphs 4 and 5, Article 4.1(d) Kyoto Protocol Article 2. 1(a)(ii), Article 3.3 and Article 3.4, Article 12 Paris Agreement Article 5, Article 7.1</p> <p>Countries should implement REDD+ actions in the context of sustainable development and reducing poverty, while responding to climate change (Decision 1/CP.16, Appendix</p> |
| 2 | <p>Convention Article 2 Paris Agreement Article 2</p> <p>To take actions towards the achievement of the ultimate objective of the Convention and the aim of the Paris Agreement that would strengthen the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and ensure that food production is not threatened and enable sustainable economic development.</p> |

SDG Goal

Key contributions of forests under the UNFCCC

multiple initiatives and platforms for climate action. The secretariat is involved in several initiatives to enhance cooperation and support to developing country Parties to meet the targets expressed in their INDCs. The Paris Agreement also encourages Parties to work closely with non-Party stakeholders as well as regional and