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|  | **A black background with red and blue text  AI-generated content may be incorrect.** |  |
|  | **Output 3.3: Policy analysis and information systems supported to improve action and unlock ambition** |  |
|  | **UN-REDD Multiyear Programming Document 2026–2030 Illustrative Support Overview** |  |
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|  | **Prepared by UN-REDD Programme**  **June 2025** |  |
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|  | *This brief has been prepared by the UN-REDD Programme team based on preliminary analysis, internal assessments, and strategic insights from prior engagements and consultations. It is intended to provide illustrative information on potential areas of UN-REDD support for the 2026–2030 period. The content, including indicative budgets and activities, is for donor engagement purposes only and has not yet been discussed or consulted with the respective country authorities. As such, it does not represent an official position or commitment from the country concerned or from the UN-REDD Programme.* |  |

# Output 3.3: Policy analysis and information systems supported to improve action and unlock ambition

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| ***This is one of three outputs forming Outcome 3: Enhancing Climate Ambition:***Within the framework of the UN Climate Promise, supporting countries to enhance the climate ambition of their forest and land sector, in line with the global 1.5oC target. This comprises support along the NDC cycle, including coordination, stakeholder engagement, review, enhancement, financing and implementation (thus contributing to Outcome 1), as well as the associated Enhanced Transparency Framework. The NDC support will integrate acceleration, ambition, and inclusivity. |

# The challenge

To effectively reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, countries must do more than set targets—they must manage the policies and measures that will get them there. This requires moving beyond high-level strategies and GHG inventories to structured systems for tracking the design, implementation, and outcomes of mitigation-related policies, particularly in land use and forest sectors.

In many countries, REDD+ strategies already provide a foundational policy roadmaps. Developed through multi-stakeholder processes and informed by national deforestation drivers, these strategies outline actions to promote sustainable land use and reduce emissions. While implementation has varied, these strategies remain an essential reference point for future policymaking—provided countries have the tools to monitor what has worked, what hasn’t, and why.

This is where institutional capacity becomes critical. Under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (FCCC/PA/CMA/2018/3/Add.2) countries are required to report not only on emissions, but on the specific policies and measures that contribute to NDC implementation. This includes policy’s objectives, instruments, sectors affected, implementation status, institutional lead, expected and actual impacts, and more.

Crucially, this work supports more than compliance—it enables countries to internalize learning loops between policy design, implementation, and results. It helps governments align climate action with rural development, forest governance, and adaptation needs. And it allows them to project realistic pathways for their next NDCs, using their own data and experience.

In the current climate finance landscape, this kind of policy tracking is increasingly important for accessing and unlocking funding. Whether through GCF results-based payments, Article 6 cooperative approaches, or bilateral agreements, greater confidence that climate policies are being implemented, monitored, and adjusted effectively is important. The objective of this component is therefore to institutionalize policy tracking systems that serve both national and international purposes. By embedding these capabilities into government planning and monitoring cycles, countries can ensure that REDD+ strategies and NDCs translate into credible, adaptive, and well-resourced action.

This work also facilitates engagement across ministries and sectors, enabling shared accountability for mitigation targets and better alignment with development priorities such as agriculture, energy, and finance.

By creating a common evidence base and structured tracking system, it helps bridge silos between climate, land-use, and economic policy—ensuring that mitigation efforts are coordinated, not fragmented. Further, by developing these platforms from a global perspective in mind, related approaches and experiences can be more readily shared, like in the case of some landmark policies such as Payments for Ecosystem Services. The proposed approach will enable greater understanding of not just individual policies, but of policy landscapes.

# The value proposition

The UN-REDD Programme has played a central role in supporting forest countries to develop national REDD+ strategies, providing structured platforms to assess deforestation drivers, consult stakeholders, and articulate cross-sectoral responses. These strategies marked a turning point by placing public policy at the core of forest and climate action. For many countries, they continue to serve as a reference point for aligning mitigation actions with broader development goals.

As countries move from strategy development to implementation, the need for more institutionalized approaches to assess and manage the effectiveness of their policy responses has become increasingly clear. Governments are seeking to build on the foundations laid during the readiness phase to ensure that existing policies can deliver credible, measurable results—and to inform the design of future policies with greater precision and accountability.

UN-REDD brings a unique comparative advantage to this challenge. With over a decade of experience working directly with national institutions across forestry, land use, and climate planning, the Programme is well-positioned to support countries in moving from commitments to action. Its support draws on a combination of policy expertise, operational experience, and technical resources developed across multiple agencies.

This includes access to global public goods that help countries navigate complex policy landscapes and improve transparency. Among these are datasets and tools such as FAOLEX, a comprehensive repository of national legal and policy instruments related to agriculture, forestry, and natural resources, and FAPDA, which enables countries to track and analyse trends in policy decision-making over time. These are complemented by well-established platforms such as SEPAL, FRA, and FAOSTAT, which offer geospatial, forest inventory, and statistical data essential for linking policy actions to measurable outcomes.

What sets UN-REDD apart is its ability to connect these tools and experiences into country-driven processes and global connections that enhance institutional coordination, align policy efforts with international reporting requirements, and support the integration of climate ambition into national planning and enhance international cooperation. Rather than creating parallel systems, UN-REDD works with countries to build on what already exists—strengthening the capacities and feedback loops needed to translate policy into sustained impact.

# Scenarios

Strengthening countries’ ability to assess and improve the effectiveness of climate and forest-related policies requires a gradual and structured approach. This effort will unfold through a series of practical steps that build momentum over time—starting with basic tracking and moving toward full integration with national decision-making and reporting systems.

The first step is to identify the set of relevant policies, measures, actions and plans and include them into a basic tracking system—both at the national and global levels. This system would provide a clear, accessible view of which policies are in place, where they are being implemented, and how they relate to national climate and forest goals. This visibility is essential for countries to communicate their policy pathways more clearly in NDCs and to identify gaps or inconsistencies early on.

As the system takes shape, the next step is to link it to countries’ internal planning and budgeting processes. This means ensuring that policy tracking is not treated as a separate exercise, but is directly connected to how governments allocate resources, set priorities, and manage progress. By doing so, the system becomes a tool not just for reporting, but for strategic decision-making.

Once countries begin to generate and use this information, the focus shifts to building feedback mechanisms—ensuring that lessons from implementation can inform ongoing adjustments. This might involve reviewing which policies are delivering results, identifying where implementation is lagging, or understanding how different policies interact. Embedding this feedback into NDC updates and biennial transparency reports helps ensure that reporting processes support learning and course correction, rather than simply fulfilling external requirements.

The final step is to consolidate the system and ensure its sustainability. This includes formalizing roles and responsibilities within national institutions, securing the necessary technical and financial resources, and building the long-term capacity needed to maintain and evolve the system. Over time, this approach can help countries move from reactive, fragmented policy management to a more proactive and integrated way of steering climate and forest action.

By gradually building these capabilities, countries can move beyond compliance-driven reporting to develop the tools and habits of adaptive governance. This enables governments not only to meet their transparency obligations under the Paris Agreement but also to improve the design and delivery of public policies that are central to achieving their climate and development goals.

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| **Deliverables** | **Types of Activities** |
| 1. Global policy information and tracking system | 1. Develop classification, indicators, and system framework; assemble and align global policy datasets |
| 1. Develop digital interface and supporting tools; prepare integration guidance for reporting (BTR/NDC); develop training materials; organize knowledge exchanges 2. Create templates aligned with BTR processes; document good practices; support peer learning and synthesis |
| 1. Evaluate use and performance; update methodology and tools; align with future ETF architecture 2. Exchanges on national experiences |
| 1. National creation and consolidation of policy tracking and learning systems | 1. Conduct institutional diagnostics and co-design; identify links to national planning and reporting |
| 1. Deploy systems in selected countries; link system outputs in national reports |
| 1. Organize policy review; undertake initial assessments and learning loops; targeted capacity-building |