

# UN-REDD PROGRAMME



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



UN  
environment  
programme

# Report of the Ninth Executive Board Meeting

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UN-REDD PROGRAMME NINTH  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (EB-9)

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19-20 June 2025

Virtual meeting

### INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) held its Ninth Executive Board Meeting on 19-20 June 2025 in a virtual format. The meeting was attended by all constituencies (see Annex 1 for list of participants).
2. The agenda (Annex 2) featured three items: progress updates, 2026 – 2030 Strategy and programming scenarios, and monitoring and evaluation framework, intended to leverage the Board’s strategic advisory function. All documents and presentations are available on the UN-REDD Programme [microsite](#).

### AGENDA ITEM 1: PROGRESS UPDATES

3. The Secretariat ([presentation 1](#)) presented an update of progress on EB-8 actions, including brief updates on the formative review; the proposed platform on women in REDD+; and governance. The finalisation of the 2026-2030 Strategy, programming and accompanying resource mobilisation were discussed in more depth under item 2. The Secretariat also provided updates on annual results across the four outcome areas of the 2021-2025 workplan.

### Feedback and guidance from the Board

4. The 2024 Annual Report and the report on progress on EB8 actions was welcomed and appreciated.
5. Regarding the proposed development of a platform on women in REDD+, the Board appreciated progress and relevant initiatives including the development of an UN-REDD platform on gender and voluntary carbon markets. The Board encouraged further consideration of a dedicated platform on women in REDD+ and invited further discussion during the intersessional period to clarify the objectives and design the platform.
6. On the governance related updates, the Board discussed the proposed self-selection process related to the rotation of Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society representatives to the UN-REDD Executive Board, including potential platforms to support this process, and requested further opportunities to reflect on this. The importance of ensuring the selection process reflects regional balance, technical expertise and field experience was underlined. The Chair thanked the existing IP and CSO representatives for their engagement and commitment to the Programme. On the development of governance arrangements for the 2026-2030 phase, the Board noted the update on the process.

### Next steps

7. On the proposal for a platform on women in REDD+, there will be further reflection and discussion on the use of existing platforms or whether additional initiatives should be considered.
8. On the development of governance arrangements for 2026-2030 and the self-selection of Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society representatives to the UN-REDD Executive Board, a concept note will be circulated for background information and any feedback.

## AGENDA ITEM 2: 2026 – 2030 STRATEGY AND PROGRAMMING SCENARIOS

9. The Secretariat provided an overview ([presentation 2](#)) of the development of the 2026-2030 Strategy, highlighting the adjustments made to finalise the Strategy since EB8, the consultation process and feedback, and the initial programming scenarios to operationalize the Strategy being developed at thematic and geographic level. An indicative envelope of USD 300M would enable UN-REDD to deliver these scenarios in the 2026-2030 phase, helping to securitise larger investments to scale up action for forest and climate. Key next steps include finalizing work planning, deepening country engagement, advancing resource mobilization over the next six months; and launching the Strategy at COP 30, ready for immediate implementation from early 2026.
10. The thematic programming scenarios were illustrated with two presentations on finance and local solutions. UNEP presented a deep dive on outcome 2 on unlocking finance for REDD+ results ([presentation 3](#)), summarising how UN-REDD can support countries through the complex landscape of result-based finance (RBF), and underlining UN-REDD's commitment to remain "finance-agnostic" supporting countries in accessing whichever mix of instruments best fits their national circumstances.
11. The CSO representative presented an update on the beyond carbon benefits certification standard for ART TREES ([presentation 4](#)) on recognizing and rewarding non-carbon ecosystem services. The module is under [consultation](#) via the ART Secretariat until August.
12. UNDP introduced the deep dive on output 4.3 on scaling up and supporting indigenous and local solutions ([presentation 5](#)), providing insights on UN-REDD support related to land and forest tenure, finance mechanisms for IPLC including direct access, social forestry and promoting IP rights and knowledge.
13. FAO introduced the initial work undertaken on geographic scenarios ([presentation 6](#)), reflecting on what transformation looks like from a country perspective and how UN-REDD can support countries in the next phase. An illustration of the support anticipated across a broad three-tier typology of country contexts was provided along with a country example, using UN-REDD support to Colombia for illustrative purposes. Across all typologies, UN-REDD leverages its UN country teams as convenor-connectors, aligning with relevant initiatives, to ensure complementary rather than duplicative support.

### Feedback and guidance from the Board

14. **Strategy:** The updated Strategy 2026-2030 was welcomed by the Board, emphasizing the interlinked nature of the outcomes and outputs. The broadened strategy framing was appreciated, linking REDD+ beyond carbon to include synergies related to biodiversity, NBSAPS, fires and indigenous community actions under the UNFCCC's enhanced transparency framework. The importance of prominently reflecting synergies in upcoming work plans was emphasized. The role of UN-REDD in supporting countries' contexts to respond and navigate to the evolving forest and climate landscape was also noted, such as with respect to the emerging TFFF initiative (covered under output 4.4 on upfront finance).
15. **Finance (Outcome 2):** The Board noted the importance of UN-REDD supporting countries making sense of the spectrum of climate finance and helping to develop tailored packages. This will be particularly important in the current context of decreasing ODA and noting the market interest of going beyond carbon. The evolving notion of integrity and the complexity of transactions were discussed noting that while regulated markets entail larger volumes and potential price stability, they also introduce legal and technical complexity. UN-REDD is well positioned to provide the full range of capacity-building with end-to-end support from initial landscape scans and market mapping, through policy and regulatory analysis,

compliance with safeguards and matchmaking with investors. Partnerships will be important and opportunities for collaboration with the World Bank were welcomed

16. **Local solutions (Output 4.3):** The Board welcomed the strong emphasis on this area in the 2026-2030 Strategy and its integration across the Strategy. There was high interest in illustrative examples on tenure, financing mechanisms, nesting and social forestry and application of these in different country contexts. There was also interest on insights on how RBPs has been used to address tenure issues. It was noted that UN-REDD is well positioned to support the design of direct-access financing windows that channel payments directly to IPLC bodies, as well as to mainstream and upscale social-forestry models. Board members highlighted that “local community” is a global umbrella term covering vastly different governance models and suggested that UN-REDD could develop context-tailored criteria drawing on national legal definitions, customary tenure systems. Overall the Board expressed interest in following up on tenure and to be kept informed on developments.
17. **Geographic scenarios:** The Board welcomed the illustrative typology of countries to better understand the support needed to enable countries to advance on a gradient. Board members expressed interest in mapping countries (while at the same time avoiding creating artificial categorizations), building on the initial analysis and integrating country inputs, to inform work planning discussions to serve different typologies of country contexts.

#### Next steps

18. The Chair noted strong interest and endorsement for the overall 2026-2030 Strategy and of the programming scenarios presented, which provide a good illustration of how the thematic and geographic portfolios will be operationalised, and a good basis for moving forward with 2026-2030 programming (see closing sections).

#### AGENDA ITEM 3: MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

19. The M&E consultant provided an update on development of the 2026–2030 Results Framework ([presentation 7](#)), which includes a set of indicators at both output and outcome levels. For each result area there are both “high-ambition” indicators, characterized by rigorous, multi-criteria definitions that require more resources to assess (for example, assessing whether an MRV system is fully institutionalized, gender-responsive, and delivering both carbon and non-carbon data), and “moderate-ambition” indicators, which provide simpler, binary tracking at lower transaction costs (such as the number of countries reporting against MRV requirements).

#### Feedback and guidance from the Board

20. Overall, Board members welcomed the results framework and acknowledged that meaningful monitoring needs to differentiate outcome indicators (which will provide an indication of UN-REDD’s contribution to wider level system-change across the REDD+ landscape) and output indicators (which show UN-REDD’s attribution to specific changes delivered as a result of funded actions). The Board appreciated the fact that more comprehensive and methodologically robust indicators will necessarily entail higher transaction costs in terms of collection of data from forest countries and their aggregation for reporting purposes. The Board was supportive of more robust indicators that gave an overview of both quantitative as well as qualitative aspects of programme results. More guidance was sought on the cost, capacity and time implications of each option, and into exploring proportional resourcing of M&E.

21. Board members also provided specific feedback: (i) recognising that some specific thematic and cross-cutting areas are important for some donors, a request was made to include these within the indicators so that these themes could be tracked across the UN-REDD programme. Areas mentioned include social forestry, and convening, (ii) Given that UN-REDD is supporting country transformation through REDD+, there needs to be an indicator at outcome level that tracks overall progress across tropical forest countries on reducing deforestation, perhaps aligned with global commitments in this area, (iii) Given the importance of IPLCs, it is important that indicators adequately capture the actual flow of benefits to these stakeholders as well as their effective participation through representative institutions. Benefits need to capture both monetary benefits but also non-carbon benefits (improved rights, strengthened institutions etc). The issue of “doing no harm” (safeguarding) needs to be adequately reflected in the indicators, and (iv) The formative review indicated that UN-REDD has a number of core ‘comparative advantages’ (convening, neutral broker, supporting evidence-based decision-making), that the M&E framework needs to be able to capture clearly, as well as UN-REDD’s unique value as a global common good.

### Next steps

22. The M&E framework will be developed taking into account Board comments. More feedback will be sought on key considerations (costs, accountability etc) develop indicator baselines; and set context-sensitive targets aligned with available resources and country readiness typologies. This iterative process will yield a Results Framework and M&E plan that strike a balance between accountability, degree of detail, ambition, and operational feasibility.

### NEXT STEPS AND CLOSING

23. The chair invited interested board members to bilaterally contact the secretariat and the agencies to further explore some of the topics and approaches presented to the board. In addition to the continuing implementation of current support, the next steps with respect to the 2026-2030 Strategy are delineated below.
24. Over the next six months UN-REDD will pursue concurrently the following tracks to finalise and operationalise the 2026-2030 Strategy, culminating to launch the 2026-2030 phase at COP 30:
- Targeted resource mobilization to determine the envisaged 2026-30 funding envelope;
  - Programming process to develop workplans, in consultation with countries and partners;
  - Finalisation of the 2026-2030 M&E framework;
  - Development of governance arrangements for 2026-2030.
25. The next meeting of the Board will be tentatively scheduled in early 2026.

## Annex 1: List of EB9 Participants

		Name / Title	Country / Constituency	EB Membership
1	Mr.	Hugo Alberto Rivera Herrera Head of the Climate Change and Ecosystem Services Department The National Forestry Service of Chile (Sernapor)	Chile	Member, LAC
2	Ms.	María Elena Herrera Ugalde Director, Directorate of Development and Marketing of Environmental Services Director of the National REDD+ Strategy National Forestry Financing Fund, FONAFIFO	Costa Rica	Alternate, LAC
3	Ms.	Roselyn Fosuah Adjei Director, Climate Change, National REDD+ Coordinator, Forestry Commission	Ghana	Member, Africa
4	Mr.	Bob Kazungu Assistant Commissioner for Forestry, Assessment and Monitoring, Forest Sector Support Department, Directorate of Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Water and Environment	Uganda	Alternate, Africa
5	Mr.	Trần Hiếu Minh Head of Department of Science, Technology and International Cooperation (DOSTIC) Department of Forestry (DOF) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Viet Nam	Member, Asia-Pacific
6	Mr.	Nguyen Hoa REDD+ Office Vietnam Forestry Administration (VNForest)	Viet Nam	Member, Asia-Pacific
7	Mr.	Leif John Fosse Senior Adviser, Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI)	Norway	Member, Donors
8	Ms.	Vania Dietrichson Adviser, Section for Forest, Department for Climate and Environment, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)	Norway	Member, Donors
9	Mr.	Øyvind Dahl Head of Section Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)	Norway	Member, Donors
10		Ellen Bruzelius Backer Acting Deputy Director, NICFI	Norway	Member, Donors
11	Ms.	Laurence von Schulthess Programme Officer Sustainable Forest & Land Use Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)	Switzerland	Member, Donors
12	Mr.	Keith Anderson Forest and Climate Policy Advisor, Federal Office for the Environment FOEN, Forest Division	Switzerland	Member, Donors
13	Ms.	Sultana Bashir Head, International Forestry & Climate (REDD+) Policy Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ)	United Kingdom	Member, Donors
14	Ms.	Lindsay Mansfield Senior Policy Advisor and Programme Manager –LEAF, International Forests Unit (DESNZ and FCDO)	United Kingdom	Member, Donors
15	Ms.	Ayumi Ono Assistant Director, International Forestry Cooperation Office, Forestry Agency	Japan	Alternate, Donors
16	Ms.	Yun Yamanaka	Japan	Alternate, Donors

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		Name / Title	Country / Constituency	EB Membership
		Assistant Director, Natural Environment Team, Forestry & Nature Conservation Group, Global Environment Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)		
17	Ms.	Lola Cabnal Red de mujeres indígenas sobre Biodiversidad de América Latina y El Caribe (RMIB-LAC) Área de Incidencia, Asociación Ak´Tenamit	Indigenous Peoples Organization	Permanent Observer, IP
18	Mr	Gustavo Sanchez Valle President of Directive Council, Red Mexicana de Organizaciones Campesinas Forestales (Red MOCAF)	Civil Society Organization	Permanent Observer, CSO
19	Mr.	David Ganz Executive Director, The Centre for People and Forests (RECOFTC)	Civil Society Organization	Alternate, CSO
20	Ms.	Bertha Omeno Portfolio Manager, Multi Partner Trust Fund Office	MPTF-O	Member, Ex Officio
21	Ms	Mirey Atallah UN-REDD Strategy Group Member	UNEP (Chair)	Member
22	Mr	Josep Gari UN-REDD Strategy Group Member	UNDP	Alternate
23	Ms	Serena Fortuna UN-REDD Management Group	FAO	UN-REDD Team
24	Mr	Jose Carlos Fernandez UN-REDD Management Group	FAO	UN-REDD Team
25	Mr	Tom Woolnough Consultant	FAO	UN-REDD Team
26	Ms	Mariangela Bagnardi Operation Officer	FAO	UN-REDD Team
27	Ms	Elsbeth Halverson UN-REDD Management Group	UNDP	UN-REDD Team
27	Mr	Gabriel Labbate UN-REDD Management Group	UNEP	UN-REDD Team
28	Mr	Steven Swan UN-REDD Management Group	UNEP	UN-REDD Team
29	Mr	Mario Boccucci Head of Secretariat	UN-REDD Secretariat	UN-REDD Team
30	Mr	Chandra Manalu Programme Management Officer	UN-REDD Secretariat	UN-REDD Team
31	Ms	Sharon McAuslan Programme Management and Resource Mobilization Specialist	UN-REDD Secretariat	UN-REDD Team
32	Mr	Tom Blomley Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Consultant	Consultant	Consultant

## Annex 2: EB9 Agenda

<b>THURSDAY, 19 JUNE 2025 (Day 1)</b>	
14:00 – 14:15	Opening by Chair
14:15 – 15:15	Progress updates
15:15 – 16:25	2026 – 2030 Strategy and Programming Scenarios
16:25 – 16:30	Close Day 1
<b>FRIDAY, 20 JUNE 2025 (Day 2)</b>	
14:00 – 15:15	2026 – 2030 Strategy and Programming Scenarios, continued
15:15 – 16:15	2026 – 2030 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
16:15 – 16:30	Next Steps and closing
16:30	Close Day 2

\*Note: All times in Central European Summer Time