

# Contribution to the SDGs



UN-REDD is widely and purposefully contributing to achieving the SDGs, not only the more obvious goals on climate action (SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts) and sustainable forest management (SDG 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss), but also more broadly across the whole spectrum of the SDGs.

The different national strategies, investment plans, NFMS, deforestation-free commodity-chain partnerships and financial arrangements for the sustainable governance of lands and forests that countries develop, adopt and implement, with technical assistance and policy advice from UN-REDD, are allowing countries to address issues pertaining to rural livelihoods (SDG 1 – End poverty in all its forms everywhere), to promote sustainable agriculture (SDG 2 – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), to tackle energy issues related to charcoal use and sustainable alternatives (SDG 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all), to foster responsible production and trade (SDG 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns) and to build inclusive governance institutions (SDG 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels). In addition, the robust social inclusion approaches that are integrated into UN-REDD support, from stakeholder engagement to gender mainstreaming and to attention to the rights of indigenous peoples, enhance progress at the national level on gender equality (SDG 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) and political inclusion (SDG 10 – Reduce inequality within and among countries). Lastly, UN-REDD, which across 2019 has been recognized as the United Nations platform for forest solutions to the climate emergency, is a convener, nurturing innovative and multi-stakeholder partnerships for the sustainable governance

of forests (SDG 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development).

In 2019, UN-REDD has been active across diverse fronts that contribute widely to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while fostering inner synergies, including with regard to the following SDG targets:

- ▶ Supporting measures towards decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation (target 8.4)
- ▶ Empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all (target 10.2) by promoting multi-stakeholder dialogues, engagement and partnerships
- ▶ Encouraging official development assistance and financial flows, in particular to least developed countries (target 10.B)
- ▶ Encouraging the private sector to adopt sustainable practices (target 12.6)
- ▶ Broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance (target 16.8)
- ▶ Mobilizing additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources (target 17.3)
- ▶ Offering international support for implementing capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all SDGs, including through South-South cooperation (target 17.9)

Country-specific examples of how UN-REDD support is advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are found throughout the present report. Notable cases from 2019 are highlighted below.

In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the policy and financing work on the nexus between cocoa and forests supported by UN-REDD, coupled with REDD+ pilot initiatives on the ground and the emerging jurisdictional approaches, serve as a catalyst for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs. These efforts uniquely integrate several SDGs, notably with regard to sustainable farm-

ing (SDG 12), protecting and restoring forests (SDG 15), making the country a recognized force in global climate mitigation (SDG 13) and underpinning public-private partnerships for sustainable production and trade (SDGs 12 and 17).

Direct contributions to SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 1 (no poverty) and SDG 15 (life on land) are intrinsic to the national REDD+ strategy of Honduras, which prioritizes actions that give rise to co-benefits beyond just mitigating climate change, such as biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation. The institutionalization of NFMS within the Government also contributes to SDG target 15.9. Furthermore, Honduras is actively working to ensure the full and effective participation of women in its national REDD+ strategy, as well as defining actions that are gender-sensitive, thus aligning with SDG 5 (gender equality).

In **Myanmar**, the focus on engagement with ethnic minorities continues to contribute to progress on SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). The National Ceasefire Agreement calls for cooperation between the Government and ethnic armed organizations on environmental conservation, but there have been no examples of such cooperation as yet. Given that REDD+ in Myanmar will operate at the national level, the endorsement of specific REDD+ actions by the Government and ethnic armed organizations is essential. REDD+ in Myanmar will also contribute to SDG target 15.2 – by 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.