



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

Impacts of Climate Change on the Forestry Sector in Africa

**Consultative Meeting for the Southern and Eastern
Africa Sub-Regions on the AU Climate Change
Strategy**

FAO Regional Office for Africa



OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- Forest Situation in Global Climate Agenda
- Africa's Forests: Status and Trends
- Drivers of Forest Degradation and Deforestation in Africa
- Impacts of Climate Change on Forests
- FAO Activities on Climate in the Forestry Sector
- Conclusion and Recommendations



FORESTRY IN GLOBAL CLIMATE AGENDA

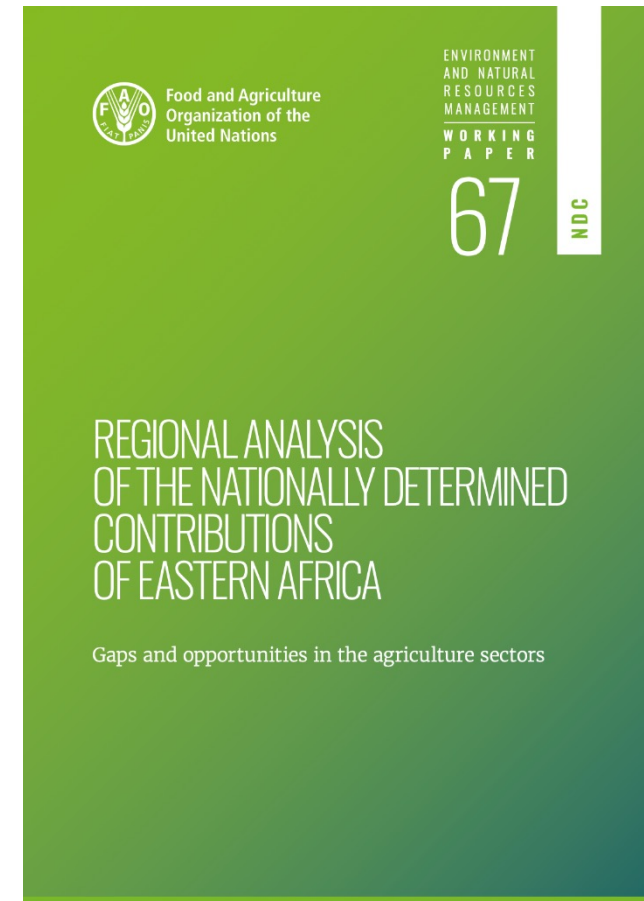
- **About 3.0° C** is foreseen as global temperature increase under current NDCs: **this is twice the agreed limit** of 1.5° C.
- IPCC: need for urgent climate mitigation and adaptation at scale, and especially in the **AFOLU** and energy sectors.
- The Paris Agreement (COP21 in 2015): forests play a critical and prominent role in achieving the new global climate goal (SDG13).
- Article 5 of the Agreement dedicated to forests.
- In NDCs: 86 to 93 percent of developing countries prioritized agriculture and Land Use,





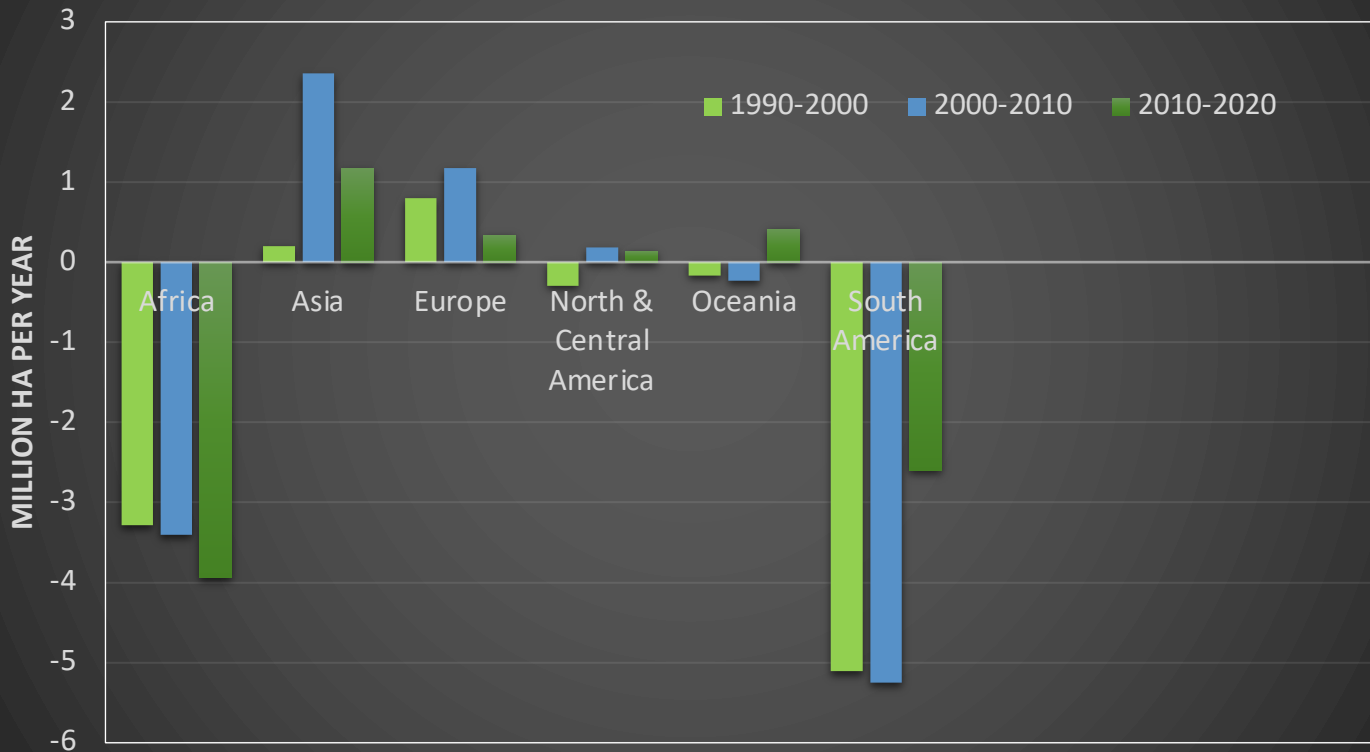
MAIN NDC PRIORITIES IN AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND LAND USE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

- Crops and **forestry** are the most vulnerable sub-sectors to CC impacts
- 90 percent of countries report food insecurity and malnutrition as a climate-related risk
- **98 percent** of countries **prioritize adaptation**
- The **AFOLU** sector contributes **65 percent of total emissions**
- **90 percent** of countries prioritize **mitigation**
- Over 60 percent of countries see CCA and DRR as mutually reinforcing



AFRICA FOREST OUTLOOK: STATUS AND TRENDS

Net Forest Area Change by Region, 1990-2020



Source: Global Forest Resource Assessment, FAO 2020

Africa has the **highest net loss** of forest area at **3.9 million ha per year** followed by South America at 2.6 million ha (FAO, 2020)

Since 1990, Africa has reported an **increase in the rate of net loss**, from 3.28 million ha in 1990–2000, to 3.40 million ha in 2000–2010, to 3.94 million ha in 2010-2020.

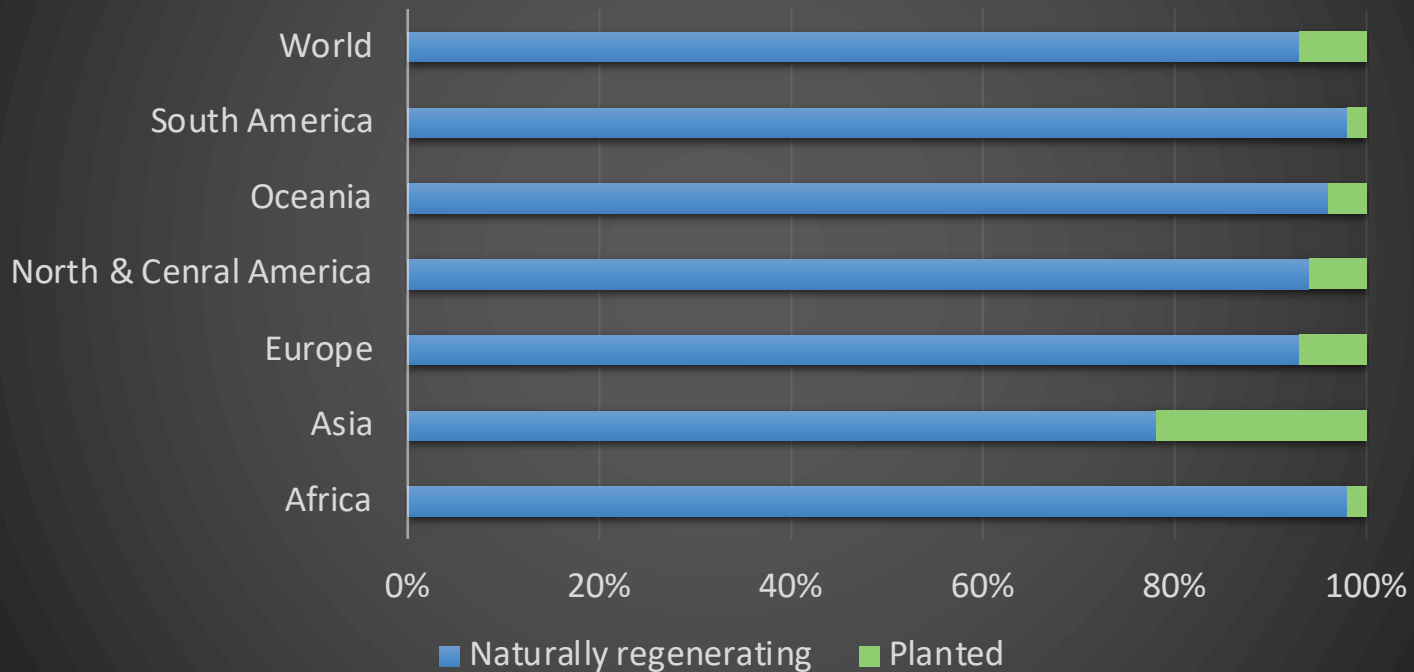
Eastern & Southern Africa and Western and Central Africa account for most of the losses.

In Eastern & Southern Africa, forest loss grew from **1.35 million ha per year** in the 1990s to **1.91 million** ha per year in 2010–2020.



AFRICA FOREST OUTLOOK: STATUS AND TRENDS

Percentage of naturally regenerating & planted forests by region, 2020



The total area of planted forests globally is estimated at 294 million ha, which is **7 percent** of the world forest area. Naturally regenerating forests account for **93 percent** of the world forest area.

Africa and S. America have the **lowest** (2 percent) proportion of **planted forests** compared to any other region in the world.

Source: The State of the World’s Forests, FAO 2020



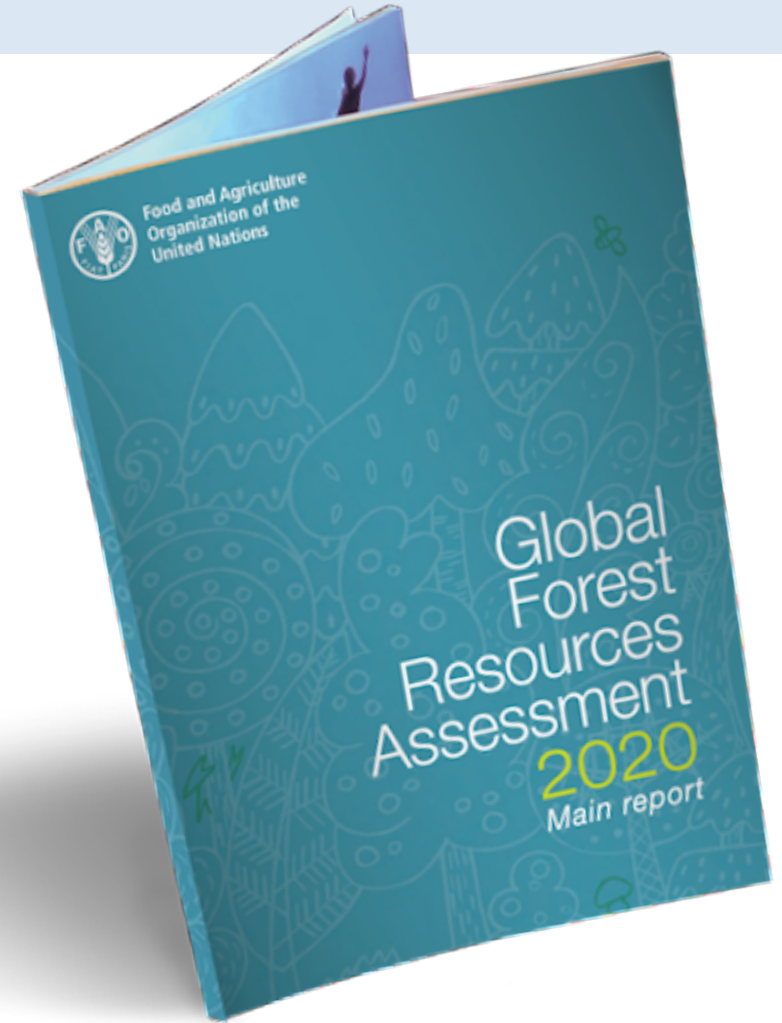
AFRICA FOREST OUTLOOK: STATUS AND TRENDS

Forest Area by Sub-region

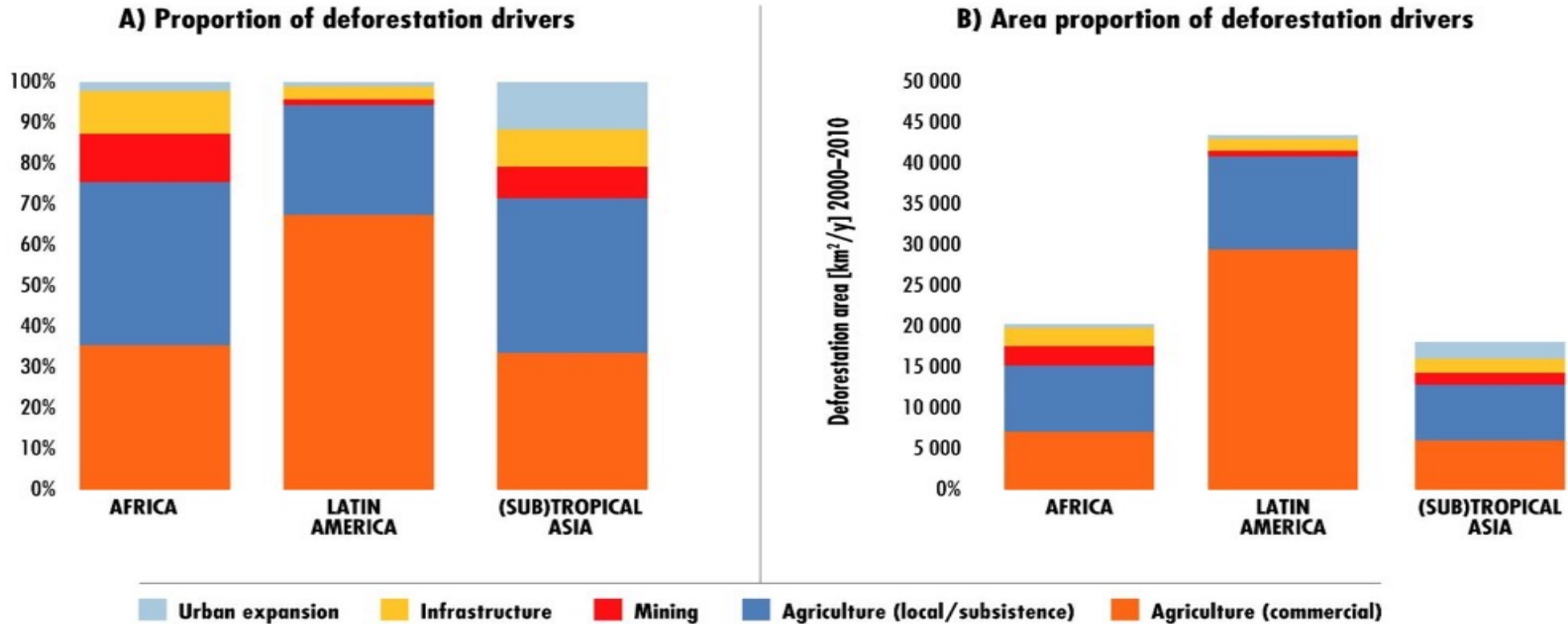
| Sub-region | Forest Area | |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| | 1000 hectares | % of world forest area |
| East and Southern Africa | 295,778 | 7 |
| Northern Africa | 35,151 | 1 |
| West and Central Africa | 305,710 | 8 |
| Total Africa | 636,639 | 16 |

Total Europe (25%), Total South America (21%),
Total North and Central America (19%), Total
Asia (15%), Total Oceania (5%),

Source: FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment 2020



MAIN DRIVER OF DEFORESTATION: AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION





MAIN DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION IN AFRICA: OTHER FACTORS

- Unsustainable harvesting
- Fires (man-made and natural)
- Mining
- Infrastructure
- Illegal logging
- Pests and diseases
- Invasive species
- Climate variability & change-threatens to increase the incidence & severity of forest disturbances



FACTORS THAT INCREASE VULNERABILITY OF FORESTS AND FOREST-DEPENDENT PEOPLE

- I. **Biophysical, climatic factors** (soil condition, nutrient availability, slope, vegetation type, rainfall seasonality, air temperature, water availability)
- II. **Socio-economic factors:**
 - Human population density, livestock density
 - Policy enforcement
 - Poverty
 - Gender inequality
 - Lack of alternative livelihood options



IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE FORESTRY SECTOR IN AFRICA

- Frequent and more intense wildfires
- Habitat loss
- Changes in the incidence of pests and diseases, including new outbreaks
- Poor regeneration of species (tree growth, leaf phenology and survival)
- Unpredictable rainfall patterns
- Changes in distribution & genetic diversity of species
- Increased pressure on forest resources (human migration and settlements, etc.)
- Added pressure on forestry sector from COVID-19 pandemic.

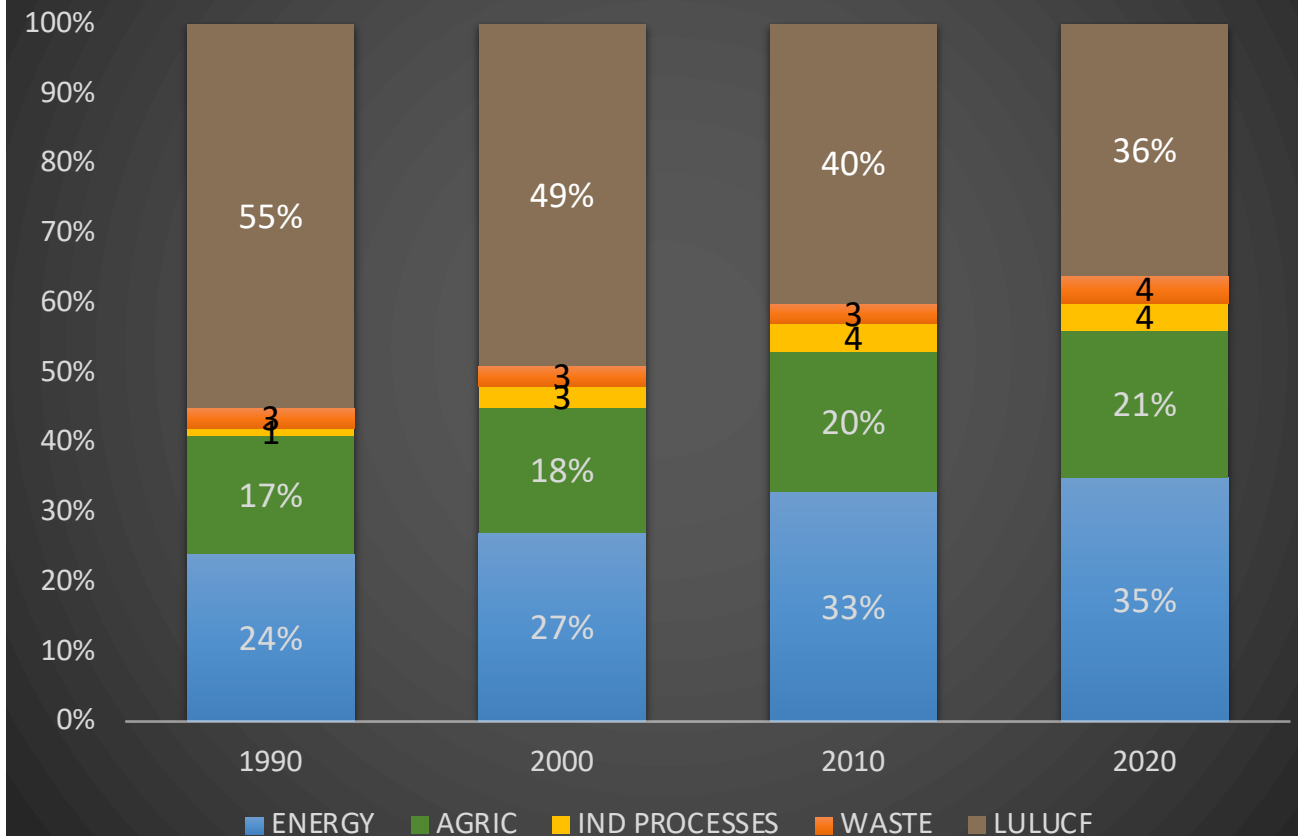


FORESTS ALSO CAUSE CLIMATE CHANGE

- Around **25 percent** of global emissions come from the **land sector**, the **second largest source** of GHG emissions after the energy sector.
- Of these, about half (5-10 GtCO₂e annually) comes from **deforestation and forest degradation**.
- In **Africa** GHG emissions have been dominated by the **AFOLU sector**.
- AFOLU sector accounted for **56 percent** of total emissions in 2016.

Source: African Development Bank, 2020

Evolution of Africa's GHG Emissions by Sector, 1990-2016 (%)





OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD FORWARD BETTER IN AFRICA WITH CLIMATE ACTION

Address environmental and socio-economic challenges in tandem

- Halt deforestation, biodiversity loss and desertification
- Address drivers of deforestation: transforming food systems
- Rebuild resilient livelihoods: sustainable wood and non-wood forest products' value chains
- Address climate change: adaptation & mitigation
- Address impact of COVID-19 and prevent further pandemics



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

Protect, Manage and Restore





FAO'S PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH IN AFRICA: CLIMATE ACTION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

4 inter-connected priority programmes under Climate Action and Sust. Managt of NR

1. Scaling up Climate Smart Agriculture
2. Ecosystem Restoration and Sustainable Land Management
3. Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, Responsible Governance of Natural Resources
4. Water Management for Sustainable Agriculture



FAO ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR IN AFRICA

NDC-RELATED SUPPORT



AUC-FAO Regional Technical Cooperation Programme:

- Support to NDC planning, implementation and tracking progress in the **AFOLU sectors**
- Pilot countries: Mozambique, Cote d'Ivoire and Gabon
- Africa Report on the State of NDC implementation under preparation



UNDP & FAO Global SCALA Programme

- Scaling Up Climate Ambition in **Land Use and Agriculture** through NDCs and NAPs (SCALA), 12 countries globally.
- Africa: Five countries (**Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Egypt, Senegal and Uganda,**) supported to translate NDCs/NAPs into transformative climate solutions in land-use and agriculture with multi-stakeholder engagement and private sector investment



FAO ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR IN AFRICA

NDC-RELATED SUPPORT



Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP)

- Fast-track support to countries to enhance NDCs in the AFOLU sectors
- **9 African countries:** Gabon, **Mozambique**, Côte d’Ivoire, **Eswatini**, **Zimbabwe**, Niger, CAR, Benin, Burkina Faso.



Africa Open DEAL (Data for Environment, Agriculture and Land)

- The first ever comprehensive continental data collection and analysis – digital platform by FAO, AUC and partners, SADC, PAGGW – launched on **13 July 2021**
- Supports informed decision making and reporting on **NDCs in AFOLU Sectors**
- **Funding:** FAO TCP, Germany (IKI), EU-ACP (Action Against Desertification in support of GGW) and Turkey



Supported by:
Federal Agency
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety
Based at a division of the German Bundestag





FAO ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR IN AFRICA

FAO's Programme of Support to Africa's GREAT GREEN WALL (GGW): NbS in Action



- **Action Against Desertification in support of GGW** (10 countries) with EU-ACP and Turkey Funding – Assessment and Monitoring, Large Scale Restoration, NTFPs Climate Smart Value Chains, Capacity development and South-South Cooperation



- **Sudan:** GAMS - Gums for Adaptation and Mitigation in Sudan-GCF
- **GGW GCF Readiness projects** – strengthening institutions and identification of adaptation and mitigation options and engagement of stakeholders in AFOLU sectors in GGW : Burkina, Senegal, Chad, and Niger.



GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

- **SURAGGWA** – Scaling-Up Resilience in Africa's GGW (Multi-country) **in preparation (GCF)**
- **GGW SADC:** FAO-SADC/funding GEF-7 - Forest Management Impact Programme on Dryland Landscapes & Regional FAO-SADC-AUC TCP in support of implementation and resource mobilization for GGW SADC





FAO ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR IN AFRICA

WORK ON REDD+

UNREDD Programme (FAO, UNDP, UNEP)

16 countries including Cote D'Ivoire, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, and **Uganda**

- contribute to the global effort in increased carbon sequestration and enhancing biodiversity conservation
- consolidation of National Forest Monitoring Systems
- As of February 2020, more than a third of all Forest Reference Levels (FREL) submitted to the UNFCCC came from Africa

Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI)

- A collaborative initiative involving 6 partner countries and a coalition of donors: the European Union, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, South Korea and the United Kingdom.

FAO-ECOWAS/SIDA funded programme: “Global Transformation of Forests for People and Climate: a focus on West Africa”

- Rolling out of the ECOWAS Convergence Plan for the Sustainable Management and Use of Forest Ecosystems in West Africa : transboundary forest issues across the 15 member states



FAO ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR IN AFRICA

FAO's African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (AFWC) Priorities Adopted in March 2020/ AFWC Working Groups

- Advocating for, and **profiling** Africa's forests and wildlife
- Sustainable **financing** for forestry and wildlife programmes
- Promoting forest and wildlife **education and profession**
- Enhancing **action against deforestation and illicit exploitation and trade** of forest and wildlife products for sustainable development
- **Climate Change: Restoration** for resilience

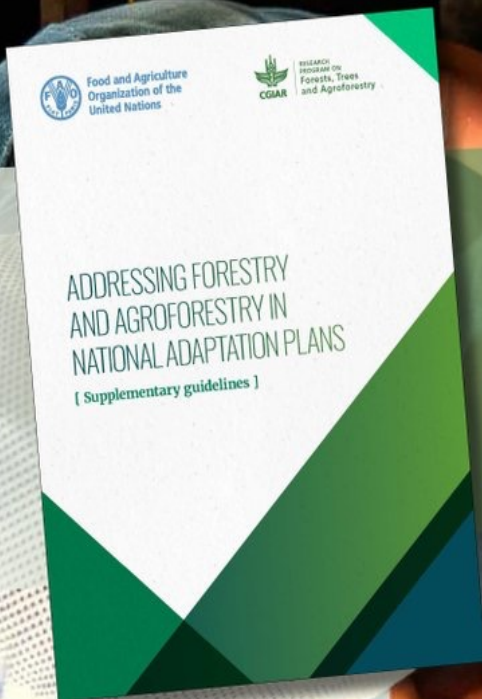




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FAO KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE & FORESTRY



Practical guidelines on forestry and agroforestry for ecological adaptation
and their potential to support the adaptation of other sectors, subsectors and activities



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



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FAO FORESTRY PAPER
180



REFLECTIONS FOR AFRICA

- ⇒ Strengthen **institutional frameworks** and forest **governance** (including **monitoring**)
- ⇒ Impactful **programmes** building on country readiness projects
- ⇒ **Capacity development, knowledge sharing, peer-to-peer learning** (south-south and triangular)
- ⇒ **Data** availability and accessibility
- ⇒ **Addressing at the same time:** biodiversity loss, climate change, land degradation/ Desertification, water scarcity & COVID-19 impacts
- ⇒ **Cross-sectoral collaboration**
- ⇒ Reconciling **community needs and constraints** with **forest conservation and sustainable management objectives**
- ⇒ **Building on opportunities:**
 - **Partnerships** with Private Sector/ Investment Financing Institutions
 - UN Decade on **Ecosystem Restoration/AFR100/Africa's Great Green Wall**
 - Aligning **COVID Recovery Plans/Programs** with climate ambitions (Win-Win solutions)



FAO Support to Countries in the Region

MOVING FORWARD

- Continue the work initiated for **capacity development** at national and regional level to strengthen, update, implement, enhance and monitor NDCs, and promote cross-sector policies to ensure their compliance.
- Support countries in the **assessment and analysis** of drivers of deforestation and developing **strategies** to address them.
- Support countries in **compiling, analyzing and disseminating** - including through south-south cooperation and regional platforms - forest and landscape related climate change adaptation and resilience **best practices** and **case studies** for **scaling up investment** and implementation in the region.
- Support countries in **designing and consolidating REDD+ processes** in the region.
- Continue to support countries in their **resource mobilization** efforts (including GCF, GEF, AF) and other funding sources in support of climate change mitigation, adaptation and building resilience.



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Thank you!

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