



## N4C Joint Submission on the Roadmap for Halting Deforestation and Forest Degradation

*In this submission, the Nature4Climate Coalition outlines how the Forest Roadmap effort can build on existing knowledge and initiatives and bring together diverse perspectives with the convening power of the UNFCCC and COP30 Presidency to become an essential lever that spearheads a global movement toward meeting our forest goals. This submission is complemented by standalone submissions from several Nature4Climate members, including the Forest Stewardship Council, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the National Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, and the World Wildlife Fund.*

### Introduction

Forests are central to the delivery of global climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development goals. The commitment made under the Global Stocktake to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030 now requires a decisive shift to coordinated and effective implementation. After decades of efforts, assessments, and pledges to reduce forest loss, we know what the main barriers are and what solutions can succeed: **the time is now to galvanize a widespread movement and political will to implement already-proven solutions.**

The Roadmap for Halting Deforestation and Forest Degradation (“The Forest Roadmap”), led by the COP30 Presidency, represents a critical opportunity to translate commitments and knowledge into coherent pathways for action. In a complex geopolitical context and without a formal negotiated mandate, **the Forest Roadmap can play a catalytic role by aligning initiatives, dismantling barriers to progress, and mobilizing political, financial, and societal actors around practical strategies to bend the deforestation curve this decade.**

### Key Outcomes for an Actionable Forest Roadmap

N4C proposes the following five key outcomes the COP30 Presidency should deliver by COP31 to ensure the Forest Roadmap is actionable with the support needed to implement it.

#### Key Outcome 1: Develop an inclusive Forest Roadmap report by COP31

**The Forest Roadmap report should be developed throughout 2026 in close consultation with Parties and integrate inclusive inputs from Non-Party stakeholders, most notably from Indigenous Peoples, women and youth, to build on the global *mutirão*.** To build the support needed to implement the Forest Roadmap, it must be created in a bottom-up manner, ensuring to reflect the diverse realities of countries at different stages of development and different degrees of forest cover, the rights and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Local Communities (LCs), civil society initiatives from the Action Agenda, and perspectives from business and investor coalitions. The COP30 Presidency must enable a variety of consultation and input opportunities, beyond the current call for written submissions, such as events, online consultations, workshops, and a second, refined call for written submissions to focus on key outstanding issues that emerge. These input opportunities can also support movement-building for Forest Roadmap implementation under Key Outcome 4.

**The Forest Roadmap can enable action by countries and regions with distinct starting conditions by recommending solutions tailored to different pathways, sequencing, pace, and types of support**

**needed.** While serving as a broad framework that supports progress across all forest countries and contexts, it can adopt a differentiated approach to enable uptake of recommendations best suited to each unique circumstance. For example, specific recommendations can support accelerated action and near-term progress for places where deforestation pressures are high or rising, and where key preconditions or enabling factors for progress are already in place. At the same time, recommendations tailored to contexts where preconditions are weaker are critical to help build the enabling conditions needed for effective action.

### **Key Outcome 2: Develop a technically robust Forest Roadmap report by COP31**

**Much of the technical information that should form the backbone of the Forest Roadmap is already contained in existing reports and studies, which should be synthesized into the report structure.** The Forest Roadmap should point to other resources and integrate existing recommendations and milestones, while proposing novel solutions that can be derived through a large-scale synthesis. Nonetheless, the knowledge base and innovative solutions to address forest loss continue to evolve. The below section “Select Inputs to support Key Outcome 2” outlines key emerging knowledge and highlights some existing solutions and resources that should be integrated into the report, according to the outline shared by the Presidency.

**Importantly, to be technically robust, the Forest Roadmap must be synergetic with the Roadmap to Transition Away from Fossil Fuels.** Forests play a dual and critical role in the global effort to combat climate change and transition away from fossil fuels. Forest loss and land-use change driven by mining, oil and gas exploration, and other industries linked to energy extraction and the energy transition, including production of biofuels, cannot be overlooked within these Roadmap efforts. The Forest Roadmap must consider increasing land-use pressures that will be driven by the fossil fuel transition. To the extent possible, it is critical that the two Roadmaps maximize synergies between meeting both goals, while minimizing tradeoffs between them. Additionally, Indigenous Peoples, who are often the stewards of large, forested areas, are typically left without legal or financial means to protect their lands, which leaves them vulnerable to extractive industries. To address this gap, it is crucial both Roadmaps focus on elevating the role of IPs with tools, funding, and legal frameworks to safeguard their land against fossil fuel-related or other extractive activities and supporting them in the stewardship of forests and other integral ecosystems.

### **Key Outcome 3: Build the Forest Roadmap on the foundations of key international frameworks and initiatives**

**The Forest Roadmap must complement, unite, and accelerate the decades of international efforts and commitments to halt forest loss rather than create any duplicative bodies or processes.** It must leverage multilateral initiatives and financial mechanisms, including:

- The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
- The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- The Forest & Climate Leaders’ Partnership (FCLP)
- The FAO Forestry Roadmap
- The Baku-Belem Roadmap to \$1.3T
- The UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its Strategic Plan on Forests

- REDD+, as a core delivery mechanism for mitigation, finance mobilization, and safeguards - anchored in jurisdictional and national approaches to ensure integrity and alignment with national GHG inventory and accounting systems, including through the UN REDD+ Community of Practice
- High-integrity voluntary and international carbon markets such as Article 6 Development Bank Forest-related initiatives
- Emerging financing instruments, such as the Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF) and bioeconomy initiatives, among others.

**By integrating platforms, targets, benchmarks and instruments other Conventions and frameworks provide, the Forest Roadmap can be a tool that can be taken up by widespread groups and actors — multiplying its recommendations rather than diverting resources to duplicative aims.** This can be achieved by including clear recommendations, instructions, and timelines for different groups, similar to the approach taken in the Baku-Belem Roadmap to \$1.3T.

Importantly, **the COP30 Presidency must ensure the Forest Roadmap presents a cohesive vision for the Rio Conventions, as all three have common aims to halt forest loss towards their ultimate objectives.** The Forest Roadmap must support efforts to unlock the synergies between the Conventions in the implementation of national plans to address forest loss, which are needed to maximize limited funding to achieve major economic, social and environmental benefits, while reducing trade-offs, fragmentation and silos between them, which leads to major inefficiencies that cost the world \$10–25 trillion each year. The COP30 Presidency can engage with the other Rio Presidencies through initiatives such as the [Synergies Collaboration Platform](#) and with the Secretariats through the Joint Liaison Group, to invite their participation and input. The COP30 President can also encourage the UNFCCC Secretariat and Parties to participate in the exchanges led by the UNCBD towards strengthened outcomes on cross-convention collaboration that would enable more cohesive action on the Forest Roadmap. **It is crucial to bring in relevant information, expertise, and processes from the UNCBD and UNCCD**, including the [updated UNCBD Programme of Work](#) (to be adopted at COP17), [The IPBES Nexus Assessment](#), [The IPBES Business and Biodiversity Assessment](#), [The IPBES Transformative Change Assessment](#), [The State of Finance for Forests 2025 \(UNEP\)](#), [The Forest Factor \(Collaborative Partnership on Forests / FAO\)](#), the upcoming FAO State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2026 report, among others.

#### **Key Outcome 4: Galvanize a movement of champion countries, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society groups, and business leaders to implement the Forest Roadmap**

Despite numerous pledges and initiatives, the absence of strong, actionable, and coordinated leadership at the highest political levels continues to hinder meaningful progress on halting deforestation and forest degradation. History demonstrates that transformative global successes—such as the Montreal Protocol, the Lead Paint Convention, and ILO standards on child labor—were made possible by ambitious coalitions underpinned by decisive political will. The current global momentum to transition away from fossil fuels further illustrates the power of aligned and determined political action. Without similar ownership, coordination, and accountability focused on stopping deforestation and forest degradation, efforts risk losing momentum and falling short of their critical objectives. **Therefore, at its launch, the Forest Roadmap must have clear indications of political, technical and/or financial support of countries, organizations and IPs and LCs as the pillars of a global movement—or *mutirão*—to halt forest loss and degradation.**



**The COP30 Presidency can achieve this forest *mutirão* by championing the efforts of coalitions of high ambition countries on forests, such as the FCLP, and mobilizing a broader set of coordinated stakeholders, ensuring all types of forest countries are represented, to enable countries and civil society to join forces in a coordinated, flexible movement.** This movement must work in pre-discussed alignment efforts across Conventions, national policies, and bilateral agreements, presenting a united and cohesive front to halt deforestation and forest degradation. By aligning around shared goals and standards, the forest *mutirão* can maximize impact, avoid duplication, and build resilient, scalable solutions that no single actor could achieve alone. This collective approach is essential to driving ambitious, actionable strategies for a deforestation-free future. Key objectives should include:

- ***Establishing a *mutirão* of countries and non-state actors to champion coordinated efforts*** to halt and reverse deforestation and degradation across global programs, national and subnational policies, corporate policies, budget lines, investments, and relevant initiatives (multilateral and bilateral), including corporate buyer coalitions whose commitments to high-integrity forest carbon procurement and deforestation-free supply chains can mobilize private finance and political support for forest protection goals.
- ***Agreeing to collectively embed commitments to address deforestation & degradation*** into national policy, budget and regulatory frameworks and financial instruments to enable long-term action. Including climate-related forest policies, finance, and actions, reflected implementation plans for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Targets among others.
- ***Driving integrated action to address climate and biodiversity challenges*** at both international and national levels, including awareness-raising and environmental education. This could include national roadmaps to halt forest loss and degradation, which may support FCLP countries and/or Country Packages.
- ***Building solidarity-based structures to ensure equitable access and benefit-sharing mechanisms.*** Enshrine the principle of justice recognizing that forest protection is a states' obligation owed to vulnerable communities and future generations, as affirmed by the International Court of Justice's advisory opinion on climate change.
- ***Building on COP30 outcomes*** including the COP30 Action Agenda (Axis 2, #5 and #6), the Plans of Accelerated Solutions (PAS), the IPLC Forest Tenure Pledge, the Tropical Forests Forever Facility, and DCF Finance commitments, and the Forest Finance Roadmap developed before COP30. The Climate Champions Team should continue to play a facilitative role in driving the Forest Roadmap implementation.

This can be achieved in a complementary manner to developing the components of the Forest Roadmap itself and building upon international frameworks and existing initiatives. **The COP30 Presidency must build political momentum and lead key events and convenings throughout the year, and should identify partners that can convene a large, standalone event on the Forest Roadmap to focus global attention.** They should also identify and partner with champions that can multiply these efforts through regional forums, thematic workshops, and other opportunities. In addition to convenings already planned

by the Presidency at UNFF, UNFCCC SB64, the UNCCD and UNCBD COPs, and at FAO, key moments include:

- Meetings alongside World Bank Spring meetings in Washington, DC
- Regional UNFCCC climate weeks
- London Climate Action Week
- New York Climate Week + UN General Assembly meetings
- UNFCCC REDD+ Community of Practice meetings and/or REDD+ Summit

### Key Outcome 5: Develop a follow-up process and transitional coordination structure

**The Forest Roadmap should indicate basic next steps that would be carried out after COP31 and define an interim coordination structure that will be able to provide basic follow up to the Forest Roadmap while a longer-term plan for its uptake and implementation is developed.** These elements will be important to pass the Forest Roadmap leadership from the COP30 Presidency to other relevant institutions and mechanisms, while ensuring not to create additional reporting burdens where possible. This could include:

- Plans for future global convenings to build political movement
- Development of a progress report to be shared with Parties by COP32
- Efforts to synthesize and build the Forest Roadmap into current mechanisms, including the Party reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), UNFF, the FCLP and Forest Assessment

### Select Inputs to support Key Outcome 2

***Please note that this section is not comprehensive nor exhaustive, and any exclusion of concepts from this section is not indicative of N4C's views, rather based on knowledge that partner submissions will be more comprehensive.***

### Part I: Why Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation Is Central to the Paris Agreement

Halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation is central to the Paris Agreement because forests are indispensable for achieving temperature targets, enhancing resilience, delivering co-benefits, and enabling net-zero futures. **Without forest action, the goals of the Paris Agreement cannot be met; with it, climate action becomes faster, cheaper, and more equitable.**

Currently, agriculture, forestry, and other land-use (AFOLU) changes contribute to 25% of global emissions, with deforestation alone accounting for half of these emissions. In fact, tropical deforestation and forest degradation make up 11% of total global greenhouse gas emissions—surpassing emissions from all global transportation. We are losing nature at an unprecedented rate, and that loss is propelling us into ever deeper climate, biodiversity, and social crises. Scientists warn that the Amazon is approaching a tipping point beyond which it would begin to transition from a tropical rainforest into a dry, degraded savanna - putting our world climate system at risk.<sup>1</sup> Evidence shows that preserving forests, including mangroves, is among the most cost-efficient strategies to combat climate change, especially in tropical forest nations.

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<sup>1</sup> Flores et al, 2024. [Critical transitions in the Amazon forest system](#). *Nature*



Avoided forest conversion (AFC) is a key natural climate solution (NCS) that prevents the clearing or conversion of forests to non-forest uses and aligns closely with AFOLU mitigation measures, which together have substantial technical mitigation potential through mid-century. Owing to its scalability, technical readiness, and relatively low cost, AFC—alongside other AFOLU measures—features prominently in national climate strategies, including NDCs, as well as major international initiatives.

**Despite this strong biophysical and technical potential, implementation of AFC and AFOLU mitigation action remains well below achievable levels, reinforcing the IPCC’s assessment that the “economic and political feasibility of implementing AFOLU mitigation measures is hampered by persistent barriers.”**<sup>2</sup> The largest georeferenced global analysis of implementation constraints on NCS was recently published<sup>3</sup>—drawing on 347 peer-reviewed studies and 154 field projects across 137 countries—identified governance failures as the dominant bottleneck for AFC, with poor policy coordination and weak enforcement of environmental laws far outweighing other constraints. Financial barriers also feature prominently, reflecting the need to compensate landowners for foregone economic returns from forest conversion. Together, **these findings underscore the need for stronger institutional capacity, improved law enforcement, and targeted financial incentives to unlock the mitigation potential of forest protection.**

Unlike the well documented carbon mitigation potential of forest protection, the many other benefits forests provide to nature and people have been more challenging to quantify. Two major new publications synthesize hundreds of peer-reviewed studies offering a clear message: **As climate risks accelerate, protecting forests may be one of the most powerful tools we have left to adapt. Forests are essential for global, regional and local climate regulation, food production, water security, and human well-being.**<sup>4</sup>

**Forests are among the most powerful regulators of the Earth's climate and water systems.** Beyond their essential carbon storage and sequestration role, forests regulate local and regional temperatures through evapotranspiration, cloud formation, canopy shading, and albedo effects, providing cooling in hot conditions that benefit both crops and communities. Their influence extends to the water cycle as well — through rainfall interception, groundwater recharge, and runoff moderation, forests reduce flood risk and support a more consistent water supply. Agricultural areas in 155 countries rely on forests in other countries for up to 40 percent of their annual precipitation, underscoring just how far-reaching these hydrological services are.

**Beyond climate and water, forests underpin food security, biodiversity, and rural livelihoods through a rich array of provisioning and supporting services.** They enhance agricultural productivity through pollination, biological pest control, nutrient cycling, erosion control, and temperature regulation while directly supplying rural communities with fruits, nuts, seeds, fodder, and fuelwood — resources that serve as critical safety nets during periods of food scarcity or crop failure. Forests also protect human health by

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<sup>2</sup> Page 751: Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses (AFOLU). Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. in *Climate Change 2022 - Mitigation of Climate Change*. (ed. Intergovernmental Panel On Climate Change (IPCC)) 747–860 (Cambridge University Press, 2023). doi:10.1017/9781009157926.009.

<sup>3</sup> Kroeger et al., 2026. [Global literature review and survey of implementation constraints on natural climate solutions](#). *Nature Communications*

<sup>4</sup> FAO, SEI, CI, TNC, 2025. [Climate and ecosystem service benefits of forests and trees for agriculture](#); Reek et al., 2026. [More than mitigation: The role of forests in climate adaptation](#). *Science*.



buffering dangerous heat. Between 2001 and 2020, tropical deforestation is estimated to have contributed to around 28,000 additional heat-related deaths annually, and heat exposure has already lowered agricultural workers' physical capacity in half of the world's croplands. Forests further improve water quality through watershed protection and reduce the risks of flooding-associated disease outbreaks, making forest conservation an essential pillar of both public health and long-term agricultural resilience.

Taken together, this growing body of evidence reframes forest protection not only as a mitigation imperative, but as a cornerstone of climate adaptation, food security, and human well-being. **By making the full value of forests visible and measurable, these insights create a powerful rationale — and renewed urgency — for governments, financiers, and institutions to confront long-standing governance and financing barriers and accelerate large-scale forest protection.**

## Part II – What Countries Can and Should Do

**After decades of efforts to confront these challenges, there is a robust understanding of barriers and solutions, as well as available tools and infrastructure, for countries to address deforestation and forest degradation, implement restoration, sustainable forest management, and develop a bioeconomy.** For example, [The Forest Declaration Assessment](#) is a thorough assessment of progress and barriers, including country examples, towards meeting with examples of what is going well to meet 2030 forest goals. [The FAO Forestry Roadmap](#), [Unlocking Forest Finance Roadmap](#), and [Exponential Roadmap for Natural Climate Solutions](#) and its regional [Africa Roadmap for Nature, Climate and People](#), are additional key resources for this effort.

The application of these solutions and tools will be unique in each country - those with different types of forest, donor countries, Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries, among others. The Forest Roadmap can support identification of common but differentiated strategies, as well as build political will to enact supportive policies and the capacity to implement and enforce them. This section of the Forest Roadmap can highlight the following elements needed to reach these key milestones.

### **Chapters 4-8: Policy, legal, institutional, and financial instruments for implementation**

**The Forest Roadmap must support all countries to take actions needed to change the fundamental dynamic that forests are usually worth more cut down than standing.** Despite growing evidence, forest ecosystem services remain largely invisible in economic accounting systems. They must accelerate solutions that change international, national and local incentive frameworks so that the value of standing forests can be captured and rewarded, including in High Forest, Low Deforestation (HFLD) countries. **Forest policy must also move beyond a narrow focus on carbon storage and be integrated across climate adaptation, agriculture, water, and public health agendas.**

**Furthermore, the Forest Roadmap must recognize legal deforestation as a major structural challenge and include guidance that supports policy frameworks, political commitments, and market expectations aimed at ending forest conversion altogether, not only illegal conversion.** This can include recommendations that support countries in addressing legal deforestation and conversion, particularly in countries where existing legal frameworks still permit large-scale clearing of forests and other natural ecosystems. Since the objective is to halt deforestation and forest degradation, then a distinction between legal and illegal clearing should not be the central organizing principle, rather whether forest ecosystems continue to be lost.

The Forest Roadmap should support accelerated action in contexts where deforestation or conversion pressures are significant and there is a credible basis for near-term progress. It should also include recommendations for contexts where deforestation pressures are equally urgent but current conditions for progress are less favorable, focused on building the governance, finance, coordination, monitoring, and accountability foundations necessary for effective action over time. Relevant factors may include:

- deforestation or conversion pressure
- exposure to international commodity markets through key processing hubs, logistics corridors, or market gateways
- effective area-level mechanisms already in place
- political will to support collective action
- the presence of jurisdictional or multi-stakeholder platforms, and
- financial mechanisms or relevant flows for forest objectives.

Since a geographic focus always carries a risk of rapid displacement across regions subject to differing market pressures, which has been observed between the Amazon and the Cerrado. Accordingly, the Forest Roadmap should encourage the adoption of universal purchasing and sourcing criteria, together with integrated systems for monitoring and verification. Remote sensing technologies have advanced to the point that they can meaningfully contribute to broad, consistent monitoring systems. When combined with ground-based methods and AI, they can significantly improve efficiency and reduce overall monitoring costs.

Additional specific solutions can include, inter alia:

- **NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs and other national policy frameworks must be implemented and updated, if possible, to ensure alignment with reaching the 2030 goals.** The need for the Forest Roadmap was born out of evidence of persistent ambition and implementation gaps: targets in 2035 NDCs are still falling short and in Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and NAPs demonstrate huge support gaps.
  - While it may not be feasible for many countries to update their 2035 NDCs, those which can should ensure to update forest-related commitments to align with the 2030 goals, and foster coherence with NAPs, NBSAPs, etc. [The N4C Guide for Including Nature in NDCs](#) outlines recommendations for policymakers to do so.
  - Within the implementation of 2035 NDCs, there is an opportunity for greater policy coherence across agriculture, forestry, water, and landscape management — recognizing sustainable forest management as a multisectoral strategy for food security, public health, and climate resilience, rather than an environmental concern alone.
  - NDC implementation solutions and any updates should include non-carbon forest benefits — such as biophysical cooling and moisture recycling — alongside traditional carbon metrics.
  - Countries need to take advantage of the NDC process to identify funding needs for nature-based climate action, including by increasing the participation of other relevant national and subnational entities in the planning process as well as in the allocation of financial resources to activities contributing to climate change.
  - Synergetic implementation with NBSAPs and LDN Targets is critical to support integrated landscape management and biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices.

- **Strengthen mechanisms for good governance and enforcement** to make legal and regulatory approaches more effective. Fully enforcing existing land-use laws in tropical countries could eliminate more than 40% of illegal commercial deforestation<sup>5</sup> and save forest countries more than \$17 billion per year of losses<sup>6</sup>.
- **Regularize land tenure rights & policies** and rapidly expand the legal recognition of the lands and rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- **Ground all forest finance and implementation in robust safeguards**, including recognition of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' rights, equitable benefit-sharing, biodiversity protection and inclusive governance.
- **Facilitate collaboration among stakeholders to mainstream climate action to deliver a just transition for workers and businesses**, ensuring all citizens can enjoy a life with dignity in a new nature-positive economy, and creating conditions where all parts of society can be partners in implementing nature-based solutions (NbS).
- **Phase out and/or repurpose harmful subsidies**, which can redirect significant funds to support forests, NbS, and sustainable initiatives, incentivize industries to adopt sustainable practices, enhance financial support for Indigenous Peoples and local communities and correct market distortions for a more efficient, sustainable economy aligned with meeting global climate goals. The Forest Roadmap should develop time-based targets for the identification and analysis of the most harmful subsidies that drive forest loss, promote emissions-intensive activities and non-resilient development, especially those related to harmful activities within the AFOLU sector, as well as establish when and by how much these business-as-usual scenarios should be reformed. This should be aligned with Target 18 of the Global Biodiversity Framework where possible.<sup>7</sup>
- **Scale up Jurisdictional REDD+ (JREDD+)** by building upon and expanding investments in the enabling environments in REDD+ countries needed for larger amounts of finance to flow. These include:
  - **Utilize the UNFCCC REDD+ Community of Practice** as a forum to share lessons among countries and subnational governments about the most effective governance mechanisms, stakeholder engagement processes, technical methodologies and procedures for forest monitoring and carbon accounting, legal frameworks, benefit sharing mechanisms, and REDD+ project nesting frameworks to support the extensive implementation of jurisdictional REDD+, in fulfillment of the conditions of the Warsaw Framework on REDD+ and Article 5 of the Paris Agreement. In particular, nesting of existing and future projects and activities is proving to be a key condition for unlocking various sources of carbon finance for forests. See [Policy Recommendations for REDD+ Nesting](#).
  - **Promote the financing of JREDD+ activities through Article 6** mechanisms. This requires clear national accounting, national Safeguards Information Systems (SIS) and Monitoring,

<sup>5</sup> Forest Trends: [Illicit harvest, complicit goods: The state of illegal deforestation for agriculture](#)

<sup>6</sup> Forest Trends: [A new framework supports national and global cost estimates](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Target 18 of the GBF: Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least 500 billion United States dollars per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.](#)

- Reporting, Verification (MRV), transparent authorization processes, and the application of corresponding adjustments where needed to prevent double counting.
- Pledge and deliver finance to support the **transparent reporting and implementation of the Cancun Safeguards for REDD+**, including effective benefit-sharing, grievance mechanisms, biodiversity conservation, actions to address risks of reversals, and recognition of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' rights.
  - **Scale carbon markets and carbon pricing mechanisms in alignment with jurisdictional REDD+ frameworks and national GHG inventory and accounting systems**
    - Promote carbon pricing mechanisms that allow for finance to flow to nature-based solutions, while ensuring that the majority of revenue flows to stakeholders participating in mitigation activities.
    - Promote the implementation of compliance regulations that recognize the value of investments in NbS in developed countries that don't have them and ensure alignment of activities across national, subnational, and project scales.
    - Build the infrastructure needed to scale nature-based solutions in carbon markets, including Registries and Validation and Verification Bodies, which are needed to audit the volume of jurisdictional programs and projects required to achieve meaningful emissions reductions
    - Ensure they have adequate tools for audit oversight, such as trained technical staff, automated project screening systems, and Monitoring Reporting and Verification systems.
    - Promote enabling conditions for credible private sector participation in forest carbon markets, recognizing that sustained corporate demand — grounded in transparent climate strategies and recognized claims frameworks — is essential to channeling finance to jurisdictional programs at scale.
  - **Scale non-market incentives** for conservation, sustainable management and restoration, including by developing more payments for ecosystem services schemes and other fiscal policy reforms. See [Incentives for Nature: Policy Options for Nature-Positive Economies](#).
    - Promote uptake of Payments for Ecosystems/environmental Services (PES) schemes to mobilize both public and private resources to invest in conservation and sustainable management of natural resources. PES has proven to be a critical tool to contribute to climate action in developing countries like Costa Rica, but more countries need to deploy this valuable tool at the subnational and national level to accelerate climate action and achieve their NDCs. Creating nation-wide policies and diversified modalities of PES implementation, including the required institutional operational and technical capacities, serve as a platform to identify investment opportunities and contribute to the achievement of climate goals, while also contributing to advance other social and environmental goals. PES could also be extended to transboundary arrangements, compensating countries whose forests provide rainfall and climate regulation to neighboring regions.
    - Scale knowledge sharing mechanisms such as bilateral, subregional and multilateral exchanges, communities of practice, information sharing tools, and south-south technical assistance programs should be deployed to generate change at scale.
    - Special efforts should be made to identify and repurpose nature-negative incentives and ensure climate resilient and friendly investments, including when accessing development and climate finance.

- Promote non-carbon market approaches to finance community-led initiatives to protect, restore, and manage blue carbon ecosystems, benefiting local livelihoods, food security, coastal resilience, and climate action.
- **Support governments to renew and repurpose public investment in nature**, spurring donor governments to do more and support all governments to align public funding with reaching the Paris Agreement. Public funding is particularly essential for ecosystem protection, where domestic governments provide about 57% of financing<sup>8</sup> – including investments in integrated land-use planning and research and development. Complementary instruments — green bonds, blended finance, and multilateral development bank guarantees — are key tools for leveraging public finance to mobilize private investment in nature-based solutions.

#### **Chapters 4-8: Illustrative Cases and replicable solutions**

Many of the cases and solutions are captured within the following Plans to Accelerate Solutions developed before COP30.

- [NbS - Plan to Accelerate Solution](#)
- [Plan to Accelerate Solution | Direct access financing for IPLC for forests\\_MRC\\_V5](#)
- [BRB Finance Coalition](#)
- [State of Finance for Restoration and Bioeconomy in Brazil | BRB Finance Coalition](#)
- [Plan to Accelerate Solution \(UNREDD\)](#)
- [COP30 AA AG6 PAS – Rio Synergies](#)

### **Part III – Fostering International Cooperation and Addressing Regulatory Bottlenecks**

After decades of efforts to confront these challenges, we collectively have - or are currently building - the tools and infrastructure needed for effective international cooperation. Donor countries have a particularly important role to play, but all countries have clear actions they must take. Now, we need political will to enact supportive policies and the capacity to implement and enforce them. This section of the Forest Roadmap can highlight the following elements needed to reach these key milestones.

#### **Chapter 9: Technical Cooperation, Capacity Building, Institutional Strengthening**

A significant focus on building capacity is needed for governments and supporting institutions to ensure the investment environment for forests is conducive and is backed up with effective monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to maintain the policy and regulatory environment. This includes key actions such as:

- Build government capacity for **transparent and rigorous financial management**, robust forest monitoring and enforcement of nature-related policies, and development of the frameworks needed to receive funding through TFFF, REDD+, Article 6, and other mechanisms.
- Build institutional capacity for **effective multistakeholder governance**, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities
- Develop **training activities and practical tools** to support countries to develop their financial plans for the full implementation of NDCs and relevant climate action outside NDCs, including decision making exercises to determine the most cost-effective financial instruments to be used and how to fill and redistribute public budgets among national development priorities.

<sup>8</sup> Deutz et al: [Financing nature: Closing the global biodiversity financing gap](#)

- Continue to build government capacity to strengthen integration of coastal and marine habitats – including **coastal blue carbon ecosystems** (mangroves, seagrasses and salt marshes).

### **Chapter 10: Finance, Markets, Partnerships**

Delivering the Forest Roadmap at scale will require a step-change in public and blended finance, including expanded results-based finance and stronger multilateral development bank engagement. International cooperation is essential to confront the financial and economic realities of stopping forest loss combined with the urgency and scale of the problems. The [Forest Finance Roadmap](#) introduced by Forest Climate Leadership Pledge at COP30 and the Baku-Belem Roadmap to \$1.3T both contain clear recommendations and milestones to mobilize the forest finance required to deliver the Forest Roadmap. Building on these reports, the Forest Roadmap should highlight the following solutions for finance, markets, and partnerships:

- **Ensure the complementarity of forest and nature financing mechanisms:** JREDD+, TFFF, or carbon markets on their own are not sufficient to slow deforestation or avoid the Amazon tipping point. Nature finance mechanisms must work in a complementary manner to deliver high impact funding to the places and people that need it most.
  - This is underscored by forthcoming research which examines the likely interplay between growing global pressures for biomass energy, carbon credits, and the TFFF. Models show that, while economic pressures that drive deforestation and forest degradation are likely to increase in the future, a combination of TFFF and modest forest carbon incentives could prevent the Brazilian Amazon from crossing an irreversible ecological “tipping point” if delivered effectively. However, reaching an ongoing carbon price of \$50 per ton is needed to end deforestation and expand forest areas in line with the 2030 goal and Forest Roadmap aims. Additionally, the existence of incentives is not sufficient: they must be delivered through effective and durable programs, supported by policies and effective institutions, and they must be taken up by informed, economically motivated landowners.
- **Ensure that the rules being developed under the Article 6.4 Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) do not exclude nature:** These decisions carry significant consequences, as many will look to the PACM as a reference and may decide to set similar rules for other carbon markets. This could negatively affect the availability of financing for high-carbon ecosystems such as tropical forests and mangroves through both global and national carbon markets, and the ability of developing countries to meet their NDC targets without this critical source of funding, ultimately undermining the Forest Roadmap goals.
- **Enhance the ability for Indigenous peoples, local communities, women, and other climate vulnerable groups to directly access climate finance** to ensure equitable distribution and effective local action. Direct access to climate finance and decision-making for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities remains a significant challenge that must be urgently addressed to support their vital contributions to biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable land stewardship. The Climate Investment Program’s [Dedicated Grant Mechanism](#) and the [Inclusive Conservation Initiative](#) are two important initiatives to scale.
- **Enhance initiatives and collaboration to spur innovation and development of novel financial instruments for private investment in nature and those that reduce debt stress of developing countries,** including grants, equity investments, debt-for-nature swaps, results-based payments, ecosystems value-based payments, and compensation-based payments. Some examples include:

[Restoration Insurance and Financial Services Co, Parametric insurance for mangroves in Mozambique](#)

- **Enhance international and regional coordination mechanisms**, such as [The Amazon Cooperation Treaty](#) (OCTA), the [Central America Integration System \(SICA\)](#) Climate and Environment initiatives, [Congo Basin Forest Partnership](#), [Central African Forests Initiative](#), and the [Forest Climate Leaders Partnership](#) to support the balance and coordination needed to handle issues like transboundary leakage.
- **Set milestones for the finance sector and businesses to stop funding deforestation and ecosystem destruction** and, in turn, significantly increase in investments and sourcing from deforestation-free producers, as well as projects, programs, innovation, and technology involving natural climate solutions. This includes:
  - Setting timelines for all major international financial institutions and businesses to have commitments and policies to ensure their portfolios and supply chains are free from deforestation, ecosystem conversion, and associated human rights and other social violations. This should align with actions recommended in guidance, such as the [Finance Sector Roadmap for Eliminating Commodity-Driven Deforestation](#).
  - Supporting initiatives to improve supply chain traceability and transparency needed to invest and direct sourcing practices, such as the guidance of the [Accountability Framework initiative](#) as well as [FSC Certification](#).
  - Supporting businesses to implement preferential purchasing at the scale of entire regions to invest in their sourcing regions more broadly to drive landscape-scale transformations, which requires financing for small- and medium-sized producers.
  - Alignment with the [Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures](#) (TNFD).
  - Encouraging corporate procurement of high-integrity carbon credits, aligned with science-based climate strategies, as a complementary mechanism for mobilizing private finance to jurisdictional forest protection and restoration programs.
- **Scale and align Country Package approaches:** [Country Packages for Forests, Climate and Nature](#) help coordinate and align diverse investments, finance, and technical assistance with the priorities identified under a country's NDC implementation plans, national REDD+ or forest strategies, and NBSAPs. Each Country Package is specific to the particular country's priorities, capacities and needs. These country-led approaches are delivering results in the seven initial countries that have developed Country Packages with the support of the FCLP and other partners, and other countries are initiating the development of their own packages.
- **Donor countries must work to streamline**, align and build on existing reporting mechanisms
- **International Financial Institutions should implement more robust criteria for climate resilient provision of resources** and promote training, knowledge sharing and capacity building for aligning future investments with climate goals according to NDC provisions.
- **Develop specific and more accessible funding mechanisms for addressing losses and damage** deriving from climate impacts, with flexible and concessional conditions for developing countries.
- **Use the Action Agenda to build on PASs highlighted above**, and integrate the Forest Roadmap into Action Agenda mechanisms, while aligning with existing initiatives such as the Accountability



Framework, Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change’s Deforestation Investor Group, TNFD and the many other sector-based initiatives included in the relevant PAS adopted at COP30.

## **Conclusion**

Ultimately, the Forest Roadmap should move beyond analysis, guidelines and recommendations to become a practical instrument that coordinates, directs, and amplifies existing efforts, ensuring that the international community moves decisively toward implementation at scale by 2030 and maintained thereafter.