



## Uganda Submitted REDD+ Results

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### Why in News

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Recently, **Uganda** has become the **first African country** to submit results for **Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+)** to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**.

### REDD+

- **Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+)** is a mechanism developed by **Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** in 2005.
- Most of the key REDD+ decisions were completed by 2013, with the final pieces of the rulebook finished in 2015.
- The “**Plus**” in REDD+, lays out the various ways in which countries have defined the three activities: **conservation, the sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stock.**
- It aims to achieve **climate change mitigation by incentivizing forest conservation.**
- It has three phases — **Readiness, Implementation and Result-based actions.**
  - **Readiness phase** involves the development of national strategies or action plans, REDD+ mitigation actions, and capacity building.
  - **Implementation** is about enacting REDD+ actions and national strategies that could involve further capacity building, technology development and transfer.
  - **Results-based payments** comprise the final REDD+ phase.
    - It provides **financial incentives to developing countries** that prove they stopped deforestation during a certain period of time. This is done through rigorous UN-backed technical evaluations
    - The **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** established at **Conference Of Parties (COP)-17** to function as the financial mechanism for the UNFCCC, is currently financing REDD+ programs.
    - **Brazil** was the first country to receive \$96.5 million under the results-based payments.

## Key Points

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- **Uganda's REDD+ Results:** There is a 44% reduction in the country's rate of deforestation annually between 2015 and 2017.
  - The results submission by Uganda to the UNFCCC has paved the way for **potential results-based payments to the country**.
  - It will help Uganda to receive funds through the **Green Climate Fund's** forest conservation scheme.
- **Significance for Africa:** The submission of the results are a significant development on REDD+ for Africa. This will encourage other African countries to reduce carbon emissions by decreasing deforestation and forest degradation.
- **India and REDD+:**
  - The **Paris agreement on climate change** called upon **country Parties** to take action to implement and support REDD+.
  - India has communicated in its **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** under Paris Agreement, that it will capture 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of Carbon dioxide through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.
  - In this regard, India has prepared its "**National REDD+ Strategy**".  
Introduced in 2018 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the strategy seeks to **address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation** and also develop a roadmap for **enhancement of forest carbon stocks** and achieving sustainable management of forests through REDD+ actions.

## Way Forward

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- Achieving REDD+ results are challenging, as there are other development priorities — with **agriculture, mining, energy and forestry** — driving deforestation.
- There is a need to support developing countries through all three REDD+ phases — **readiness, implementation and result-based actions** — by providing tools and analysis of how to design, implement and measure the results of REDD+ action.
- This will in turn position countries like India and Africa as the forest champion of the next decade.

**Source: DTE**