



# Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest degradation (REDD+)

## Jamaica's journey to REDD+ readiness

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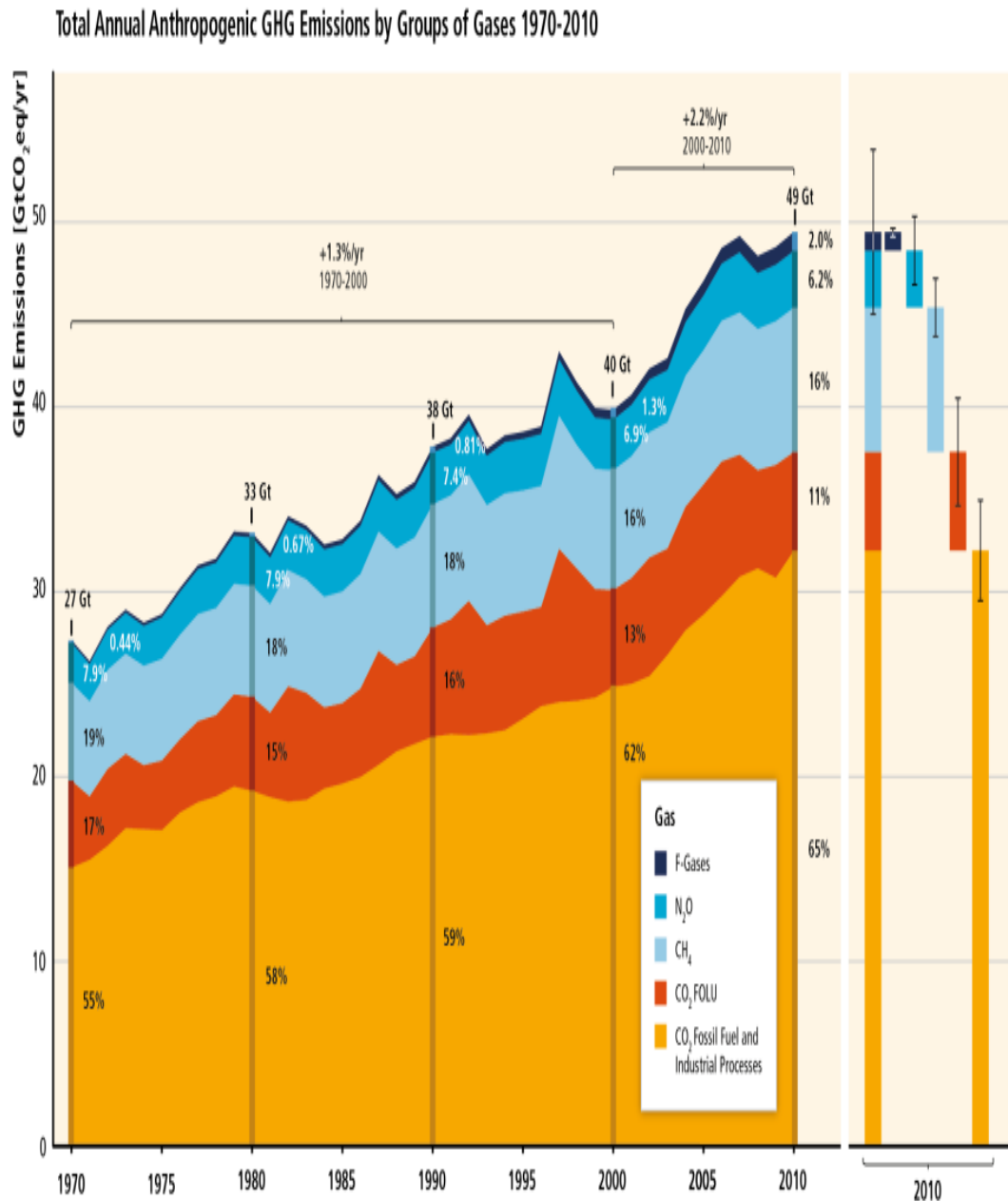
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# Outline of the Presentation

- Introduction
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- Jamaica's journey to REDD+ readiness
- Benefits from REDD+

# Introduction

- Greenhouse gas emissions are at an all-time high.
- Keeping trees standing.
- REDD+ is one of the most promising means for keeping trees standing in developing countries.
- REDD+'s aim is to slowly halt and reverse forest cover and carbon loss in developing countries.
- The success of REDD+ requires transformation of economic activities within and outside of the forests – referred to as DDFD.



# Introduction cont'd

- REDD+ was introduced in 2005 at COP 11 but its importance was not fully and formally recognized until December 2015 -COP21- with the adoption of the Paris Agreement (PA).
- Such recognition in the PA serves to highlight and validate the system of incentives for developing countries to conserve forests in the context of poverty reduction and economic development.
- With PA in effect, no additional foundational decisions are needed for REDD+ to be implemented.
- Focus is on implementation and support of REDD+

# REDD+ in a Nutshell

- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) is an effort to create a financial value for the carbon stored in forests, offering positive incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low carbon paths to sustainable development with developed countries' adequate and predictable support. Financing is equally expected to come from the private sector.
- The key idea is results-based payments to be derived from verified carbon emission reductions or removals.

# REDD+ in a Nutshell

## The Four REDD+ “Design” Elements (Warsaw framework)



# REDD+ in a Nutshell

The scope of REDD+ was agreed in Cancun.

Developing countries are encouraged to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities:

- Reducing emissions from deforestation
- Reducing emissions from forest degradation
- Conservation of forest carbon stocks
- Sustainable management of forest
- Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

# REDD+ in a Nutshell

Given the technical and procedural complexity involved in the implementation of REDD+ activities, Parties agreed that this should be done in three iterative and learning by doing phases.

**1**

## **Phase 1: Readiness**

Countries design national strategies and action plans with relevant stakeholders, build capacity for REDD+ implementation, work on policies and measures for REDD+ implementation and design demonstration activities

**2**

## **Phase 2: Implementation**

National strategies and action plans proposed in Phase I are implemented and tested. This phase may include results-based demonstration activities and require additional capacity building, technology development and transfer. Subnational demonstration activities on an interim basis are allowed as countries scale up to national implementation

**3**

## **Phase 3: Results-based actions**

Results-based REDD+ actions are implemented at the national level and results are fully measured, reported and verified



# Jamaica's journey to REDD+ readiness

- **May, 2015** - UNDP requested the Forestry Department (focal Agency) to lead the process of the country joining the REDD+ mechanism. The Agency nominated the Senior Research Officer to be the country's focal point;
- **June/July, 2015** – On behalf of the country, the focal point signified the country's willingness to participate in the UN-REDD programme which was endorsed by the PS of MLWECC;
- **August, 2015** – UN-REDD secretariat approved the country's request to participate and Jamaica became the 62<sup>nd</sup> country partner to the UN-REDD programme. There are 64 country partners;
- **September, 2015** – The country was invited to the 15<sup>th</sup> Policy Board Meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, scheduled for October, 2015;

# Jamaica's journey to REDD+ readiness

- **October, 2015** – From the Board meeting held in Costa Rica, The Agency was enlightened about the REDD+ mechanism, the iterative phases to become REDD+ ready and possible sources of financing/funding;
  - However, UN-REDD programme does not have the financial resources to support a new country programme. Hence was encourage for secure multilateral and/or bilateral support for the REDD+ readiness process - (A representative from UNE Nairobi & GCF)
- **December, 2015** – First formal interaction with UNE via a letter expressing the country's interest in working together to secure GCF funding for REDD+ readiness endorsed by CCD.

# Jamaica's journey to REDD+ readiness

- **September, 2016** – UNE's Scoping Mission to Jamaica to facilitate the crafting of a Project Preparation Facility Application (PPFA) endorsed by PIOJ and CCD.
- **January, 2017** – Received first draft of PPFA from UNE and the country provided comments, queries and suggestions via teleconferencing call
- **February, 2017** – Based on the first discussions, the country received a second draft of the PPFA. Via a teleconferencing call more comments, suggestions and queries were proposed.
- **June, 2017** – The country received a revised and final version of the PPFA for submission to GCF .

# Jamaica's journey to REDD+ readiness

- **July, 2017** – Formal submission of PPFA to GCF and received comments – separate the readiness process from the Integrated Landscape Management strategy
- **October, 2017** – After a teleconferencing call between FD, UNE, CCD, it was decided that the REDD+ readiness process will be funded through Jamaica's Readiness grant during 2018
- **January, 2018** – The CCD crafted and submitted a Readiness and Preparatory Support Proposal aimed at securing GCF funding for the country's REDD+ readiness process
- **February, 2018** – The country received positive feedback from the GCF secretariat about the readiness proposal.

# Benefits of REDD+

- Support to design and implementation of REDD+
- Well managed forest sector that is contributing to national development
- Increased institutional arrangement and coordination amongst stakeholders of the land use sector
- Payments per ton of carbon emissions reduced or removed
- Valuation of the Jamaica's forest resources
- International recognition for Jamaica's mitigation results
- Multiple benefits: biodiversity conservation, poverty alleviation, catalyze a green economy that integrates multiple sectors (forestry, agriculture, energy, finance, etc.)

# Main challenges associated with REDD+

- Ensuring meaningful sources of finance and adequate private sector engagement
- Powerful political and economic interests favour continued deforestation and degradation
- Institutional arrangements: Implementation must be coordinated across various government levels and agencies
- Benefit sharing: if benefits are to be distributed, effectiveness and equity need to be balanced; tenure insecurity and safeguards must be genuinely addressed; and transparent institutions put in place
- Challenges associated with carbon measurement and establishing reference levels

# Overcoming these Challenges

REDD+ has been highlighted in two main GoJ instruments thus far:

- Forest Policy (2017)
  - Eight guiding principles
  - (Specifically mentioned in the Collaboration and Coordination section)
- National Forest Management and Conservation Plan (2017)
  - (under the theme “ Capacity for Sustainable Forest Management)





**Thank you for your attention and  
Happy International day of Forests!**