Forests at COP27

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Trey Lord, Senior Technical Manager, 1t.org
Forests and Climate Change by the Numbers

- US$ 75-100 billion - Annual value of goods and service provided by forests
- 20% - Share of global GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
- 15% - Current share of US fossil fuel emissions captured annually by US forests and forest products
- 27% - Potential share of current US emissions that forests could absorb to limit climate change
- 30% - Potential share of global emissions that forests could absorb to limit climate change below 2°C
- 3% - Share of the global climate mitigation funding to forests
Irrecoverable Carbon in Forests

75% of global irrecoverable carbon is in 75% of the Earth's land area.

50% of irrecoverable carbon is in just 3.3% of the planet's land.

30% of the world's irrecoverable carbon is found in tropical and subtropical forests.

Peat is the organic layer of a soil formed by the partial decomposition of plants and other organic matter.

Actions to Conserve, Restore, and Grow Forest

- Combatting deforestation and forest degradation
- Restoring forest landscapes
- Enabling rights-based land use
- Unlocking forests benefits
Forests in the Inflation Reduction Act

• $1.5 billion for Urban & Community Forestry Program

• $1.8 billion for National Forest System (via USFS) to support wild-fire risk reduction

• $350 million for vegetation management, environmental reviews, and inventory of old-growth forests on National Forest System land

• $400 million in competitive grants and cost share from USFS to support underserved or small forest owners

• $700 million in competitive grants to states through Forest Service Forest Legacy Program to conserve environmentally significant forests threatened by conversion
REDD+

- Reducing
- Emissions from
- Deforestation and
- Forest Degradation
- Plus conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
Forests at COP26

• The Glasgow Declaration on Forests and Land Use
  • 140 countries pledges to halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by 2030 (since grown to 145)

• The Global Forest Finance Pledge
  • US$ 19.2 billion to help protect and restore forests globally by 2025
US Government Priorities for Forests at COP27

• Up to US$ 9 billion of international climate funding to support conservations of global forests by 2030
• “Plan to Conserve Global Forests: Critical Carbon Sinks”
  1. Incentivize forest and ecosystem conservation and forest landscape restoration
  2. Catalyze private sector investment, finance and action to conserve critical carbon sinks;
  3. Build long-term capacity; and
  4. Increase the ambition of governments and other stakeholders
Forests Action at COP27

- Meet the ambition of “The Glasgow Declaration on Forests and Land Use” and “The Global Forest Finance Pledge”
- Fulfil pledges and raise ambition towards financing the reversal of forest loss and degradation
- Leverage the private sector to play a key role in financing zero-deforestation and nature-positive action
- Seek cost-effective and equitable natural climate solutions
Natural Climate Solutions in Climate Adaptation

**HAZARD:** Loss of life and assets due to intense wildfires  
**SOLUTION:** Forest management to reduce risk of super-fires

**HAZARD:** Asset loss, yield reduction, and contamination due to flooding  
**SOLUTION:** Restore wetlands to absorb and filter flood waters

**HAZARD:** Crop failures and livestock loss due to drought  
**SOLUTION:** Agro-forestry to make better use of soil moisture and reduce evaporation

**HAZARD:** Urban flooding due to intense rainfall  
**SOLUTION:** Restore watercourses, expand greenspaces, and introduce porous surfaces to reduce flood risk

**HAZARD:** Landslides, soil loss, and siltation due to intense rainfall  
**SOLUTION:** Protect and restore forests to stabilize soils and slow water runoff

**HAZARD:** Reduced or intermittent river flow due to drought  
**SOLUTION:** Protect and restore forests and wetlands to regulate flow

**HAZARD:** Asset loss, yield reduction, and transport disruption due to flooding  
**SOLUTION:** Protect and restore forests to slow water run-off

**HAZARD:** Heat stress due to urban heat islands  
**SOLUTION:** Expand green spaces in and around cities

**HAZARD:** Loss of life and assets due to storm surges and inundation  
**SOLUTION:** Protect and restore mangroves, marshes, and reefs to buffer coasts and absorb floodwaters

Source: Bapna et al. 2019
Forests and the Private Sector

- Sustainable forestry standards and zero-deforestation supply chains
- Large-scale investment using direct finance or carbon credits
- Public-private partnerships for forest conservation, restoration, or reforestation
GOAL: One trillion trees conserved, restored and grown globally by 2030.

The US chapter drives change by facilitating the leadership of US companies, nonprofits, and governments to help us reach the goal of one trillion trees globally.
Thank you!