

REDD+

Community of Practice

Summary notes of the REDD+ Global Summit 2026

Meeting Report
June 2026



United Nations
Climate Change





Introduction

Background

Since the adoption of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ in 2013, countries have made steady progress in implementing [REDD+ activities](#). This framework is fully recognized under Article 5.2 of the Paris Agreement. The first Global Stocktake further underscored the importance of halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. However, the current landscape of REDD+ implementation – particularly its interaction with evolving mechanisms under the Paris Agreement – has become increasingly complex. In recent years, there had not been a dedicated space for REDD+ countries, donors and other stakeholders to systematically share experiences and lessons learned. In response to this need, the UNFCCC secretariat launched the UNFCCC REDD+ Community of Practice, which serves as a dedicated platform for dialogue and technical exchange. The details are provided in the [presentation](#) held at the launch of the REDD+ Community of Practice at SB62.

With the 2030 goal of halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation approaching, REDD+ countries, supporting organizations and donors need to accelerate implementation using existing experience—on national REDD+ strategies/action plans, safeguards information systems, forest reference (emission) levels, and results-based finance. The REDD+ Global Summit was a good opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned, while surfacing collaboration opportunities and informing potential further work by the secretariat. It also strengthened transparency and facilitated exchange on access to diverse sources of results-based finance, supporting countries to sustain and enhance efforts to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. Finally, the Summit opened a space for discussion on opportunities and challenges with accessing different sources of REDD+ results-based finance and with combining them, including with other forest-related funds.

Overall goal

The overall goal of the summit was to advance REDD+ implementation by expanding South-South exchange, strengthening transparency, clarifying Article 5/Article 6 linkages, and enabling voluntary cooperation through an active UNFCCC REDD+ Community of Practice – taking the momentum on forests forward from COP30 and supporting countries' efforts to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030.

Objectives

The meeting provided an opportunity to:

- **Provide a dedicated global space** for REDD+ countries, donors, and stakeholders to share experiences and lessons learned on national strategies/action plans, safeguards, forest reference (emission) levels, national forest monitoring system, and results-based finance;
- **Strengthen participants' understanding** of key forest-related agreements, REDD+ reporting, and processes under the Paris Agreement;
- **Clarify how REDD+ interfaces with UN agency programmes and evolving mechanisms under the Paris Agreement** by discussing open technical questions and practical implications;
- **Clarify benefits and options for strengthening alignment** between Article 5 and independent carbon crediting initiatives and providers of REDD+ results-based finance;
- **Launch a discussion forum on the REDD+ Web Platform** which enables Parties to voluntarily cooperate on REDD+ through technical exchanges focused on country priorities, challenges, successes and opportunities;
- Demonstrate how stronger cooperation can **enhance ambition and deliver tangible benefits for countries**.



19-21 May 2026



Safari Park Hotel
(Nairobi, Kenya)

96 representatives from 58
REDD+ countries, 4 donor
countries, 13 organizations, and
3 civil society constituencies



Chatham House rule to
encourage open exchange (in-
person only)





Key messages at a glance

Across the Summit, five cross-cutting messages emerged:

1



Accessing diversified finance for REDD+ requires “national REDD+ architecture + pipelines + credibility.” Countries emphasized the need to maintain and regularly update the systems and information underpinning the Warsaw Framework elements rather than treating them as one-off requirements. They also highlighted the importance of developing investment-ready pipelines and establishing trusted national institutions, capacity and processes that allow finance to land credibly and at scale.

2



Coherence and predictability of support matter as much as “more money.” Participants stressed that fragmented requirements and templates increase transaction costs; and that predictable, programmatic support and better coordination across finance providers can accelerate implementation.

3



Integrity is both environmental and social. Repeated emphasis was placed on safeguards, meaningful participation, including Free, prior and informed Consent-related considerations where applicable, and transparent benefit-sharing as foundations for trust and durability.

4



Data consistency and accounting coherence are central enablers. The need for harmonization of datasets across reporting streams, robust documentation, and clear approaches to nesting and double counting were highlighted.

5



Communication and trust are strategic priorities. Participants underscored the need to tell the “REDD+ story” more effectively, highlighting its successes and potential, and to build trust across different actors: within government, with stakeholders and communities, and with donors and buyers.



Thematic synthesis of discussions

A

Progress and evolving expectations

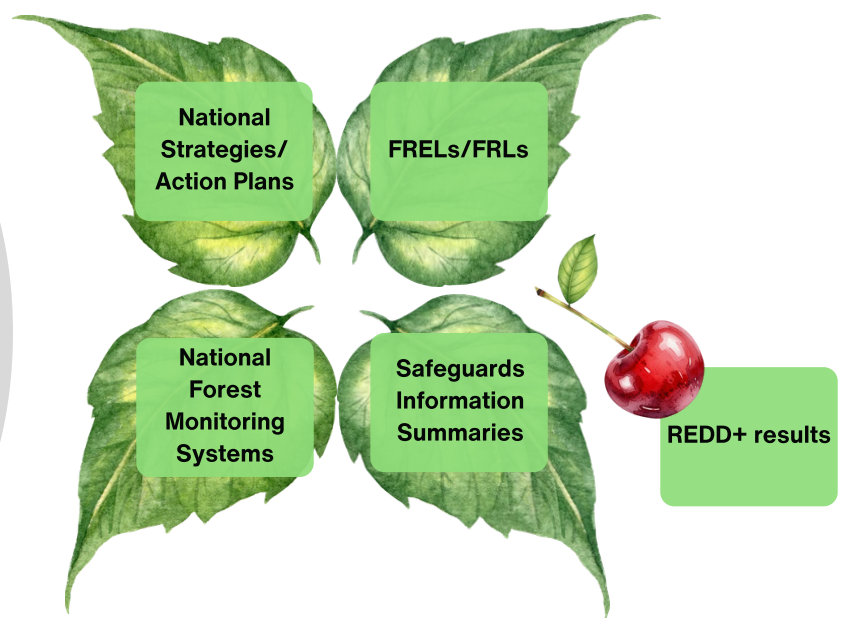
Participants reflected on more than a decade of experience with REDD+ implementation under the UNFCCC and on the broader landscape which has seen an increase in the diversity of results-based finance options. **A recurring message was that REDD+ has matured:** many countries have moved beyond early design questions and now focus on sustaining national systems, improving the usability of information, and translating technical frameworks into durable implementation on the ground. Several participants emphasized that this maturity brings both opportunities and new expectations – particularly as integrity benchmarks evolve and as diverse finance channels have introduced different requirements and timelines.

Country snapshots and expert briefings also illustrated regional differences and importance of implementation context. Participants highlighted that national circumstances differ significantly – forest types, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, governance capacity, and social contexts – and that **policy packages should be tailored to the national circumstances, and that there is no one-size-fits-all model.** This framing helped participants move beyond direct comparison between countries and instead focus on practical lessons that could be adapted to different regional contexts and stages of readiness.



At the same time, participants noted a set of common pressures that cut across contexts. These included: the need to maintain political and institutional continuity over multiple years; managing expectations among stakeholders, including about timing and benefits; and navigating an expanding landscape of finance providers, standards, and potential buyers. Several interventions stressed **the importance of maintaining the foundational elements of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+** – including national strategies, safeguards, and FRELs/FRLs – as a stable basis for credibility across multiple pathways.

Participants also discussed how to sustain momentum toward 2030 and beyond. **Recent trends in forest loss were referenced as a reminder that outcomes can change quickly, and that policy action and enforcement can deliver measurable results.** This reinforced an overall orientation toward practicality: participants valued sessions that focused on what works in real implementation, what remains challenging, and which enabling conditions are most decisive when trying to scale-up implementation.



Transparency was consistently framed as a strategic tool for stronger climate action: it enables countries to make informed decisions about their forests, while also helping to build confidence, reduce transaction costs, and facilitate access to different finance channels. Participants discussed transparency across the full spectrum: forest monitoring and measuring, reporting and verification (MRV); documentation and Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures; consistency of reporting across cycles; and readiness for technical review. Several interventions noted that expectations around uncertainty and supporting evidence are increasing, including the need to quantify uncertainty more transparently, and to document methods, data sources, assumptions, internal review and consistency check over time.



Participants highlighted that **monitoring systems are not static**. They require sustained resourcing and institutionalization – staffing, data management, and governance arrangements that ensure continuity and quality beyond a single project or reporting cycle. Discussions also emphasized that the choice of datasets and methods has implications for comparability and credibility. Where multiple datasets are used across national and project contexts, participants highlighted the need for harmonization or at least clear cross-walking to avoid fragmentation and maintain confidence in reported information and results.



Improvements in forest data and monitoring systems were also discussed as having value beyond REDD+ finance access. Participants noted that better activity data, emission factors, uncertainty estimates and documentation can **strengthen national GHG inventories and support the tracking of progress in BTRs**. In this sense, investments in REDD+ MRV can serve multiple transparency purposes: improving credibility of REDD+ results, supporting consistency with national inventory reporting, and helping countries explain progress toward their NDCs over time. All of these together build the essential foundation for any transfers of Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes under Article 6.

Finally, participants emphasized that **transparency should be communicated in ways that are usable for different audiences**. For technical audiences, this means clear documentation and uncertainty treatment. For decision-makers and stakeholders, this means accessible summaries that explain what results mean, how safeguards are addressed, and how finance is used. Several participants noted the importance of translation and locally accessible formats, particularly when information supports stakeholder participation and trust.



The Summit devoted substantial attention to practical pathways for results-based finance, reflecting that many countries are now working with different REDD+ result-based payments finance providers and standards in parallel. Participants repeatedly returned to the idea of sequencing: moving from readiness to verified REDD+ results, and then to credible use of proceeds and sustained implementation. Across sessions, participants highlighted that **access to REDD+ payments is easier when it is grounded in strong national systems, clear institutional roles and responsibilities, and coherent planning** rather than driven by separate efforts to respond to individual funding opportunities.

Results-based payments discussions focusing on public funding sources highlighted **institutionalized approaches that combine readiness support, project preparation, and payments**. Participants discussed the value of predictable, programmatic support and the importance of linking results-based finance to longer-term implementation needs. The discussions also pointed to the catalytic role that readiness and results-based finance, including through the GCF and FCPF can play in strengthening national systems, building technical and institutional capacity and positioning countries to access additional REDD+ finance over time. They also noted the **practical difficulty of coordinating different processes and timelines**, including between REDD+ technical assessment and analysis processes under the UNFCCC and programming or approval timelines under funding channels such as the GCF. Questions and reflections also touched on practicalities such as use-of-proceeds planning and tracking, and how to strengthen the credibility and communication of results, including non-carbon benefits.

Several sessions underscored that **countries often experience a “transition gap” between readiness and result-based payments** – where enabling conditions exist but processes are not yet “transaction-ready”. Participants cited common bottlenecks such as legal clarity, institutional coordination, documentation readiness, verification capacity, including availability of validators/verifiers, and the time and cost required to complete stakeholder processes. As countries diversify finance options, participants emphasized that **reducing transaction costs should not come at the expense of integrity, and that coherent national approaches can help manage multiple requirements without duplicating effort**.

Market-facing pathways sessions emphasized that integrity expectations are rising and that market access often depends on credible, well-documented systems, including safeguards and reporting on results. Participants discussed the importance of clear choices about which pathways to pursue and how to manage implications for accounting, nesting and authorization. Several questions were raised about the evolution in requirements of specific standards, in order to better understand the burden for REDD+ countries already engaged in previous versions of those standards. Discussions also highlighted that **nesting project-level or subnational activities within jurisdictional or national approaches can be technically and institutionally complex**, particularly where different baselines, datasets, registries or benefit-sharing arrangements are involved. In terms of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, participants highlighted that **authorization processes and corresponding adjustments require early internal coordination and clear national procedures**, and noted that decisions on authorization and corresponding adjustments need to be considered in relation to the country’s NDC, including how transferred mitigation outcomes may affect the accounting of progress towards NDC achievement.

Clarifying the linkages between Article 5.2 and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement emerged as an important area for further work. Discussions highlighted that REDD+ countries need a clearer understanding of how the Warsaw Framework elements, REDD+ technical assessment/analysis processes, BTR reporting, Article 6.2 initial and regular reporting, authorization, corresponding adjustments and Article 6 technical expert review fit together over time. Participants also noted that **Article 6 engagement raises practical data-consistency challenges**, including alignment among national forest monitoring systems, FRELs/FRLs, GHG inventories, technical annexes on REDD+ results, registries and accounting systems, as well as the treatment of nesting, uncertainty, double counting and corresponding adjustment in relation to NDC achievement. Several exchanges therefore pointed to **the need for more targeted capacity-building for REDD+ countries on Article 6.2 and 6.4**, including practical guidance for decision makers and technical teams on authorization procedures, NDC implications, data and registry readiness, and the potential effects of Article 6.4 rules and other compliance-market decisions on jurisdictional REDD+. Participants also encouraged REDD+ countries to make their perspective heard in relevant ongoing discussions, including those that may shape new opportunities for REDD+ RBP through Article 6.4, CORSIA and other emerging demand channels.

Participants repeatedly noted that the central challenge is increasingly **system coherence** – maintaining a consistent national “backbone” that can serve multiple frameworks without duplicating work. Rather than focusing on “which finance option to choose”, discussions emphasized the practical need to keep national arrangements aligned across reporting cycles, standards, and cooperation contexts, so that information and decisions remain usable over time.

A core element of coherence discussed was **data alignment**. Participants highlighted that inconsistencies in datasets, such as differing forest definitions, activity data approaches, or baseline assumptions across systems, can create confusion and undermine credibility. Several exchanges pointed to the value of relying on a high-quality national dataset, including national forest monitoring system delivering consistent estimates at different scales so that figures and methods remain interpretable across uses, including nesting contexts.

Participants also discussed **accounting and record-keeping readiness** as a practical bottleneck. Questions centred on how to ensure traceability of results/units, avoid double counting, and manage nesting between project and jurisdictional approaches. Discussions suggested that these issues are not purely technical: they require clear national rules, transparent processes, and sufficient administrative capacity to maintain records and make decisions consistently.

Another recurring theme was **institutional clarity** – particularly roles and mandates for approvals/authorizations and cross-ministry coordination. Participants noted that unclear responsibilities can slow down decision-making and increase transaction costs, while clearer mandates and coordination mechanisms help countries engage consistently across different requirements and timelines.

Integrity was discussed as a multidimensional concept covering environmental credibility and social legitimacy. Across sessions, participants emphasized that safeguards and meaningful stakeholder participation are central – not peripheral – to durable REDD+ implementation. Discussions highlighted that **trust depends on whether stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, can meaningfully influence decisions and see that legitimate concerns are addressed in practice.**

Participants discussed consent-related considerations, including Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, as an ongoing process rather than a one-off event. Practical themes included: stakeholder identification and mapping; accessible and continuous communication; use of locally trusted intermediaries; clear documentation of engagement steps and decisions; and functional Grievance Redress Mechanisms to adequately address complaints and disputes. Participants also raised the tension between the need for inclusive coverage and practical constraints and discussed approaches that aim to preserve representativeness and inclusiveness while making processes feasible at scale.

Safeguards information systems and safeguards reporting were discussed as an important bridge between national systems and the credibility expectations of finance channels. Participants highlighted that **safeguards implementation is strengthened when responsibilities are clearly allocated across institutions and when safeguards information is integrated into broader national planning and monitoring systems.** Several interventions also noted the importance of accessible information, including language and format, to enable meaningful participation and reduce misinformation.

Finally, participants discussed integrity risks and how to respond to those. Rather than abandoning approaches due to isolated problems, participants emphasized **strengthening rules, oversight, and transparency to address “bad actors” and reinforce confidence.** This was linked to the broader point that integrity is essential for scaling and for sustaining support – whether through public programmes, market-facing pathways, or blended approaches.



Participants repeatedly emphasized that REDD+ sustainability depends on linking forest outcomes with livelihoods and broader development benefits, including non-carbon benefits. Discussions returned frequently to **“who benefits”** – and **how benefit-sharing arrangements influence trust, participation, and long-term effectiveness.**



Benefit-sharing was discussed both as a design question and as an implementation practice. Participants highlighted that **clarity and transparency on benefit-sharing rules and decision-making processes can strengthen legitimacy.** Where arrangements are unclear or perceived as unfair, trust can erode and implementation can slow. Participants were keen to learn more about examples of success stories of benefit-sharing with Indigenous Peoples and discussed approaches that prioritize community-defined needs and make benefits tangible through locally relevant investments and services, while also noting the importance of safeguards against elite capture.



Non-carbon benefits were discussed as important both for outcomes and for credibility. Participants noted that non-carbon benefits can include livelihood improvements, biodiversity and ecosystem services, governance improvements, and social inclusion outcomes. Questions focused on **how to make these benefits visible and credible, including through appropriate indicators, documentation, and communication that is accessible to stakeholders.**



Sustainability was also linked to the broader policy environment. Participants highlighted that **REDD+ is more durable when integrated into wider land-use and development planning,** especially at the forest-agriculture interface. Several interventions emphasized the need for coherent policy measures – including legal enforcement, regulatory measures and incentives – that reduce pressure on forests and support continuity in efforts to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation across political and budget cycles.



Across discussions – particularly in the panel and closing reflections – participants highlighted enabling conditions that determine whether REDD+ implementation can scale in a diversified finance landscape. A recurring framing was that **countries benefit from maintaining a strong “core architecture”**, such as national strategies, national forest monitoring systems, safeguards arrangements, FRELs/FRLs and reporting processes, **as a passport to multiple finance channels.**



Several presentations also stressed the **forest-agriculture nexus as a central issue for scaling REDD+ implementation**, including the role of agricultural expansion, land-use incentives and, in some contexts, agricultural subsidies in driving deforestation and forest degradation. Participants noted that addressing these drivers requires REDD+ to be linked more closely with agricultural, land-use and development planning, rather than treated as a stand-alone forest-sector effort.



Finally, participants highlighted communication and trust as enabling conditions. Countries and partners noted the **need to communicate REDD+ progress and lessons more effectively and to build trust** across constituencies – within government, with stakeholders and communities, and with donors and buyers. Participants emphasized that trust is reinforced by transparent information, inclusive processes, and clear benefit-sharing practices, and that these elements are central to scaling action toward 2030.



Participants described the **importance of whole-of-government approaches that align policies, budgets, and incentives across sectors, and that reduce institutional fragmentation**, especially where the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation sit outside the forest sector. Several interventions also emphasized that scaling requires investment-ready pipelines and national vehicles that can receive, manage and report finance credibly.

Donors, financing institutions and other partners were **encouraged to support scaling of REDD+ implementation through predictability and coherence: providing longer-term and programmatic support; simplifying and aligning requirements where possible; and strengthening coordination to reduce transaction costs for REDD+ countries.** Participants also noted the role of public and concessional finance in de-risking and crowding in private capital, and the importance of risk-sharing instruments where appropriate. Discussions also pointed to the possible future role of emerging finance mechanisms, such as the Tropical Forest Forever Facility, as part of a broader forest finance architecture that could implement results-based and market-based **approaches by supporting forest areas and outcomes that may not be easily reached through crediting mechanisms.**





Reflections and way forward

Participants broadly welcomed the Summit as a rare, dedicated global space for practical peer learning on REDD+ across different stages of implementation. A recurring reflection was that the value of the Summit lay less in producing “new concepts” and more in creating a structured setting to compare real-world experience—what has worked, what has not, and what countries wish they had known earlier—particularly as 2030 approaches and the finance landscape becomes more diversified and complex.

Looking forward, participants identified several priorities for continued work. First, sustaining momentum will require keeping the Community of Practice active as a practical space for exchange—capturing open questions, sharing tools and examples, and supporting follow-up discussions that are too technical to resolve during a Summit. Second, participants emphasized the value of maintaining a regular rhythm of exchange: annual regional meetings to address region- and context-specific issues, and periodic global summits to consolidate cross-cutting lessons, align expectations across actors, and take stock of what is changing in the finance and integrity landscape. Third, participants encouraged continued efforts to communicate REDD+ progress more effectively—using clear, accessible narratives and evidence—so that achievements, needs, and opportunities are understood by domestic decision-makers, stakeholders, and international partners alike.

The Summit also took place against the backdrop of the political momentum generated by the COP30 Presidency Roadmap for Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation by 2030. Participants’ discussions on finance, transparency, safeguards, implementation readiness and peer learning were closely aligned with the Roadmap’s emphasis on moving from commitments to practical, country-driven implementation. In this sense, the Summit helped translate the broader political signal around forests into concrete exchanges among REDD+ countries and partners on what is needed to accelerate action by 2030.

Overall, the Summit closed with a forward-looking sentiment: the task of halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030 is demanding, but practical cooperation can accelerate progress. Building on the political momentum around the COP30 Presidency Forest Roadmap, participants expressed interest in sustaining peer learning and in continuing to refine how REDD+ delivers credible, inclusive and scalable outcomes across an evolving set of finance pathways.

The UNFCCC secretariat thanks all those who contributed to the REDD+ Global Summit 2026 and hopes that this report will serve as a useful resource for continued exchange, cooperation and action toward halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030.

For further information on REDD+ and the REDD+ Community of Practice, please visit the [REDD+ Web Platform](#) or contact red_webplatform@unfccc.int.

