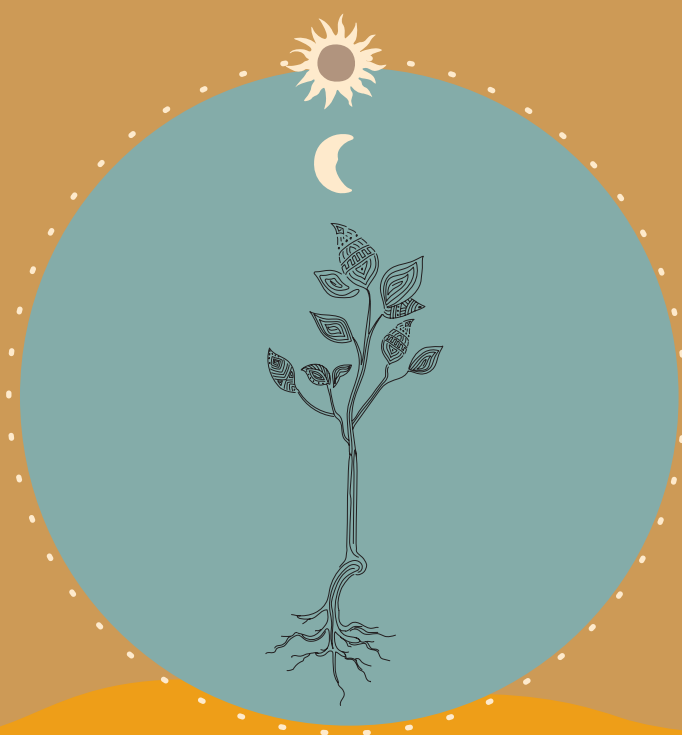




JURISDICTIONAL

REDD+ Programs (JREDD+)





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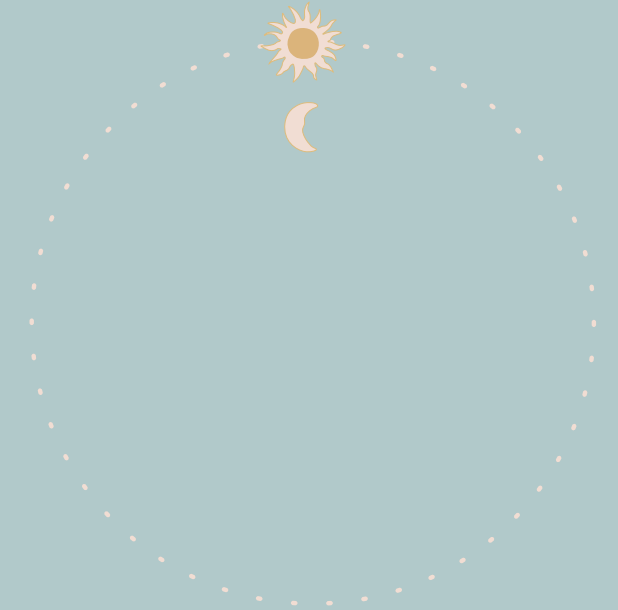
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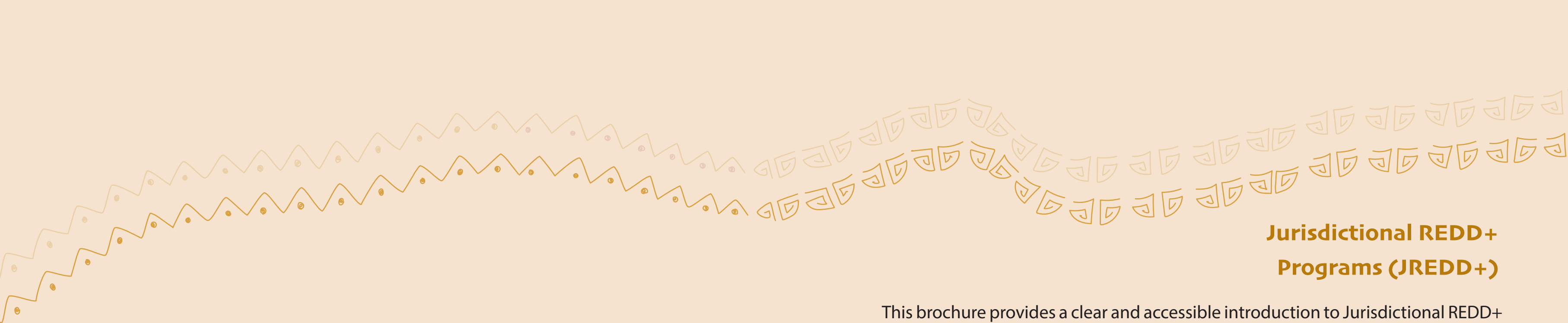


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JURISDICTIONAL REDD+ Programs (JREDD+)

2025



BROCHURE 3

Jurisdictional REDD+ Programs (JREDD+)

This brochure provides a clear and accessible introduction to Jurisdictional REDD+ (JREDD+). It explains how the approach works, its core principles, mechanisms, and challenges, to support understanding among Indigenous Peoples & Local Communities, and other stakeholders. It also aims to explain its potential benefits and risks, contributing to informed decision-making and fair, effective, and equitable participation in programs involving large-scale forest protection and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions reduction.

This brochure is the third volume in the series "Understanding Climate Finance," produced by Forest Trends' Communities and Territorial Governance Initiative in collaboration with Greendata and with support from the Walmart Foundation. To access the other chapters, visit the [Forest Trends website](#).



Introduction to JREDD+

In the previous brochure, we looked at what REDD+ is, why it emerged, how it works, and what precautions are necessary to protect the rights of the communities involved. In this brochure, we will understand how these initiatives can be organized in **jurisdictions**, such as countries, states, provinces, or entire regions, and what the differences and advantages are of working at a larger scale to protect forests and reduce CO₂ emissions.

The jurisdictional approach to **REDD+**, also known as JREDD+, is a broader and more integrated way of implementing the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) mechanism. While traditional REDD+ projects work at the local level and on individual projects, **JREDD+ works on a larger scale and at the jurisdictional level**, i.e., states, provinces, or entire countries.

What is A JURISDICTION?

A jurisdiction is a geographical area with a government that has the authority to make decisions and enforce laws. It can be a country, a state, a province, a municipality, or even a region defined by political or administrative agreements. In the context of JREDD+, the jurisdiction is the territory where forest protection rules and actions are implemented, with the participation of local government, communities, and other actors.



The goal of JREDD+ is to align **forest conservation actions with large-scale land use planning and public policies**. This makes it possible to combat deforestation and forest degradation in a more comprehensive and coordinated manner, while promoting sustainable development and reducing CO₂ emissions in an integrated way.

The idea of applying REDD+ at the jurisdictional level gained momentum during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), especially after COP15, which took place in 2009 in Copenhagen. This approach sought to address the limitations of isolated projects, such as the risk of leakage (when deforestation is simply transferred to another area), double counting of avoided emissions, and lack of integration with national plans and policies. The rules for jurisdictional implementation were consolidated in the Warsaw Framework (COP 19, 2013), which established guidelines for national baselines, Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV), and payments for results.



JREDD+ is particularly important in **countries with large areas of tropical forests**, such as Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, Indonesia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, where deforestation is caused by complex factors, including agricultural expansion and other land use changes, mining, and road construction.

One of the main advantages of this approach is that it allows work to be done not only to reduce deforestation, but also to **conserve existing carbon stocks, improve forest management, and increase natural regeneration**.

For JREDD+ to work well, **strong and participatory governance is essential**. This includes coordination between local and national governments, participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPs & LCs), civil

society organizations, and the private sector. Effective measurement/monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems are also needed to transparently track and record CO₂ emissions reductions. The use of technologies, such as satellite imagery, maps, and carbon capture and storage estimates, helps to ensure the credibility of this data.

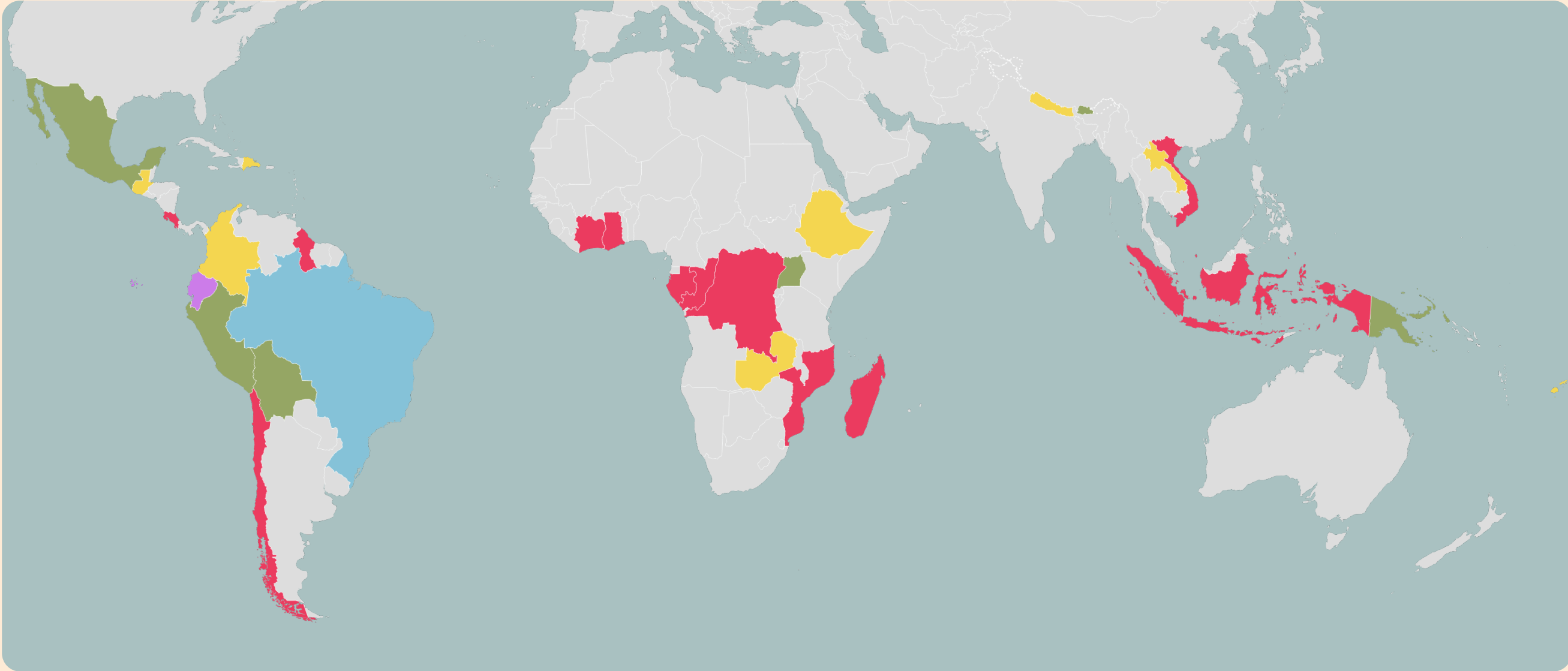
In addition, JREDD+ is committed to **social and environmental safeguards**. This means that the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities must be respected, biodiversity must be protected, and the benefits of programs must be equitably shared among all stakeholders.

Despite the great potential of this approach, challenges remain, such as securing initial funding for Free, Prior, and Informed Consultation (FPIC), which seeks consent for the advancement of processes, as well as long-term financing, policy coordination between different levels of government, and ensuring the effective participation of communities. This brochure presents in more detail the fundamentals, mechanisms, examples, and challenges of JREDD+, helping to understand how this strategy can contribute to protecting forests and addressing the climate crisis in a fair and effective manner.

ILLUSTRATIVE MAP OF JREDD+ PROCESS IMPLEMENTATION

- ACTIVE programs**
 - CHILE
 - CÔTE D'IVOIRE
 - COSTA RICA
 - GABON
 - GHANA
 - GUYANA
 - INDONESIA
 - MADAGASCAR
 - MOZAMBIQUE
 - D.R. CONGO
 - REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
 - VIETNAM

- Programs under IMPLEMENTATION**
 - COLOMBIA
 - ETHIOPIA
 - FIJI
 - GUATEMALA
 - LAOS (LAO PDR)
 - NEPAL
 - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
 - ZAMBIA



- Programs under PLANNING**
 - BOLIVIA
 - BHUTAN
 - MEXICO
 - PAPUA NEW GUINEA
 - PERU
 - UGANDA

- ACTIVE/IMPLEMENTATION/PLANNING Programs**
 - BRAZIL

- ACTIVE/under IMPLEMENTATION**
 - ECUADOR



JREDD+
Structure

The jurisdictional approach to REDD+ differs from voluntary projects in that it operates on a larger scale, at the level of states, provinces, or entire regions. Instead of focusing only on specific areas, at the level of individual projects, JREDD+ seeks to **coordinate public policies and actions across the entire territory of a jurisdiction, strengthening environmental and climate planning.**

This means that different sectors of government and society work together: state and federal agencies, civil society organizations, the private sector, Indigenous Peoples, and Local Communities. All collaborate to establish **goals, rules for participation, forms of monitoring, and guarantees of respect for social, environmental, and territorial rights.**

One of the pillars of JREDD+ is the measurement/monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) system, which we saw in Brochure 2. It is used to check whether deforestation is decreasing and whether emission reduction targets are being met. In Brazil, the Amazon Deforestation Monitoring Project (PRODES) of the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) is an example of a tool used for this purpose. This data helps to calculate how much carbon is being avoided, generating results that can be recognized and even remunerated.

Each territory that adopts JREDD+, as well as other carbon credit methodologies, must define a **baseline**, i.e., an average of how much deforestation and how many



CO₂ emissions there were before the program began. From there, it is possible to measure the improvements achieved with the implementation of the project or program.

In addition to monitoring, JREDD+ requires the implementation of **safeguards, or, measures to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, guarantee the protection of biodiversity, and ensure the equitable distribution of the benefits generated.** These safeguards are defined in the Cancún Safeguards and must be complied with and monitored in a transparent manner, as detailed in the previous brochure.

Another important aspect is **nesting**, a way of integrating local REDD+ projects

into broader programs at the jurisdictional level. This prevents the same carbon credit from being counted twice and helps organize efforts in a coordinated manner, linking what already exists with new, larger-scale initiatives. This process is detailed in Brochure 5 on Project Nesting.

With all this, JREDD+ can generate internationally recognized carbon credits. These credits can be traded, providing resources to jurisdictions and communities that are protecting their forests.

STAGES OF IMPLEMENTATION OF A JREDD+ PROGRAM

PREPARATION -> planning

DEVELOPMENT OF
NATIONAL/SUBNATIONAL
STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

PREPARATION AND START OF
PRIOR CONSULTATIONS / FPIC
AND STRUCTURING OF
SAFEGUARDS

STRUCTURING OF GOVERNANCE
AND PROCESSES, INCLUDING THE
DEFINITION OF THE BASIS FOR
BENEFIT SHARING

National and local
governments

IPs & LCs
Indigenous
Peoples and Local
Communities

NGOs
Non-governmental
Organizations

Multi-stakeholder
councils and forums

IMPLEMENTATION -> technical structuring

DEFINITION OF
THE BASELINE

INDEPENDENT MRV AND
VVBS (VALIDATION AND
VERIFICATION BODIES)

REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND
CONTRACTS: ERPA (EMISSION
REDUCTIONS PURCHASE AGREEMENT),
LOI (LETTER OF INTENT), AND OTHERS

Preparation of Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP)

+

Creation of the safeguards system

+

Structuring of consultation protocol or plan

Governments,
IPs & LCs,
NGOs,
Private sector,
VVBs, and
Technical consultants

ACTIVE -> issuance / payment

ISSUANCE
OF
CREDITS

RESULTS-BASED
PAYMENTS

MRV AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF
ADJUSTMENTS AND
IMPROVEMENTS

Donors and
buyers

Governments

IPs & LCs

Consultants
and auditors



Financial Mechanisms



The success of JREDD+ depends largely on access to **stable, long-term financial resources**. These resources are necessary to implement conservation actions, monitoring, strengthening local governance, and benefit sharing with the communities involved.

The main sources of financing include:

- **Multilateral funds**, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which has already allocated hundreds of millions of dollars to support jurisdictional programs in tropical countries.
- **Public-private partnerships** (PPPs), such as the LEAF Coalition (Reducing Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance), which brings together governments and companies committed to financially supporting emissions reduction programs.

In Brochure 4 of the series, we will provide more detailed information on this coalition and the standard adopted to certify its projects: ART-TREES.

- **Payments for results**, in which a jurisdiction receives funds after demonstrating, through monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems, that it has succeeded in avoiding greenhouse gas emissions.

A central aspect of financing is the equitable distribution of benefits, which must ensure that Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are recognized and fairly compensated. To this end, transparent and participatory mechanisms need to be created to define how resources will be distributed. We will discuss benefit sharing further in Brochure 7.

FINANCIAL FLOW IN JREDD+ PROGRAMS

FUNDING SOURCES

Multilateral funds

Bilateral initiatives

Market mechanisms

PAYMENT CRITERIA

Verified MRV

Validated safeguards and Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP)

Contract signing

RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION - *according to BSP*

Government (public programs)

IPs & LCs

NGOs/ civil society

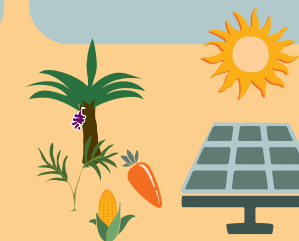
Reinvestment in MRV/management

FIELD RESULTS - *lasting impacts*

Conservation/ restoration



Productive alternatives



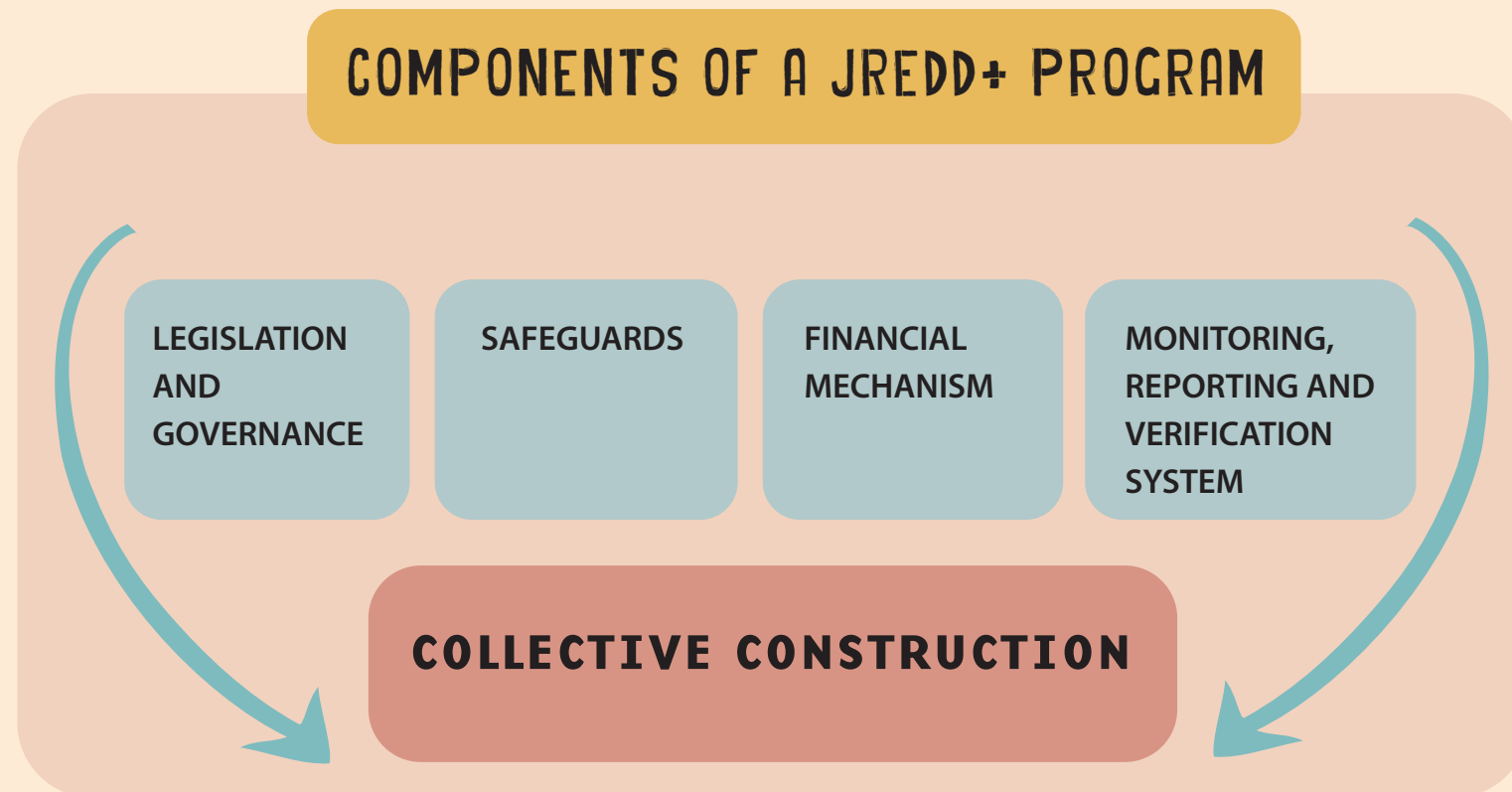
Enforcement/ policies





Practical Implementation

Implementing a jurisdictional REDD+ program (JREDD+) means putting into practice, in the chosen jurisdiction, a coordinated set of **environmental, territorial, and social policies**. This process requires solid governance, the active participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and coordinated actions among the different sectors and stakeholders involved in the process.



INTEGRATION WITH PUBLIC POLICIES

A concrete example is the state of Acre, Brazil, which received funds from Norway through the Amazon Fund after demonstrating real reductions in deforestation. This funding supported **public policies and local actions for conservation and sustainable income generation**. With this support, the state of Acre integrated JREDD+ into its Environmental Services Incentive System (SISA), and between 2005 and 2015 it managed to reduce deforestation by approximately 60 percent, while providing benefits to local communities, such as financial incentives, support for sustainable production, and greater participation in decision-making. SISA combines:

- Regulations that limit deforestation and promote sustainable practices;
- Financial incentives for those who conserve the forest;
- And, social participation, with spaces for dialogue and decision-making that involve Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.



FPIC

Another fundamental element for the effective implementation of a JREDD+ program, in addition to financing and alignment with public policies, is the active participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, particularly through Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), which ensures **autonomy and respect in all decisions that affect their territories**. In Brochure 6 of this series, we provide more detailed information on FPIC and the importance of guaranteeing this right when developing projects.



MONITORING

In practice, this process is carried out using technologies, such as satellites, drones, and even artificial intelligence, but technology alone is not enough. Local capacities need to be **strengthened by providing technical training and ensuring adequate infrastructure**.

Implementation also faces some challenges:

- Conflicts of interest between different groups, such as farmers, the timber industry, and conservation movements;
- The need for ongoing funding to maintain activities;
- And, integration of policies from different departments and spheres of government.



Challenges of JREDD+

Despite its great potential, JREDD+ faces many challenges to its effective and fair implementation. One of the main obstacles is the **complexity** of aligning public policies between different levels of government—federal, state, and municipal—and between sectors, like the environment, agriculture, infrastructure, and economy. Another obstacle has been the difficulty of hosting dialogue between jurisdictions and IPs & LCs, in order to effectively respect the latter's customs, timelines, and protocols.

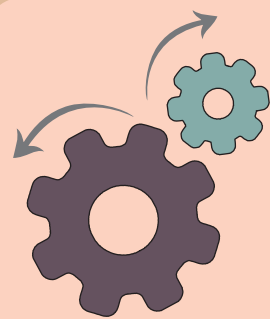
There is also a need to develop robust MRV systems that are **reliable, transparent, and accessible**. These systems must be able to operate at scale and provide consistent data over time.

Another challenge is long-term financing. JREDD+ programs need consistent resources to maintain their actions, support community participation, and ensure real benefits for those who live in and protect forests.

In addition, there are conflicts over land and territory, unequal concentration of decision-making power, corruption, lack of legal recognition of land rights, generational, gender and racial inequalities that hinder **equitable benefit sharing**.

Finally, JREDD+ must address the economic pressures that drive deforestation, such as the expansion of livestock grazing, industrial agriculture, and mining. This requires ongoing efforts to promote **sustainable land-use alternatives and generate fair income** for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

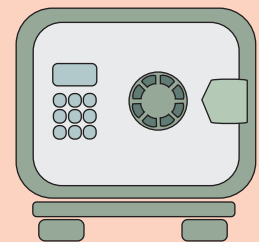
SOME OF THE MAIN CHALLENGES FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF JURISDICTIONAL REDD+ PROGRAMS



**LACK OF
INTEGRATION
AND
COORDINATION
BETWEEN
POLICIES**



**INEQUALITY
IN BENEFIT
SHARING**



**LIMITED
FUNDING
SOURCES**



**ECONOMIC
PRESSURES**



**TERRITORIAL
CONFLICTS AND
LACK OF LAND
TITLING**

SOME POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS



POLICY HARMONIZATION
integrate climate, land use, and
rural development agendas to
reduce conflicts.



FAIR BENEFIT SHARING
adopt transparent and participatory
Benefit Sharing Plans (BSP).



**EXPANSION AND
DIVERSIFICATION OF FUNDING**
combine public, private, and market
sources to scale up programs.



**SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC
ALTERNATIVES**
promote low-carbon value chains,
sociobiodiversity products, and
support ancestral and traditional
livelihoods.



LAND TENURE SECURITY
advance land regularization and con-
flict mediation mechanisms.



LOCAL STRENGTHENING
train teams and communities for
governance and participatory
monitoring.



**TRANSPARENCY AND
ACCOUNTABILITY**
publish MRV data, resource use and
results in an accessible way.



**Future
Prospects**

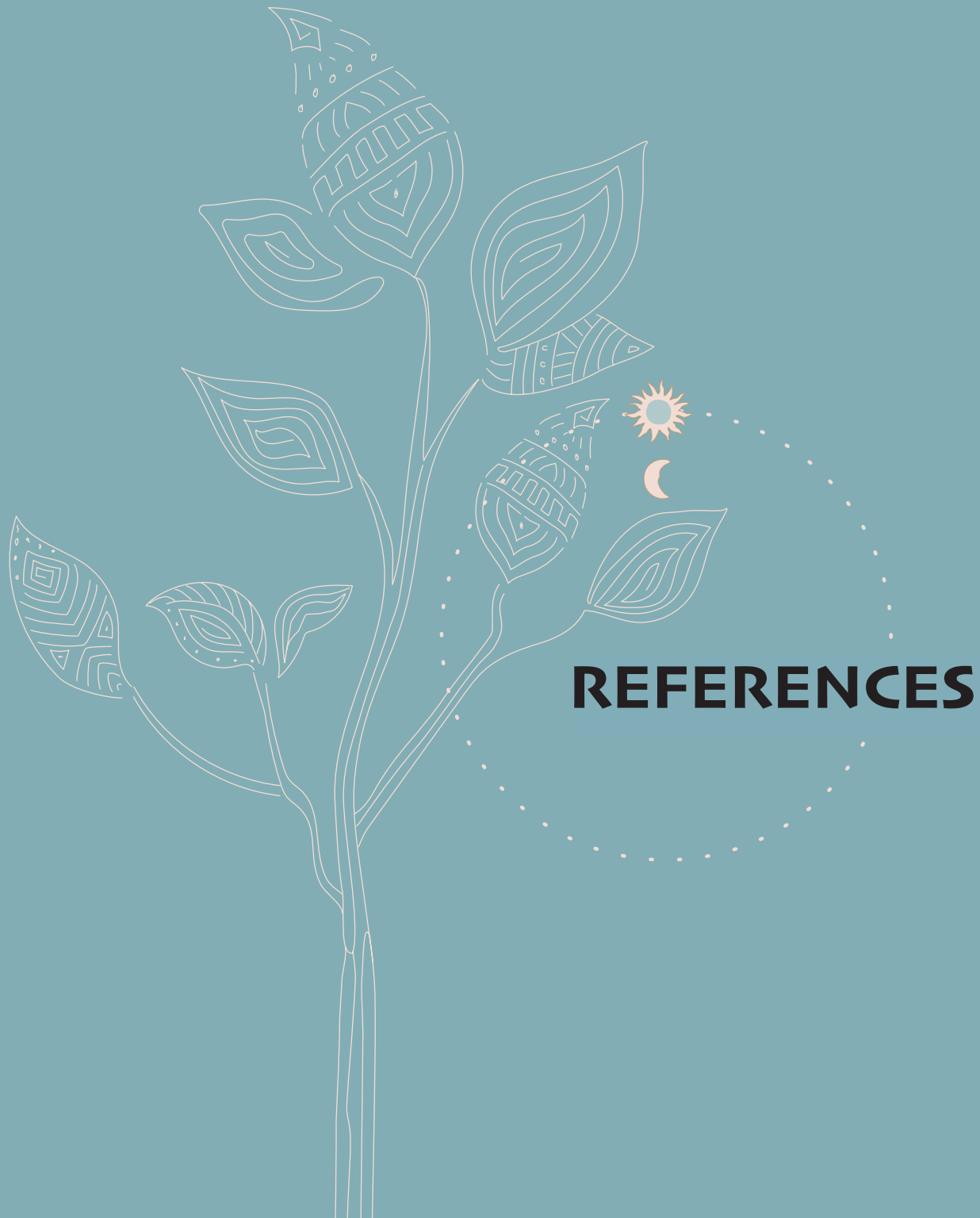
JREDD+ is constantly evolving and has the potential to become one of the **most important tools for combating deforestation and protecting tropical forests**.

To achieve this, it will be necessary to:

- Invest in technological innovation, such as artificial intelligence and remote sensing, to improve monitoring and transparency;
- Expand international cooperation, including fair climate finance for tropical countries;
- Strengthen carbon markets, especially with the regulation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which could bring new opportunities for well-structured jurisdictional programs;

- Integrate JREDD+ with bioeconomy, ecological restoration, and food security agendas, creating solutions that protect forests and benefit communities;
- And, ensure the empowerment of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, so that they can participate fully in governance and the use of the resources generated.

With technical, political, and financial support, JREDD+ can be a **real way to protect the forest and reward those who care for it**.



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