



Title: Approach for Operationalizing State Level Sub-national REDD+ in India

Date: 8th February 2024

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM (90 minutes)

Venue: Silver Oak 1, India Habitat Centre

Concept Note

Indian forests inhabit diverse ecosystems and habitats that provide numerous ecosystem services. More than 300 million people, predominantly dependent on forests, derive their livelihoods from the forests. This dependence and insufficient infrastructure and financial support increase anthropogenic pressure on forests, resulting in degradation and human–animal conflicts. REDD+ mechanism can play a pivotal role in fostering the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems and securing the rights and livelihoods of local communities. It can also help generate an added revenue stream and allow for the effective transfer of technologies, knowledge, and expertise while reducing and/or removing GHG emissions globally.

India has extremes of the climate – precipitation and temperature regimes and diversity of ecosystems. It limits the scope of the National Forest Reference Level (FREL) approach and calls for Sub-national level FREL to appreciate local conditions. There is also a need to recognize the uniqueness of anthropogenic dependence on forests, forest governance institutions, and resultant forest degradation. The sub-national approach will provide an opportunity for State Governments to capitalize on local conditions to attract investment for improving local livelihoods and enhance carbon sequestration and ecosystem services.

Key Focus Areas:

- The implementation of Sub-national REDD+ will serve as a platform to scale up carbon finance, advocate for policy enhancement, and encourage international cooperation to mainstream carbon finance as a vital tool for climate resilience and sustainability.
- This event will help outline the approach for operationalizing Sub-national REDD+ in India.
- Understanding the roles and challenges of the Sub-national Government in India to enable a conducive environment for private investment and strengthen the institutions for sub-national REDD+ implementation.

About the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades for making ‘sustainable development’ a globally shared goal. The only independently convened international Summit on sustainable development and environment, based in the Global South, WSDS strives to provide long-term solutions for the benefit of global communities by assembling the world’s most enlightened leaders and thinkers on a single platform. The 23rd edition of the annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)—the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)—will be held from 7-9 February 2024 in New Delhi. The Summit deliberations will focus on the umbrella theme: Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice.