

High Level Event on Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD)

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- Pakistan is pleased to participate in this High Level Event on REDD.
- Carbon emissions from deforestation and degradation in developing countries account for approximately 20-25% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Deforestation contributes significantly to the global warming.
- The rate of deforestation in Pakistan is very high. There pressure on forests and trees for timber and fuel wood consumption - estimated to be 48.3 million cubic meters or 12.02 million tons of CO₂ - is growing. It also constitutes 13 % of the total CO₂ emissions of Pakistan, making it the largest GHGs emission source after energy sector.
- Agricultural expansion, using forest wood as fuel, infrastructure expansion, population pressure, and above all poverty are the main causes.
- Curbing deforestation as a cheap way of reducing GHGs and stabilizing the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere.
- In our view REDD is a win win option with mitigation co-benefits. In addition, it also contributes to alleviating poverty, protecting biodiversity and conservation of forests. Pakistan believes that;
 - REDD is one option on which an agreement can be reached at Copenhagen.
 - This agreement should focus on enhancing the natural processes for the sequestration, storage of carbon, protecting existing forests and restoring degraded ecosystems on sustainable basis
 - To this end, there is a need to establish a Global Carbon Fund (GCF) for REDD and evolving a REDD Policy Implementation Framework at National and Sub-national level in developing countries for data collection, identification, assessment, analysis and monitoring of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.