



## HOW MUCH FINANCE FOR REDD+?

Developed countries have provided finance to help developing countries respond to climate change through different channels, including dedicated multilateral climate funds. There is quite a bit of confusion about how much money has actually been made available. Depending on the question you ask, you may get quite different answers. There are substantial differences between what has been pledged, deposited, approved or disbursed.

The Heinrich Böll Stiftung (a German foundation) and the Overseas Development Institute based in the U.K. are tracking funding for mitigation and adaptation. In the most recent [Climate Finance Thematic Brief](#), Alice Caravani and her colleagues are providing some figures on REDD+ finance for dedicated REDD+ funds and initiatives.

Since 2007, US\$2.72 billion has been pledged to five multilateral climate funds and two bilateral initiatives that support REDD+ initiatives. Slightly more than half of this amount has been deposited, with Norway being the largest contributor of REDD+ finance, followed by Australia, the UK and the U.S.A. Only about one third of the pledged funds has been approved, and a much smaller percentage has been disbursed.

While 49 countries have received funds, mainly for readiness activities, more than half of the amount is concentrated in Brazil and Indonesia (with only a small percentage dedicated to phase 1 activities). More than half of the money goes to the Latin America and Caribbean and only 6 percent of the funding has been disbursed in Asia and the Pacific. It requires a very close look at the data to understand why this is the case.

Finance is not only channeled through multilaterals, which is why the figures of the [REDD+ Partnership REDD+ Voluntary Database](#) are quite different. Its total is in the order of US\$6.8 billion, but this is for the 2006 to 2018 period and includes also direct bilateral support. Hence, figures from the two sources are not comparable.

And then there are numerous initiatives and projects that provide indirectly support to countries getting ready for REDD+. They are extremely difficult to track.

Is REDD+ financing sufficient? As opinions on the matter are divergent, there is clearly no consensus. One would have to analyze very closely the slow disbursement rate under some initiatives. Also, some countries are clearly overwhelmed by many initiatives taking place simultaneously, which cause delays in implementation. We all have learned by now that getting ready for REDD+ takes longer than originally expected, and more money is not necessarily the answer to speed up country-driven processes.

*As contributors to Go-REDD+, we aim to stimulate debate by commenting on some of the latest papers and publications related to REDD+. The conclusions we draw, and the questions we pose, are intended to facilitate critical examination of these papers.*

Go-REDD+ is an e-mail listserv managed by the UN-REDD Programme team in Asia-Pacific, based in Bangkok. The main objective of Go-REDD+ is to distribute information, synopses of research results and activities related to REDD+ in Asia-Pacific, to assist countries in their REDD+ readiness efforts. Old messages will be archived on the [Regional Activities pages](#) of the UN-REDD Programme website. [Discussion forum](#) on Go-REDD+ is available through UN-REDD Programme's online [knowledge sharing platform](#). The Go-REDD+ team welcomes feedback, suggestions or inquiries to [goredd.th@undp.org](mailto:goredd.th@undp.org).