**As of June 2015**

**Key messages**

The messages listed below are crafted as statements to guide the design of communications products/activities. These have been crafted with each specific target audience in mind. As they are guiding statements, the wording of these messages will be both simplified and expanded depending on the use.

*Delivering together*

1. The UN-REDD Programme was set up in 2008 to build on the convening power and technical expertise of FAO, UNDP and UNEP – combining forces to support developing countries in their efforts to mitigate climate change through implementation of REDD+ activities agreed under the UNFCCC.
2. The UN-REDD Programme is committed to delivering REDD+ readiness and implementation support to Partner Countries *in partnership* with those countries, and in ways that are defined by the *unique national needs and demands* of each country.
3. Strengths of the three UN agencies collaborating to deliver the UN-REDD Programme include:
	1. Together, FAO, UNDP and UNEP staff have extensive expertise on issues related to forests, land use, climate change, sustainable development, social and environment safeguards, and stakeholder engagement – among other REDD+ related topics.
	2. Together, FAO, UNDP and UNEP – through the UN-REDD Programme – have the capacity to provide developing countries with high-quality technical advice and knowledge-based solutions across the wide range of REDD+ topics.
	3. Together, FAO, UNDP and UNEP have the capacity to convene key decision makers in order to support a country’s REDD+ strategy.
	4. Together, FAO, UNDP and UNEP – through the UN-REDD Programme – can direct support to countries that is consistent with international treaties and conventions.
	5. Together, FAO, UNDP and UNEP have the specific expertise to support and advise countries to meet UNFCCC REDD+ requirements.
	6. Together FAO, UNPD and UNEP are committed to supporting and ensuring full and effective participation of all stakeholders – including both men and women – in REDD+.
	7. Together, FAO, UNDP and UNEP have extensive experience convening multi-stakeholder dialogues, at the national, regional and global level.

*Committed to supporting country needs, and to a “country-led” process of support:*

1. The UN-REDD Programme’s commitment to country needs through a country-led approach begins with the Programme goal to reduce forest emissions and enhance carbon stocks from forests while contributing to the national sustainable development of its partner countries.
2. The UN-REDD Programme has expanded from nine pilot countries in 2008 to 61 partner countries in July 2015.
3. All partner countries have access to a wide breadth and depth of REDD+ related information and UN-REDD Programme expertise available through the Programme’s online knowledge platform www.unredd.net.
4. As of July 2015, the UN-REDD Programme supports full-scale national REDD+ readiness programmes in 23 countries.
5. As of July 2015, the UN-REDD Programme has delivered REDD+ technical capacity building grants through its Targeted Support mechanism to more than 35 countries.
6. This country-led approach is demonstrated with the formation of *national steering committees*. These national steering committees will define the scope and design of a country’s REDD+ national programme, ensuring that national programmes will be country-led.
7. National steering committees will include key national representatives.
8. The national steering committee will serve as a platform for overseeing and reporting on the progress of UN-REDD Programme supported REDD+ country programmes.

*2016-2020 UN-REDD Programme*

1. REDD+ is a critical response to climate change, and can play a key role in achieving broader development goals for improved livelihoods.
2. Building on the convening expertise of FAO, UNDP and UNEP, the UN-REDD Programme is a trusted partner for providing reliable and effective technical support, capacity building, policy advice and financial resources to REDD+ countries.
3. The UN-REDD Programme 2016-2020 Strategic Framework is designed to be forward-looking to meet the post-2015 evolving needs of countries to realize REDD+.
4. The UN-REDD Programme 2016-2020 Strategic Framework was developed through a consultative and multi-stakeholder participatory process
5. The consultative process took place over several months and included face-to-face regional multi-stakeholder consultative dialogues, interviews, on line consultations, Policy Board member discussions, etc.
6. The UN-REDD Programme 2016-2020 Strategic Framework supports countries to meet UNFCCC REDD+ related guidance and requirements.
7. The 61 and growing partner countries of the UN-REDD Programme are steadily advancing in their nationally led REDD+ readiness efforts, achieving results and producing valuable REDD+ knowledge and lessons learned, thanks to the support of donors, and your ongoing support is critical to the continuation of this important process.
8. The UN-REDD Programme is committed to building partnerships that enhance coordinated delivery mechanisms to streamline support to REDD+ efforts at the country level.
9. The UN-REDD Programme is guided by the broad principles of the UN human rights-based approach, environmental sustainability and capacity development.

*Related: UN-REDD Programme 2016-2020 Strategic Framework alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals*

1. The UN Sustainable Development Goals currently being agreed upon include taking action to combat climate change and its impacts (proposed goal 13).
2. The UN Sustainable Development Goals currently being agreed upon include taking action to protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably manage forests; combat desertification; halt and reverse land degradation; and halt biodiversity loss (proposed goal 15)
3. The UN Sustainable Development Goals have been a point of reference in the development of the UN-REDD Programme’s draft 2016-2020 Strategic Framework.

*Related: overall rating of the UN-REDD Programme performance by the 2014 external evaluation team:*

“The UN-REDD Programme has helped draw global and national attention to the importance of forests. It has given previously marginalized populations a strong voice in relevant decision-making arenas; it is leading countries to engage in policy reforms, increase transparency and reduce the risk of corruption; it has triggered the search for viable solutions to the problems associated with deforestation; it is supporting the valuation of forests and the services they provide; and it has allowed a broad range of stakeholders to gain experience with an innovative construct that now makes it possible to better articulate the conditions for sustainability and how such an agenda should be pursued.”