



FOREST SOLUTIONS DIALOGUE

Designing Cooperative Approaches for Climate Action

The **Forest Solutions Dialogue** (“the Dialogue”), **focused on designing cooperative approaches for climate action**, is a project of Climate Advisers Trust in partnership with Environmental Defense Fund.¹ Responding to the call for enhanced cooperation to accelerate action on nature-based climate solutions (NBS),² the Dialogue aims to develop models of cooperative approaches for forests under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and provide participating countries with the technical and policy assistance to pursue such partnerships. Cooperative approaches, such as those envisaged under Article 6.2 involving international transfer of mitigation outcomes (ITMOs), can help unlock the mitigation potential of forests and NBS - which can contribute 30% of the mitigation needed by 2030³ to limit warming to two degrees Celsius.

2020 Research Summary and Possible Future Topics (as of Dec 10, 2020)

At COP26 in 2019 and in winter 2020, Climate Advisers surveyed country policymakers for input into the Dialogue’s meeting and research agendas. The below topics emerged as areas of interests. Completed topics are included below in black and **possible future topics for your consideration are listed below in blue**. We hope you will review these topics, to determine if they should remain or be updated for 2021 sessions. In addition, we hope you can identify your top 3 priority topics for future work– whether they are on this list already, or need to be added. At the December 2020 Dialogue meeting, we will discuss the way forward.

- a) Focus area: Foundational analysis of UNFCCC guidance
 - 1) *Completed at May 2020 meeting:* Can REDD+ “cooperative approaches” and ITMOs start now?
Resource: background paper: [Can cooperation on REDD+ under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement start now, or is further guidance needed?](#)

- b) Focus area: How to structure Article 6 Agreements: Role(s) of the national government
 - 1) *Completed at July/August 2020 meeting:* Options for institutional arrangements between countries to enable cooperative approaches.
Resource: background paper [International Mitigation Partnerships for Forests](#)

¹ The Dialogue is supported by civil society funding provided through Norway’s International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI)

² “[NBS for Climate Manifesto](#)” announced at the UN Secretary General’s Climate Summit 2019, available at: <https://www.unenvironment.org/engaging-nature-based-solutions-coalition-climate-action-summit>

³ Griscom et al, 2017. Natural Climate Solutions. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Available at: <https://www.pnas.org/content/114/44/11645/tab-article-info>

- 2) *Completed at September 2020 meeting:* Climate Teams, a new model of cooperation
Resource: "[Climate Teams](#)" Presentation by Environmental Defense Fund
 - 3) *Possible future topic:* From "recognition-only" to ITMOs: A phased approach of sustained cooperation between two parties over time
 - 4) *Possible future topic:* Federal facilitation of subnational engagement in ITMOs
 - 5) *Possible future topic:* Content of Memoranda of Understanding and Article 6 contracts
 - 6) *Possible future topic:* Forests and corporate demand for units
- c) Article 6 and forests in the context of NDCs and NDC updates
- 1) *Planned future topic:* Increasing ambition and "demand" by developed countries for REDD+ ITMOs
 - 2) *Possible future topic:* How are countries considering including REDD+ and Article 6 in NDC updates?
- d) REDD+ Country planning and technical capacity technical for Art 6.2 arrangements and voluntary market
- 1) *Completed at October 2020 meeting:* Landscape of all forest carbon finance options: How do ITMO arrangements and/or voluntary market REDD+ projects fit in?
Resource: [Donna Lee's presentation](#)
 - 2) *Completed at October 2020 meeting:* Private sector finance of projects and the need for nesting: How can national governments decide on the most appropriate nesting arrangements?
Resource: [Donna Lee and Charlotte Streck's presentation](#)
 - 3) *Possible future topic:* How will national governments decide whether to retain or transfer reductions? Can countries determine now whether they will have excess REDD+ reductions?
 - 4) *Possible future topic:* Accounting best practices to manage different types of REDD+ finance and emissions reductions: results-based payments, voluntary market transactions, and ITMOs
 - 5) *Possible future topic:* Relating REDD+ Article 6 arrangements with domestic Emissions Trading Systems and carbon pricing

Please email Diana Movius at diana@climatadvisers.org with question or comment, and join the Zoom meeting for December's Dialogue on:

-December 16 2020 at 10am EST ([Western Hemisphere session](#))

-Dec 16th 2020 9pm EST (Dec 17th in Asia-Pacific time zones for [Asia Pacific session](#))