



Coalition for Rainforest Nations



ANNUAL IMPACT STATEMENT 2020



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Auditors

FreedMaxick
424 Main Street
Suite 800
Buffalo, NY 14202
Phone: (716) 847-2651
Fax: (716) 847-0069
<https://www.freedmaxick.com>

Registered Office

52 Vanderbilt Avenue, 14th floor, suite 1401
New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (646) 448-6870
Facsimile: 212-682-1631
info@rainforestcoalition.org
www.rainforestcoalition.org

Not-for-Profit

The Coalition of Rainforest Nations is a
501c3 not-for-profit organization in USA.
In the Netherlands, it is registered with
PBO-organizations RSIN: 8261.87.316.

Donations are tax-deductible in Canada,
Germany, The Netherlands and USA

Participating Countries

Africa

- Botswana
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Equatorial Guinea
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Republic of Congo
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa*
- Sudan
- Uganda
- Zambia

South America

- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Ecuador
- Guyana
- Paraguay
- Suriname
- Uruguay

Asia

- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- China
- India
- Lao PDR
- Malaysia
- Pakistan
- Indonesia
- Singapore
- Thailand
- Vietnam

Caribbean

- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Jamaica
- Saint Lucia

Central America

- Belize
- Costa Rica
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Nicaragua
- Panama

Oceania

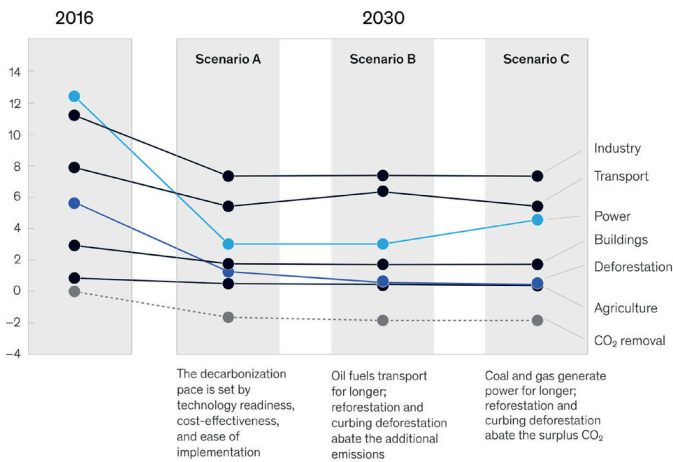
- Fiji
- Papua New Guinea
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands
- Vanuatu

Build, Strengthen & Evolve

Despite the global pandemic, our strategic approach: BUILD, STRENGTHEN & EVOLVE provided our guiding principles to boldly tackle the toughest long-term problem in our climate emergency at a global scale. With less than 10 years to halve global emissions and align to a 1.5 degrees C pathway we knew that 2020 was the beginning of a critical decade. The good news was that a 1.5-degree pathway is technically achievable. But as McKinsey, 2020 highlighted last April, “The bad news is that the math is daunting. Such a pathway would require dramatic emissions reductions over the next ten years—starting now.” What was crystal clear from the study was that there is no scenario for reaching alignment to a 1.5-degree pathway without global deforestation falling by at least 75 percent or halted completely by 2030.

Three challenging—yet possible—scenarios could limit warming to 1.5°C.

Emissions per source, metric gigatons of CO₂ (GtCO₂) in 2016 and 2030



From inception through negotiation into the Paris Climate Agreement, CfRN has always championed the conservation mechanism – Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) as the only global solution to halt deforestation. And never has REDD+ been more critically needed than this decade. So, rather than pause for reflection during this year’s global crisis – and in spite of a freeze on formal international climate negotiations – we decided to double down on efforts, and:

- strengthened our team with new executive talent,
- diversified our funding strategy,
- architected our direct financing platform to sell our countries’ REDD+ forest carbon credits,
- moved online with in-country technical training services, providing training to more than 100 experts, and
- participated in all virtual negotiating and coordination sessions staged by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

This year I was truly inspired by the effort, resilience, and hope that our team and countries showed despite the pandemic. It is a testament to their commitment to our mission that we had such a great year.

I am excited to share this statement with you.



Kevin Conrad,
Special Envoy and Ambassador for
Environment & Climate Change
for Papua New Guinea
& Executive Director,
Coalition for Rainforest Nations



Highlights

Direct finance

In 2020, we built out our **REDD.plus** carbon credits platform - which encompasses a registry provided by **Markit** and a trading platform by **CBL** - to become operational for instantaneous purchases by both individuals and corporations in 2021. The platform targets corporations and consumers wishing to hit their net-zero carbon targets or go carbon neutral with forests carbon credits that count under the Paris Agreement. We created both corporate demand and consumer demand strategies for the roll-out of REDD.plus.



The REDD+ Carbon Credits Platform

On supply, we secured a commitment from the Independent State of Papua New Guinea for the first tranche of sovereign country issued, UNFCCC-verified forest emissions reductions for conversion into forest carbon credits or REDD+ Results Units. We began the on-boarding process with PNG’s Climate Change and Development Authority with a view to negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to offer the sale of 9 million mt of CO2e forest carbon credits. The credits will go on sale in March 2021 and will be complemented by the first purchase from a Canadian energy services company.

Additionally, we planned entry into the carbon markets with applications for membership to industry associations:

- **International Civil Airline Association (ICAO)**, a specialized UN agency on aviation
- **International Emissions Trading Association**

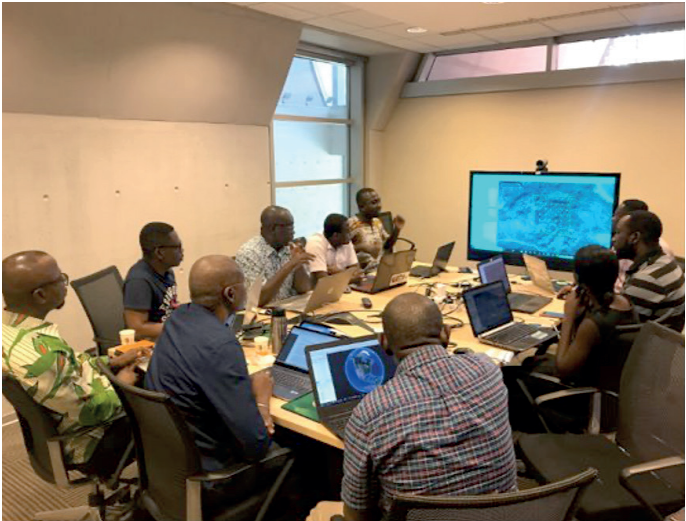
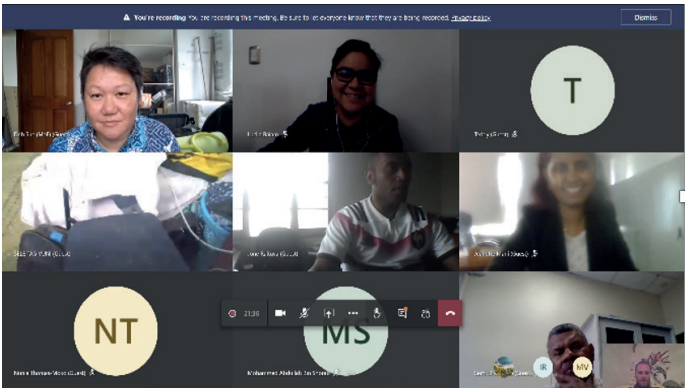
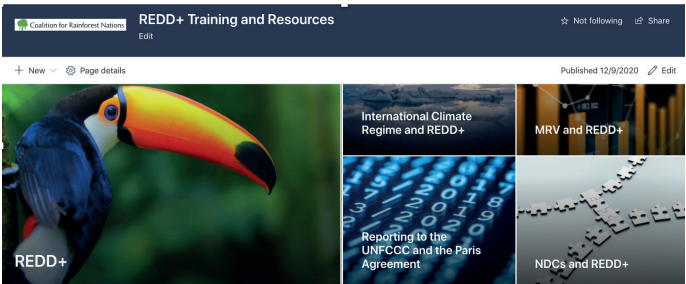
We have also been engaging and providing input, on an informal basis, on behalf of rainforest nations to the Taskforce for Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets. Launched by Mark Carney, UN Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance Advisor to UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson for COP26, the Taskforce identify key challenges and impediments, build consensus on how best to scale up voluntary carbon markets and finally, present a blueprint of actionable solutions. Our position is that any revitalized market must be linked to the Paris Agreement and the global carbon budget to avoid double counting and to ensure that corporate efforts link back to the Paris Agreement.

In-Country Technical Training

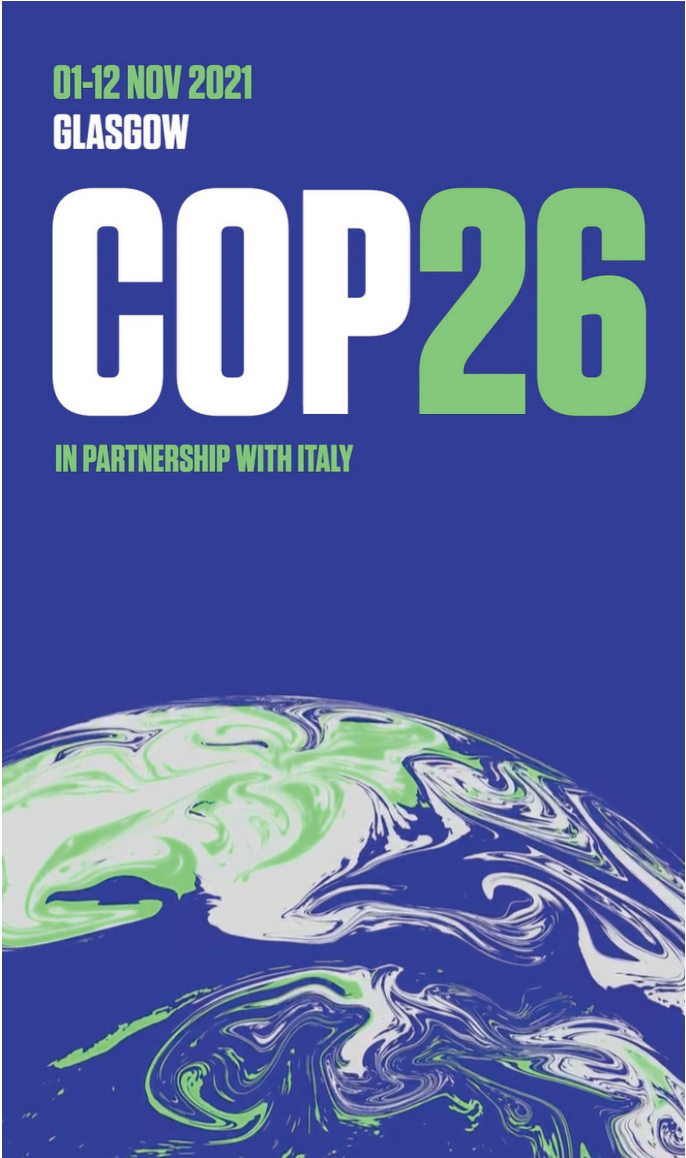
Despite covid-19 travel restrictions, we provided our countries with crucial training and capacity-building services in measuring greenhouse gas inventories and forest reference levels. We quickly adapted to the changes posed by the pandemic and developed a fully online training service and resource portal for our countries. In June, we rolled out our online resource site, called REDD+ Training & Resources, where we offered up-to-date articles, news, webinars, training materials to enable continuous learning for our experts to take advantage of during lockdowns.

Our diverse technical team offered regularly scheduled communications to support our rainforest nation partners, providing daily, weekly and bi-weekly virtual calls, so that our in-country teams felt we were consistently by their sides. In addition to keeping an open line of communication, continuous virtual training and workshops were implemented in order to meet our reporting deadlines.

In 2020, we provided online training to more than 100 experts in Bolivia, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo and Fiji on Reporting under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement with Greenhouse Gas inventories (GHGi). We supported Dominica, Gabon, Ghana, and Saint Lucia with their Forest Reference Levels (FRLs) and Greenhouse Gas Inventory submissions to the UNFCCC. During this period, both Ghana and Saint Lucia revealed positive trends on slowing deforestation rates between 2000-2015.



(From top) REDD+ Training & Resources. CfRN and Fiji Climate Change Division Weekly Check-in. CfRN & Ghana Forestry Commission - Virtual FRELs training sessions.



Policy Support

Despite the postponement of formal negotiations on the Paris Agreement until the Conference of the Parties (COP26) in 2021, we participated in all virtual negotiating and coordination sessions staged by the UNFCCC during the pandemic. The CfRN Secretariat contributed to and exchanged views on Article 6 and its transparency under the Paris Agreement. We provided guidance on the scheduling of the subsidiary bodies’ meetings in the lead up to COP26.

In September, the CfRN secretariat participated on behalf of all its member countries in joint consultations with the COP25 Presidency, COP26 incoming-Presidency, the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Information (SBI) to plan the work ahead on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Other key UNFCCC virtual activities in which we participated included the Climate Dialogues (November 2020), which were designed as a substitute meeting in place of COP26. Summaries of all these meetings were circulated amongst our countries.



Building for Success

Investing in talent is critical to completing our mission – and ensuring that REDD+ becomes a global success in this critical decade. We began the process of capacity-building within CfRN by making three strategic hires within finance, marketing and communications, and project management. In April, Michael Mitchell joined as senior project manager. Michael brings 15 years of experience initiating and delivering results and effective change for a wide range of industries. At the Coalition, Michael focuses on project management of experts as well as systematizing capacity-building and training for rainforest countries. In September, Mark Grundy joined as Managing Director of global marketing & communications. Mark brings two decades of experience in marketing and communications within energy, environment and climate on both sides of the Atlantic. He supported CfRN as a client with Edelman for the Copenhagen COP 2009, where he executed a successful global media campaign for REDD+. He then spent 10 years with mission-based organizations – Rocky Mountain Institute and Sir Richard Branson’s Carbon War Room. Finally, Paul DeNoon joined as director of policy. Paul boasts a 28-year finance career at *Alliance Bernstein* where he was a senior vice president and fixed-income portfolio manager. During his tenure Paul built the firm’s emerging market debt and multi-sector fixed-income products, having direct oversight of some \$60billion of client assets.

In addition, CfRN diversified its funding strategy with the support of *KGI Consulting*, and was awarded a *Platinum Seal of Transparency* from charity watchdog, Guidestar, which represents the highest level of recognition.

About

The Coalition for Rainforest Nations is US 501c3 not-for-profit established by forested tropical countries to collaboratively reconcile forest stewardship with economic development. Its assists tropical governments, communities and peoples responsibly manage their rainforests, and is the architect of the REDD+ mechanism. It is headquartered in New York.

www.rainforestcoalition.org

Our Countries

Africa	Government Website
 Botswana	https://www.gov.bw/
 Cameroon	https://www.prc.cm/en/
 Central African Republic	https://www.rca-gouv.net/
 Democratic Republic of Congo	http://portal.drc.gov.bt/drc/
 Equatorial Guinea	https://www.guineaecuatorialpress.com/?lang=en
 Gabon	http://www.gouvernement.ga/
 Ghana	https://www.ghana.gov.gh/
 Kenya	https://kenyaembassydc.org/
 Lesotho	https://www.gov.ls/
 Liberia	https://eliberia.gov.lr/
 Madagascar	http://www.presidence.gov.mg/
 Malawi	https://www.malawi.gov.mw/
 Mali	http://justice.gouv.ml/#/mjm/accueil
 Mozambique	https://www.un.int/mozambique/
 Namibia	https://www.un.int/namibia/namibia/government
 Nigeria	http://www.nigeriaembassyusa.org/index.php?page=government
 Republic of Congo	https://landportal.org/organization/government-democratic-republic-congo
 Sierra Leone	http://www.sierra-leone.org/government-websites.html
 South Africa*	https://www.gov.za
 Sudan	http://www.sudan.gov.sd/index.php/en/
 Uganda	https://www.gou.go.ug/
 Zambia	https://www.zambiaembassy.org/page/government

South America	Government Website
 Argentina	https://www.argentina.gob.ar/
 Bolivia	https://globaledge.msu.edu/countries/bolivia/government
 Brazil	http://www.brazil.gov.br
 Ecuador	https://www.presidencia.gob.ec/
 Guyana	https://dpi.gov.gy/
 Paraguay	https://www.paraguay.gov.py/
 Suriname	http://www.gov.sr/
 Uruguay	https://www.gub.uy/

Asia	Government Website
 Bangladesh	https://www.bangladesh.gov.bd/index.php?lang=en
 Cambodia	http://www.cambodia.org/facts/
 China	https://www.gov.cn/english/
 India	https://www.india.gov.in/
 Lao PDR	http://www.mofa.gov.la/
 Malaysia	https://www.malaysia.gov.my/portal/
 Pakistan	http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/
 Republic of Indonesia	http://www.indonesia.cz/the-government-of-the-republic-of-indonesia/
 Singapore	https://www.gov.sg/
 Thailand	https://www.thaigov.go.th/
 Vietnam	http://chinhphu.vn/portal/page/portal/English

Caribbean	Government Website
 Dominica	https://dominica.gov.dm/
 Dominican Republic	https://www.dominicanrepublic.com/government/
 Jamaica	https://www.gov.jm/
 Saint Lucia	http://www.govt.lc/

Central America	Government Website
 Belize	https://www.belize.gov.bz/
 Costa Rica	http://www.costarica-embassy.org/index.php?q=node/70
 Guatemala	https://www.guatemala.gob.gt/
 Honduras	https://presidencia.gob.hn/
 Nicaragua	https://ni.usembassy.gov/business/getting-started-nicaragua/nicaragua-websites/
 Panama	https://www.presidencia.gob.pa/en

Oceania	Government Website
 Fiji	https://www.fiji.gov.fj/Home
 Papua New Guinea	http://www.nefc.gov.pg/links/png-government.html https://www.pm.gov.pg/
 Samoa	https://www.samoagovt.ws/
 Solomon Islands	https://solomons.gov.sb/
 Vanuatu	https://www.gov.vu/



Coalition for Rainforest Nations

We stand between rainforest and ruin

Rainforests are the world's greatest carbon store. Preserving them is the key to saving the world from the impending climate emergency.

With your help, we can hit our climate goal of
1.5 degrees by 2030 and zero carbon by 2050

[Click here to donate now](#)

