Nature-based solutions for Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean

Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week
Salvador, Bahía, Brazil
August 21, 2019
Current NDC emission reductions need to be tripled to limit warming to well below 2°C

Limiting warming to below 1.5°C would require existing commitments to be “increased around fivefold”

UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2018
Nature and climate nexus

Agriculture, forestry and other land uses accounts for a quarter of greenhouse gas emissions

The last 5 years were the worst on record for deforestation, driven by soy, beef, palm, timber

Source: IPCC, Climate Chand and Land Report, 2019

What are nature-based solutions for climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience?
The land-use sector can provide 1/3 of climate mitigation solution, with forest sector providing the largest contribution.

Notes: (1) Griscom et al. 2017. Natural climate solutions. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. 114(44): 11645-11650. (2) Percentages that could be delivered from each biome assume that Trees in croplands is included in Forests.
Examples of nature-based solutions:

- Forest conservation
- Avoided deforestation
- Wetland & Peatland protection
- Mangrove restoration
- Wetland restoration
- Sea grass bed and coral restoration

- Reforestation
- Sustainable grazing practices
- Sustainable forest management
- Agroforestry and silvopasture
- Regenerative agriculture
As a land-use intensive region, Latin America is a high priority to apply nature-based solutions for climate change.

- 25% of forest areas
- 25% of the world's arable land
- 31% of the earth's freshwater resources
- Home of some of the largest fossil fuel reserves in the world

Países de América Latina y el Caribe: composición de las emisiones de GEI por sectores, 2013 (En porcentajes)

Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Perú, Bolivia are in the list of the 25 countries with largest NBS indicative mitigation potential

**All Countries**

Brazil, Mexico and Colombia having the largest, the 8th and 10th largest NBS indicative mitigation potential, respectively
What are strategic approaches to accelerating ambition with nature-based solutions within NDCs?
Example of strategic approach: Integrate existing NBS actions to NDCs

Many countries have high nature-based ambition - within their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, REDD+ strategies, Bonn Challenge commitments – these are NBS actions that could contribute to NDC ambition.
Potential ways to increase nature-based actions

1. Rapid assessments to illustrate potential to increase NDC ambition through NBS
2. Identify existing commitments that are not in NDCs and are low-hanging fruit
3. Assess spatial data needs and conduct analyses on a case by case basis
4. Showcase examples, cases studies of NDCs with strong NBS
5. Communicate the value of NBS for NDCs (and for SDGs)
Thank You

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