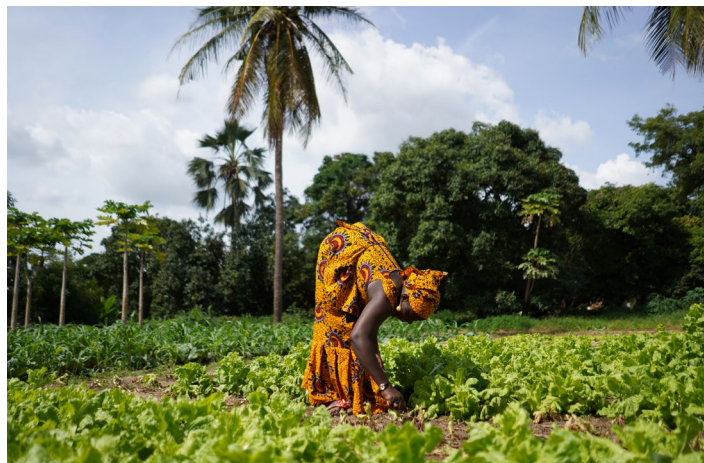


Nature-based solutions

Accelerating the adoption of sustainable land management practices for climate mitigation.

According to Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), agriculture, forestry, and other land use is the second largest contributor to Nigeria's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, accounting for approximately 25% of total emissions.

Nigeria has lost over half its forests since 2000. At the same time, the NDC emphasises that nature-based solutions, through sustainable management of Nigeria's forests and ecosystems, can reduce emissions while promoting sustainable livelihoods and a climate resilient national economy.



To realise these outcomes, the economic incentive for communities currently relying on unsustainable agricultural and land use practices will need to change. Developing alternative livelihoods, policies, and pathways for payments for ecosystems services will play a pivotal role in protecting Nigeria's forests and natural environment, supporting the green recovery and addressing climate mitigation.

The NDC notes that the top three known nature-based solutions for climate mitigation are agroforestry, improved forest management, and forest restoration, while regenerative agriculture also holds enormous potential.

Scope

The Nigeria-UK PACT programme is looking to support projects in the following areas:

- Building capacity for sustainable land management practices that prevent deforestation and land degradation and/or increase carbon capture, such as agroforestry and silvopasture, including farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR).
- Developing locally appropriate, scalable business models that generate (and integrate) revenue streams for sustainable land management through carbon markets, ecosystem service markets (i.e. Payment for Ecosystems Services), or trade in forest-positive commodities.
- Enhancing decision-making relating to capacity for policymakers relating to different sources of carbon finance for sustainable land management practices, in support of Nigeria's REDD+ Strategy at national and state levels.

All projects must aim to safeguard biodiversity and avoid wider environmental harm, notably pollution, waste, land degradation, and negative impacts on water resources.

UK PACT will only fund projects that have embedded Gender, Empowerment & Social Inclusion considerations into their design and outcomes. Further guidance can be accessed at: www.ukpact.co.uk/about/resources.

Not in scope

- Projects may have an adaptation co-benefit, but the primary aim must be climate mitigation.
- Projects which focus on pure afforestation and forestry that is NOT inclusive of sustainable land practices, as defined in the scope.
- Projects that are intended to generate carbon credits, which do not or are not intended to link to the national REDD+ nested jurisdictional system.
- Projects that include the procurement of equipment or materials, such as seeds, without evidence of funding for these physical assets. UK PACT can only fund technical assistance.
- Projects that do not focus exclusively on Nigeria.

Example projects

(N.B. These are just to illustrate and are not an exhaustive list)

- Deploying capacity building projects to adopt agroforestry techniques as part of an enduring business model, combining the long-term benefits of stewarding tree growth with complementary land-use that can provide short-term economic returns (e.g. cash crops, bee keeping, livestock).
- Projects that support the adoption of agroforestry techniques, such as Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), through community-policymaker platforms for lesson learning and inclusive, cross-sectoral decision-making, peer-to-peer training, or community champions.
- Developing practical implementation plans and monitoring mechanisms for restoration, including FMNR, on a national or state-level scale.
- Enhancing decision-making capacity relating to different sources of carbon finance through the design of a finance framework for the Government of Nigeria's REDD+ programme or building a platform to account for and coordinate VER (Verified Emissions Reduction) projects, with potential to support or link to other sectors.
- Demonstration projects using locally appropriate sustainable land management techniques to generate VERs, in line with the nested jurisdictional framework.
- Projects that support the integration of FMNR into national/ jurisdictional carbon accounting frameworks, in ways that can help unlock carbon finance for FMNR.