

# Forest Resources Management Division (FRMD)

Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (MoAF)



**Founded:** 1974 | **Location:** Thimpu, Bhutan | **Type of Institution:** Government



**BHUTAN:** Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)

## Introduction

Bhutan is a small mountainous country located in the eastern Himalayas with a geographical area of 38,394 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 757,042 (National Statistics Bureau, 2015). Its population growth rate is 1.13% and the country is characterized by fragile mountainous ecosystems with elevations ranging from 130 masl to over 7,500 masl in the north where Bhutan borders the Tibet Autonomous Region of China.



## Mission of the Institute

The Forest Resource Management Division (FRMD) manages Bhutan's forest for sustainable production of economic and environmental goods and services to meet the long term needs of the country.

## Key Forest Statistics

Area	Area cover in thousand hectares (ha)	Percentage of land area
Total Land	3812	-
Forest	2755	72.3%
Other Wooded land	432	11.3%
Other land	625	-
Inland water	27	-
Forest Characteristics	Area Cover in thousand hectares (ha)	Percentage of total forest area
Primary	413	15.0%
Other naturally generated	2320	84.2%
Planted	22	0.8%
Biomass / carbon stock	Forest biomass stock (million tonnes)	Forest Carbon stock (million tonnes)
Above ground biomass	455	214
Below ground biomass	169	80
Litter	-	44
Soil	-	192





## REDD+ activities in Bhutan

- Bhutan became a member of the UN REDD programme with observer status in April 2010. In December 2010, Bhutan initiated a scoping study, which showed Bhutan's capability of implementing REDD+ projects. Thereafter, Bhutan became a full UN REDD member.
- REDD+ strategy development phase was launched in July 2014 and is running up to June 2018 with a total budget of USD 4.703 million from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility,
- Supported by the World Bank and other donors, the FRMD will implement a three phase programme to enhance their forest management:
  - Phase I – National REDD+ Strategy Development
  - Phase II – Implementation of Policies and Measures (PAMs)
  - Phase III – Payment for Performance
- ICIMOD is supporting the REDD+ Himalayas programme in Bhutan. This initiative collects and analyzes REDD program experiences.
- Bhutan has committed to completing its National Forest Inventory. This project will help facilitate improved scientific decisions for proper forestry management. NFI is funded by Royal Government of Bhutan, the Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation, the EU's Global Climate Change Alliance, and the United Nations' Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UNREDD), Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the German Federal Ministry of Environment (BMUB) and ICIMOD.

### Supported by



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