

# Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

Promoting conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks and sustainable management of forests

## Background

The Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Initiative identifies threats to our forests, promotes community-centric forest management and monitoring, develops livelihood alternatives, and links researchers and policy makers.

## Context

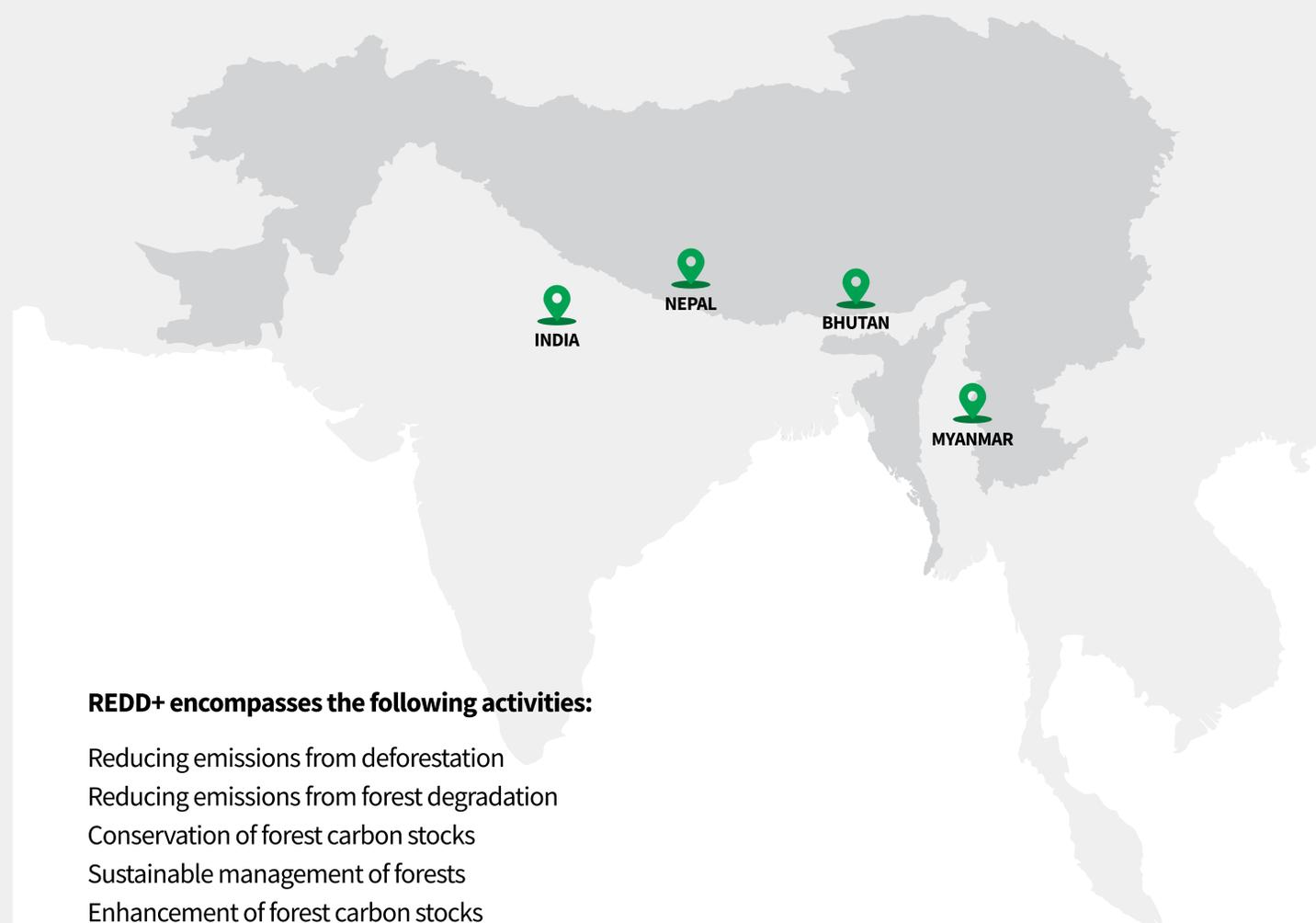
Forest ecosystems provide a range of provisioning, regulating, cultural, and support services to forest-dependent communities in the HKH. However, climate change and variability, rapid socio-economic changes, encroachment of forested land, and mismanagement and inadequate policies regarding forests have led to severe forest degradation, decreasing forest cover area, and loss of biodiversity.

## REDD+ in the HKH

We mobilize communities across the HKH to participate in the restoration of their native forested lands. Six of our regional member countries – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan – have endorsed REDD+ and are in their REDD Readiness phase.

ICIMOD has been a pioneer of forest conservation and management in the HKH, promoting results-based management of forest resources. We support national governments to build capacity; provide technical backstopping; set up regional REDD learning platforms; and develop methods for measurement, reporting, and verification of forest carbon stocks.

Our work to highlight the role forest and ecosystem restoration can play in the fight against climate change will continue during the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030).



### REDD+ encompasses the following activities:

- Reducing emissions from deforestation
- Reducing emissions from forest degradation
- Conservation of forest carbon stocks
- Sustainable management of forests
- Enhancement of forest carbon stocks