



ART
Architecture for
REDD+ Transactions

Overview of TREES 3.0

Draft for Public Comment

August 2025

Webinar Logistics

- To ask questions:
 - Type questions into 'Q&A' box near bottom of your webinar pane
 - Questions can be submitted at any time during the webinar
- Webinar will be recorded and posted to:
<https://artredd.org/trees-3-0/>

ART Overview

- A global voluntary carbon program (architecture) to register, verify and issue high-quality REDD+ emissions reduction and removals credits to countries and jurisdictions to attract REDD+ finance at scale
- ART aims to promote national ambition and contribute to Paris Agreement goals
- Governed and managed by globally recognized, independent, objective experts

The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (TREES)

Per Section 1.2.2,
ART must review
TREES at a minimum
of every 3 years



ART Participants

Jurisdictional REDD+ Programs Listed with ART



Review Process

1. Engaging in targeted dialogues with key stakeholders
2. Identifying elements of TREES that may benefit from updates
3. Iterating information and drafts with the ART Board
4. Publishing an ART Board-approved draft revised version of TREES for public comment
5. Gathering feedback through a 60-day public comment period
6. Working with the ART Board to modify the revised draft based on public comments received
7. Publishing TREES 3.0 as approved by the ART Board

Committees / Advisory Group

- IPLC Advisory Group
- Two expert committees
 - Forests Remaining Forests
 - Biomass Flux

Targeted Dialogues

- Organized three in-person, multi-day dialogues with IPLC organizations
 - South America – cohosted with ANECAP, 23 participants from 6 countries
 - Asia – cohosted with CIPRED, 39 participants from 6 countries
 - Africa – cohosted with REPALEAC, 22 participants from 8 countries
- Held 22 virtual meetings with 29 organizations representing governments, NGOs, civil society, and technical service providers
- Received written input from additional stakeholders on various topics

Summary of Changes

Section 2: ART Cycle

- Require the TREES Registration Document and TREES Monitoring Report to be submitted in English and in any official language of the Participant
- Require submission of the TREES Registration Document within two calendar years of the acceptance of the TREES Concept
- Lengthen the public comment period on Participant documents to 60 days and explicitly require Participants to notify stakeholders

Section 3: Eligibility, Applicability, and Key Requirements

- Extend the period for subnational accounting through December 31, 2040
- Require explicitly that Participants provide a description of the benefit sharing arrangements, including demonstrating conformance with relevant safeguards
- Provide a time-bound transition pathway for Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Carbon Fund and Readiness Fund Participants to join ART with unique eligibility criteria

Section 3: Eligibility, Applicability, and Key Requirements

Proposed FCPF Transition Criteria (TREES Concept must be accepted by December 31, 2028):

- **Carbon Fund Participants** may use their FCPF accounting area for one crediting period.
- **Readiness Fund Participants** may use a subnational accounting area with at least 1 million hectares of forest for two crediting periods.

Section 4: Carbon Accounting

- Clarify the requirements for emissions activity data and provide additional references for good practices
- Separate and clarify requirements for removals activity data
- Allow emissions from peat to be calculated using Tier 1 methods if emissions are low and peatlands are less threatened

Section 5: Crediting Level

- Allow HFLD jurisdictions to claim removals if emissions are within 15% of their TREES Crediting Level
- Revise definitions of commercial forest and natural forest restoration
- Require removals from commercial forests to exclude invasive alien species

Section 7: Reversals and Leakage

- Require Participants with a reversal to use a 30% buffer pool contribution for 5 years following the reversal
- Clarify the requirements for Participants entering ART with a known reversal

Section 8: Uncertainty

- Require uncertainty to be assessed separately for emissions reductions and removals

Section 10: Calculation of Emission Reductions and Removals

- Simplify and improve clarity of removals equations
- Separate equations for emissions reductions and removals
- Include deductions for ERRs from other initiatives or for which Participant doesn't have the rights in the equations
- Apply the buffer pool contribution after other deductions

Section 12: Environmental, Social, and Governance Safeguards

- Combine Structure and Process indicators into a single Structure and Process indicator
- Clarify reporting requirements and timeline for all indicators
- Revise the description of the indicators to simplify language
- Explicitly include women, youth, and vulnerable groups in key themes

Section 12: Environmental, Social, and Governance Safeguards - 2

- Explicitly include Afro-descendant Peoples, transhumant communities and uncontacted peoples
- Clarify which themes relate to the distribution of benefits

Section 13: Avoiding Double Counting

- Clarify the requirements for deducting verified ERRs from other CO₂e-based initiatives from the TREES issuance volume
- Specify that variances may be submitted for these requirements
- Clarify requirements for corresponding adjustments (also in Annex B)

Section 16: Complaints and Appeals

- Revise complaints and appeals process
 - Clarify processes to properly address different types of complaints
 - Require eligibility reviewer and investigator to be independent of ART and Winrock
 - Revise eligibility and submission process
 - Update steps and timelines for review process

Forests Remaining Forests

- The Forests Remaining Forests committee explored options for incorporating removals from forests remaining forests into TREES
- Remaining questions about additionality and quantification feasibility at scale
- The ART Board has decided not to include removals from forests remaining forests at this time

Biomass Flux

- The Biomass Flux committee discussed the readiness of biomass flux data for inclusion in TREES
- Remaining questions about how such data would fit with existing TREES requirements
- The ART Board has decided not to allow biomass flux data at this time
- The use of biomass map data to derive emission or removal factors continues to be permitted

How to submit comments?

- <https://artredd.org/trees-3-0/>
- Available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French
- Submit your comments until September 22, 2025
- Comments will be accepted in any language.
- Send an email to REDD@winrock.org
 - Include “Comments on TREES 3.0 draft” in the subject line
 - Section number or title and requirement of the standard that is being referenced as well as the comment, suggestion or other feedback



Thank you

REDD@winrock.org

www.artredd.org