

Investing in forests to build back better & greener

How forests can contribute to strengthening the resilience of societies and economies.

The world's forests act as shields, keeping humans safe from zoonotic diseases, such as coronaviruses. Their destruction can have devastating consequences for global public health.

1 in 3 outbreaks

of new and emerging diseases, such as HIV and SARS, are linked to deforestation and other land-use changes.



The cost of reducing deforestation to prevent the spread of zoonosis is substantially less than the economic and mortality costs of responding post factum.



Deforestation continues globally at a rate of

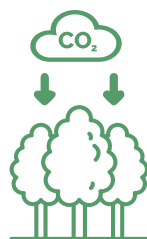
10 million hectares

per year.



Forest conservation and restoration are win-wins for stimulus investment. They can create millions of green jobs to boost rural economies and provide long term sustainable growth.

Restoring **300 million** hectares of degraded forest globally is a business opportunity estimated at **175 billion USD/year**.



Forest carbon revenues have potential to scale up to **15 billion USD/year** globally.

Forests and other nature-based solutions can lift **one billion** people out of poverty and create an additional **80 million** green jobs.



Recovery packages and corporate bailouts should be structured in ways that reduce, not increase, deforestation in order to strengthen the resilience of societies and economies.

Thriving forests are a crucial source of materials and services for key economic sectors like agriculture, energy, infrastructure and tourism. They are estimated to contribute

2 percent

of the world's GDP.



The cost of deforestation, in terms of loss of vital ecosystem services, has been estimated at USD **80 billion** per year.



Forests serve as a safety net for the rural poor,

1 in 5 people

depend on them for subsistence and income generation.