

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Rooted in Nature,
Driven by Communities



This is the decisive decade for climate action. To limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C and avoid the most dangerous impacts of climate change, we must halve greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and reduce them to zero by 2050.¹ At the same time, we must help vulnerable communities around the world build resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change which are already occurring.

The Rainforest Alliance is committed to helping the world meet both its climate mitigation and adaptation goals across farms, forests, and rural landscapes. Our climate action at the Rainforest Alliance revolves around two core objectives: significantly reducing emissions in agriculture, forestry, and land use, while also fostering climate resilience and improved livelihoods for rural communities. Our approach puts rural communities and nature at the center of the solution. Below, explore how we are working to build climate resilience and reduce emissions across farms, forests, and rural landscapes around the world, and discover how you can join us in our mission.

OUR FOCUS ON NATURE-BASED AND LOCALLY-LED CLIMATE ACTION

The Rainforest Alliance's climate action centers around locally-led and nature-based solutions. Our climate initiatives are locally-led in that they are designed and implemented by farming and forest communities and local partners who intimately understand the local context and needs. This approach enables tailored solutions that address specific economic, ecological, and social needs of farmers and rural communities and results in sustained, long-term impacts. "Nature-based solutions" refers to actions aimed at

conserving, managing, and restoring nature to reduce emissions, sequester carbon, and build climate resilience. These solutions encompass regenerative and climate-smart agriculture, forest conservation and restoration, Integrated Community Forest Management, deforestation-free supply chains, and Integrated Landscape Management, among others.

We recognize that people are at the heart of climate action and promote a holistic approach that respects human rights, fosters inclusion, and provides greater resource access to those who are most vulnerable (including women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples).

THE THREE PILLARS OF OUR CLIMATE STRATEGY

The Rainforest Alliance climate strategy is organized around three main pillars:

1. Building the resilience of producers and rural communities to climate change, while also helping them reduce emissions

The Rainforest Alliance works closely with farmers and rural communities to create resilient, low-emission production systems. Our efforts include:

- Certifying climate-smart agricultural production through the Rainforest Alliance [Sustainable Agriculture Standard](#)
- Promoting [Integrated Community Forest Management](#) to reduce deforestation, improve livelihoods, and enhance biodiversity conservation
- Strengthening the capacity of farmers and communities to adapt to climate change
- Creating climate-resilient landscapes through [Integrated Landscape Management](#) initiatives
- Developing innovative tools and programs, such as our climate risk assessment tool, [Community Listening Program](#), and others, to guide nature-based and locally-led climate action

¹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 2018. Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty (Geneva, Switzerland: World Meteorological Organization), <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>.

2. Supporting companies to significantly reduce GHG emissions and build the resilience of agricultural and forestry supply chains

Collaboration with the corporate sector is vital in accelerating climate action across agricultural and forestry supply chains. At the Rainforest Alliance, we support companies in a variety of ways, including:

- Ensuring agricultural commodities are deforestation-free through certification
- Providing tailored climate mitigation support to corporate partners in understanding and reducing their carbon footprints through our Climate Mitigation Services
- Developing tools, frameworks, and methods that assist companies with their climate mitigation efforts and allow them to make progress against science-based targets
- Collaborating with companies on community mitigation and conservation projects through [Forest Allies](#), a community of practice that brings together companies, regional civil society organizations, and forest communities for targeted projects in critical forest landscapes
- Promoting [regenerative agriculture](#) in supply chains through practice-based regenerative “scorecards” and other methods
- Developing tools to facilitate investment by companies in resilient landscape initiatives.
- Offering insights and data on climate risks to agricultural supply chains that can enable them to target their climate investments more strategically

3. Advancing policies, programs, and investments that support locally-led and nature-based climate action by international organizations, national governments, consumers, and other stakeholders

Advocacy is another crucial component of our climate work. We advocate for policies, programs, and investments that scale up locally-led and nature-based climate action. Our efforts range from local to global initiatives, including:

- Supporting national and regional regulations to reduce deforestation and degradation within agricultural supply chains
- Engaging in international climate policy discussions, including at the UNFCCC and the EU
- Promoting national-level climate adaptation and mitigation plans
- Directing climate finance from multilateral organizations, climate funds, and the private sector towards locally-led and nature-based solutions

WORKING TOGETHER TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE AND BUILD A MORE INCLUSIVE, NATURE-POSITIVE WORLD

With more than four million farmers and farmworkers across 58 countries, 600+ companies, 80 civil society organizations, and a growing portfolio of integrated landscape initiatives in the Rainforest Alliance’s network, we have the potential to catalyze meaningful climate action at scale. But we cannot do it alone.

To be successful, we need widespread and rapid adoption of climate action across all sectors—and by all actors—including local farmers and farmer organizations, local and international NGOs, donors, multinational companies, and governments. We urge everyone to join us in our mission, by becoming a part of our alliance, promoting locally-led and nature-based solutions, scaling up corporate action, and advocating for more ambitious and rapid climate action at all levels.

While achieving change at scale requires action on many fronts, we know that if we work in partnership, we can boldly rise to meet the scope of the challenge and put the world on a more sustainable and climate-resilient path where people and nature thrive together.

