

Cross River State REDD+ Readiness Programme (Nigeria)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Nigeria

Quality score: 7/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Nigeria's pilot REDD+ state paired a 2008 logging moratorium with UN-REDD readiness work (FREL submitted 2017). After ~14 years and ~US\$4M in funding, no carbon payment was ever confirmed; deforestation continued and the moratorium was lifted in 2023 - a cautionary case.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-07-10

Cross River State Forestry Commission / Nigeria UN-REDD Programme — accessed 2026-07-10

UN-REDD — Safeguarding Nigeria's Paradise: Cross River State's experiences and lessons from REDD+ — accessed 2026-07-10

Cross River Watch — INVESTIGATION: How A \$4 Million UN Climate Program Impoverished Cross River Communities — accessed 2026-07-10

African Arguments — 'People want to be rich overnight': Nigeria logging abounds despite ban — accessed 2026-07-10

Amuyou et al. 2021, Sustainability 13(9):5081 (MDPI) — Livelihood Impacts of Forest Carbon Protection in the Context of REDD+ in Cross River State — accessed 2026-07-10

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