Welcome and introduction by

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Opening remarks by

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Conversation with

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The Atlantic Council Global Energy Center and Winrock International held a virtual event to discuss the Architecture for REDD+ Transactions (ART), a Paris Agreement-aligned platform that aims to redirect large-scale private finance to jurisdictional-scale REDD+ programs by ensuring the environmental and social integrity of results.

Protection and restoration of tropical forests are crucial elements to maintain the pathway towards global net zero emissions by mid-century. Recognizing this, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, known as REDD+, is included in the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The unique feature of REDD+ is a pay for performance system, encouraging participation through financial rewards per ton of reduced emissions.

However, one challenge of the approach is the disparity between scales of intervention and levels of funding compared to the magnitude of the challenge. REDD+ interventions at the project level to preserve or replant tracts of forest have not been successful in reducing overall deforestation and degradation. And while jurisdictional-scale programs, agreed to by national governments for entire countries or regions, could provide the encouragement needed for governments to make major changes in land-use management strategies, funding in the amount needed has been limited and the price has been far too low.