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| **Monitoring the role of forests in the global carbon cycle with Global Forest Watch** |
| The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) latest assessment report reminds us that forests play a crucial role in the global carbon cycle and in mitigating climate change. To act on that report and manage and protect forests – from policies to on-the-ground action – governments, companies, Indigenous Peoples and civil society need information on where forests are gaining or losing carbon.To support these groups and others, Global Forest Watch (GFW) released global maps and associated annual statistics of forest carbon emissions, sequestration (forest carbon removals) and net greenhouse gas flux from 2001 onwards. These results were generated from a novel geospatial monitoring framework built to be improved over time as new and relevant information is collected by the broader research community, both on the ground and from Earth observation data. This presentation will outline the rationale for designing such a forest carbon monitoring framework and will focus mainly on improved results achieved through various updates, enhancements, and comparisons with other studies made since the framework’s original publication in 2021. These include but are not limited to updated maps of tree cover loss and gain and their attribution to different proximate causes, updated forest fire data with higher spatial resolution, a revised uncertainty analysis, and comparisons of GFW’s results with national greenhouse gas inventories and other maps of satellite-based biomass change. Future research directions will also be identified, including improved spatial and temporal resolution of forest carbon removals. Case studies will highlight key actors and organizations that have used GFW’s forest carbon data to help monitor, assess, and prioritize action to reduce emissions from deforestation, increase carbon sequestration from forest restoration and protect and enhance the global forest carbon sink. |

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