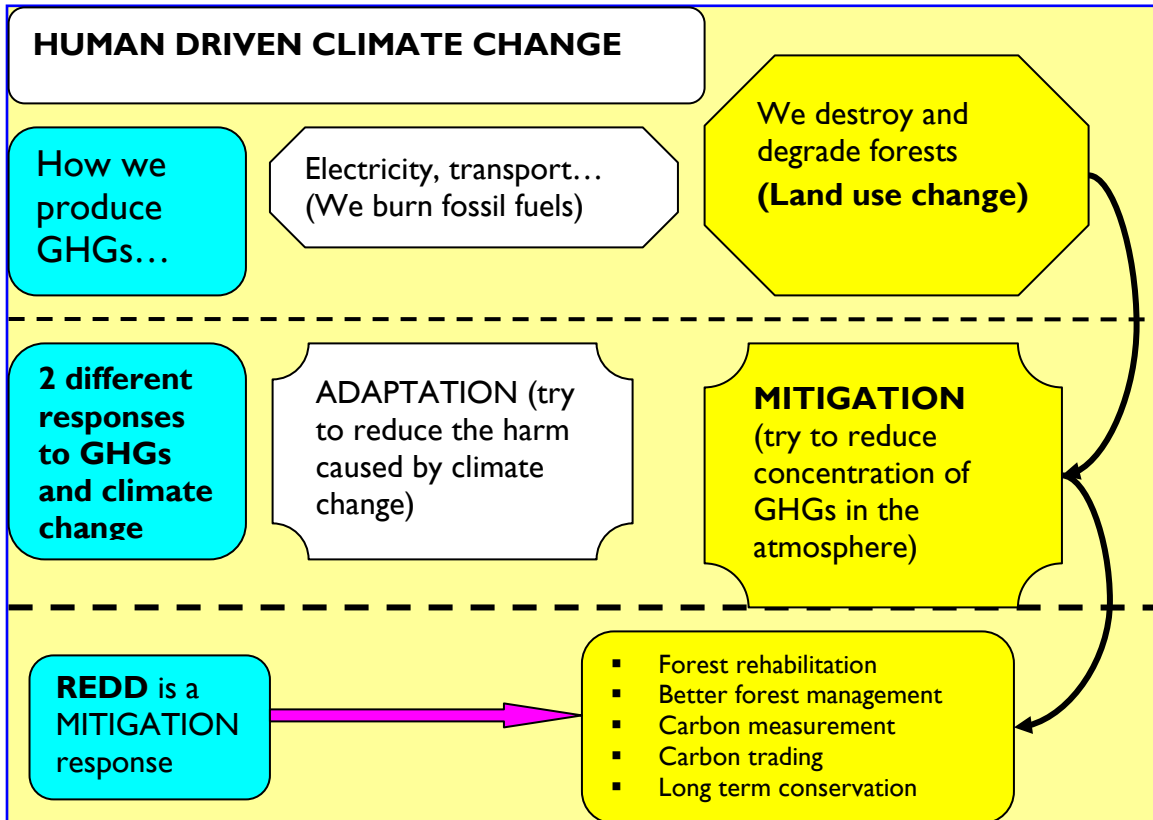


RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE



1. Because climate change is driven by human activity, there are ways that we can modify our activities to slow climate change down and to reduce the harm that it does.
 - a. One type of response is called MITIGATION. Mitigation means, to reduce the amount of GREENHOUSE GASES in the atmosphere
 - b. Another type of response is called ADAPTATION. Adaptation means, to reduce the harm that climate change does by changing our behavior.
2. One important way to reduce GHGs is to reduce forest destruction and degradation. There are two reasons for this.
 - a. Forest destruction contributes over 20% of carbon dioxide emissions globally. If we reduce forest destruction we reduce GHGs.
 - b. A forest is a carbon dioxide pump. It pumps carbon dioxide out of the air and into the ground as carbon. This is part of the carbon cycle.
3. The **REDD program** is designed to help developing countries to use their forests to fight climate change. They do this by keeping their forests intact. This helps in 2 ways:
 - a. Less carbon dioxide is pumped into the atmosphere
 - b. Intact forests help to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

4. Developing countries can benefit through REDD by trading in the carbon market. The carbon dioxide that their healthy forests absorb can be sold as a **'carbon credit'** on the global carbon market.
5. The REDD Program requires participating countries to produce 2 planning documents. The first is the RPIN, which provides basic information about their forests, how they are managed, and what role is played by local and indigenous communities in their management.
6. The REDD Program recognizes the role of local and indigenous communities in forest management. The RPIN must therefore include local communities as managers and beneficiaries.
7. The second document is the RPLAN. This will only be drawn up once the RPIN is accepted by the REDD Program. The RPLAN must be produced through consultation with local and indigenous communities and must set out a clear and sustainable role for them in long term forest management, and as beneficiaries of the program.