

TZ-REDD

Newsletter

Issue 1, May 2010

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About TZ-REDD

The TZ-REDD quarterly newsletter, presented by TNRF, is part of the MJUMITA-TFCG project funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway. The newsletters aim to keep practitioners, donors, universities and CSOs up-to-date about REDD projects in Tanzania, upcoming events, and REDD developments around the world.

Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of TNRF's TZ-REDD Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to serve as a resource to connect key stakeholders and to keep all interested parties "in-the-REDD-know" in Tanzania—what's happening on the ground, what policy developments are taking shape at the national level, and what progress is being made

internationally. This newsletter will be distributed quarterly and will ideally take shape as an interactive forum where ideas, concerns and successes about REDD in Tanzania can be shared with a community of interested and invested key stakeholders. We welcome your feedback and look forward to your involvement.

What is REDD?

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) has been identified as one critical approach in mitigating global climate change by reducing the levels of greenhouse gas emissions that enter our atmosphere. Today, fifteen to twenty percent of global GHG emissions are attributed to deforestation and forest degradation due to activities such as increased logging and agriculture. Many of these countries reside in the Global South, where poverty is rife and resource exploitation is a means of livelihood security. However, if such countries can reduce their rates of forest degradation and deforestation and develop strategies to conserve forestlands, then they deserve to be financially compensated for these efforts.

The Challenges of Implementing REDD

How do you implement REDD strategies fairly? Who

is actually benefiting from REDD? How are benefits to be shared? How do you ensure equitable compensation for forest conservation? How do you accurately measure, report and verify (MRV) carbon stocks and avoided emissions? Where do the funds come from?

In theory, the concept of REDD is a climate change 'no-brainer.' It aims to reduce potential GHG emissions, protect stored carbon, and increase future sequestration opportunities. Despite the promise of this mechanism for reducing greenhouse gases, implementing REDD is not without challenges and complications, which is why UN-REDD is piloting REDD programs in nine countries around the world. Tanzania is one of these selected countries, where all REDD-related activities—from implementation and measurements to financial channels and policy decisions—will be shared and can be used when developing guidelines to a post-2012 international climate agreement.

National REDDiness

REDD has hit the ground running in Tanzania. Being one of only nine countries to serve as a UN-REDD pilot site, Tanzania's REDD Readiness process is in the spotlight. With a substantial financial commitment from the Royal Norwegian Government, Tanzania now has the financial capabilities to move forward and make real progress. From policy proceedings to monitoring strategies, this section of the newsletter is dedicated to keeping us up-to-date on REDD Readiness in Tanzania and other related in-country news.

1. REDD and the importance of Participatory Forest Management

Tanzania has roughly 15 years of experience in Participatory Forest Management (PFM), which will likely play an essential role in the implementation of REDD in Tanzania. REDD serves to benefit from this extensive experience with PFM; however, it will be essential to consider both the successes and failures of PFM in order to design effective and realistic REDD strategies.

What is PFM?

The National Forest Policy in 1998 and the

subsequent Forest Act of 2002 served as enabling factors for the implementation of Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Tanzania. They provided the legal framework necessary for communities to formally own, manage or co-manage forests. The overarching goal of PFM is to establish a system for sustainable forest management that is carried out at the community level to restore forest health and improve local livelihoods. Once land is under PFM, benefits that accrue from the sustainable forest management—tourism dollars, sustainably harvested timber, etc.—is then distributed to the forest managers (community or jointly, community/government).

Currently, there are two methods of PFM in Tanzania: Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) and Joint Forest Management (JFM).

JFM, a system that allows communities and the government to have joint control (and ideally joint benefit sharing) over forests, occurs on pre-existing local or central government forest reserve lands. Thus far, benefit-sharing arrangements have remained unclear, which has generally resulted in unfair distribution to communities. CBFM allows communities to gain legal title to their land, giving them ownership and control over forest land and resources. In order to gain such control a village must demarcate a village land forest reserve (VLFR) and submit adequate by-laws and management guidelines, which are approved at the local district level. Overall, CBFM has been successful in Tanzania; however, the process is slow, can be costly and the benefits tend to be long-term not immediate.

PFM has spread rapidly since its inception, and today it is operational in roughly 53 out of 126 districts. It remains a key forest management approach in Tanzania, which is reflected in its emphasis in the draft National Forest Policy (September 2009), stating that *PFM approaches will be scaled up for improved forest governance, livelihoods, forest condition and mitigation of climate change*.

PFM and REDD: a natural link

Generally, PFM is seen as an essential ingredient for REDD. In fact, all of the NGO-led REDD pilot projects funded by Norway contain PFM activities. The 2009 National Framework for REDD also includes various linkages between REDD and PFM, such as the potential for REDD finances to facilitate and speed up the process to establish PFM projects and the need to identify a number of issues to be resolved when adding carbon into PFM.

Although consensus in the PFM – REDD linkage is generally accepted, stakeholder perceptions differ. Some perceive PFM and REDD as overlapping, such

that there are areas of commonality but each also carry unique components, while others perceive PFM as just one of many components of REDD. The 2009 National Framework for REDD appears to support the latter by depicting PFM as one of the central elements for achieving REDD, alongside its components of Government Forest Reserve management, plantation development, carbon accounting, financing and marketing arrangements.

Overall, both REDD and PFM support the concept that sustainable management of forests should also provide ecological and social benefits. PFM and REDD both require community involvement from the project inception and depend on long-term community participation and commitment for project success.

Potential Issues for PFM and REDD

The impetus for using PFM to implement REDD is understandable. However, it is important to scrutinize the PFM process so that REDD can benefit from the 15 years of PFM experience and not repeat certain mistakes. It is also critical to recognize the limitations of PFM and the differences between PFM and REDD. REDD projects and the national strategy should be aware of lessons already known from PFM, and should also speculate areas where potential issues could arise. The following are some potential areas of concern:

- CBFM legalizes village ownership and control of a forest, which gives villages the rights to revenue generated from it. However, under JFM the benefit distribution is still unclear and with the potential for significant revenue streams from REDD, benefits are at risk of being distributed inequitably.
- If REDD is to be economically viable under PFM arrangements, it will be necessary to reduce transaction costs, through an aggregation of individual forest areas and a collective marketing process using agreed standards and procedures. If the capacity to coordinate such efforts is not well established, it is unlikely that any benefits at the community level will be seen.
- There has been little evidence to show that the

legal transfer of areas of forest (from general land to VLFR, for instance) has so far been accompanied by tangible local economic returns from sustainable forest harvesting and utilization. The status of REDD remains undetermined at the international level; the question of funding and market stability remains unclear; and the issues of leakage, measurement, monitoring and verification are only yet still developing.

- Will PFM be an effective strategy for achieving REDD while ensuring social safeguards are considered?
- General Lands, which harbor approximately 50% of Tanzania forests, may quickly become attractive to outside investors or government for the value of REDD projects, thus undermining the expansion of PFM – REDD projects. Because most villages have yet to be registered, their lands are considered “general lands” and run the risk of being lost to a competitive market.

The REDD Conversation Corner:

We'd like to hear your thoughts on REDD developments in TZ. In the next newsletter we will include comments pertaining to the issue of REDD and PFM.

What do you think...?

Please send your comments to REDD@tnrf.org

2. In the 'REDD'light: An interview with Charles Meshack of TFCG

The need for better collaboration

At the Forum CC “Report from Copenhagen Climate Change Conference” in Dar es Salaam, March 30-31, Charles Meshack, Executive Director of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), shared some of his thoughts about how REDD is taking shape in Tanzania.

Tanzania is in a good position for successfully implementing REDD. However, “currently, it is only

the REDD Task Force taking on the role of developing the [national REDD] strategy,” he explains, and only two representatives are involved in the international negotiating process. While he regards the expertise of the Task Force, he wonders whether they are “equipped enough to handle all REDD-related issues” in Tanzania.

“We need a coordinated initiative in this country,” he says. There are many organizations in Tanzania doing on-the-ground work—civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector—that should be involved in a collaborative effort with the Task Force. Such an effort, he believes, would ensure the development of a dynamic, realistic and fair National REDD Strategy. Presently it's been challenging to even receive updates from the Task Force, and it's been especially difficult to receive information about Tanzania's involvement at the international level.

“There should be more involvement from stakeholders so that our experiences and wants can be represented in negotiations” and the national REDD strategy, Meshack states.

Although Mr. Meshack sees the many challenges that REDD brings, he also acknowledges that there have been quite a few successes thus far. “At the national level it's good that we have the Tanzania REDD Framework, which involved some stakeholders and is being used as a platform for designing the REDD strategy,” he explains. Tanzania's REDD pilot projects are receiving attention from the UN-REDD program and some stakeholders from these projects have been invited to participate in UN processes.

One of the most significant achievements, he says, is the focus on the capacity building process thanks to a grant given by the Norwegian government. He also notes the strong organization of civil societies, pointing to the conference and it's great turnout as an example of that.

Still, many challenges lay ahead. The pilot projects,

for example, have not yet determined a method of coordination. “We have not yet figured out how to share [REDD] information to the public. For instance, how are lessons learned going to be shared?” he says. And then there are the technical issues—measurements, monitoring—and the legal issues—who owns the carbon, will carbon be taxed. Finally, he believes one of the most challenging issues will be how to fairly involve the communities. This, along with his other concerns, is why collaboration with the REDD task force is so essential.

3. Conference Notes

CBA conference in Dar es Salaam

Community-Based Adaptation is intricately linked with REDD activities in that successful forest conservation and emission reduction activities can only be achieved if on-the-ground, local conservation efforts are made. In developing countries like Tanzania, the impacts of climate change are already being seen and are affecting people’s day-to-day lives. Adaptation strategies to impending climactic threats will play an essential part in minimizing detrimental social, economic and environmental impacts on impoverished and marginalized communities.

From February 21-29, the fourth International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change took place in Dar es Salaam. Prior to the conference participants visited sites around the country to see first-hand the impacts of climate change in communities and measures being implemented to adapt. The conference then held many plenary and technical sessions to address issues such as insurance and microfinance, policy, agriculture, water, capacity building, best practices, methodologies and funding. *Ad hoc* working groups were formed to continue working on specific issues relating to CBA throughout the year. The fifth conference is to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2011.

To learn more about the conference go to
<http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/sd/ymbvol135num3e.pdf>

The SADC meeting on REDD in Arusha

The week of March 24, representatives from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) convened in Arusha to discuss global warming and a plan to develop an agenda for Africa. Representatives expressed disappointment about Africa’s lack of coordination prior to Copenhagen, because they believe it weakened attempts to be heard and considered. The Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary, Mr Yohanna Monjes, noted “When we attend the next Climate Change meet in Mexico later this year, SADC will table a single agenda as a bloc.” REDD was also discussed at the meeting, where a specific focus was how to ensure indigenous rights and interests are protected.

Learn more about the conference at
<http://www.dailynews.co.tz/home/?n=8475>
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201003290883.html>

CSO meeting to report on CoP15 and strategize for local action (30-31 March)

More than 100 people gathered in Dar es Salaam March 30-31, to discuss the UNFCCC CoP 15 meeting in Copenhagen, and to draw up plans for ways to move forward in REDD, adaptation measures as well as technology development and transfer. Day one of the meeting mostly focused on the outcomes of the CoP 15, civil societies involvement in the negotiations, and the future implications for Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Day two presented a forum where participants had the opportunity to voice concerns and ideas about how to best move forward as civil society organizations on climate change issues in Tanzania, with a strong emphasis being on the implementation of REDD.

During the REDD breakout session, participants expressed concern over the lack of civil society representation in the development of the National REDD strategy. Consensus showed that civil society must coordinate efforts in order to have a unified and more powerful voice in REDD negotiations. Participants shared concerns about protecting community rights in REDD and agreed that educational outreach and awareness will play an

essential role in the overall success of REDD. Finally, the issues of safeguards and benefit-sharing were noted as components where CSO involvement will be critical during the REDD

Updates from the Field

4. Six Selected Norwegian Funded Pilot Projects

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and MJUMITA was the first approved REDD pilot project by the Royal Norwegian Embassy. In December 2009 and April 2010, five more pilot projects were selected to receive funding from the embassy as a part of Tanzania's REDD Readiness process. These six projects will be administered by NGO's or private investors and will serve as important pilot projects, gaining hands-on experience with REDD in Tanzania.



Tanzania Forest Conservation Group and MJUMITA – Making REDD work for communities and forest conservation in Tanzania

Budget: USD \$5,900,000 over 5 years

Region: Montane and lowland coastal/miombo forest in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forest

Expected Outcome: 50,000 hectares of conserved forest, sequestering approximately 110,000 MTeCO₂, and providing economic benefits to approximately 20,000 people. Establishment of a community carbon cooperative. National and international advocacy on REDD policy.

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) - Building REDD readiness in the Masito Ugalla Ecosystem Pilot Area in Support of Tanzania's National REDD Strategy

Budget: USD \$2,759,641 over 3 years

Region: Western Tanzania, working in 15 villages

Expected Outcome: 70,000 hectares of conserved forest, sequestering 55,000 MTeCO₂

Mpingo Conservation Project (MCP) - Combining REDD, PFM and FSC certification in South-Eastern Tanzania

Budget: USD \$1,948,123 over 4 years

Region: Southern Tanzania, working in 12 villages

Expected Outcome: 50 000 hectares of conserved forest, sequestering 50,000 MTeCO₂, and providing economic benefits to approximately 18,000 people

Tanzania Traditional Energy Development and Environment Organization (TaTEDO) - Community-Based REDD Mechanisms for Sustainable Forest Management in Semi-Arid Areas

Budget: USD \$2,102,752 over 4 years

Region: Northern/Central Tanzania, working in 10 villages

Expected Outcomes: 2,500 hectares conserved forest, 108,285 MTeCO₂, 6,000 beneficiaries

African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) – Advancing REDD in the Kolo Hills Forests

Budget: USD \$2,061,794 over 3 years

Region: Northern/Central Tanzania, working with 15 villages

Expected Outcomes: 18,000 hectares of conserved forest, 15,000 beneficiaries

CARE Hifadhi ya Misitu ya Asili (HIMA) - Piloting REDD in Zanzibar through Community Forest Management

Budget: USD \$5,539,175 over 4 years

Region: Unguja and Pemba islands, Zanzibar

Expected Outcomes: 60,000 hectares of forest, 16,000 rural households

5. Notes from the field

As REDD projects continue to gain momentum, their acquired knowledge will be important in shaping a national REDD strategy. We will learn from their experiences—successes and obstacles—and hope they will learn from, and with, others. The following are updates from the field:

TFCG & MJUMITA

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) has a long-standing history of working in forestry and biodiversity conservation in Tanzania. It is partnering with the Tanzanian Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), an organization established to unite the forest conservation community and to empower communities with skills and knowledge about forest management, to pilot a REDD project in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests.

The goal of the TFCG/MJUMITA REDD project is to assist communities in seeking ways to adequately address potential barriers of REDD, and to develop a system that can expand the benefits of REDD to communities throughout the country. Using the existing network of communities that are involved in Participatory Forest Management, through MJUMITA, the project plans to aggregate their

emission reductions in such a way that transaction costs are reduced while still adhering to internationally recognized REDD standards. The project will focus on an area covering 50,000 hectares of montane and lowland coastal/miombo forest in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forest biodiversity hot spots. TFCG/MJUMITA will introduce methods for participatory monitoring of the forests, determine baselines of deforestation rates, market carbon credits, test benefit sharing mechanisms, and help to address the drivers of forest loss and degradation.

Since the project launch, TFCG/MJUMITA have been busy carrying out the site selection process, and have selected Kilosa and Lindi Rural Districts as the piloting sites. They've engaged in awareness and outreach activities with community members, local government officials, members of the national REDD Task Force, NGO's and University scholars. Currently, they are preparing to begin activities on the ground in the two districts.

AWF – Kolo Hills Forests

AWF's Kolo Hills Forests project will work closely with local governments and communities, using a Joint Forest Management (JFM) model. One main goal of the project is to develop a benefit sharing

arrangement between the co-management entities—a typical challenge with JFM and a foreseen challenge for REDD. The project also aims to serve as a model for implementing accurate scientific methodologies for REDD, including local community members, assisting with community development, and gaining access to the international voluntary or compliance carbon markets. They have partnered with Selian Agricultural Research Institute (SARI), Dr. Claude Mung'ong'o and CAMCO to carry out this project.

In late January 2010, the project started with an inception workshop held in Kondoa for all stakeholders. The workshop was followed by fieldwork, which has been carried out since January. The fieldwork is focusing primarily on baseline surveys and awareness creation in the partner villages. Currently, the Kolo Hills Forests Project is compiling the report of their baseline survey, which will be shared with donor and partners in the next three to four weeks.

TaTEDO – Sustainable Forest Management in Semi-Arid Areas

The Community Based REDD pilot project focuses on strengthening and supporting local communities to continue managing their *Ngitilis* (A traditional method of natural forest regeneration) in a sustainable manner using carbon incentives resulting from REDD. The project will help Ngitili owners mobilize and join together to establish formal Ngitili carbon groups and associations. The project will address key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, which includes introduction of alternative and energy efficient technologies, improved land use practices, institutional set up for REDD implementation, management and governance of Ngitilis. It also will estimate REDD related costs, determine opportunity costs, assess different mechanisms for carbon trading and benefit sharing to help Ngitili communities successfully participate and benefit from carbon incentives.

Partners for the project include DASS (Development Associates), NAFRAC (Natural Forest Resources

Management and Agroforestry Centre), Kahama and Shinyanga Rural District Councils.

Project planning and resource mobilization have already been completed. Currently, they are working with communities in site selection, awareness raising and they are conducting a socioeconomic survey. On March 11, they conducted a seminar at the district level involving representatives from Shinyanga Regional Administration, Kahama and Shinyanga Rural District officials, Ward Councilors, representatives from NGOs and NAFRAC staff.

MCP – REDD, PFM and FSC

The Mpingo Conservation Project (MCP) has extensive experience with Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in southeast Tanzania whereby communities earn revenue from selling sustainably harvested timber. MCP has supported 6 communities in Kilwa District in establishing Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFR). Through the work of these projects, MCP holds the first Forestry Stewardship Council certificate for community-management natural forest in Africa. MCP plans to continue its work on sustainably harvested timber in these communities, and proposes to use the financial flows from REDD as a catalyst to expand both PFM and FSC throughout the region.

Since January 2010, project inception activities have taken up the first few months of the project—recruiting key staff, making capital purchases, drawing up detailed agreements with project partners, and initiating planning for early project outputs. MCP has conducted some initial policy analysis, but the majority of that research will be completed in the coming few months. Finally, MCP has been organizing field visits by all the project partners to allow them to familiarize themselves with the project area and to draw up strategies for moving forward. The project was formally launched in Kilwa on April 10th.

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI)

The Jane Goodall Institute Masito Ugalla Ecosystem

pilot project will build upon JGI's 15 years of experience working in western Tanzania. The project will focus on the Masito Ugalla ecosystem (MUE), an expansive forested landscape of approximately 10,827 squared kilometers under varied management and ownership regimes. This project will include a mix of components designed to reduce carbon emissions and sequester carbon above and below ground; enhance biodiversity and other ecosystem service benefits; and improve sustainable livelihoods. JGI will support the villages to join together and register a forest management community-based organization that will take over the forest management. Once the community-based organization is formed, JGI will provide training to give them with the skills and experiences required to implement REDD activities and generate economic benefit for the member villages.

CARE- HIMA:

The CARE-HIMA Zanzibar project's central approach is the promotion of decentralized forest

management, working at community level on Community Forest Management (COFM). CARE will not start afresh with this intervention but will build on experiences and lessons generated from its previous projects and programs on site. This element will address the drivers of deforestation, particularly encroachment into forestlands by farmers, and will improve governance, through equitable sharing of benefits and improving regulations, especially focusing on the issue of forest land tenure.

There will be 29 pilot sites to support COFM, with a particular focus on ensuring that the poor are not further disadvantaged, but are able to benefit from COFM. Another strong focus of the project, will be the issue of controlling leakage, which will be dealt with at the community level through tree planting of domestic fuel woodlots, piloting LPG energy switch schemes in urban and semi-urban areas, strengthening community level governance and through alternative income generating activities. These innovative approaches to REDD will be rigorously monitored both by the project

REDD Highlights from Abroad

6. Moving Beyond Copenhagen

The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP) 2009 meeting in Copenhagen generated a tremendous amount of hope for a post-2012 consensus on an international climate treaty. However, due to the lack of pre-conference agreements and for many other reasons, the COP conference in Copenhagen left much undecided and most extremely disappointed. The final product of two weeks of negotiation resulted in a hastily drafted Copenhagen Accord—criticized by many NGOs and climate experts as being weak—which among other things acknowledged a goal of limiting global warming to 2 Celsius and seeking financial commitments for mitigation and adaptation activities. The Accord

was only “noted” by the COP, instead of adopted, due to objections from Parties. At the end of February 2010, more than 100 countries had submitted written statements of support for the Accord.

The lack of formal action from Copenhagen is discouraging. However, there were some positive developments made during the conference, and progress on REDD is seen as one of them. The Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-Term Collaborative Action (AWG-LCA) submitted a draft decision on REDD. The document includes objectives, such as implementing REDD alongside country-wide sustainable development goals including poverty reduction and biological conservation. It contains safeguards, such as respecting indigenous

knowledge and rights, and ensuring that there is full participation of all relevant stakeholders. The submitted draft decision remains contested amongst some parties, and there are some key areas that remain undecided: How will sub-national implementation work within a national framework? What measurement, monitoring and implementation strategies will be required? Will financial support be public, private or a combination of both? A series of follow-up meetings will take place over the course of this year to continue negotiations on REDD at the international level. Read entire draft decision at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca8/eng/107a06.pdf>

The following summarizes key outcomes of REDD in Copenhagen:

- Point 6 of the Copenhagen Accord states “the need to provide positive incentives to such actions through the immediate establishment of a mechanism including REDD-plus, to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries.”
- Six developing countries agreed to dedicate USD \$3.5 billion from 2010-2012 to help finance REDD-related activities in developing countries. However, long-term financial support is still to be determined.
- The Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-Term Collaborative Action (AWG-LCA) will continue to seek guidance from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) in methodology implementation, specifically in regards to the inclusion of indigenous peoples in monitoring and reporting.
- It was agreed to maintain the “REDD-plus” strategy, which expands the definition of REDD to include conservation of carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. The purpose behind REDD-plus is to allow countries that have had existing and widely practiced forest management policies to receive benefits for their conservation efforts.
- Further negotiations will take place to develop a REDD agreement recognized by the COP and UNFCCC.
- The draft decision on REDD recognizes the promotion or support of a variety of safeguards, but it does not impose any formal guidelines for implementing specific safeguards. Safeguards are essential in protecting indigenous, gender and human rights; ecological conservation; and project integrity. Any responsible and effective REDD decision must include safeguards in the

Additional Reading:

[REDD-plus after Copenhagen: what does it mean on the ground?](http://www.redd-net.org/files/COP15outcome-webfinal.pdf?attredirects=0) (REDD-Net.org) <http://www.redd-net.org/files/COP15outcome-webfinal.pdf?attredirects=0>

[Ways Forward after Copenhagen: Reflections on the Climate Change Negotiating Processes by the REDD-plus Facilitator](http://www.field.org.uk/files/AT_La_Vina_Copenhagen_reflections_FIE_LD_Feb_10.pdf) (Field, UK) http://www.field.org.uk/files/AT_La_Vina_Copenhagen_reflections_FIE_LD_Feb_10.pdf

[Implications of the REDD negotiations for forest conservation](http://www.unep-wcmc.org/resources/publications/pdf/Restoration%20REDD%20briefing%20lo-res.pdf) (UNEP) <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/resources/publications/pdf/Restoration%20REDD%20briefing%20lo-res.pdf>

Accra Caucus: Message to Copenhagen:

The Accra Caucus, a coalition of more than 100 NGO's from 30 countries presented Copenhagen with a list of issues to be considered in REDD negotiations. The list includes three key messages:

- 1) The overall objective of REDD is to halt deforestation
- 2) REDD processes must respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities
- 3) Forests are more than carbon

The Accra Caucus expressed great disappointment over the outcomes of Copenhagen, with one representative saying, “Despite positive statements, the REDD text contains no overall target for halting deforestation, and no guarantee of funding beyond some short-term funding

Go here to read the entire Copenhagen message:
<http://www.redd-monitor.org/2010/02/25/accra-caucus-key-messages-on-redd/>

4th UN-REDD Program Policy Board Meeting in Nairobi, March 2010:

More than 100 people from 25 countries convened in Nairobi in mid-March for the 4th UN-REDD Program policy board meeting. The most significant outcome of the meeting was the approval of USD \$14.7 million to fund UN-REDD programs in Bolivia, DRC and Zambia. The board also noted requests to collaborate with the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in an effort to streamline and coordinate implementation efforts in participating countries. Nobel Laureate and environmental activist, Wangari Maathai, spoke at the meeting, emphasizing the need for safeguards in REDD implementation to facilitate "a responsible and transparent approach."

Participants also did site-visits in Kenya's Rift Valley to see first-hand examples of issues relating to REDD, such as deforestation, climate change impacts, and the benefits of ecosystem conservation. Read more here: http://www.unredd.org/NewsCentre/Policy_Board_four_Press_release/tabid/3545/language/en-US/Default.aspx

7. International Updates:

Viet Nam: A Case Study for REDD Compliant Benefit Sharing

Viet Nam, one of UN-REDD's nine pilot countries, has taken on the challenging issue of benefit sharing as a part of its REDD Readiness strategy. In January 2010, the first report was released, which documents the developments made by Viet Nam in designing an efficient, transparent and equitable Benefit Distribution System for forestry carbon offsets. The report looks at how Viet Nam has addressed issues relating to a Benefit Distribution System, from identifying constraints and barriers, recommending policy options and developing monitoring and analyses plans. The report identifies 17 "Policy Decisions" that should be considered in developing appropriate REDD-

compliant Benefit Distribution Systems.

Read the entire report here:
http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=1409&Itemid=53

Bolivia: The Troubles of Leakage:

The Noel Kempff Climate Action Project in Bolivia, one of the longest running REDD projects, has been

highly scrutinized for its overall carbon reduction impacts. Despite great conservation efforts in the 800,000 hectares forest, claims have been made that overall deforestation in Bolivia have actually increased since the projects inception. Project proponents argue that continued monitoring has tweaked figures to more accurately reflect the number of offsets generated from the project, making the process more transparent and demonstrating why national level accounting is so important. Learn more in this recent article from The Guardian:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/mar/11/greenwash-noel-kempff-forests>

UN REDD Program: 2009 Year in Review

The UN-REDD program published the 2009 Year in

Review, an annual report offering updates about each of its pilot projects and other activities. The report notes an increased level of interest in the UN-REDD program, with many incoming country requests. It provides brief overviews about UN-REDD's 2009 areas of focus: MRV, benefit distribution, stakeholder engagement and co-benefits. The report includes a quote from TZ REDD Task Force member, Felician Kilahama: "With the technical support of the UN-REDD Program, we hope that our capacity to handle REDD+ related issues will be enhanced especially in the area of measurement, reporting and verification (MRV). We place emphasis on carbon accounting and how our efforts will benefit local communities and those living adjacent to the forests. Improving their livelihoods is a crucial concern."

Read the entire update here:
http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=1692&Itemid=53

Resources

[REDD Readiness Report:](#)

<http://www.cbd.int/forest/doc/overview-readiness-redd.pdf>

The Woods Hole Research Center has compiled a report on REDD readiness: “An Overview of Readiness for REDD: A compilation of readiness activities prepared on behalf of the Forum on Readiness for REDD.”

[REDD in East Africa](#)

<http://www.redd-net.org/thematic-features/visioning-redd-in-east-africa>

REDD Net, an international knowledge forum dedicated to REDD development in developing countries, published “Visioning REDD+ in East Africa: a focus on benefit sharing in Uganda and Tanzania.” The document outlines REDD preparations in Tanzania and makes projections about what REDD policy could look like in the country.

[Forest Carbon Portal](#)

www.forestcarbonportal.com

Ecosystem Marketplace launched an updated version of their Forest Carbon Portal, which is an information clearinghouse on terrestrial carbon. The Forest Carbon Portal tracks news, resources, events and nearly 100 forest carbon projects around the world. This version offers a more interactive site where users can create profiles in the member directory; join discussions in ‘Carbon Connections’; comment on articles; as well as upload projects, resources, events and job opportunities.

[Carbon Watch](#)

<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/carbonwatch/>

A project between PBS, Frontline and the Center for Investigative Reporting, this website tracks the new currencies of global warming through video, podcasts and articles.

[TZ Climate Change on Facebook: Join the Discussion](#)

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Dar-es-Salaam-Tanzania/Norway-and-Tanzania-Acting-on-Climate-Change/289222965137>

The Norwegian Embassy has set up a Facebook page, “Norway and Tanzania – Acting on Climate Change.” Visit their Facebook page to follow and discuss their efforts to promote action on climate change in Tanzania.

[REDD Task Force Website and Newsletters](#)

<http://www.reddtz.org/>

The Institute of Resource Assessment (IRA) of University of Dar es Salaam, has designed a website for the REDD Task Force. The site will help transmit official documents, reports and announcements, and assist on raising awareness on REDD to relevant stakeholders and the public at large. The Task Force is also distributing e-newsletters about REDD, the January 2010 issue is available at:

http://www.reddtz.org/component/option,com_docman/task,cat_view/gid,17/Itemid,18/

[Planet Action](#)

www.planet-action.org

Planet-Action.org is joint initiative from SPOT / ESRI to support local projects acting on Climate Change-related issues by providing geographic information and technology to NGOs, universities, research centers.