

# TZ - REDD

Newsletter Issue 3 January 2011



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**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.

# Introduction

This issue of TZ-REDD wraps up the events of 2010 and leads us into 2011. Tanzanian civil society organizations (CSOs) teamed up to ensure that 2010 ended with a flurry of REDD activities. The seven REDD pilot projects joined together to make recommendations on the National REDD Strategy and the Forest Carbon Finance Partnership (FCFP) Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). They also developed a set of positions for the Cancun negotiations, and they urged the Tanzanian government to more effectively engage with civil society. REDD was covered in Tanzanian newspapers and Tanzanian CSOs were represented at the UNFCCC COP 16.

As 2011 begins, it appears that little momentum on the REDD front has been lost. In fact, the CSOs' efforts to engage with the government and the National REDD Task Force may have actually been successful. A draft of the National REDD Strategy was made public in early January with an invitation for public comment and notice of upcoming stakeholder meetings. Additionally, civil society organizations that attended Cancun were invited by the REDD Secretariat to participate in a post-UNFCCC COP 16 meeting, in which they were encouraged to share their experiences and help plan a way forward. Both are seemingly positive steps, and a great start to 2011. However, such steps will only have positive outcomes if they are genuine. For example, only one member of the National REDD Task Force attended the post-UNFCCC COP 16 meeting, and he had not participated in COP 16. Although the REDD Secretariat was there and facilitating discussions, it simply isn't the open dialogue between civil society and the National REDD Task Force that has been repeatedly requested. Will the stakeholder involvement in the National REDD Strategy input period have a similar result?

Let us, civil society and the Tanzanian government, work together to plan for the next UNFCCC COP 17 in Durban; have real and broad stakeholder involvement in developing and refining the National REDD Strategy document; increase efforts to involve media; and inform all Tanzanians about REDD. Let's make 2011 the year of cooperation, open dialogue and progress.

## I. National REDDiness

### 1. Tanzanian CSO's Speak Out About REDD

Over the last few months, Tanzanian Civil Society Organizations have joined together to advocate for equitable and well-informed national and international policy decisions on REDD. These efforts have in part been a reaction to feeling left out of the REDD policy process thus far. Currently, Tanzania has seven REDD pilot projects on the ground, actively implementing REDD. These projects are supposed to gain lessons learned, which will better inform policy decisions and national REDD strategy development. However, so far, civil society organizations do not feel like they have been effectively engaged in the REDD policy process, and that generally speaking, REDD strategy development is lacking civil society voice.

At the national level, CSO's are advocating for a stronger voice in the process, and are providing recommendations on issues such as benefit sharing and land and resource tenure that they believe promote pro-poor, equitable and environmental policy options.

"If government recognizes that civil society organizations are the people on the ground that are working with communities, understanding communities, then they should listen to civil society organizations," explains Cassian Sianga, Senior Forest Programme Officer for the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum. "This is key for success in any development program, and in REDD," he says.

At the international level, CSO's joined together to develop a position on REDD for the Cancun negotiations. The position is calling for the prioritization of the protection of natural forests over plantations, global targets for the reduction of deforestation and a commitment to develop guidelines for measuring, reporting and verifying environmental and social safeguards along with measuring carbon reductions.

It calls for the protection of human rights by claiming that any agreement must require full and effective involvement of all stake/rights holders in national

REDD strategy development, as well as to guarantee the rights of local communities, as forest policies will have significant impacts on forest dependent people. The position also states that national and regional-level monitoring of deforestation must be allowed, as this will help decentralize REDD while assuring sound reporting and verification systems are in place.

“It is so important that civil society be heard in this process, and I hope that our Tanzanian delegates will take notice of our position as we are offering advice based on learned experience,” says Dr. Steven Kiruswa, Maasai Steppe Heartland Director for the African Wildlife Foundation.



*Charles Meshack, Executive Director of TFCG, presents recommendations for the National REDD Strategy*

Below is an overview with links to the resources of what CSO's have achieved by joining together:

- **Recommendations for the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), Submitted to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility** - [pdf.wri.org/rpp\\_country\\_table\\_tanzania.pdf](http://pdf.wri.org/rpp_country_table_tanzania.pdf)
- **Recommendations for the Tanzania National REDD Strategy** -
- **Position for REDD Negotiations at COP 16 in Cancun** -

## REDD in the News in Tanzania

*Tanzania readies for Cancun climate change summit* - [http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/functions/print\\_article.php?l=23595](http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/functions/print_article.php?l=23595)

*CSO's Urge Tanzanian Delegation to Support REDD positions in Cancun* - <http://www.tnrf.org/node/21216>

*Involve Locals in Land Deals* - <http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/editorial-analysis/19-editorial-comments/5656-involve-locals-in-land-deals.html>

*Editorial: Involve Locals in Allocation of Land - CSO's* - <http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/news/4-national-news/5626-involve-locals-in-allocation-of-landcsos.html>

*Reducing Carbon Emissions Needs Firm Collaboration* - [http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/functions/print\\_article.php?l=23239](http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/functions/print_article.php?l=23239)

*Civil Society Organizations Present REDD Recommendations for National REDD Strategy*- <http://www.tnrf.org/node/21152>

*Tanzanian Civil Society Comments on R-PP* - [pdf.wri.org/rpp\\_country\\_table\\_tanzania.pdf](http://pdf.wri.org/rpp_country_table_tanzania.pdf)

## 2. In the 'REDD'Light: An interview with Cassian Sianga

Cassian Sianga, Senior Forest Program Officer for TNRF, has worked in the forestry sector in Tanzania for more than 30 years. Although REDD is relatively new in Tanzania, its concepts are not. Mr. Sianga, sharing some of his thoughts on REDD, explained that it's always useful to learn from past experiences.

*As someone who has been involved in the forestry sector in Tanzania for years, what do you see as the main opportunities for REDD and what do you see as the main challenges?*

For REDD to be successful it should be aligned with participatory forest management (PFM), which has been running for years in the country and offers a great opportunity for effective implementation. However, the main challenge will be developing fair partnerships between the government and communities as seen in joint forest management (JFM). In JFM, the issue is who owns the resources, and who actually benefits. Of course, the government owns the resources, but the communities are the ones carrying out the conservation and management activities. Experience has shown us that JFM has not yet had equal benefit sharing because it seems that finding ways for communities to benefit from forest conservation efforts and forest management has been difficult. With REDD this will be an even bigger challenge because so much is at stake. We know that community based natural resource management and PFM can be hugely successful if communities receive money or some other kind of incentive directly for their efforts. With JFM, there runs a real risk that communities could lose out on funds that they deserve. These issues really need to be addressed before JFM and REDD activities begin.

*TNRF organized the first REDD Learning Event last October, which provided an opportunity for key players in REDD—donors, government officials and pilot project participants—to come together and have an open forum on REDD. Why do you believe this is important?*

This event was important, because before that day everyone was off working on their own, implementing their own projects. What we found from the first meeting is that the challenges that are arising for each project are all very similar. Therefore, people should work together on the challenges instead of

this “all for themselves” approach. Additionally, it is important for projects to identify areas where they want to engage with the government because joining together with one common voice can be extremely effective, creating a more equal playing field.

*What would you like to see happen with REDD?*

There's one main outcome I'd like to see with REDD. I'd like to see communities directly receiving incentives, being adequately paid for their efforts, for forest conservation.

*If you could measure success at the national level, what would it look like?*

True success will not be accomplished by the government alone, but jointly, with civil society involvement, there could be great results. The same goes for CSOs. If CSOs are not joined together, working together and sharing ideas, they will never succeed.

The National Strategy is a good example. If the government had involved civil society from the start, the Strategy would likely be completed and publically shared because there would be more expert input and more citizen voice from the start. It's hard for the government to be on the ground, hearing directly from citizens. That is the responsibility of CSOs.

So, I believe measuring success at the national level will have to involve civil society representation. Citizens should be on the task force, participating in the development of the National REDD Strategy, and informing policy decisions. Right now, it seems that no one is listening, but I believe that if CSOs continue to join together, to have a common voice, they will help move things forward in a positive manner.

## 3. REDD: A Joint Effort

Opinion editorial by Carol Sorensen, TNRF Coordinator

Over the last twenty years, an overwhelming scientific consensus has delivered a broad understanding about the causes and potential impacts of global climate change. Recently, science has shown that deforestation and forest degradation are responsible for approximately 15-20 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Tanzania, a country reliant on its environment and vulnerable to environmental changes, could suffer tremendously from a changing

climate—increased floods and droughts, inconsistent rainfall patterns, widespread diseases and food shortages.

Because of these threats, the international community is investigating methods to slow climate change, and one potential mechanism is to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD). REDD has drawn a lot of attention, partly because a lot of funds are at stake. In fact, Tanzania alone is set to receive more than US\$75 million dollars over five years from the Norwegians just for REDD development. Public funds and market mechanisms are currently being debated by the international community, but estimates for REDD financial flows are at US \$30 billion a year. These funds offer great potential for sustainable development in our rural areas, but pose huge challenges concerning governance of these resources, especially to countries like Tanzania with a somewhat shabby record of governance of natural resources (as shown in the TRAFFIC/GoT report, questions regarding donor funding, and consistent reports in the newspapers of ivory and timber theft).

On Tuesday, November 16th, after many months of waiting, civil society organizations sat in quiet anticipation, eager and excited to finally have the National REDD Strategy shared publicly. They were waiting on Professor Pius Yanda, Secretariat to the National REDD Task Force, who had agreed to give a presentation on the Strategy that day on behalf of the REDD Task Force. He began, “we plan to share this strategy with you all next week...”, and once again, civil society has to wait. Once again, they remain left out of the discussion.

The professor said the Task Force has been criticized for not sharing the strategy document with various stakeholders, and explained this ongoing and continued silence using a metaphor. “You can’t name a baby if it is still in the mother’s stomach,” which in this case means the National REDD Task Force does not want to share the National REDD Strategy with civil society because it is still in its infancy and is still being developed. It was an odd metaphor to use, because any good mother knows that a healthy baby needs to be nurtured from the very start, and some of the most important development occurs while inside the womb. Certainly, the mother is the one ultimately responsible for the baby and the delivery, but the outcome is only improved with the help of others – fathers, family members and friends. A mother who wants the absolute best for her child,

would accept help from the start in order to ensure her child is adequately equipped to face the world when it’s born.

REDD is a complex, multi-faceted, multi-level and multi-stakeholder initiative that has a vast number of stakeholders involved. Although both international and national frameworks for REDD remain unclear, it is not a concept relegated to conference table discussions. Instead, it is being implemented right now in Tanzanian forests with communities. Currently, seven pilot projects are working on the ground, gaining valuable lessons learned as they charter this new and complicated initiative. Why would the REDD Task Force not want to incorporate those lessons and findings into the Strategy?

As the United Nations Convention on Climate Change’s 16th Conference of the Parties comes to a close, civil society has yet to see the National REDD Strategy, a public Tanzanian negotiating position, or even a list of the delegates who represented this country. How can civil society support its delegation without knowing where its delegation stands? The government serves the people, which is why the people must have a voice in the process. The same group of CSO’s has come together to develop a position on REDD for Cancun. But will those charged with the responsibility for developing Tanzania’s REDD strategy take any notice?

This lack of communications, transparency and unwillingness to work with civil society hinders progress and creates distrust. For example, there is lot of money at stake in REDD, and excluding civil society generates a sense of suspicion about such matters. This should not have to be the case.

As Tanzania’s most valued civil servants, we urge Tanzanian leaders to rebuild their relationship with civil society by allowing space for dialogue and creating opportunities for real participation. It takes a community to raise a child, not just the mother alone.

This op-ed was published in The Citizen on December 7, 2010. To view the published version, visit: <http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/editorial-analysis/20-analysis-opinions/6152-new-approach-crucial-to-check-emissions>

Professor Yanda responded to this op-ed in an article in The Citizen. Read the response here: <http://www.tnrf.org/files/Clarification.pdf>

## II. Updates from the Field

### 1. Update: MCDI

The Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI) has been busy over the last few months. After sharing information and raising awareness about REDD, five of the seven villages where they plan to work have signed contracts. As expected, they have encountered some stumbling blocks in determining where to locate Village Land Forest Reserves (VLR) within some village boundaries. These problems have arisen because village, district and national level authorities do not all have the same understanding of where village boundaries exist. Although these challenges can slow down processes and progress, they do present excellent lessons learned on the complexities of land tenure.

MCDI has also begun tackling some technical issues, such as undertaking baseline and carbon stock measurement activities. They have acquired aerial photographs of the entire project area, which will assist in analysis and provide a second baseline. Additionally, almost all of the fieldwork is complete for laying baseline for measurement of carbon stocks in the forest (locating permanent sample plots). MCDI is also carrying out activities to quantify drivers of deforestation (the main drivers they've identified as being timber, charcoal, agriculture and fire). So far, the drivers of deforestation have shown a wide margin of error in estimating carbon losses from different causes. Results from this study will help inform a plan to understand and combat leakage, as well as identify areas to focus on for methods of conservation.

### 2. Update: AWF: Carbon assessment: early lessons learned

The AWF-administered project, Advancing REDD in the Kolo Hills Forests (ARKFor) has just completed the first carbon assessment exercise in 330 permanent sample plots that were set up in the entire project area of about 56,288 ha. During this activity a number of challenges were faced and lessons learned, including the following two examples.

Selecting Carbon Pools to Measure: Selecting carbon pools to measure will likely vary from project to project. However, according to guidelines produced

by international climate change bodies, carbon should be measured from all pools. Fortunately, other projects, such as the experience of ARKFor, have determined that this requirement is not realistic or practical in all areas. For instance, there might be site-specific factors that may limit carbon measurement in some pools, for instance, in the case of AWF, the Kolo Hills in Kondoa are rock-strewn with huge rocks/stones covering most of the area. In this case, it is very difficult if not impossible to measure soil carbon in hard rocks and probably the carbon itself is not present in such hard rocks or is in negligible amounts.

However, some parts of the project area have good soils that probably hold a substantial amount of soil carbon, but under the current situation, the cost-benefit analysis for measuring and monitoring soil carbon in those areas has proved that, costs outweigh benefits. This has been due to the fact that it is the change/increment of carbon that accounts for carbon credits, not the baseline soil carbon that has accumulated over time. An overall cost-benefit analyses for different carbon pools in the Kolo Hills was carried out by AWF and its partner in carbon assessment, CAMCO. Their assessment is as follows:

- Above-ground biomass (AGB): this was included in the project as Carbon stock change in this pool is always significant
- Below-ground biomass (BGB): this was included because it usually represents between 15 – 30 percent of AGB
- Dead wood: this was left out because it is unlikely to constitute a large proportion of the total carbon pool
- Harvested wood products: this was excluded because it is unlikely to constitute a large proportion of the total carbon pool. However once quantitative data relating to harvesting of timber for poles, furniture and other products is available may be included
- Litter: this was left out because although it is likely to increase as a result of conservation measures but is unlikely to constitute a large proportion of the total carbon pool
- Soil organic carbon: this was excluded because of high costs associated with monitoring changes in soil carbon over time. The carbon in soils is likely to increase as a result of conservation measures

The shape of sample plots can save time and cost: AWF has discovered that in setting up the sample plots, it is very important to identify the plot shape that will work best for the landform or terrain of the project area. For instance, though literature consider rectangular plots to be more accurate, in their area (Kolo Hills), which has undulating terrain, it was very difficult to set up rectangular plots. It was tedious and time consuming to continually measure-out four straight sides and four right angles of a rectangle for each plot as well as drawing and marking straight lines through ups and downs, which are many in that terrain. After experiencing this difficulty, AWF switched to circular plots in which the center point of a circle was the most important reference of the plot to mark and take GPS readings.

modern bee hives and learn entrepreneurial skills,” said Mr. Edwin Nssoko, REDD Project Director at JGI.

Communities in Kigoma and Mpanda are already taking the lead and many villagers are excited at the inclusion of their villages, because their forest resources are being over exploited.

“With the passing of tough by-laws to conserve forests and the environment in general lands, our village hopes to reap the benefits of carbon trading in future,” said Kisubi Hassan from Kirando village.

### III. REDD Highlights from Abroad

#### 3. Update: JGI: CBO Empowered to Manage Forest Resources in Masito Ugala Ecosystem

*By Finnigan wa Simbeye*

In Kigoma, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is helping prepare seven villages that border the biodiversity-rich Masito-Usagalla Ecosystem, to participate in a REDD initiative.

Recently, representatives from these seven villages—llagara, Karago, Songambe, Sigunga, Sunuka and Kirando and Lyabusende—attended a training on forest management practices where each of the participants was trained on forest resource mapping and setting strategies to protect forest resources and marine life in Lake Tanganyika and on the environment in general in their areas.

“We have a land use plan, by-laws to curb environmental degradation and everyone in the village is now sensitized on conservation of the environment,” said Naomi Kabange, a resident of Sunuka village who has been under REDD project training of trainers since early this year.

Since the start of the project, communities and local government staff have been involved in awareness activities, capacity building and training on how to manage and monitor forests and to sell carbon credits in the global market through REDD.

“In the project area, we want charcoal makers to stop the practice and instead shift to other income generating activities. We hope to establish a revolving fund that will provide credit to villagers to acquire

#### 1. Cancun Wrap-Up: What Happened to REDD in Cancun



Hopes were relatively low in the lead up to COP 16 in Cancun, which might be why general consensus is surprisingly positive in the aftermath. On Saturday, December 11, after two long weeks of negotiations, all Parties (except for Bolivia) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) finalized the “Cancun Agreements.” The Agreements include decisions that continue to recognize the two-track approach, and they contain decisions on issues such as adaptation, technology, mitigation, the Green Climate Fund and REDD+. Although general consensus is positive, it is with the understanding that the “Cancun Agreements” represent restored faith in the UNFCCC process, but that it is really only a small step in actually addressing climate change.

Norway facilitated the drafting group on REDD+. On December 9, the day before the official end of the COP, Norway and Ecuador presented key outstanding

issues on REDD, which included: financing (market, non-market or both); scope of REDD+ mechanism; accounting at a sub-national vs. national level approach; and MRV of safeguards. In hopes that REDD+ would reach agreement in Cancun, Norway urged parties to cooperate and perhaps compromise: “No family, no community and no international community can survive without compromise.” Such pleadings paid off.

In the end, the “Cancun Agreements” include the following on REDD+:

- Broad targets to “slow, halt or reverse forest cover and carbon loss” with adequate funding;
- Request for developing countries to develop a national strategy or action plan and national forest reference levels or sub-national as an interim measure;
- Development of a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system and a “system for providing information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected in implementation”;
- Request for the AWG-LCA to “explore financing options for the full implementation of results-based actions,” which should be reported on at COP 17.
- Address, when developing and implementing national strategies,” drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the safeguards (Annex I)... ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia, indigenous peoples and local communities.”

Although long-term financing remains undetermined, MRV of safeguards is a bit unclear and targets are ambiguous, the REDD+ agreement was a significant accomplishment at Cancun. Of course, not everyone is happy, or even content, with the outcome of REDD+ in Cancun, mostly with criticism directed at weak protection of indigenous rights and allowance for carbon trading.

With some ambiguity and significant decisions remaining, Tanzania can play an important role in informing future negotiations with lessons learned on-the-ground. Despite a hectic two weeks, now is not the time to rest. Instead, it is time to gain lessons learned, inform policy makers and start planning for COP 17 in Durban.

## Additional Reading:

View the full AWG-LCA decision text here (for specifics on REDD see page 10): [http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop\\_16/application/pdf/cop16\\_lca.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_16/application/pdf/cop16_lca.pdf)

IISD Cancun Summary Report: <http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/enb12498e.pdf>

REDD Monitor “Four Reactions to Cancun:” <http://www.redd-monitor.org/2010/12/12/four-reactions-to-cancun-via-campesina-bolivia-friends-of-the-earth-international-and-indigenous-environmental-network/>

A detailed summary of the Cancun Agreements by the Pew Center on Global Climate Change: <http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/cancun-climate-conference-cop16-summary.pdf>

Triple Crisis - A blog on global perspectives on finance, development and the environment <http://triplecrisis.com/>

## 2. MKUHUMI: Cancun Blog Highlights

The traffic jams and bus routes made COP 16 confusing enough. When you add to that the thousands of activists and negotiators, varying opinions and scientific studies and complex subjects like MRV and REDD, it makes a two-week negotiation processes seem almost impossible to navigate. Thankfully, COP regulars are quick to give advice, “stick to one topic and don’t stray.” So, the TNRF’s REDD blog did just that. Below are some blog highlights from Cancun (go here to see the entire blog: <http://www.tnrf.org/node/21194?group=21123>):

### *Varying Perspectives*

December 1

I was fortunate to have a conversation with one of the REDD Task Force members today, and I was encouraged by what he was saying. He said “communities must directly benefit from REDD as they are the managers of the forests,” and that both a ‘nested’ or national funding approach to REDD could work in Tanzania. He said the purpose of the pilot projects is to inform the National Strategy and implementation process, and that hopefully lessons learned will ultimately shape the overall REDD design.

While these remarks sound promising, some seem a bit contradictory to both what CSOs are being told by some Task Force officials as well as by what has so far been practiced. We're learning from others around the globe that this problem with contradictions or a lack of clarity, is not unique to Tanzania.

CSOs have been told that Tanzania's negotiating position is absolutely opposed to a sub-national approach, yet it seems that not all Task Force members share the same position. CSOs have been continually seeking opportunities to share lessons learned with the National REDD Task Force in an effort to influence the National REDD Strategy, yet the door for dialogue has mostly remained closed and the strategy has remained private. It seems that some key negotiating decisions - decisions that can have serious impacts for projects on the ground - are being made before the pilot projects can share their lessons learned, which would better inform decisions. For example, many of the pilot projects that are already being implemented - projects that are supposedly assisting the development of Tanzania's REDD Readiness process - are designed to have different funding options, yet most developing countries, including Tanzania, are opposed to options such as a market approach and these declared positions don't seem to allow for flexibility...

### *Global Challenges for REDD+: Land, Benefits, and Effective Stakeholder Participation*

December 2

...Charles Meshack, Executive Director of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group, participated in the panel, "Southern civil society, local community and indigenous peoples perspectives on REDD." Meshack explained that there are many opportunities and threats for REDD in Tanzania, but generally he feels that REDD could offer more than just forest conservation if done right. Opportunities include income for forest management, incentives to move away from slash and burn agriculture (if provided with capacity for alternatives), community strength of control over land and protected ecosystems. Risks include, potential for land grabbing, pressure on food supplies with less farmland, fair distribution of funds, and the list goes on...In summary, Meshack believes that lessons learned should play a very important role in shaping and informing an effective national REDD strategy (that is if the lessons learned prove that REDD can actually work and should).

At the end of both REDD events, there were many questions, most of which were focused on the protection of human rights and natural ecosystems. Meshack was asked about the challenge of having general lands available for outside investment, which could lead to land grabbing and ultimately leave villages out. He was also asked about how REDD projects would avoid plantations (this was in reference to the CDM Green Resources project in Tanzania). Both of his responses took him back to his presentation - these are the risks we see, but we also see the opportunities in them. For example, perhaps the development of REDD could better shape land policies in Tanzania, giving villages more control and security over their land-lessons learned informing policy decisions and REDD implementation.

### *REDD without Borders*

December 2

Today COMESA, SADC and EAC held a side event called "REDD without boundaries: a regional approach." There were representatives from Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania who spoke about REDD in their countries and the need to look beyond borders....

The first presentation was by Dr. Felician Kilahama, the National Director of Tanzania's Forestry and Beekeeping Department. Kilahama provided a brief overview of REDD in Tanzania including a geographical overview, pilot project summary, framework, R-PP, Task Force and working closely with communities to make sure they are a part of the process. He emphasized that REDD should not just be about carbon, but should be about protection of biodiversity, ecosystems and water sources as well as a means for improved income and benefits to forest dependent communities. As he told me after the event, "communities must directly benefit from REDD, that is the absolute goal."

Although REDD has seen some momentum in Tanzania, especially compared to the other countries presenting as they were just getting started with REDD Readiness activities, Kilahama explained that there are many obstacles and challenges ahead. The main challenge that Tanzania, and the entire region, faces he said is that of funding. After Bali and the inclusion of REDD in the Bali Action Plan, Tanzania believed an international funding system would shortly follow. However, that has clearly not been

the case. "I'll admit, it was a mistake," he said, "money is not yet flowing as we expected," and this presents a major challenge to Tanzania and to the communities who could greatly benefit from such funds. (I spoke with Kilahama after the event and he reiterated the need to come to an international agreement on funding mechanisms for REDD. He said he believes this would be the most important development to be made in the REDD negotiations.)

...Mr. Lesolle wrapped up the meeting saying, "this is the first time Africa, and in particular SADC, has something to share with the whole world. These three economic areas...have great forests...no matter what we do today globally to reduce emissions, we will not reach those goals set out, 350 ppm etc., unless we protect the forests in Africa. For the first time, Africa has something to offer."

To read the entire blog, visit: <http://www.tnrf.org/node/21194?group=21123>

## REDD Resources:

### First Draft of Tanzania's National REDD Strategy

[http://www.reddtz.org/component/option,com\\_docman/task,cat\\_view/gid,17/Itemid,18/](http://www.reddtz.org/component/option,com_docman/task,cat_view/gid,17/Itemid,18/)

### A new film on REDD: REDD: THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY? – TNRF, TFCG/MJUMITA

<http://vimeo.com/17796290>

The film is a story about a woman named Asha who lives in Tanzania. She's heard about REDD and she wants to learn more about it. She has many questions: How will communities be involved in the process? How will it be assured that communities directly benefit from REDD? Will communities have clear and secure rights to forests? What safeguards will be put into place to ensure that ecosystems are protected and biodiversity conserved? Download the film and watch it at: <http://vimeo.com/17796290>

### December issue: People and Forests e-news:

<http://us1.campaign-archive.com/?u=a79eee76ce1869204bc04a12d&id=d5415050c3&e=708e63ca04>

The Center for People and Forest's monthly e-news is available online. It has lots of great articles and publications.



Jumuiiko la Maliasili Tanzania  
Tanzania Natural Resource Forum



Tanzania Forest  
Conservation Group  
Shirika la Kuhifadhi  
Misitu ya Asili Tanzania