

News

UN-REDD at COP18 and Forest Day 6

The UN-REDD Programme invites participants at the upcoming Doha Climate Change Conference and Forest Day 6 to join in the conversation on a range of REDD+ topics, and pick up newly released UN-REDD Programme publications and resources.

During the 18th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference <http://bit.ly/JegFnY> (COP18), happening 26 November to 7 December in Doha, Qatar, and at CIFOR's sixth Forest Day <http://bit.ly/VnU0vZ> on 2 December, the UN-REDD Programme will host several sessions to advance discussions and raise greater awareness of the most current REDD+ issues being discussed at national, regional and global levels.

UN-REDD Programme COP18 side event

Title: UN-REDD Programme: Meeting Country Needs for Concrete Progress Through REDD+ Readiness

Date: Wednesday, 5 December 2012

Time: 13:15-14:45

Location: Side Event Room 1, Qatar National Convention Centre

As countries are making progress through REDD+ readiness, the UN-REDD Programme is working with donors and REDD+ countries to find innovative means of support to meet the needs of advancing REDD+ implementation.

This side event will demonstrate how the UN-REDD Programme is evolving and innovating to support countries to complete their readiness phase, designing its activities to better support emerging country needs from progress in implementation. The value of the UN-REDD Programme's collaborative country-driven approach will be illustrated with a presentation of the Programme's work on REDD+ governance and safeguards, followed by country presentations on innovative approaches and achievements on safeguards and legal preparedness, two areas

where demands by many countries are increasing.

Norway and Viet Nam will strike the opening of this event with the signing of a joint declaration, the first-ever REDD+ Phase II agreement supported by the Programme's recently approved Tier 2 funding modality. This initial agreement for support from Norway is in the amount of US\$30 million, with subsequent funding to follow.

New UN-REDD Programme Publications

In the COP18 exhibit area at the Qatar National Convention Centre, as well as at Forest Day 6 at the Renaissance Doha City Centre Hotel, stop by the UN-REDD Programme booth and pick the Programme's publication CD with all the latest resources and materials the Programme has launched over the past year. Included on the CD are the Programme's recently released Africa Lessons Learned publication, and the Programme's **s e c o n d** Policy Brief, looking at the multiple **b e n e f i t s** of REDD+.

Both of these publications were launched just last month (in English, French and Spanish) at CBD COP11 in India, and at the ninth UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting in Republic of the Congo.



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For more information on the UN-REDD Programme visit www.un-redd.org

Forest Day 6

Date: Sunday, 2 December, 2012

Time: 9:00-18:45

Location: Renaissance Doha City Centre Hotel

At Forest Day 6, join representatives from the UN-REDD Programme's Participating UN Organizations (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) as they lead the following discussion forums exploring a range of REDD+ issues:

National Forest Monitoring Systems for REDD+

Time: 11:00-12:30

Developing countries aiming to implement REDD+ activities under the UNFCCC's Cancun Agreements (Decision 1/CP.16) should develop a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS). The forum will provide information on methodological proposals from participating countries for implementing an NFMS and explore how these proposals would allow countries to comply with REDD+ requirements. In particular, the forum will focus on how NFMSs can be built through a sustainable stepwise approach that builds on available resources found within each country such as pre-existing monitoring efforts and forest

inventories. The goal of any methodological approach should be to implement an NFMS that would allow countries to improve performance incrementally depending on the countries' varied capabilities and national circumstances.

Keynote speaker: Jim Penman OBE, Chair, Methods and Guidance Advisory Group of the Global Forest Observations Initiative, member of the Task Force Bureau for the IPCC Greenhouse Gas Inventory Programme

Panelists include: Martin Herold, Professor, Laboratory of Geo-Information Science and Remote Sensing, Wageningen University

Financing REDD+: Closing the gap

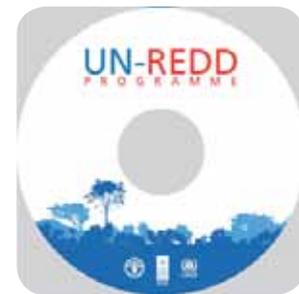
Time: 16:00-17:30

Without predictable, sufficient REDD+ finance, there is a danger that the REDD+ momentum in forest nations might fade. In order to redirect economies away from business-as-usual pathways, forest countries need the assurance that predictable international finance will be available to support them in their transition.

The keynote speaker will focus on the case of REDD+ in highlighting the successes

and challenges experienced in financing the transition to a "Green Economy". The panel will also address potential solutions to the current interim financing gap as well as industry perspectives on the conditions required to unlock large-scale, long-term private sector finance.

Panelists include: Donald Kanak, Chairman, Prudential Corporation Asia; Thierry Nowaczyk, Product Environment Manager, Airbus; Hans Brattskar, Director General and Special Envoy for Climate Change, Norwegian Ministry of the Environment; Naoko Ishii, CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF).



Lao PDR and Morocco Join the UN-REDD Programme

The UN-REDD Programme is now working with 46 partner countries across Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.

The UN-REDD Programme's Policy Board agreed in a recent inter-sessional decision in October to welcome Lao PDR and Morocco as new partners of the Programme and official observers to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board.

"The UN-REDD Programme welcomes the participation of the governments of Lao PDR and Morocco as a further sign of these two countries' engagement and commitment to the REDD+ agenda," said Ms. Mette Løyche Wilkie, Interim Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat.

New UN-REDD Programme partner countries can benefit from unique knowledge sharing opportunities, facilitated through UN-REDD Programme events and the Programme's online collaborative workspace (www.unredd.net). Partner countries can also receive targeted

support from the UN-REDD Programme. Partner countries also have observer status at UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meetings, and may be invited to submit a request to receive funding for a National Programme in the future, if selected through a set of criteria to prioritize funding for new countries approved by the Policy Board.

To date, 16 UN-REDD Programme partner countries have had National Programmes approved by the Policy Board and have been allocated a total of US\$67.3 million in funding. The UN-REDD Programme continues to pursue additional funding options that will enable the Programme to expand its financial support on REDD+ to more partner countries in the future.

Read more on UN-REDD Programme partner countries <http://bit.ly/VnU0vZ>

Countries receiving support to National Programmes:

Bolivia, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Republic of the Congo, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

Other partner countries:

Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Lao PDR*, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco*, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Uganda

*New UN-REDD Programme partner countries as of November 2012

UN-REDD Policy Board Approves US\$47.6 Million in Support to National REDD+ Actions

The UN-REDD Programme launches its Africa Lessons Learned publication; Republic of the Congo signs its UN-REDD National Programme; and Luxembourg makes new donor pledge of €2 million.

During its ninth UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting 26-27 October 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, the Board approved the two-year work plan and budget of US\$47.6 million for global-level and country-specific support to national REDD+ actions for 2013 and 2014. Through the Support to National REDD+ Action – Global Programme Framework 2011-2015, these funds will provide the Programme's 46 partner countries with targeted support, as well as common tools and approaches for various aspects of REDD+ readiness. This includes capacity building in the areas of forest monitoring systems, governance, stakeholder engagement, as well as promoting the multiple benefits of forests and the potential of REDD+ for green economy transformations.

The Board was pleased to welcome a first-time funding pledge of €2 million from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Luxembourg is the sixth donor to support the UN-REDD Programme, joining Denmark, the European Commission, Japan, Norway and Spain. With this pledge from Luxembourg, donor pledges and contributions to the UN-REDD Programme now total approximately US\$156 million.

The Board applauded its host, the Republic of the Congo, for officially signing its UN-REDD National Programme before the ninth Policy Board meeting began. After the signing

ceremony, the Republic of the Congo's Minister of Forest Economy, Environment and Sustainable Development, H.E. Henri Djombo, and FAO Representative in Republic of the Congo, Mr. Dieudonné Koguiyagda, welcomed more than 100 participants from 29 countries to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting.

"With the support from UN-REDD, which is completely coordinated with the support from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, Congo's National REDD+ Coordination will be able to prepare the country for REDD+ by 2015," said Minister Djombo.

Read the full announcement <http://bit.ly/QkTtxk> on the UN-REDD Programme's ninth Policy Board meeting.

Africa Lessons Learned booklet

The UN-REDD Programme was pleased to take the opportunity of the ninth Policy Board meeting to launch its Africa Lessons Learned booklet, now available for download in English <http://bit.ly/TfWOe4>, French <http://bit.ly/UVXN2z> and Spanish <http://bit.ly/TdVZC4>.

In this new publication, the UN-REDD Programme looks at lessons learned to date among its 16 partner countries in the region, with particular focus on the five countries with UN-REDD National Programmes, namely

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Tanzania and Zambia. The goal of taking stock of these lessons is to provide countries with the chance to learn from each other as they advances through REDD+ readiness. The booklet looks at lessons related to building widespread understanding of REDD+; building institutional platforms for REDD+ coordination; streamlining support to countries; ensuring national REDD+ programmes respect UNFCCC safeguards; and being mindful of all three phases of REDD+. The booklet also includes case studies on developing Zambia's national forest monitoring system and including stakeholders in the development of safeguards in the DRC.

This Africa-focused booklet is the second in a series looking at regional REDD+ lessons learned among UN-REDD Programme partner countries. The first booklet focused on Asia-Pacific <http://bit.ly/WQVJIB> was launched in December 2011 at COP17 in Durban, South Africa (also available in French <http://bit.ly/TM9UPu> and Spanish <http://bit.ly/Ro9U9c>). The Programme plans to launch its third booklet in the series, focusing on Latin American and the Caribbean, in 2013.



Indonesia Presents its REDD+ Forest Governance Progress

During an international forest governance session last month in Republic of the Congo, Indonesia highlighted its work with the UN-REDD Programme in tackling governance challenges through participatory governance assessments for REDD+.

The joint forest governance session on 23 October in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo was organized by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the European Forestry Institute, Profor and the UN-REDD Programme to raise the profile of governance in REDD+ discussions. Mr. Mas Achmad Santosa, Head of the working Group for Legal Review and Law Enforcement in the Indonesian REDD+ Task Force and Deputy of the President's Delivery Unit (UKP4) gave a presentation on Indonesia's REDD+ governance challenges while also providing an update of what has been done to date to mitigate some of these risks.

During his intervention, Mr. Santosa announced that Indonesia's UKP4 Unit and the Ministry of Forestry are now ready to use the Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) data that the country has prepared for since May 2011, and collected since August of this year.

The UN-REDD Programme currently has four PGA pilots, and Indonesia is by far the most advanced. Through extensive stakeholder contributions and input from stakeholders at the national level as well as eight provincial working groups (in Aceh, Riau, Jambi, South Sumatra, West Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, Central Sulawesi, Papua and West Papua), the PGA process has resulted in stakeholders agreeing on priority governance issues. As such, the PGA is a joint effort to tackle priority governance issues in Indonesia, such as mitigating corruption risks and ensuring Indigenous Peoples' participation and rights in the REDD+ process.

Mr. Santosa explained to the participants of

the joint session that the PGA in Indonesia has now gathered data based on joint decisions on what areas to collect governance data, which indicators to use and which methods to apply for data collection and validation. The data provides: baseline information on the quality of governance and preparedness for REDD+ implementation; a REDD+ governance safeguard road map; and policy recommendations outlining options to strengthen REDD+ governance structures and practices in the provinces. This data has been so well received that the REDD+ Task Force has recently agreed to use the final results of the participatory governance assessment project to inform policy decision making processes on REDD+ governance safeguards.

During an interview with the UN-REDD Programme after the joint session, Mr. Santosa re-emphasized the commitments from the REDD+ Task Force and Ministry of Forestry to include the PGA results in the national REDD+ process in Indonesia, and that the PGA currently is incorporated in the REDD+ Task Force system. Further, he said a key role for the government will be to accelerate this governance process, stressing anti-corruption measures and the participation of stakeholders and freedom of information law.

The sustainability of the PGA is the next step of the Government of Indonesia in this process, and Mr. Santosa recognized the need to further integrate the PGA into government plans and programs. The ownership of all stakeholders in this process was highlighted, particularly that of civil society, which is playing a very significant role in the PGA process. Mr. Santosa

also stated that governance safeguards will be an important area of work of the new REDD+ agency in Indonesia once it's established, recognizing that the PGA results should also be owned and used by the Ministry of Forestry, as well as other relevant ministries. When asked what he learned from the PGA process in Indonesia, Mr. Santosa said he was grateful for this experienced and was reminded through the session that safeguards are a priority for implementing REDD+. He said he was also struck by the importance the participants placed on benefit sharing arrangements.

After this governance session in Brazzaville, Mr. Santosa returned to Jakarta to participate in a national PGA consultation, where stakeholders from the national level and 30 locations throughout the eight PGA provinces gathered to validate the PGA baseline data before a more formal launch in December of this year.

More information on the PGA validation meeting can be found here <http://bit.ly/V1ly8B>.



REDD+ Day at CBD COP11

At the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP11 meeting last month in India, the UN-REDD Programme hosted a full day event on REDD+, and launched its second Policy Brief on the multiple benefits of REDD+.

The UN-REDD Programme organized a successful REDD+ Day at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP11 in Hyderabad, India in October, which convened a number of important events, including a high-level

panel on REDD+, biodiversity and ecosystem services for a green economy. The REDD+ Day also featured two other panels, focusing on key findings of the new Global Forest Expert Panel (GFEP) assessment and on REDD+ and

biodiversity safeguards. At the event, the UN-REDD Programme launched its second policy brief on the multiple benefits of REDD+ <http://bit.ly/V1JtWJ>, and was pleased to collaborate on the launch of a new publication from the Global Canopy Programme, entitled "The Little Forest Finance Book". <http://bit.ly/Qchfqu> The REDD+ Day presented linkages between the REDD+ and biodiversity agendas, and the catalytic role and impacts that forest carbon



XI Conference of Parties
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
HYDERABAD INDIA 2012

Rio+20 and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

finance could play for a transition to a green economy. The topics of the REDD+ Day were designed to support the discussions within the CBD COP11 and linkages to the outcomes of

Read more on the UN-REDD Programme's REDD+ Day <http://bit.ly/YiKakH>

More on The Little Forest Finance Book

The "Little Forest Finance Book", <http://bit.ly/Qchfqu> published by the Global Canopy Programme, highlights different options to scale up forest financing, emphasizing financing as critical for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and calling for mobilizing the private sector to channel sustained alternative investments in forests.

At the launch of the publication last month, Ms. Henriette Killi Westrin, State Secretary, Ministry

of Environment, Norway, said hoped the book will stimulate discussions and catalyze finance, in part through verified emissions reductions through the UNFCCC REDD+ mechanism, to protect forests from conversion to other land types. She said increased financing for verified emissions reductions through the REDD+ programme under the UNFCCC will support forests.

The Little Forest Finance Book is available on the Global Canopy Programme website. <http://bit.ly/4b7mYC>

Cambodia Takes First Step Toward a National Forest Inventory

With support from the UN-REDD Programme, Cambodia has launched a project to develop a National Forest Inventory for REDD+.

Cambodia's new National Forest Inventory (NFI) project, launched in September, is based on an agreement between MAFF and the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), signed in April of this year. It is designed to provide technical support and information to the Royal Government of Cambodia, and other forest sector stakeholders, for the development of the policies and measures necessary for the NFI and to develop the emission factors that are required for reporting on Cambodia's future national REDD+ programme.

The NFI project will build on existing initiatives and the substantial experience the country has gained in recent years in forest monitoring and inventories. The project launch brought together participants from the government and UN agencies, international and national NGOs and civil society to share these experiences and discuss the steps of project implementation, and the roles of all stakeholders, under the coordination of the national REDD+ Task Force Secretariat of the Forest Administration (FA).

Cambodia has been active in the area of forest monitoring, Having conducted many inventories of forest resources, in several different locations around the country in recent years. However, these have not been coordinated to allow the Royal Government

of Cambodia to obtain estimates of forest resources at a national scale. The creation of a NFI is therefore a key priority of the country's National Forest Programme for 2010-29. It is essential to give the FA, and other forest sector stakeholders, the necessary information to plan for, and implement, sustainable forest management practices across the country.

As Cambodia prepares its national REDD+ programme, the NFI has added significance as one key source of information in the development of a national Greenhouse Gas

(GHG) inventory, which will allow the country to assess the impact of certain activities or interventions on GHG emissions from the forest sector and to track these emissions over time. This is essential for Cambodia to determine performance, at the national scale, in reducing emissions from deforestation, forest degradation or through better management, enhancement and conservation of forests.



Features & Commentary

Republic of the Congo Signs its UN-REDD National Programme

At the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board last month, Republic of the Congo became the 15th UN-REDD partner country to sign its National Programme, kicking off REDD+ implementation in the country.

By: Georges Claver Boundzanga

The UN-REDD National Programme document to support the REDD+ process in the Republic of the Congo was signed on Friday, 26 October 2012, in Brazzaville. It contains the basic technical and financial components of the UN-REDD Programme's support to the Republic of the Congo's REDD+ process, and lays out the cooperation framework between the government of the Republic of the Congo and each of the Participating UN Organizations to the UN-REDD Programme (FAO, UNDP and UNEP).

The Programme is based on the country's REDD+ strategic document, also known as a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), approved in 2010 by the government and the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). An improved version of the R-PP was presented and also approved by the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board in March 2012. The UN-REDD Programme's support offers a perfect complement to the government's action and is fully in line with the support provided by the FCPF.

To date, funds secured for the national REDD+ process include US\$600,000 from the government of the Republic of the Congo; US\$3.4 million from the FCPF; and US\$4 million from the UN-REDD Programme.

These funds will help cover the bulk of costs

associated with the REDD+ readiness phase (including activities related to implementation, the national REDD+ strategy, establishing baselines and MRV systems). Notably, the UN-REDD Programme will supply both technical and funding support to the national REDD+ process over a period of three years. Congo's UN-REDD Programme is part of the national REDD+ process getting the country ready to implement its national REDD+ strategy by 2015, with a view to building a green economy. UN-REDD Programme support aims to help build national capacity for organization, dialogue, strategic analysis and technical assistance to support the REDD+ mechanism.

Republic of the Congo's UN-REDD National Programme pursues three specific outcomes:

1. A well managed and fully participatory national REDD+ process;
2. The country is ready for the implementation of structural reforms and REDD+ investments, taking into account safeguards;
3. A comprehensive system for information and monitoring of REDD+ is functioning.

The focus of Programme implementation will include:

- Supporting national REDD+ institutions and devolution of the REDD+ process to subnational entities (three pilot "departments");
- Creating a reference level for REDD+ and developing a measurement, reporting and

verification (MRV) system;

- A programme of small grants and support to the development of pilot projects in order to foster nationally-appropriate experiences and help civil society stakeholders rapidly realize REDD+ potential on the ground;
- Supporting the Ministry of Forest Economy and Sustainable Development to steer investments towards a green economy, and put REDD+ on the national path towards sustainable development;
- Preparing priority REDD+ investments based on strategic options;
- Developing an effective and transparent REDD+ implementation framework, including a national registry for REDD+ activities and a social and environmental risk management and monitoring system.

In line with the FCPF, the UN-REDD Programme's support will enable the REDD+ National Coordination in charge of steering the REDD+ process in the Republic of the Congo to make the country REDD+ ready by 2015.



Georges Claver Boundzanga is the National REDD+ Coordinator in Republic of the Congo's Ministry of Forest Economy and Sustainable Development

La République du Congo signe son Programme national ONU-REDD

Lors du Conseil d'orientation du Programme ONU-REDD le mois dernier, la République du Congo est devenue le 15e pays partenaire du Programme ONU-REDD à signer son Programme national, lançant ainsi la mise en œuvre de la REDD+ dans le pays.

Par : Georges Claver Boundzanga

Le Document UN-REDD de Programme National pour l'appui au processus REDD+ en République du Congo a été signé ce vendredi 26 Octobre 2012 à Brazzaville. Il contient les éléments techniques et financiers de base de l'appui du Programme ONU-REDD à la République du Congo sur son processus REDD+

et spécifie aussi le cadre de coopération entre le Gouvernement de la République du Congo et chacune des organisations des Nations Unies participantes au programme ONU-REDD (la FAO, le PNUD et le PNUE).

Ce programme est basé sur le document

stratégique REDD+ du pays, également appelé plan de préparation à la REDD+ (R-PP), qui a été approuvé par le Gouvernement et le Fonds de Partenariat pour le Carbone Forestier de la Banque mondiale (FCPF) en 2010. Une version améliorée du R-PP a été présentée et également approuvée par le Conseil d'orientation du

Programme ONU-REDD en mars 2012. Le soutien du Programme ONU-REDD s'inscrit donc parfaitement en complément de l'action gouvernementale et en harmonie avec l'appui FCPF de la Banque mondiale.

À ce jour les fonds sécurisés pour le processus REDD+ national sont les suivants : 600.000 \$US du gouvernement de la République du Congo, 3,4 millions de dollars du FCPF et 4 millions de dollars du Programme ONU-REDD.

Ces fonds permettent de couvrir l'essentiel des coûts estimés de la phase de préparation à la REDD+ (cadre de mise en œuvre, stratégie nationale REDD+, scénario de référence et système MRV). En particulier, le Programme ONU-REDD va particulièrement apporter un soutien à la fois technique et financier au processus REDD+ national, sur une période de trois ans. Le Programme ONU-REDD du



Son Excellence Monsieur Henri Djombo, le Ministre de l'Économie forestière et du développement durable, signe le Programme ONU-REDD National de la République du Congo.

Congo s'inscrit dans le processus REDD+ national permettant au pays d'être prêt à appliquer sa stratégie nationale REDD+ à l'horizon 2015, visant l'établissement d'une économie verte. L'objectif attendu de l'appui du Programme ONU-REDD est d'aider à développer les capacités nationales d'organisation, de dialogue, d'analyse stratégique et d'encadrement technique pour soutenir le mécanisme REDD+.

Le Programme national ONU-REDD de la République du Congo vise trois résultats spécifiques:

1. Le processus REDD+ national est bien géré et pleinement participatif ;
2. Le pays est prêt pour la mise en œuvre de réformes structurelles et d'investissements REDD+, avec la prise en compte de sauvegardes ;
3. Un système d'information et de suivi global de la REDD+ est fonctionnel.

La mise en œuvre de ce programme portera notamment sur :

- Le soutien aux institutions nationales de la REDD+ et à la décentralisation du processus REDD+ dans les départements (3 départements pilotes) ;
- L'élaboration d'un niveau de référence pour la REDD+ et pour le développement d'un système de suivi, rapportage et notification (MNV) ;
- Le programme de petites subventions et accompagnement au développement de projets pilotes pour multiplier les expériences adaptées au contexte national et permettre

aux acteurs de la société civile de voir rapidement le potentiel de la REDD+ sur le terrain ;

-L'accompagnement du Ministère de l'Économie Forestière et du Développement Durable pour une orientation des investissements vers l'économie verte et l'inscription de la REDD+ dans une trajectoire nationale de développement durable ;

- La préparation des investissements REDD+ prioritaires sur la base des options stratégiques ;

- La conception d'un cadre de mise en œuvre efficace et transparent de la REDD+, avec l'établissement d'un registre national des activités REDD+ et d'un système de gestion et de suivi des risques sociaux et environnementaux.

Avec ce soutien du Programme ONU-REDD, qui est complètement coordonné avec le soutien du FCPF, la Coordination Nationale REDD+ qui pilote le processus REDD+ en République du Congo va être en mesure de préparer le pays à la REDD+ d'ici 2015.



Georges Claver Boudzanga est le coordinateur national REDD+ auprès du ministère de l'Économie forestière et du Développement durable de la République du Congo.

Phasing out REDD+ Phase I in Viet Nam

Viet Nam is one of the first UN-REDD Programme partner country to operationally close its UN-REDD National Programme focused on REDD+ readiness work under Phase 1, and begin moving forward with its REDD+ Phase II efforts.

By: Thomas Enters

On 4 October 2012, the Viet Nam Administration of Forestry (VNForest), FAO, UNDP and UNEP organized the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase I Programme closing workshop. More than 80 people gathered to reflect on the achievements of the Programme, on lessons learned and challenges faced, which were presented by Madam Pham Minh Thoa of VNForest.

Without learning, there cannot be any progress and we may make the same mistakes again.

To avoid this, the Programme commissioned a lessons learned report, which has provided valuable insights. Mr. Pham Quoc Hung of VNForest presented key lessons described in the report. This was followed by a lively debate on experiences gained in stakeholder engagement at national and local levels.

The workshop was timely, as the Phase I Programme was completed at the end of September. In general, presenters and

participants left no doubt that significant milestones were reached since Viet Nam's UN-REDD National Programme began three years ago. Through the Viet Nam REDD+ Office, the REDD Network and six very active sub-technical working groups, a solid structural foundation has been put in place at the national level for Viet Nam to move smoothly from Phase I to Phase II activities for REDD+. Sub-technical working groups continue to meet and work,

which is a good indication of sustainable achievements.

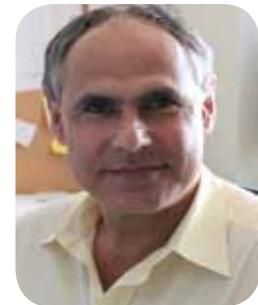
Less visible achievements, all generated through effective multi-stakeholder engagement, include an MRV Framework, piloting of an FPIC process, and progress on a benefit distribution

people living in rural areas. Similarly, engaging the non-forestry sector and especially the private sector is still in its infancy.

It is clear that awareness raising and capacity building need to continue during Phase II, which in fact is foreseen in the Cancun

of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme proposal. Mr. Pham Manh Cuong provided the requested update and highlighted that the finishing touches were about to be completed.

The future for REDD+ in Viet Nam looks bright, not only because of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme. Numerous other development partners are very active in Viet Nam, helping to build capacities of Vietnamese stakeholders, and have significantly contributed to where Viet Nam is today. The time has come to reduce emissions and conserve and enhance forest carbon stocks on the ground.



Thomas Enters is the UNEP UN-REDD Regional Coordinator in the Asia-Pacific region.

system for REDD+. One of the remaining key challenges, which is not unique to Viet Nam, is to raise the low level of awareness on REDD+, especially at provincial and local levels, and to respond to the high expectations of many

Agreements. Phase II was on many participants' mind, with many already picturing their role in the implementation of REDD+ and the National REDD+ Action Programme. It was only a matter of time for someone to inquire about the status

Tanzania Conducts Comprehensive REDD+ Capacity Needs Assessment

The UN-REDD National Programme in Tanzania recently finalized a capacity needs assessment that reveals key challenges and opportunities for REDD+ readiness in Tanzania.

By: Ralf Ernst

The Government of Tanzania, through the UN-REDD National Programme and in cooperation with UNDP, recently conducted a Capacity Needs Assessment (CNA) of government institutions for REDD+ at Central, Regional, District and Local levels in Tanzania. A key finding of Tanzania's CNA is that most awareness and discourse on REDD+ exists at the national level, while there is limited knowledge and technical skills at the district and village level which is the core sphere of REDD+ implementation.

At the district level, the CNA found that there are functional challenges particularly in planning and data monitoring that already hinder the widespread implementation of other policy frameworks that support sustainable land management such as Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and Participatory Land Use Management (PLUM). "Given that REDD+ in Tanzania will build on the existing structures

for PFM and PLUM, these capacity challenges will also be limiting for REDD+ implementation," said Karen Edwards, senior consultant of LTS International and the leader of the CNA team. At the village level, there are clear capacity gaps in relation to governance and villages' power for enforcing their own rights. However, the establishment of a national REDD+ mechanism provides opportunities to address these weaknesses, initiate necessary reforms and, thus, strengthen villages and communities.

The CNA proposes a five-year capacity development plan for the years 2012-2017 and a range of measures to develop REDD+ capacity at the central, district and local levels, that allow for short-term gains as well as long-term strategic objectives to be achieved. Some key principles that influenced the design of these packages are:

- Mobilizing existing capacity where possible;

- Increasing diversity of interventions to include some training but also dialogue mechanisms, leadership programs, institutional incentives;
- Minimizing one-off training interventions and building in coaching and follow-up activities;
- Offering development and training opportunities for the best suited and most motivated participants;
- Integrating capacity with clear strategic roll out of REDD+ alongside other natural resource and land management policies and programs;
- Continuing to gather and synthesize lessons from the field in Tanzania and elsewhere.

At the central level, the Capacity Needs Assessment (CNA) reached out to all the institutions that are represented in Tanzania's National REDD+ Task Force. In addition, the CNA team visited seven selected districts to assess capacities at district and local levels,

and identify additional capacity development needs.

Through a participatory process, the institutional analysis was conducted and a capacity assessment framework established. Karen Edwards explains that, "While many aspects of the future REDD+ scheme are still uncertain and assumptions had to be made,

focus of capacity assessments, were only two aspects of this comprehensive assessment. Core focal issues were based on a participatory analysis of the current bottlenecks for REDD+ in Tanzania as identified by the stakeholders. It was these core issues that became the focus of the assessment.

It is recognized that capacity building is essential for the development of a national REDD+ scheme, but work is still needed to identify who needs to be trained on what, and what else is needed to build the necessary capacity for REDD+. Answers to these questions are essential for the success of REDD+ and with that in mind the Government of Tanzania conducted the CNA.

The UN-REDD Programme has already provided training and capacity development services for REDD+ over the past two years in Tanzania, for example on MRV and the development of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+. Remaining resources for capacity development have now been tailored in line with recommendations of the CNA. Previous capacity development services included, for example, training of trainers for forestry extension teams which consist of staff

members from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, local government authorities and other relevant institutions. Participants in the training will now receive additional support so they can implement priority activities in their regions that were identified during the training of trainers sessions.

In addition, the UN agencies that work together under the UN-REDD Programme in Tanzania (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) will discuss the capacity development plan with relevant government institutions and with development partners to facilitate all additional support needed for Tanzania's efforts to develop a fully functional REDD+ mechanism.



this process allowed participants to identify what tasks will in future be performed at what level of the administration and what skills and other capacities will be required."

The CNA adapted the UNDP framework for capacity assessment, which uses a multi-dimensional approach and provides the scope to assess institutional incentives, leadership issues, accountability and dialogue processes. Knowledge and technical skills, often the only



Ralf Ernst is the international UN-REDD Programme Coordinator in Tanzania.

Reports & Analysis

New UN-REDD Success Story: DRC's Safeguard Standards

The most recent UN-REDD Programme success story showcases the development of social and environmental standards for REDD+ in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In the UN-REDD Programme's new success story entitled, "Including Stakeholders in the Development of Social and Environmental Standards for REDD+ in DRC" <http://bit.ly/4b7mYC>, the Programme presents the work it supported in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to develop social and environmental standards for REDD+ with the full and meaningful participation of a wide range of stakeholders in the country.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo

(DRC) has taken a participatory approach in the formulation of its national Social and Environmental (SE) standards, which cover several areas including enhancing governance and capturing the multiple benefits of REDD+. The consultation process was undertaken in six provinces to collect feedback from different actors and local communities, as well as to involve and better anchor the process at the local level.

This work on SE standards has enhanced the confidence among Congolese stakeholders

on the potential of REDD+ to deliver multiple SE benefits while minimizing risks of negative



impacts under certain circumstances. The early development of social and environmental standards applied to REDD+ also has the advantage of setting clear rules of the game for all kinds of project developers and investors in landscape management in DRC, which eventually should place DRC in a position to

attract and favour the type of actors that are serious about achieving REDD+ goals while contributing to DRC's development. Download DRC's Safeguards Success Story in English <http://bit.ly/VadTLW>, French <http://bit.ly/U0g1PO> and Spanish <http://bit.ly/QleyTM>.

Other UN-REDD Programme Success Stories
Indonesia Joining Forces for Tackling Difficult Governance Challenges
English <http://bit.ly/Roc74n> - Français <http://bit.ly/XYMSNj> - Español <http://bit.ly/X0wk4g>

Zambia's National Forest Monitoring System
English <http://bit.ly/WsTCge>- Français <http://bit.ly/UYypJy>- Español <http://bit.ly/Up6k1G>

Kenya Releases Report Linking the Value of Forests to the Economy

With support from the UN-REDD Programme, a joint Kenya Forest Service and UNEP report shows how economic benefits of forest ecosystems far exceed short-term gains from deforestation.

At a recent high-level dialogue on deforestation in Nairobi, UNEP and Kenya's Forest Service released a report revealing the causes of major economic damage due to deforestation.



The report, entitled *The Role and Contribution of Montane Forests and Related Ecosystem Services to the Kenyan*

Economy <http://bit.ly/Uddjgc>, found that forests contribute to a wide range of sectors, accounting for 3.6 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), compared to the current official figure of 1.1 per cent.

"The value of the Mau Forest's ecosystem services to the Kenyan economy previously calculated by UNEP has already catalyzed a response to conserve and rehabilitate this vital resource," said Hon. Dr. Noah Wekesa, Kenya's Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, adding that, "This shows we have already acknowledged the importance of forests. However, this new report quantifies the massive scale of the economic damage deforestation brings and shows much more needs to be done nation-wide." The economic benefits of forest ecosystem services are more than four times higher than the short-term gains of deforestation, but trees continue to be felled due to multiple and complex reasons, including unregulated charcoal production, livestock grazing and human settlements. The final document of the high-level dialogue highlighted the fact that Kenya's new constitution calls for an increase in forest cover to 10 per cent which, coupled with an increasing public demand to halt and reverse

deforestation, has the potential to trigger unprecedented investment in the forest sector. Delegates of the high-level dialogue also encouraged Kenya to seize a unique opportunity provided by the new constitution and public opinion to reverse deforestation in the nation's water towers, which deprives the economy of almost six billion shillings (US\$70 million) annually and threatens more than 70 per cent of the water supply. "Kenya has already signaled its intent to build up this natural capital as a vibrant and sustainable engine for growth and prosperity," said UN Under-Secretary General and UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner. "The outcomes of this meeting provide an agenda for moving beyond an era when forests were seen as unproductive land that could be turned into something more valuable by cutting down the trees," he added. Read more on the high-level dialogue <http://bit.ly/TibTMd> that brought together more than 200 delegates, including key decision-makers, the private sector, development partners, civil society and international observers 5-7 November, 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Read more on the new report. <http://bit.ly/Uddjgc>

Two New Go-REDD+ Issues from UN-REDD in Asia-Pacific

The latest issues from the UN-REDD Programme Asia-Pacific listserv look at lessons for REDD+ from the Voluntary Carbon Markets, and the meaning of "performance-based" for REDD+.

The Go-REDD+ issue entitled, *REDD+ and markets: Any lessons to be learned from voluntary carbon markets?* <http://bit.ly/SqiMfn>, discusses how we can link or learn from experience from Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) that can be relevant to REDD+, and how these lessons may pose risks for a REDD+

mechanism that relies on market transactions. The Go-REDD+ issue entitled, *The meaning of Performance and the boundaries of REDD+*, <http://bit.ly/PhN3OS> discusses the implications of 'performance-based' for REDD+ and what are 'sustained investment' in changes to policies and practices in REDD+ context.

About Go-REDD+

Go-REDD+ is a bi-monthly newsletter distributed by email and managed by the UN-REDD Programme team in Asia-Pacific. The main objective is to distribute information, synopses of research results and activities related to REDD+ in Asia-Pacific, to assist countries in their REDD+ readiness efforts.

Access previous Go-REDD+ articles in the Go-REDD+ archive at un-redd.org.

Looking Ahead

REDD+ Partnership Meeting

25 November, 2012: Doha, Qatar

UNFCCC Climate Change Conference (COP18)

26 November- 7 December, 2012: Doha, Qatar

Forest Day 6

2 December, 2012: Doha, Qatar

UN-REDD Programme COP18 side event

5 December, 2012: Doha, Qatar

REDD+ Partnership High-Level Event

5 December, 2012: Doha, Qatar

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