

It is evident from many recent events supporting countries to “seal the deal” and sending messages to the COP15 that there is a willingness and commitment to collaborate in order to make REDD doable and cost effective.

For the UN-REDD Programme, collaboration takes many forms, at various levels. Our principal partners are the developing countries, whose REDD readiness efforts we support, and donors that provide financial resources. The Programme offers countries a platform to exchange ideas and lessons, methods and technologies as well as technical and financial support to pilot REDD projects. So, we are proud to welcome six new countries to the UN-REDD family -- Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Nepal, Sri Lanka -- who have officially joined the Programme, and Denmark, who is now the UN-REDD Programme’s second donor.

Secondly, we are working more closely than ever with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The management teams of both initiatives met at the end of September to discuss further coordination and harmonization of efforts and to examine opportunities to do more to increase efficiency and reduce costs. The teams agreed to adopt a common framework for country readiness to allow for direct and easy cross-referencing of the contributions the two initiatives make to national readiness processes. In countries where both initiatives are present, they will also seek joint missions and a common institutional counterpart to avoid duplication, increase efficiency and reduce transaction costs to the countries.

The UN-REDD Programme is also engaged in initial discussions with the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) as it gets ready to select pilot countries.

Lastly, the UN-REDD Programme works with academia, civil society organizations, indigenous peoples and many more. The UN-REDD Programme facilitates national and regional consultations with civil society and indigenous peoples and representatives of the two groups take part in the UN-REDD Programme’s Policy Board as full members.

Yemi Katerere
Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

News

The UN-REDD Programme welcomes five new countries

Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Nepal and Sri Lanka join the UN-REDD Programme, Denmark becomes a donor and Panama gets approval of its UN-REDD national programme



The UN-REDD Programme’s third Policy Board approved funding for Panama’s national programme

The UN-REDD Programme’s third Policy Board welcomed five new countries. Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Nepal and Sri Lanka are the first to officially request to participate in the UN-REDD Programme, in addition to the initial nine member countries. Nearly 20 countries have expressed interest and more are expected to join.

All five countries indicated their interest in benefiting from the experience and knowledge generated by the UN-REDD Programme, particularly on the issues of measurement, reporting and verification

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

(MRV) systems, and consultation with civil society and indigenous peoples.

“For us, joining the UN-REDD Programme is mostly about tapping into the Programme’s experience and expertise,” stressed Mr Leandro Carlos Fernandez, Argentina’s REDD National Focal Point. “We have forests on our borders with Bolivia and Paraguay, both

UN-REDD countries, and we would like to be part of the process to increase cooperation between countries, and create a regional initiative on REDD."

"We are here to address issues of deforestation and degradation together, as we are trying to improve the development of local communities," said Dr Omaliss Keo, Cambodia's focal point on REDD." We look forward to working with the UN-REDD team to develop a REDD roadmap for Cambodia to guide all our REDD work in the future."

The UN-REDD Programme's third Policy Board approved funding for Panama's national programme. The Policy Board approved the allocation of US\$5.3 million to help the country get ready for REDD.

Panama went through an extensive process of consultation with civil society and indigenous peoples in order to prepare its national programme, building on the previous administration's initial work. "I would like to congratulate the government of Panama," said Mr Diego Escobar Guzman, representative of indigenous peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. "You were able to successfully

fill the gaps [in civil society consultations] in three months. This is a world record!"

With the approval of Panama's national UN-REDD programme, the total approved funds for the UN-REDD Programme in its first year of operations amounts to US\$37.4 million, or 72.3% of its US\$51.7 million portfolio. Of the six countries that have had their programmes approved by the Policy Board, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania and Viet Nam have started implementing readiness activities.

Denmark became the second donor to the UN-REDD Programme after Norway, with an announcement of US\$2.0 million.

The Policy Board meeting also welcomed four new representatives of civil society organizations. The elected civil society members of the Policy Board are: Mr. Pacifique Mukumba Isumbisho, Executive Director for the Support Center for Indigenous Pygmies and Vulnerable Minorities, representing civil society organizations from Africa; Ms. Effrey Dademo, Programme Manager of the Papua New Guinea Eco-Forestry Forum, representing civil society organizations from Asia and the Pacific; Ms. Paula Moreira, Lawyer for

the Brazilian-based Amazon Environmental Research Institute, representing civil society organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean; and Ms. Rosalind Reeve, Forest Campaign Manager for Global Witness, representing industrialized countries' civil society. Amongst the representatives, Ms. Rosalind Reeve was selected by consensus within the group to hold the rotating seat as full member for the first meeting. ■



The UN-REDD Programme's third Policy Board welcomes new countries: Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Nepal and Sri Lanka join the UN-REDD Programme, and Denmark becomes a donor

First regional consultation between indigenous peoples organizations from Asia and the Pacific and the UN-REDD Programme

The first ever Asia and the Pacific Regional Consultation with indigenous peoples on the UN-REDD Programme was held on 1 October 2009, during the first week of the UNFCCC Intersessional Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand

The meeting was the result of a request made by a group of indigenous peoples and civil society organizations in the Asia and Pacific region who had gathered in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in July 2009 to coordinate their work on climate change. These organizations were the Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact (AIPP), AMAN Indonesia, and the Tebtebba Foundation. Seizing the opportunity of having a number of indigenous peoples (IP) on site at the occasion of the Bangkok Climate Change talks, they requested that the UNDP Regional Indigenous Peoples Programme (UNDP RIPP) -- based at the UN Regional Center in Bangkok - and also present at the Chiang Mai meeting -- play a coordinating role internationally as well as regionally and help organize such consultation.

The objectives of the consultation, as formulated by the indigenous peoples'

organizations, were to:

- share information about the UN-REDD Programme and progress in the region
- discuss issues and concerns identified by indigenous peoples, such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, recourse mechanisms, and Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC)
- build a network of key Indigenous Peoples' stakeholders working on REDD in Asia and the Pacific
- exchange information on REDD and UN-REDD advocacy, engagement, and projects

Close to 90 participants attended the Consultation on a rainy Thursday in Bangkok. They represented nearly a dozen countries in the region, including the three UN-REDD Programme pilot countries Indonesia, Papua

New Guinea and Viet Nam, in addition to Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand, and partners from the UK, Switzerland, and the US. The participants engaged in a productive, frank, and informative discussion. Four sessions took place, addressing each of these key themes:

- The UN-REDD Programme Operational Guidance on the Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities
- Indigenous peoples in Asia and the Pacific and the UN-REDD Programme: sharing of experiences
- How Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is operationalized on the ground: good practices for implementation and key issues
- Next steps: how to better engage in future work related to the UN-REDD Programme and REDD in general

Other key issues included an update on the role of the Advisory Group on Rights, Climate and Forests and its role coordinating the self-selection process for the election of civil society organizations' (CSO) representatives to the Policy Board; updates on the elaboration of a recourse mechanism, which was presented by the Center for International Environmental Law, commissioned by the UN-REDD Programme to provide policy

guidance on the issue; recommendations for continued engagement with the UN-REDD Programme, including national-level engagement of the UN Country Offices with indigenous peoples; and an update on the relationship between the UN-REDD Programme and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in terms of harmonization of guidance on stakeholder engagement. On this topic the UN-REDD Programme explained its work with the FCPF on aligning the IP/CSO guidance, distributed a draft 'consolidated' guidance, and invited input.

The important issue of free, prior and informed consent was covered in some depth. Progress was made in teasing out what application of the principle means for REDD and for the UN-REDD Programme. The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was also highlighted throughout the day, underscored by the role of the UN-REDD Programme to continue to elaborate ways to encourage its implementation nationally and internationally.

Finally, the participants provided excellent input and guidance on the direction the UN-REDD Programme should take regarding stakeholder engagement and what to prioritize. Recommendations included:

- taking advantage of the opportunity that REDD provides for engagement among the various stakeholders: CSOs, indigenous peoples, local government, private sector, and others
- strengthening the opportunities for multi-stakeholder dialogue
- addressing the widespread need for REDD training and awareness raising
- a call to the UN-REDD Programme and to the United Nations in general to support governments to improve their means of communication and working relationships with indigenous peoples and their organizations

Equally important were the connections established between UN-REDD regional staff and indigenous peoples and CSO leaders. With this relationship now in place, local stakeholders have a concrete point of access to go to for information and/or to express concerns. Many called for a continuation and deepening of this dialogue in the Asia region and for strengthening the role of the UNDP RIPP team as a facilitator and contributor to these crucial relationships.

Throughout the day, it was clear that the steps that have been taken to ensure that in-

digenous peoples have a voice have created more space for participation and engagement. The unique governance structure of the UN-REDD Programme, which affords the full participation of four indigenous peoples' representatives and an additional four CSO representatives, means that these stakeholders have a direct entry-point to contribute to the decision-making process for the Programme.

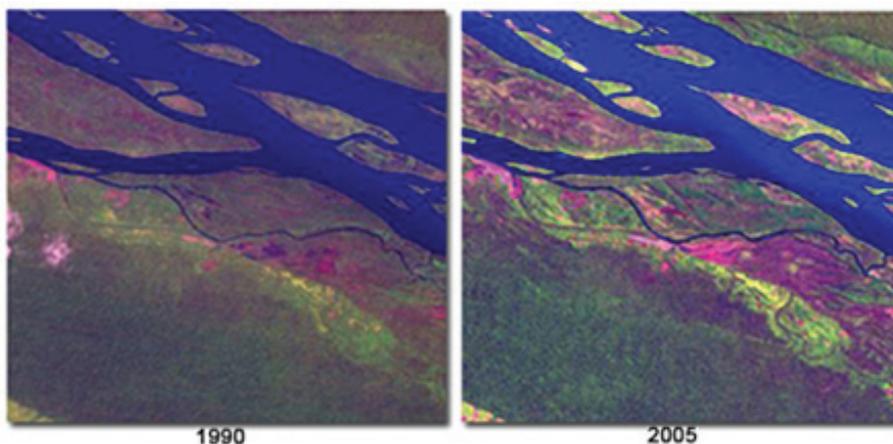
The open, good-will tone of the consultation was another sign that the UN-REDD Programme has come a long way in the past year in terms of bringing local stakeholders into the REDD issue and into the UN-REDD Programme.

There is much more room for collaboration with civil society on making REDD work than in the past, even as key challenging issues of indigenous peoples' and CSO engagement in REDD remain. With this promising beginning, we look forward to significantly accelerating and expanding the work and contribution of the UN-REDD Programme in the region.

A full report of the consultation will soon be available on the UN-REDD Programme website. ■

Democratic Republic of the Congo requests support in establishing a regional Congo Basin approach on Measuring Reporting and Verifying emissions from forests

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) takes steps to create a harmonized regional Congo Basin approach for Measuring Reporting and Verifying (MRV) emissions from forests, at a recent workshop on the validation of MRV activities in this country



■ Forest cover
■ Deforested areas

Satellite images from the Democratic Republic of the Congo shows forest cover in 1990 compared to the cover in 2005

Participation in the workshop, held in Kinshasa from 12-13 October within the framework of the UN-REDD Programme, showed strong engagement of stakeholders in building a REDD process in this country. Stakeholders attending the workshop included government institutions, NGOs, civil society, research institutions and international agencies (the three UN-REDD agencies FAO, UNDP and UNEP, and the World Bank). Within the MRV and REDD context, country institutions and the various organizations working in and with forestry, remote sensing, civil society and research gave a series of presentations.

One of the main outcomes of the workshop included the understanding and clarification of what activities are necessary for the Democratic Republic of the Congo to undertake for MRV and which of these might be prioritized. Discussions also allowed the international agencies to gain a better understanding of the concerns, national capacities and priorities in the country regarding REDD.

There was also strong focus on two key points: remote sensing with regards to the forest area data, and the development of a national forest inventory with regards to the emission factor. Both components will, in turn, support the country's national green-

house gas inventory.

The workshop resulted in increased country ownership and enthusiasm of MRV activities,

and for the overall REDD process, at both national and institutional levels. It also highlighted the Democratic Republic of the Congo's leadership in developing and har-

monizing the MRV of emissions from forests not only from a national perspective but from a regional Congo Basin approach. ■

Features & Commentary

The International Tropical Timber Organization's new thematic programme on REDDES

By the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Secretariat



Promoting the conservation and sustainable management, use and trade of tropical forest resources is the mandate of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO).

Tropical forests play a vital role in sustaining a large proportion of the world's biodiversity, maintaining land-use options and water resources, contributing to the carbon cycle and providing other key services to forest-dependent people. Deforestation and forest degradation in tropical forests have reduced the quality of many forest environmental services. Often, poorly implemented timber harvesting has damaged remaining trees and caused soil erosion and compaction, while the conversion of forests to other land uses has also led to the loss or degradation of many services. The introduction or strengthening of sustainable forest management, forest restoration, afforestation and reforestation in such areas can play an important role in restoring environmental services and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

ITTO has a long track record of working with member countries and partners to promote such activities through field projects and capacity-building initiatives. Since it became operational in 1987, ITTO has funded more than 900 projects, pre-projects and activities valued at more than US\$330 million. The major donors over the life of the Organization have been the governments of Japan, Switzerland and the United States, with Norway, the Netherlands and the European

Commission making important contributions in recent years.

ITTO has undertaken several important recent initiatives relevant to REDD. The implementation of the ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Forests offers an important strategy for ITTO's producer members in combating deforestation and degradation and for enhancing the environmental services of the tropical forests. The recently updated ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests represents an additional specific tool to help secure valuable environmental services.

The ITTO Thematic Programme on REDDES

In 2008, ITTO launched a new thematic programme aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation and enhancing environmental services in tropical forests (REDDES) through the sustainable management of tropical forests, forest restoration, afforestation, reforestation and other related activities.

The programme focuses primarily on four strategic areas:

1. Assessment and diagnosis

The quality of planning for forest-related interventions depends on the availability and accuracy of data and information related to the state of and threats to forest resources. Activities include: (i) forest cover and forest resources assessment, monitoring and verification systems; (ii) pilot multi-purpose forest inventories; (iii) estimation of forest carbon stocks, including emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; (iv) assessment of policy, legal and institutional frameworks to promote biodiversity conservation, carbon storage, watershed conservation and other environmental services through sustainable

forest management and rehabilitation of degraded forests; (v) land and forest tenure assessments; and (vi) capacity-building, institutional strengthening, training and outreach.

2. Enabling conditions and capacity-building

These activities aim at establishing enabling policy, legal and institutional frameworks and governance related to environmental services and the reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation, including by strengthening tenure security and resource access.

3. Demonstration activities

The programme also facilitates demonstration projects on sustainable forest management, forest restoration, reforestation and afforestation to help realize the benefits of environmental services, including in local communities.

4. Scaling up and dissemination

The programme supports activities dedicated to the replication and scaling up of successful demonstration projects related to environmental services in tropical forests. The programme also provides support for sharing information and lessons learned locally, nationally and internationally.

The indicative three-year budget of the programme is US\$18 million. The government of Norway has already pledged US\$3.8 million to enable programme implementation. The governments of Japan, Switzerland and USA have also expressed their interest to contribute to funding this new ITTO initiative and additional pledges are expected at ITTO's upcoming Council session in November 2009.

The main instrument of the programme implementation is providing support to the implementation of projects or activities proposed by stakeholders in ITTO developing member countries and submitted through the national ITTO focal points to ensure a coordinated approach. These proposals should fall under one or more of the four strategic areas of the REDDES Programme outlined above.

Partnership between ITTO REDDES and the UN-REDD Programme

Since June 2009, ITTO has received over 40 proposals under this new programme from

various stakeholders in ITTO member countries. Partnerships at operational level are a critical element of the implementation of the REDDES Programme. In this regard, ITTO member countries that are also participating in the FAO/UNEP/UNDP joint UN-REDD programme are invited to submit their proposals to increase synergies and complementarity between these programmes.

Partnerships with the UN-REDD Programme will be initiated through eventual implementation of the following project proposals:

- Technical support for the development of a national forest inventory system in

the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to evaluate carbon stocks and their changes: This project aims at supporting DRC to develop a credible measurable, reportable and verifiable (MRV) system for REDD.

- Multipurpose National Forest Inventory in Papua New Guinea (PNG): The project aims at developing and implementing an effective forest inventory system to include forest cover, biomass, biodiversity, water, and socio-economic information. Data from the multipurpose national forest inventory will be used to assist PNG in meeting its international reporting obligations.

These projects from DRC and PNG will support the UN-REDD programme, which receives the technical support of FAO for the development of a credible MRV system. The two project proposals are in the process of receiving comments from the ITTO Thematic Programme Advisory Committee. The effective implementation of ITTO REDDES will be enhanced with more partnership projects such as these with UN-REDD.

For more information on the REDDES Thematic Programme visit www.itto.int. ■

Reports & Analysis

Engaging civil society on REDD in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: an example of best practice

Engaging civil society organizations and indigenous peoples can be a complex process, especially in countries where relationships have been tense in the past. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has now initiated implementing its readiness activities with support of the UN-REDD Programme, has been able to bridge the gaps.



In the Ituri Forest community, Biakato Village, Western Province

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is home to the second largest tropical rainforest in the world, covering 134 million hectares and providing a source of food, medicine, energy, livelihoods and revenue to some 40 million people. The country is home to 400,000 to 600,000 indigenous Pygmi Peoples, who mostly rely on forests for their livelihoods.

Despite past tensions, the Government

and civil society and indigenous peoples organizations have engaged in a remarkably collaborative process to develop and start implementing the country's national REDD Programme.

The first scoping mission for REDD, organized jointly by the UN-REDD Programme and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in January 2009, was the starting point of an inclusive process that has already resulted

in the creation of a recognized national climate-REDD civil society working group, a REDD Decree that specifically reserves one third of membership on the National (REDD) Committee to civil society and indigenous peoples' self-selected representatives, and a REDD negotiation Task Force that includes civil society representatives. Measuring this process against the UN-REDD Programme's specific criteria of representation, participation, inclusion, transparency and accountability shows that it constitutes best practice.

Several factors have contributed to this successful inclusion. First, drafting of Decree collaboratively and early in the process has contributed to engaging the dialogue between civil society and the government from the very start. Second, capacity-building activities have stimulated linkages and coordination among various stakeholders while increasing their knowledge and skills. Finally, the government and multilateral agencies have followed basic "rules of engagement" for consultation as developed by the UN-REDD Programme, which helped to establish clear rules of the game and instill trust.

Clearly, challenges remain and collaborative processes require an ongoing commitment from all sides to succeed in the long term. Nonetheless, by building an institutional framework that sets firm foundations for engagement of civil society in the national REDD process, the DRC is effectively positioning itself to get ready for REDD.

Read the detailed report on Engaging civil society stakeholders on REDD: Best practice in the Democratic Republic of Congo at: <http://tinyurl.com/DRcandREDD>

Read more about the UN-REDD programme activities in the DRC at: <http://tinyurl.com/UNREDDinDRC>

Cet article est également disponible en français à l'adresse suivante: <http://tinyurl.com/DRcandREDD-fr> ■

Representatives of civil society organizations now elected to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board

The self-selection process has now been concluded and four representatives have been elected, representing four regions of the world



Newly selected representatives of civil society and indigenous peoples participated in the third UN-REDD Policy Board meeting

Newly elected civil society representatives have just attended the first UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, 29-30 October 2009. The Policy Board warmly welcomed the following new members: Mr. Pacifique Mukumba Isumbisho, Executive Director for the Support Center for Indigenous Pygmies and Vulnerable Minorities, representing civil society organizations from Africa; Ms. Effrey Dademo, Programme Manager of the Papua New Guinea Eco-Forestry Forum, representing civil society organizations from Asia and the Pacific; Ms. Paula Moreira, Lawyer for Amazon Environmental Research Institute, representing civil society organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean; and Ms. Rosalind Reeve, Forest Campaign Manager for Global Witness, representing developed countries' civil society. Amongst the representatives, Ms. Rosalind Reeve was selected by consensus within the group to hold the first rotating seat for this meeting.

"We see the UN-REDD Programme as a leader on issues of measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), MRV beyond carbon, civil society rights issues, consultation and engagement, and governance through its global programme," says industrialized countries' representative Ms. Reeves. "From our [industrialized countries] perspective, our expectation is that the results and recom-

mendations of these processes be fed back into the national programmes. We would also like to see a very robust REDD mechanism that ensures that developed countries' taxpayers money goes where it is supposed to go and actually works for REDD."

"Our expectation is that the voices of the communities, who have been keeping the forests intact for millenia for the benefit for humanity, be included in the UN-REDD national programmes," says Africa representative Mr. Isumbisho. "We will also work hard to inform our networks of what is being discussed on REDD and we will help them disseminate the information to their members."

The self-selection process to identify the civil society organizations member and observers to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, mandated by the UN-REDD Programme Rules of Procedure, was launched on 14 August with a call for nominations, which ran between 17 August and 11 September. In total, 57 nominations were received: 31 for the Africa region, 8 for Asia and the Pacific, 8 for Latin America and the Caribbean, and 10 for industrialized countries.

The nominations were made publicly available on the UN-REDD Programme website through the voting period, which lasted from

14 September to 28 September. A total of 684 ballots were received and 1651 votes cast and tallied, with 587 votes for the African candidates, 366 for Asia and the Pacific, 379 for Latin America, and 319 for industrialized countries.

The results of the selection were announced on 1 October, 2009. The winning organization from Africa received 253 votes, or 43% of the regional vote; from Asia and the Pacific, 91 votes, or 25% of regional vote; from Latin America and the Caribbean 108, or 29% of regional vote; and, from industrialized countries, 143 votes or 45% of the regional vote.

The Rights and Resources Initiative facilitated the self-selection process for the UN-REDD Programme on behalf of the Civil Society Advisory Group on Rights, Forests and Climate Change.

As set out in the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board Rules of Procedure and Operational Guidance, one full member seat is reserved for a representative of civil society, as identified via the self-selection process. To support the full member, there are three observer seats for civil society. Full member status will rotate among the group of civil society representatives at least once per year. The representatives identified via the self-selection process will determine among themselves who shall serve first as the full member.

The civil society representatives to the Policy Board are expected to:

- Attend and participate in UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meetings, which will be held at least twice a year, beginning with the next meeting at the end of October 2009
- Provide input on meeting agendas and share and disseminate information among their networks, organizations, and constituencies on the UN-REDD Programme meetings and processes
- In the interim between meetings, solicit issues and concerns to be raised at the meetings on behalf of civil society organizations and their constituencies
- Work together with the other representatives of civil society organizations to advise the full member, strategize and decide on interventions, recommend agenda items to be presented at Policy Board meetings and work with indigenous peoples representatives and observers to strategize on potentially overlapping issues

We hope you join us in welcoming and working with these representatives – they are the voices of civil society organizations in the governing body of the Programme! ■

Forests have many values: promoting co-benefits with- in the UN-REDD programme

National consultations are ongoing to produce tools, analyses
and reports on co-benefits



Biodiversity is one of the co-benefits of conserving forests

Co-benefits from REDD arise from the maintenance or restoration of forest ecosystems that would otherwise have been degraded or lost. Which co-benefits are generated and the identity of the beneficiaries will be shaped by the social, ecological and institutional context in which REDD is implemented. That is, the location of the forests that benefit from REDD funding, the national policies put in place, and the forest management approaches employed will all influence the delivery of co-benefits.

On behalf of the UN-REDD programme, the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) is working with pilot countries to identify useful tools, analyses or re-

ports on co-benefits, on a national to global scale. A selection of these will be published, in collaboration with national institutions.

The UN-REDD Programme, through the UNEP-WCMC team, has been engaged in consultations with national UN-REDD teams through visits to pilot countries, meetings on the side of larger gatherings, and associated correspondence. The team has already been to Viet Nam and Indonesia, and a mission to Bolivia is scheduled for mid-November.

Activities and outputs planned for Tanzania and Viet Nam

In the case of Tanzania, staff from the Forestry & Beekeeping Division will be coming to UNEP-WCMC in November 2009 for two weeks. The goal of this visit is to produce spatial analyses of the potential for multiple benefits from REDD, in time for presentation at Forest Day in Copenhagen in December 2009. The aim is to illustrate the extent to which areas that are high in carbon are also high in other benefits such as biodiversity, and conversely which forests are low in carbon but valuable for other reasons. A demonstration analysis using global data has shown that high carbon, high biodiversity areas can be identified through simple mapping tools, and can be accessed online.

For Viet Nam, the UN-REDD Programme will produce tools and guidance to assess biodiversity and ecosystem services in reforested areas, with the aim to support the realization of co-benefits from the major reforestation effort underway in this country. This will include simple tools for identifying which ecosystem services could be important in reforested areas, and guidance on selecting approaches for assessing and monitoring change in services.

In 2010, UNEP-WCMC plans to host an international workshop on REDD and co-benefits. The meeting will bring together participants from each of the nine UN-REDD Programme countries, demonstrate the tools and analyses that have been produced, and identify useful approaches and future needs.

In addition to its work for the UN-REDD Programme, WCMC is also mapping the coincidence of carbon and co-benefits for various non-UN-REDD countries, with the support of the German government. As well as providing additional national case studies, this programme of work has enabled us to collaborate on the production of improved global maps of carbon in biomass and soils, which will prove useful for UN-REDD countries where no national scale maps are available.

Publications on REDD, co-benefits and related topics may be downloaded from the UNEP-WCMC website at: <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/climate/publications.aspx> ■

Looking ahead

UNFCCC meeting in Barcelona

2-6 November 2009, Barcelona, Spain
FAO, UNDP and UNEP convene a REDD side event

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