



Rio Pavilion Session Summaries

The Pavilion is a collaborative effort between the Secretariats of the three Rio Conventions and the Global Environment Facility, in addition to a growing list of other global and local partners

Day 3 Thursday 1 December, Durban Theme: REDD+

SESSION 1. BUILDING CAPACITIES FOR REDD+

Organizers: UNEP, UN-REDD

Facilitator: Yemi Katerere

Speakers: Steve Panfill, Jim Stephenson, Barney Dickson, Rodrigo Mussi

Summary. This session discussed gender issues in the context of the three Rio Conventions: the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). An overview of the achievements and ongoing activities was given by the speakers. Presentations included the following:

- **The Alliance for Global REDD+ Capacity: A new global collaboration to expand and enhance capacity-building efforts.**
An alliance of organizations engaged in REDD+ Capacity Building was formed in 2011 with many academic institutions and NGOs. Their activities to date include conducting a needs assessment, learning and sharing, developing a process for quality/standards including best practices for capacity building, and implementing joint products and services.
- **REDD+ in the Asia-Pacific Region**
Are capacity building services meeting countries' needs? The assessment's objectives were: to assess REDD+ readiness services providers in focal countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, The Philippines and Vietnam according to nine capacity building themes. Alongside awareness raising, progress has been made in capacity building for REDD+ policy development and environmental safeguards in Asia-Pacific but without further attention paid to addressing key gaps, the objectives of national REDD+ plans will not be met within the intended timeframes.
- **UN-REDD Social and environmental principles and criteria (SEPC Tool)**
The SEPC tool aims to help countries ensure that REDD+ activities promote social and environmental benefits, and reduce risks from REDD+. Uses include assisting countries in formulating REDD+ programmes, reviewing national programmes, and assessing programme delivery. A draft tool will soon be released for review and comments (see www.un-redd.org), and planning for national pilot testing is underway.



- **Paraguay: Country's perspective on REDD+ programme**

Capacity-building activities in Paraguay are embedded in the National Environment Policy. Specific to REDD+, outcomes of the policy include improved institutional and technical capacity of government and CSOs to manage REDD+ activities in Paraguay, and training of key government staff and relevant stakeholders. The National Climate Change Policy was also briefly summarized – it is the guiding framework for activities developed by public, private and civil society and is aimed at stabilization of greenhouse gas emissions, promotion of adaptation and sustainable development.

SESSION 2. GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION – RESTORING 150 MILLION HECTARES BY 2012

Organizers: IUCN, Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration

Chair: Stewart Maginnis (IUCN)

Speakers: John Liu (EEMP, IUCN), Stewart Maginnis (IUCN), Fernanda Carvalho (TNC), Chimere Diaw (AMFN), Adewale Adeleke (IUCN Ghana)

Summary:

In this session, participants discussed how forest and landscape restoration links with climate change, land degradation and biodiversity agendas and how this approach can be integrated through the vehicle of REDD-plus and other land use (including food security) strategies. The session began with an interactive film viewing entitled, 'A World of Opportunity: The nature and scale of the opportunity and the benefits of landscape restoration' about restoration in countries around the world, created by John D. Liu, director of the Environmental Education Media Project, (EEMP) and Senior Research Fellow at IUCN.

The Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration and recent international developments were then discussed, including the CBD Target 15, the UNFCCC REDD+ goal, the UNFF decision on forest and landscape restoration, the UNCCD's policy frameworks, and the UN framework on Food Security. Speakers also highlighted the Bonn Challenge goal to restore 150 million hectares by 2020 using a forest and landscape restoration approach, which was designed to support the above international commitments.

A national assessment of the restoration potential in Ghana was also presented, with details of the dialogue and mapping processes. Selected sessions are summarized below.

Maximizing benefits through forest and landscape restoration - Stewart Maginnis, IUCN

Conventional management can maximise one single good at the expense of other goods and services, impoverish the landscape, and does not interface with other land uses. We need to work at the landscape scale which requires consideration of the full range of potential functions and services and forces integration. Ecosystem restoration at landscape scale aims to improve ecological integrity and human well-being and active engagement, collaboration and negotiations among a mix of stakeholders. Case examples from Tanzania, Beijing and Rwanda were discussed. The Bonn Challenge to Restore 150 million ha by 2020 and its benefits in economic terms was also highlighted.

Public-private partnership: Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact (AFRP) - Fernanda Carvalho, TNC

The AFRP is a major effort by Brazilian society to restore the Atlantic forest. Launched in 2009, the AFRP currently has 208 members. The broader goals of the AFRP are to integrate people and organizations to restore and reconnect the Atlantic Forest at a very large scale, and to protect the remaining forest fragments, by promoting: conservation of biodiversity, generation of jobs and income, maintenance and payment for environmental services, and supporting farmers' to produce sustainably. To date, the AFRP has completed maps of potential areas for restoration, contributed peer-reviewed science literature, conducted monitoring, and developed and implemented reforestation models. Projects are registered on www.pactomataatlantica.org.br.

The Model Forest Approach - International Model Forest Network

How do we govern for restoration? Model Forests are a voluntary partnership for innovating and developing multifunctional stakeholder landscapes, based on partnerships, landscapes, sustainability, governance, programme of activity and learning and networking, leading to innovation in the governance of landscapes. The Canadian Forest Service



established a network of 10 model forests in 1992, which has currently expanded to an international network, with several international partner organizations. The International Model Forest Network now provides technical assistance, training, and tool-development (see www.imfn.net for more information).

SESSION 3. BIOCULTURAL PROTOCOLS: SAFEGUARD LESSONS FOR REDD+ from the CBD

Organization: Natural Justice (Lawyers for Communities and the Environment)

Chair: Johanna von Braun

Speakers: Johannes Stahl, Kanyinke Sena, Kabir Bavikatte, Simone Lovera, Alejandro Argumedo, Kaylena Bray

Summary:

The aim of this panel session was to discuss how the safeguards developed by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) can be relied upon in the current discussions on safeguards in REDD+. Specifically speakers discussed the safeguards developed by the CBD, in addition to the Addis Ababa principles, Akwe Kon guidelines and the Tkarihwaí:ri Code of Ethical Conduct, and safeguards in the context of CBD's Program of Work on Protected Areas (POWPA). The session also focused on biocultural protocols as one of the key tools for implementing safeguards developed in the context of the Nagoya Protocol and their relevance for REDD+.

REDD-plus Safeguards (CBD)

In 2002, CBD COP decisions relating to REDD+ were adopted in 2002, including 130 measures to promote forest biodiversity, incl. climate change, habitat fragmentation, forest restoration, incentive measures etc. CBD COP made a decision to ensure that possible actions for REDD do not run counter to the objectives of the CBD and implementation of the forest programme of work, they should support implementation of the CBD, and provide benefits for forest biodiversity and indigenous and local communities. Strategic Plan 2011-2020 (Nagoya, 2010): At least halve deforestation, and where feasible bring it close to zero by 2020, manage all areas under forestry sustainably by 2020, conserve at least 17 per cent of terrestrial areas by 2020 and restore at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems by 2020.

Four relevant safeguards expert workshops were held in 2010 and 2011 (Global; Asia-Pacific; Latin America/Caribbean; Africa), and host countries were Ecuador, Kenya, Singapore, and South Africa. There were 63 Parties and 55 international organizations, NGOs, indigenous and local community representatives, and private sector who participated during the workshop. Funded by ASEAN, Germany, Japan, Norway, United Kingdom, and UN-REDD Programme. Three major current approaches (FCPF Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards; UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria; REDD+ Standards) found to be adequate in principle to mitigate risks, but no participants also identified some caveats, e.g. that specific safeguards for 'enhancement of forest carbon stocks are missing.

Presentation from the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee (IPACC)

IPACC members are aware of the risks that REDD+ pose for indigenous communities, in particular relation to a centralisation of forest governance that can push forest people from land they have inhabited for centuries. Additional concern relates to the use restrictions that come with many REDD+ regimes that may undermine communities forest use according to customary practice which has existed for a long time and in many cases conserved biodiversity. Such use restriction can undermine communities' livelihoods and lead to further marginalisation. However, for IPACC REDD+ also offers an opportunity for confirming their land rights. While the financial benefit from REDD+ are not likely to be of great benefit, being integrated into REDD+ projects may have additional value in that they further affirm land and resource rights in scenarios where official land title does not exist.

Lessons for the Development of REDD+ Safeguards from CBD (Natural Justice)

Negotiations and guidelines developed under the CBD have led to the generation of a number of safeguards that could be a major use in the application of REDD+. These include the Akwé: Kon Guidelines (for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments regarding developments proposed to take place on, or which are likely to impact on, sacred sites and on lands and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities) and the Tkarihwaí:ri



Code of Ethical Conduct to Ensure Respect for the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage of Indigenous and Local Communities. The speaker highlighted the need to facilitate greater cross-leverage between the Rio Conventions.

Dangers of REDD+ for Indigenous Peoples, and the Limitations of Safeguards (Global Forest Coalition)

This presentation highlighted what is viewed as the volatile, inequitable, unethical and uncertain nature of current carbon emission trading models. The speaker highlighted that current safeguards are of voluntary nature and not sufficient to prevent biodiversity loss (e.g. through perverse incentives) or protect indigenous people from entering into abusive deals that also undermine their social and cultural values. The need to respect the rights of indigenous and local communities to free, prior, informed consent was also emphasized, and the respect of UNDRIP in all carbon system safeguards was called upon..

