

# **Zambia - Validation of the draft National Joint Programme Document**

With contributions from various stakeholders, the first draft of the National Joint Programme Development was produced in November 2009. The mission was organized to seek further stakeholder inputs and validate the draft document. The mission comprised a UN-REDD Mission Team including UNDP, UNEP and FAO representatives and the international consultant. The mission aimed to:

1. understand the significance of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation;
2. analyse possible modalities for channelling funds to reduce deforestation and forest degradation;
3. analyse possibilities for the establishment of the national carbon accounting system;
4. assess stakeholder acceptance and methods for stakeholder coordination;
5. acquire further information on current reforestation and afforestation activities; and
6. conduct preliminary awareness raising and communications planning.

Within the four days the mission met various key stakeholders individually and in focus groups and participated on a wider stakeholder consultation meeting that further defined the institutional arrangement for the programme. Fruitful discussions were held with government officials, research community, civil society, traditional leadership and other stakeholders, leading to deeper understanding of the UN-REDD programme and the future national REDD mechanism. Issues and risks for REDD were also identified, including the need for a strong institutional arrangement and inter-sectoral cooperation to make REDD successful in Zambia. After a thorough revision of the document, including a detailed MRV plan, a final draft version has been submitted to the UN REDD Secretariat.

Last week the UN REDD Policy Board was held in Nairobi, Kenya, where the NJP document got approved by the Policy Board.

March 22, 2010.