

The Tanzania National Carbon Monitoring Centre (NCCMC)

- ◆ The Tanzanian government is moving quickly to establish systems and structures necessary to take advantage of opportunities being presented through REDD and REDD+.
- ◆ An inter-ministerial REDD Task Force has been established by the government which is currently preparing a comprehensive REDD+ Strategy, meant to guide future developments and financing.

Synergies

- With support from the Royal Norwegian government, a number of REDD pilot projects have been started across the mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar
- Through the FAO-Finland/GoT support, the National Forest Resource Monitoring & Assessment (NAFORMA) is ongoing.
- All these projects interventions are in view to developing methodologies and gaining valuable field experience at Local level, Sub-national & National levels respectively.
- A key milestone in the development of a functioning REDD system is the establishment of a robust national **Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)** system. This will be necessary to facilitate national, as well as sub-national level carbon accounting generated through the tracking of changes in carbon stocks.
- The **National Carbon Monitoring Centre (NCMC)** is an institution being designed to co-ordinate national MRV processes in Tanzania.

For the NCMC to function effectively, it must adhere to certain key principles. These include among others:

1. **Flexibility:** the NCMC must adopt a flexible approach to ensure full compliance with UNFCCC requirements as they are progressively developed and elaborated, as well as emerging opportunities in the voluntary market;
2. **Phased approach :** the challenges of MRV are considerable, and it will be important to start with a modest goal of tracking forest carbon at relatively low levels of resolution (or tiers). With time, other land uses can be incorporated, at higher resolution. (Incorporation of Zanzibar will also be an important progress);
3. Promoting **good governance and transparency:** functional REDD systems require total transparency if they are to avoid potential risks of fraud or elite capture. The process of obtaining, capturing and publishing data on changes in carbon stocks is at the heart of this process, and must be conducted in an open and transparent manner;

Key principles.....

- 4. Minimizing operational costs:** if benefits are to be realized at the community and household levels, transaction costs (such as carbon accounting) must be minimized for carbon sellers. One way to do this is to work towards financial sustainability through cost recovery and the development of a long-term business plan;
- 5. Engage and build national capacity:** Tanzania has considerable expertise already in forest assessment methodologies, and a number of research centres and academic institutes with in-house skills. It will be critical to engage these sources of expertise, while also ensuring that new demands on data management are met through international cooperation and technical assistance; and
- 6. Ensure environmental and social safeguards:** the NCMC will be responsible for ensuring that its system(s) and operations are supportive of national and project-level standards for social and environmental objectives as required by the UNFCCC and any future Climate regime.

Key principles.....

- ◆ With these principles in mind, it is proposed that NCMC should have a semi-autonomous status from the government, but secures formal recognition and mandate by virtue of it being established as an Executive Agency.
- ◆ Being an institution with a relatively narrow mandate and a clearly defined role, and one that out sources much of its work to service providers within the country, “A small secretariat is anticipated”.
- ◆ **The NCMC will be anchored within a “host institution” and “twinned” with a national/international centre of excellence for MRV related research and technical expertise.**

To facilitate the NCMC institutionalization, a funding proposal has been prepared for submission to the RNE with the following:

- ◆ **Goal:** *"Tanzania participates effectively in an international REDD+ regime, which provides direct and equitable incentives to rural communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from forestry"*
- ◆ **The purpose:** *"to establish a National Carbon Monitoring Centre that will manage the development, and sustain the operation of, Tanzania's National Carbon Accounting System (MRV)"*

The Project Outputs

- ◆ The project has five outputs, which are broken into two phases of support covering a total period of 4 years (48 months).
- ◆ The first two outputs are realized through an inception phase and are expected to take between 12 – 18 months to complete.
- ◆ The establishment of the three remaining outputs is contingent upon the fulfillment of Output 2 (which in turn requires government commitment and political will). “Once Output 2 has been reached, it will trigger the remaining three outputs”.

The five outputs and two phases are presented as:

Inception Phase (12 - 18 months)

Output 1: Inception team & task force established and ground for NCMC prepared

Output 2: Legislation to establish NCMC drafted and passed

Establishment and implementation phase (36 - 48 months)

Output 3: NCMC established and functioning

Output 4: MRV system designed and operational

Output 5: NCMC training and sustainability plan prepared and implemented

Organizational Landscape for Forest Carbon Emissions Measuring and Monitoring

