STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN REDD+ IN AFRICA

Awareness Raising and Training Workshop

Lusaka, Zambia, 24-26 April 2012

Background

As the international community and member states strive to work out a concrete deal to address climate change issues in Rio, the initiative to reduce emissions from the forestry sector is gaining impetus. The REDD+ mechanism (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries) will potentially offer significant financial incentive designed to encourage forest-rich countries to cut carbon emissions from their forest sector, through the conservation of standing forests and more sustainable forest activities. These activities are supported by multilateral partnerships such as the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF, as well as bilateral initiatives.
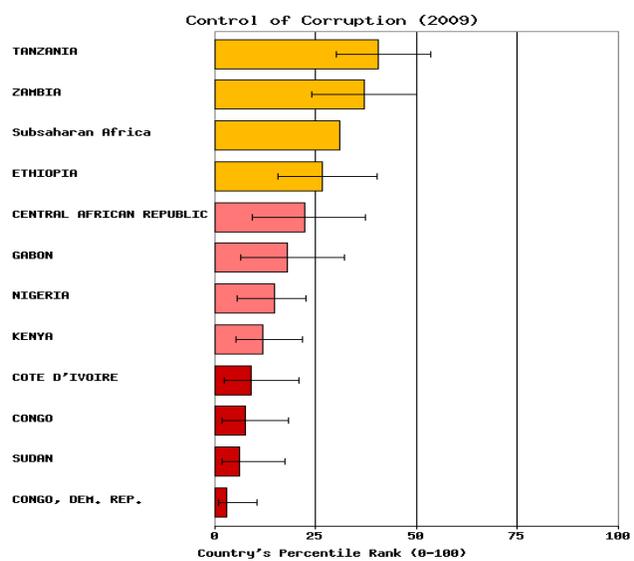
Climate change is already high on the agenda of almost all African governments. During several of the high-level forums, including the recent gathering in Addis on 'Green Economy and Structural Transformation', African leaders showed a firm commitment to dealing with climate change challenges and chart a low-carbon development trajectory. The significant forest reserves and carbon stocks offered in Africa's forest-rich countries could benefit from financial compensation through REDD+. As these countries work towards expanding sustainable livelihood options and better economic opportunities to many of their citizens, the REDD+ mechanism could greatly contribute to the achievement of national development goals, including the MDGs.

As of March 2012, the number of UN-REDD partner countries in Sub-Saharan Africa has reached fifteen. The Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Tanzania, the Republic of Congo and Zambia receive direct UN-REDD funding support for implementing National UN-REDD Programmes, while ten other countries (Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan) are UN-REDD partners. Please see "UN-REDD Countries at a glance" for updated information on partner countries receiving direct UN-REDD funding support and other partner countries.

In spite of the enormous potential benefit of REDD+, the underlying political and socio-economic vulnerabilities in many of the UN-REDD partner countries in Africa pose a significant challenge to the realization of REDD+ objectives. Although vulnerabilities such as weak institutional capacity, underdeveloped legal and accountability systems, fragility, exclusion, etc. affect almost all sectors of the economy, the forestry sector in particular is believed to fare worse. A recent study by TI[1] asserts the poor quality of forest governance around the world and how the sector suffers from illegal and corrupt practices. The oft-cited estimate of the World Bank estimates the amount of revenue lost from illegal logging and tax evasion in this sector at around $5 billion a year. As examined in UNDP's flagship "Staying on Track :Tackling Corruption Risks in Climate Change", REDD+ brings about new opportunities for improved governance, but also new risks.

Why corruption?

As it is true with many extractive sectors, forest resources and land are considered key for economic development and, with a surge in global demand for commodities they are becoming increasingly lucrative. Yet many of the countries where these forest resources are found tend to have the weakest legal and institutional frameworks. For instance, as can be seen in this graph, the average score on controlling corruption in those countries participating in UN-REDD programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa is (17.4) only about half of that of the Sub-Saharan Africa average (31%). This makes these countries vulnerable to corruption and to the mismanagement of resources, compromising not only the potential gains from implementing REDD+ programmes, but also the very sustainability of the mechanism.

Source: Kaufmann D., A. Kraay, and M. Mastruzzi (2010), The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues

Considering the centrality of good and fair governance of forest resources and the distribution of benefits to the success of REDD+ policies and measures, UNDP is leading in developing a comprehensive approach to support effective and inclusive national governance systems in REDD+ partner countries. By drawing on its expertise on anti-corruption, UNDP offers support to promote transparency and accountability in REDD+ systems by helping countries identify and mitigate potential corruption risks in the design, implementation and payment distribution processes of REDD+ as one of its priorities.

The UN-REDD Programme has integrated activities on anti-corruption as a core element of its five-year Programme Strategy[2], supported by its Global programme Framework Document 2011-2015[3], with

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[1] TI (2010) Global Corruption Report: Climate Change (link)
[2] Five Year Strategy, UN-REDD Programme, 2011-2015. Available at
http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4598&Itemid=53

UNDP the lead agency. These activities are implemented together with the Global Programme on Anti-Corruption for Development Effectiveness (PACDE) of UNDP's anti-corruption unit. They include guidance on institutional frameworks for equitable, transparent and accountable benefit distribution systems in REDD+; strengthening the integrity of fiduciary systems for receiving and disbursement of funds, coordinating anti-corruption activities at the national, regional and international level; and supporting the capacity of multiple stakeholders to jointly mitigate corruption risks.

The PACDE workplan for 2011/2 has made capacity building a priority. In this context PACDE, in partnership with the UN-REDD Programme has organized two awareness raising and training sessions in Nepal and Thailand for Asia-Pacific region. Similarly, this planned workshop in Africa is part of the capacity development effort of PACDE and UN REDD programme and will build upon the findings and lessons from the Asia-Pacific experience.

What is the main goal of this event?

The main goal of this event is to sensitize participants on why and how to address corruption risks in REDD+. Considering that some UN-REDD partner countries might have advanced in REDD+ readiness than others, such forum will also serve as a useful knowledge exchange and peer learning opportunity.

This goal will be achieved by:

1. Discussing the foundation for addressing corruption risks in REDD+
2. Identifying tools exist to do so (anti-corruption provisions, measures) for the different phases of REDD+, including through a reflection on existing anti-corruption measures in the forestry sector that could also affect REDD+
3. Sharing progresses and lessons learned on existing activities initiated in UN-REDD African partner countries
4. Highlighting linkages between anti-corruption for REDD+ and on-going governance activities supported by UNDP and the UN-REDD programme, and
5. Providing incentives for collaborating and networking on the anti-corruption agenda for REDD+.

Who are the target participants?

- Government REDD+ focal points from the REDD partner countries in the region
- Members of Programme Management Unites (PMUs) in countries where a national UN-REDD Programme is under implementation
- Representatives from Anti-corruption bodies (ACAs, Audit bureau, law enforcement bodies, etc.)
- Civil society and media stakeholders who are active in REDD+ and anti-corruption
- UNDP country office delegates supporting the UN-REDD process
- Regional and global partners (such as FAO, Transparency International, World Bank, Norway, …)

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[3] «Support to National REDD+ Action: Global Programme Framework Document – 2011-2015», UN-REDD Programme, 2011,
http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=5534&Itemid=53

A participants list will be annexed to this document.

Inputs:

- UNDP guidance to programming on AC and REDD +
- Results of online poll on corruption risks in countries
- Relevant studies and fast facts

Expected outputs

- Draft or refined country action plans on anti-corruption for REDD+
- Plans established for increased coordination, networks and communications
- Specific details to inform the targeted support on governance and anti-corruption provided by the UN-REDD Programme

Final Agenda

Sessions / Time	Topics	Facilitation / Presentations
DAY 1 : Tuesday 24th April		
8:30 hrs	**Registration of participants**	THE EVENT TAKES PLACE AT GOLFVIEW HOTEL, LUSAKA
OPENING SESSION	**INAUGURATION & FRAMING**	
9:00 - 9:30	**Welcoming remarks:**	• Viola Morgan, UNDP Country Director, Zambia • Ireen Lamba, Deputy Director General, Anti-Corruption Commission, Zambia • Hon. E. Muchima, MP, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
9:30 - 9:45	**Introduction to the workshop:**	• Phil Matsheza, Policy Advisor, Anti-Corruption, DGG, UNDP (New York) • Josep Gari, Regional Advisor for Environment (REDD+), EEG, UNDP (Nairobi)
Session 1 **9:45 - 11:00**	**WHY GOVERNANCE IS SO RELEVANT IN REDD+?**	
	Overview of the international climate policy & finance framework and the building of the REDD+ mechanism	Josep Garí, UNDP & UN-REDD (Nairobi)
	The approach to governance and anti-corruption for REDD+ in UNDP's and the UN-REDD Programme	Estelle Fach , UNDP & UN-REDD (Geneva)
	Chair and moderation	Kanyinke Sena, UNPFII
11:00- 11:30	*Coffee break*	
Session 2 **11:30- 13:30**	*PANEL DISCUSSION:* **THE EVOLVING DISCOURSE ON ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ITS RELEVANCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCE AND REDD+** *Overview of the global discourse on anti-corruption policy and practice*	Guest remarks and facilitation : Phil Matsheza, UNDP (New York) • Ireen Lamba, ACC Zambia • Noel Merlin, Commission nationale de lutte contre la corruption (CNLC), Republic of Congo • Birhanu Kfetaw, Ethics Infrastructure Coordinating Directorate, Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. Ethiopia • Susan Kinyeki, Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission, Kenya
13:30-15:00	*Lunch*	
Session 3 **15:00 – 17:00**	**EARLY COUNTRY INITIATIVES IN TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN REDD+**	

	Early actions in Asia and the Pacific region	Estelle Fach (UNDP/EEG) & Tsegaye Lemma (UNDP/DGG)
	DRC: Efforts in assessing corruption risks and finding entry points for anti-corruption actions in REDD+ planning and design	Jean- Claude Kessous (UNDP-DRC) & Leslie Ouarzazi (CN-REDD, DRC)
	Transparency International's views and experiences	Judy Ndichu (Transparency International
	Participatory governance assessments in Nigeria	Folake Oluokun (UNDP-Nigeria) and Odigha Odigha (REDD+ focal point, Cross River State, Nigeria)
	Corruption Risks in Natural Resource Management: An overview from Kenya	David Githaiga (UNDP Kenya) with the Kenya delegation
	Zambia's experience in promoting participation, transparency and accountability in the Forestry Sector	Deuteronomy Kasaro (Forestry Department, Ministry of Land, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection) and Festus Chipungu (Director, Community Education Department, Anti Corruption Commission)
	Chair and moderation	Shimeless Sima (National REDD+ focal point, Ethiopia)
17:00-18:00	Informal reception / cocktail with dance performance	*At the same hotel venue*
DAY 2 : Wednesday 25th April		
8:30- 8: 45	**RECAP OF DAY ONE**	Initial briefing on the workshop and Day 1 work by Moyongo Géry Frédy, Republic of Congo
Session 4 8:45-10:15	**INITIATIVES AND TOOLS TO ADDRESS CORRUPTION RISKS AND TO MEASURE EFFECTIVENESS OF ANTI-CORRUPTION ACTIONS**	
	Measuring and assessing corruption: UNDP's experience	Tsegaye Lemma, UNDP
	A Manual for Assessing Integrity in the Development and Implementation of National REDD+ Strategies	Leah Good, Transparency International
	How early experiences from the World Bank/Profor's diagnostic tool can be a step towards greater transparency in REDD+	Neeta Hooda, Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, World Bank
	Open discussion	
	Chair and facilitation	Luc Damiba, UNDP, DGG, Dakar

Session 5 10:15- 11:30	GROUP EXERCISE Presentation of the results of the online survey Grouped by country, participants will discuss how to respond to risks identified in the survey and propose practical measures	Tsegaye Lemma
11:30 – 12:00	Break	
12:00 – 12:15	Official High Level Opening	Keynote address by the Honorable Wylbur Simuusa, MP, Minister of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
Session 6 12:15 – 13:15	High Level Policy Dialogue *Special session with guest speakers on the policy context for climate governance.*	Panel discussion, moderated by Ms. Kanni Wignaraja, UN Resident Coordinator, Zambia with Honorable Wylbur Simuusa, MP, Minister of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection; Veerle Vandeweerd, Director, UNDP Energy and Environment Group; Mr. Rueben Lifuka , Board of Directors, Transparency International, Zambia and Odigha Odigha, Chairman, Forestry Commission, Cross River State, Nigeria Dialogue with participants
13:15-14:30	Lunch	
Session 7 14:30- 17:00	PLENARY DISCUSSION *Debriefing from working groups (session 5 above), public reactions from a cross-disciplinary panel and open discussion*	Working groups will each present their discussions to a respondent panel that comprised - Kanyinke Sena, UNPFII - Susan Kinyeki, Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission, Kenya - Shimeless Sima, national REDD+ focal point, Ethiopia - Jean-Claude Kessous, UNDP DRC - Leslie Ouarzazzi, National Coordination REDD+, DRC
	Moderation:	Tuva Bugge, UNDP, Johannesburg
DAY 3 : Thursday 26th April		
8:30-8:45	A freelance technical overview of Days 1 & 2	Luc Damiba and Tuva Bugge
Session 8 8:45-10:30	PERSPECTIVES, CONCERNS, ROLES AND CAPACITY NEEDS FOR DIFFERENT REDD+ CONSTITUENCIES *A working-group exercise, by key*	Introduction by Folake Oluokun, UNDP Nigeria

	constituencies:	
	1) Civil Society and community representatives 2) Anti Corruption commissions 3) Ministry officials and national teams in charge of REDD+	Groups discuss their roles and their capacity needs, and present them later in plenary
10:30-11:00	**Coffee break**	
Session 9 **11:00 - 12:30**	**FINAL DISCUSSION** Feedback from working groups (session 8) Final public discussion Open evaluation of the workshop *Facilitation :*	Moderation by Alfred Gichu, National REDD+ focal point, Kenya Josep Gari, UNDP
Closing session **12:30 -13:30**	**CLOSING EVENT AND NEXT STEPS**	Concluding remarks : Deuteronomy Kasaro, Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Zambia
13:30- 15:00	Lunch	
15:00-17:00	OPEN SPACE FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AND INFORMAL EXCHANGES	*UN officials and international experts will be available for further dialogue with country delegations*