

Workshop Aims

Identifying and promoting ecosystem co-benefits from REDD+
Cambridge 27-29 April, 2010

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Objective 1

To present draft analyses, tools and guidance for addressing ecosystem co-benefits from REDD+ to pilot countries and other stakeholders; and to receive feedback before these products are finalised



Objective 2

To discuss the social, institutional and economic aspects of ecosystem co-benefits.



Objective 3

To consider the integration of ecosystem co-benefits into national REDD+ strategies



Objective 4

To arrive at a set of findings, recommendations, and priority actions for how the UN-REDD Programme tackles ecosystem co-benefits (at national and global levels)



Objective 5

To foster a 'community of practice' on ecosystem co-benefits amongst interested stakeholders

What are the ecosystem co-benefits of REDD+ and why do they matter?

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Introduction

A true generalisation:

“There are likely to be ecosystem co-benefits from REDD+”

But some complexities:

Terminology

Identity of ecosystem co-benefits

Do they matter?

Equity issues



Terminology: Ecosystem + social co-benefits

Co-benefits

Primary aim of REDD+ is to contribute to the mitigation of global climate change. Co-benefits are the *additional* benefits that arise from REDD+.

Ecosystem co-benefits

Arise directly from maintaining and enhancing forests. Made up of biodiversity and the ecosystem services provided by forests

Social co-benefits

To achieve goals of REDD+, institutional changes have to be made. These may have additional beneficial consequences (e.g. land tenure reform, poverty reduction)



Multiple benefits & safeguards

Multiple benefits

Both the climate mitigation benefits *and* the other benefits. These are equally important.

Safeguards

Appears in the current UNFCCC negotiating text. Covers a range of issues, including but not restricted to, social and ecosystem co-benefits.




What are the ecosystem co-benefits of REDD+?

- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment lists 19 ecosystem services provided by forests (Provisioning, Regulating, Cultural and Supporting)
- Six are most often cited as co-benefits from REDD+
 - regional and local climate regulation
 - water regulation
 - soil conservation
 - timber
 - non-timber forest products
 - biodiversity



Ecosystem co-benefits

- REDD+ is made up of five different activities
- Harms as well as benefits
- Connections and disconnections
- Scale issues



Do ecosystem co-benefits matter?

Decision 2/CP.13 (2007)

that reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries can promote co-benefits and may complement the aims and objectives of other relevant international conventions and agreements.

Draft conclusions from Chair of AWG-LCA (2009)


(a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes, and relevant international conventions and agreements

(e) Actions that are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that actions referred to in paragraph 3 below are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivise the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;



Views of other stakeholders

- Convention on Biological Diversity (Decision IX/16) & AHTEG
- UN-REDD and FCPF
- Global Environment Facility,
- OECD, CCBA & Care International
- International conservation organisations
- Indigenous Peoples' organisations



Magnitude and value of ecosystem co-benefits

- Can be difficult to assess
- One place to start is the value of ecosystem services provided by forests
- In some cases value may be significant, and reduces the opportunity costs of REDD+ actions
- May provide an additional source of revenue
- Monitoring of co-benefits is important



Equity issues

- REDD+ activities will produce a range of ecosystem co-benefits and harms
- These outcomes can be assessed for their impacts on equity. For example, where
 - REDD+ delivers a global ecosystem co-benefit
 - Payment for Ecosystem Services scheme is used to compensate ‘suppliers’ of water
 - Where access to provisioning services of forests is restricted



Summary

1. Ecosystem and social co-benefits
2. Biodiversity and ecosystem services
3. Harms as well as benefits
4. Other sources of complexity: Five REDD+ activities; connections and disconnections; different scales
5. Importance is increasingly recognised
6. Assessing magnitude and value is challenging
7. Monitoring will be important
8. There will be winners and losers – equity issues are important
9. Much depends on what policies and tools are adopted