



# United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre

## MISSION REPORT

<b>Distribution:</b>  UNEP UN-REDD @climate @SMT	<b>Name of person(s) that undertook mission:</b> Lucy Goodman
	<b>Period (including travel days):</b> 6  <b>Workshop dates</b> 23 to 26 April 2013
	<b>Projects:</b> 2650.06 9 4 FAO LAC monitoring workshop
	<b>Institution(s) or Meeting(s) and Venue(s):</b>  Workshop to share information on National Forest Monitoring Systems for REDD + in Latin America and the Caribbean. Organized by FAO on behalf of the UN-REDD Programme Hosteria Misahuallí, Misahuallí, Ecuador
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<b>File(s):</b>	<b>Objective(s):</b>  1. <u>To support participants to link information collected as part of their forest inventory and remote sensing to safeguard information systems</u>  2. <u>To further develop interagency relationships for continued joint delivery of support to national action on REDD+, in particular at both FAO's and UNEP-WCMC's regional workshops</u>

## Summary by objective

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This workshop convened regional experts on forest inventory and remote sensing, who are working on MRV processes for REDD+. Also present were a limited number of REDD+ safeguards experts and one REDD+ focal point from Argentina. Twelve countries were represented in total, comprising of a mix of government and research institutions. UNEP-WCMC was asked to contribute to the second day of the four day workshop, facilitating an interactive session for a third of participants on linking data collected from forest inventory and remote sensing to safeguards information systems. On the last day, a needs identification and prioritisation exercise was held which included non MRV issues such as REDD+ safeguards.

### **1. To support participants to link information collected as part of their forest inventory and remote sensing to safeguard information systems**

In UNEP-WCMC's session on the second day of the workshop, twelve participants from nine countries in the LAC region discussed linkages between monitoring processes for carbon stock assessment and information needed for a Safeguards Information System.

Participants identified that information collected as part of their forest inventories, such as presence absence of non timber forest products (NTFPs) species and threatened tree species could already contribute to a REDD+ Safeguards Information System (SIS). However, a lot of information useful for an SIS could not be gathered from monitoring processes, particularly information related to community land tenure and rights. In the introductory part of the session participants identified their priority risks and benefits (see figure 1), in the subsequent indicator session none of the group's priorities could be collected from a forest inventory (see figure 2).

### **2. To develop interagency relationships for continued joint delivery of support to national action on REDD+, in particular at both FAO's and UNEP-WCMC's regional workshops**

We received good feedback from FAO on UNEP-WCMC's contribution to the session. We anticipate this will lead to further collaboration and mutual participation in regional workshops. However, we must continue to coordinate on both our outputs and in country sessions (see action points 4, 5, 6 and 10).

Delivering support as part of an FAO workshop was a successful model. In the last prioritising needs session, participants who had not attended the session run by UNEP-WCMC identified that briefings and workshops on REDD+ safeguards would be useful. It would be very valuable to have FAO and UNDP expertise at UNEP-WCMC's upcoming regional workshops, not just for coordination but also facilitation. In particular UNDP could identify how their participatory governance assessment tool can gap fill indicators that could be taken from forest inventory and remote sensing, and FAO could bolster our GIS support and tools for sessions on spatial planning to enhance delivery of multiple benefits.

FAO have followed up and suggested there may still be scope to run their MRV Asia workshop back to back with our REDD+ multiple benefits Asia workshop in September.

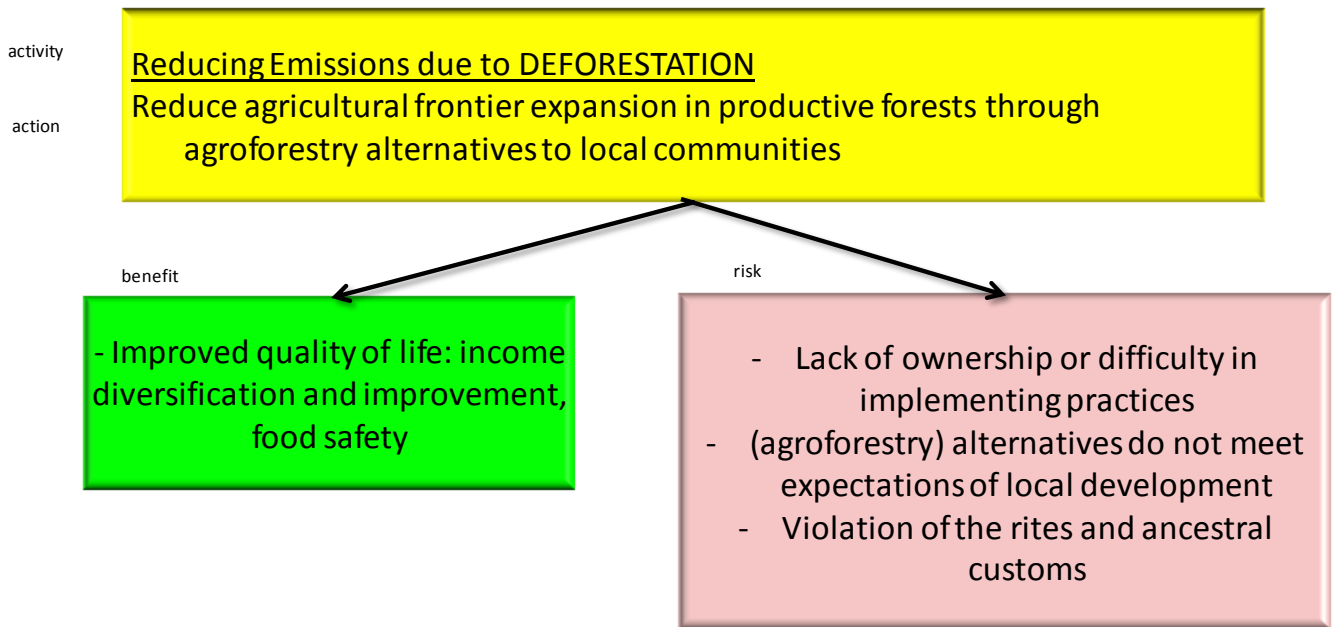


Figure 1 Priority benefits (green) and risks (red) from REDD+ identified by participants for a REDD+ action (yellow) of interest to the group.

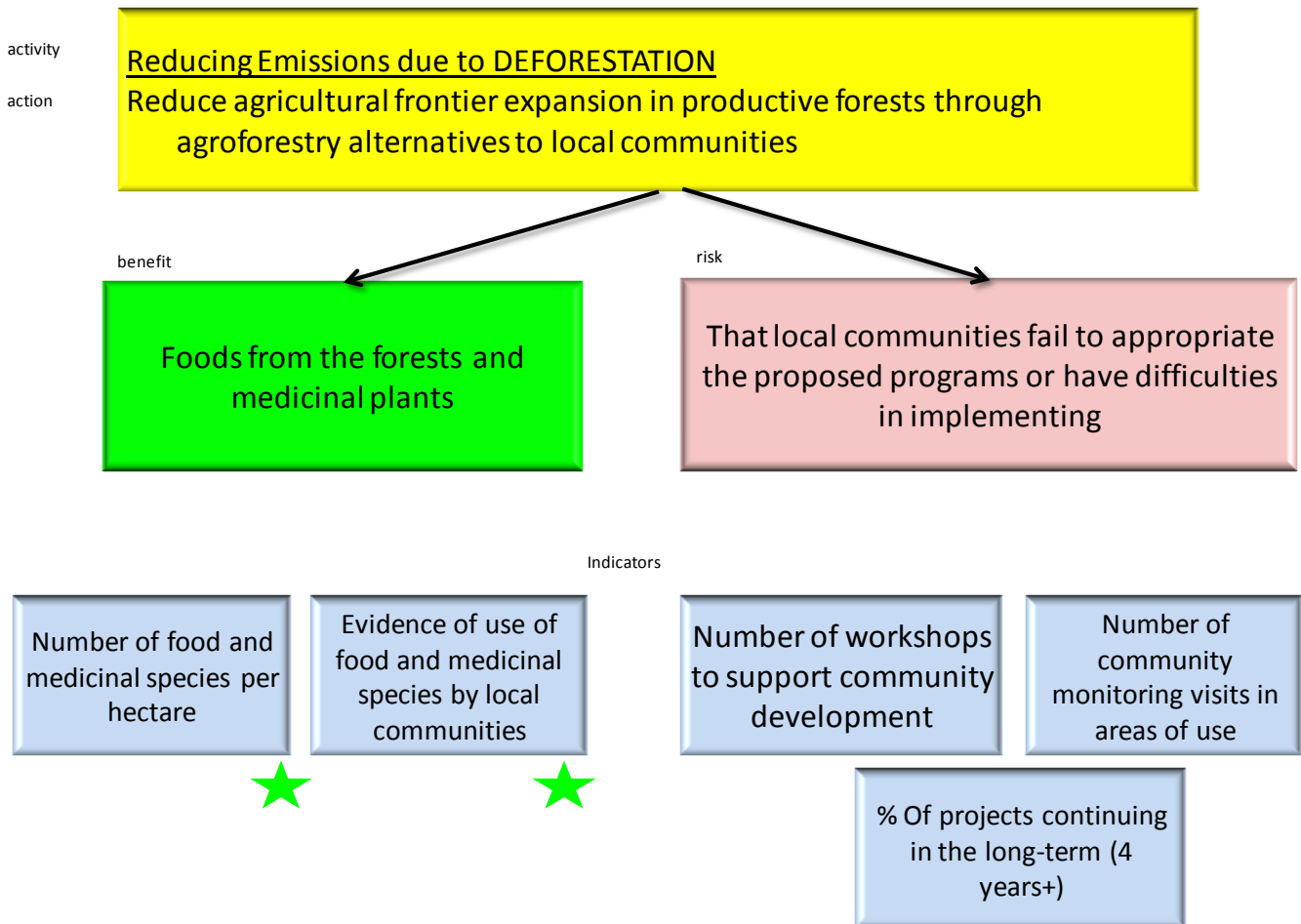


Figure 2 Outcome from working session on linking safeguard information systems to forest inventory and remote sensing. Starred items are indicators for a national REDD+ safeguards information system (blue) that could be easily drawn from forest inventory. Indicators were derived for one risk (red) and benefit (green) from REDD+.

## Detailed report on objective 1

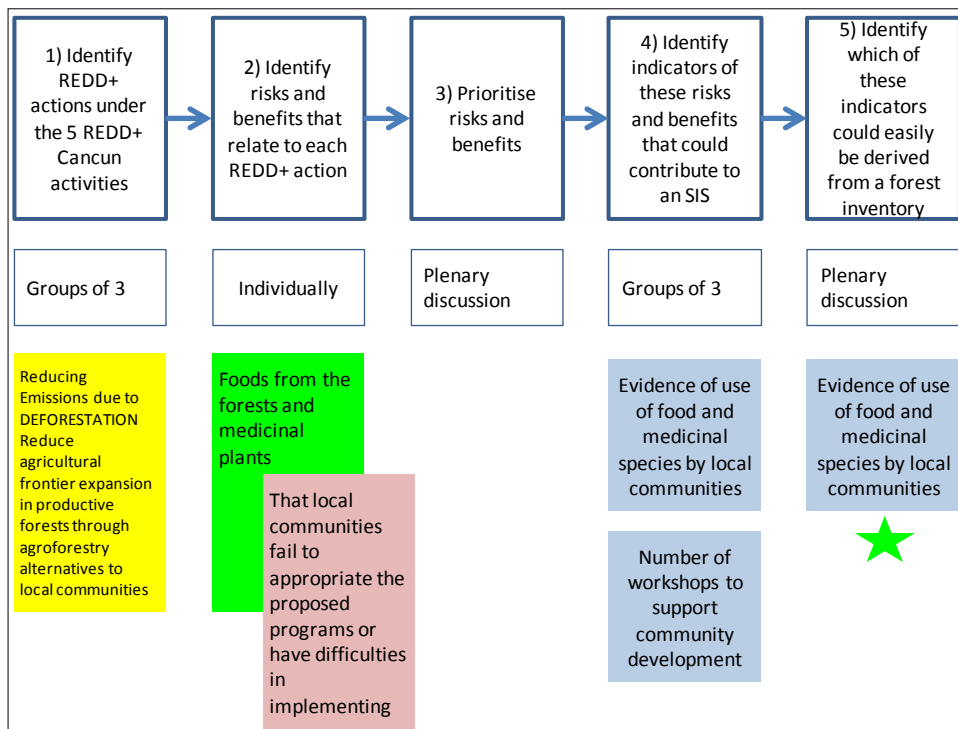


Figure 3 Overview of session, activity in the top row, participants engagement in the second row, and example outputs in the bottom row.

A day-long session plan was tested at this workshop that may be replicated at other UN-REDD workshops. Hence the details of this plan are recorded here along with commentary on what went well and what should be done differently in the future.

A strength of the session was that having a clear logic and session plan helped participants to create a structured and useful output. A mixture of individual, sub-group and plenary work keep participants engaged and gave everyone a chance to contribute. The group work was interspersed with global level presentations on multiple benefits and REDD+ safeguards and indicators, and 2 national level presentations on approaches to safeguards in country. The opportunity for discussion of issues at the global

level as well as presentation of real examples at a national level facilitated a good discussion and led to South-South exchange.

If the session was to be run again with this forestry audience, I'd start the exercise from risks and benefits derived from the UN-REDD Programme Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria, rather than identifying the risks and benefits in the session. This would shorten the exercise, but it would give participants less ownership of the final indicators. In the time that this freed up, I'd then have a dynamic session on how to derive science based indicators that have a relationships with the risk or benefit they provide information on, are time bound and measurable. Finally I'd have a dedicated exercise focused on South-South exchange, perhaps based on participants identifying which of the steps of the UN-REDD Programme safeguard group framework on national approaches to safeguards they had already undertaken.

In a final session on the last day of the workshop, participants were asked to identify their needs so that the UN-REDD Programme could better development tools and materials to support them. Under "other information" participants identified the following:

- Participants desired basic briefings on the content and purpose of safeguards
- Participants prioritised the potential social risks and social benefits of REDD+ rather than the environmental issues. That said, advice on rapid biodiversity assessment as a part of an national forest inventory was requested
- A platform for information sharing with other countries was requested
- A transparent information platform for SIS was requested

**Recommendation(s)/Action(s) to be taken:**

<b>Follow up action:</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Time-frame (by)</b>
1. Find out if FAO are producing an output on monitoring information that can contribute to an SIS, so we can coordinate with the Tanzania output	LM	done
2. Explore with colleagues the possibility of further utilising FAO's open-source GIS tools in our multiple benefit work	LG	20 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
3. Load materials and mission report on unredd.net to share with SG group	LG	Awaits response on 3)
4. Contribute to the workshop report	LG	Liaise with FAO

<b>Detailed report</b> <input type="checkbox"/> encl. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A.	<b>Documents</b> <input type="checkbox"/> encl. <input type="checkbox"/> list <input type="checkbox"/> non	<b>Date</b> 26 April 2013
<b>Classification</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> restr. <input type="checkbox"/> unrestr.	<b>Signature(s) staff member(s)</b>	<b>Signature(s) supervisor</b>