

Nigeria REDD+ University

Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

19 - 21 March 2012

Organised by

Federal Ministry of Environment

National REDD+ Secretariat

Cross River State's Forestry Commission

University of Calabar

UN-REDD Programme

VENUE: *University of Calabar's Hotel & Conference Centre, Victory Way, Calabar.*

CONTEXT

The REDD+ mechanism, which is part of the international climate-change policy negotiations (UNFCCC), is meant to promote and reward financially the conservation of forests under a *green development* path, in a simultaneous effort for climate change mitigation, ecosystem protection, community development and poverty reduction. The Federal Government of Nigeria is engaged in preparing for the REDD+ mechanism and is an active member of UN-REDD (a United Nations partnership to support countries on REDD+, constituted by FAO, UNDP and UNEP). Cross River State had catalysed this national interest in REDD+, building upon its record of community-based forest conservation, its efforts to build an interest in environmental finance as a means to counteract deforestation and to enhance rural livelihoods, and its political will to drive a pro-environment and people-friendly development process.

During 2010-2011, and in cooperation with UN agencies, Nigeria took the first, tangible steps towards REDD+. Accordingly, REDD+ coordination and consultation structures, both at Federal level and in Cross River State, were established. A comprehensive *Preliminary Assessment of the REDD Context in Nigeria*, as well as an exploratory study on the linkages between carbon, biodiversity & ecosystem services were elaborated. A number of UN-REDD support missions were conducted. All this led to the drafting and validation of the *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*, which was approved internationally by the UN-REDD Policy Board in October 2011, receiving positive reactions for its pragmatic and innovative approach, and being allocated with a budget of US\$ 4 million (around 650 million Naira). The *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme* is based on a two-track approach that consists in basic REDD+ preparedness at national level and demonstrative REDD+ work at Cross River State (as model for the rest of the country).

OBJECTIVES

The **Nigeria REDD+ University** is an event intended to foster understanding and multi-stakeholder dialogue on REDD+ and to serve as public inception of *Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme*. The event is scheduled for 19-21 March 2012 in Calabar, Cross River State (the pioneer state in Nigeria for REDD+). The UN-REDD Programme will provide technical & financial support. The objectives are as follows:

- (i) to enhance understanding on the REDD+ mechanism among Nigeria's stakeholders;
- (ii) to feed stakeholder engagement and dialogue around forest conservation and REDD+, with emphasis in Cross River State as leading state for REDD+ in Nigeria; *and*
- (iii) to stimulate preparatory discussions and arrangements for the implementation of the *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*, including options for expanding the scope of REDD+ to other States.

PARTICIPANTS

An audience of around 150 participants is expected. The Organising Committee will prepare the final list of participants, based on professionals and stakeholders that have so far participated in the REDD+ process plus others that have expressed interest, and ensuring a balanced representation of different stakeholder groups, including governmental officers (federal and state levels), NGO practitioners, community representatives, members of academia and the research community, members of advocacy groups, students, social and rural extension workers, journalists, and private sector entrepreneurs. Half of the participants are likely to come from Cross River State, and some participants will also be drawn from new potential REDD+ states. Particular attention will be given to the participation of the youth and community representatives, and for gender equality. A number of participants will be provided with lodging, as the budget allows.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- **Salisu Dahiru** (Special Assistant to the Federal Minister of Environment; Nat'l REDD+ Coordinator)
- **Odigha Odigha** (Chairman, Forestry Commission, Cross River State)
- **Samuel Adejuwon** (Director, Climate Change Department, FME)
- **Francis Bisong** (Dean of the Graduate School, University of Calabar)
- **Bridget Nkor** (Officer, Forestry Commission, Cross River State)
- **Ochuko Odibo** (Consultant, UNDP-Nigeria)
- **Sylvanus Abua** (Natural Resource Management specialist, Cross River State) – lead *rapporteur*
- **Tunde Morakinyo** (Community forester; Partner, ERM, London)
- **Muyiwa Odele** (Environment Officer, UNDP-Nigeria)
- **Julie Greenwalt** (UN-REDD / UNEP)
- **Inge Jonckheere** (UN-REDD / FAO)
- **Josep A. Garí** (UN-REDD / UNDP)

INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL SPEAKERS

- Yinka Agidee** – Lawyer, The Rock and Partners Nigeria & Ghana. [Lagos/Accra, Nigeria/Ghana]
- Francis Bisong** – Dean of the Graduate School & Chairman of the Working Group on Climate Change, University of Calabar. [Calabar, Nigeria]
- Chiedu Chukwumah** – Reach Global Company (social business). [Phoenix, Arizona, USA]
- Salisu Dahiru** – Special Assistant, Federal Minister of Environment. National REDD+ Coordinator. [Abuja, Nigeria]
- Comrade Edem** – Programme Coordinator, GREENCODE. Moderator, Climate Cool Nigeria. [Calabar, Nigeria]
- Rev. Essien** – Akwa Esuk Eyamba, Akpabuyo Local Government Area (LGA). [Akpabuyo, CRS, Nigeria]
- Thomas Fameso** – Implementation Committee, Presidential Initiative on Afforestation. [Abuja, Nigeria]
- Julian Fox** – MRV specialist, UN-REDD Zambia & FAO. [Zambia]
- Josep A. Garí** – Environmental policy and finance specialist, UNDP. Africa Advisor, UN-REDD. [Kenya].
- Julie Greenwalt** – Programme Officer, UNEP & UN-REDD. [Kenya]
- Janthomas Hiemstra** – Deputy Country Director for Programmes, UNDP-Nigeria. [Abuja, Nigeria]
- Rocío Hiraldo** – Researcher on energy, environment and development, ENDA. [Senegal]
- Marie Laberge** – Governance assessment specialist for West & Central Africa, UNDP. [Senegal]
- John Mason** – CEO, Nature Conservation Research Centre (NCRC). Katoomba Group, West Africa. [Ghana]
- Fabien Monteils** – Chief Technical Advisor, UN-REDD, Democratic Republic of Congo. [DRC]
- Maureen Mwale** – UN-REDD Project Officer / Forestry Department, Zambia. [Zambia]
- Helen Ndim** – Teacher and community woman leader, Buanchor community, CRS. [Buanchor, CRS, Nigeria]
- Bridget Nkor** – Head of Cartography/GIS Unit, Forestry Commission of Cross River State. [Calabar, Nigeria]
- Odigha Odigha** – Chairman, Forestry Commission, Cross River State. [Calabar, Nigeria]
- Damola Ogunesan** – Principal Conservation Officer, Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF). [Nigeria]
- Francis Okeke** – Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) / Nigeria Programme. [Nigeria]
- Emmanuel Oladipo** – Professor of climatology and environment. National Think Tank on Climate Change (NTTCC). [Abuja, Nigeria]
- Etim Omini** – Country Director, One Sky (Canadian Institute for Sustainable Living). [Calabar, Nigeria]
- Yaw Osafo** – REDD+ negotiator, Republic of Ghana. [Ghana]
- Kanyinke Sena** – Lawyer. Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordination (IPACC). [Kenya]
- Samuel Teltully** – REDD+ Coordinator, Taraba State. [Jalingo, Nigeria]
- Nick Wicks** – Manager, Omo-Shasha-Oluwa Forest Elephant Initiative, Pro-Natura International (PNI). [Nigeria]

AGENDA

Time	Sessions / Chairpersons	Topics & speakers
MONDAY 19th MARCH 2012		
7:45	Pick-up from hotels & guest houses (for participants from abroad, other Nigerian states and communities)	
8:15	Registration	<i>Participants are encouraged to arrive early so the event can start at 9 am.</i>
9:00	1.- INAUGURATION	<p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. James Epoke, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calabar • Mr. Odigha Odigha, Chairman, Forestry Commission, Cross River State • Mr. Salisu Dahiru, Special Advisor to the Federal Minister of Environment • Mr. Janthomas Hiemstra, Deputy Country Director, UNDP-Nigeria • Chief Edwin Ogar, Rural community leader, Cross River State • Mr. Josep Garí, Africa Advisor, UN-REDD <p><i>Inauguration by His Excellency Senator Liyel Imoke, Governor, Cross River State</i></p>
	<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>	
10:00	2.- PRESS PARLEY	Press Release and Q/A with the Governor of Cross River State, representatives of the Federal Minister of Environment and the UN team
10:30	<p>3.- THE REDD+ MECHANISM</p> <p><i>Chairperson:</i> <i>Prof. Francis Bisong (University of Calabar)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change: Science & policy Prof. Emmanuel Oladipo (NTTCC, Nigeria) • The REDD+ mechanism: Origin, components, process and vision Josep Garí (UN-REDD, Nairobi) • The UNFCCC and status of REDD+ negotiations Yaw Osafo (Ghana) • REDD+ in Africa: Progress, potentials & challenges John Mason (NCRC, Ghana) • Stakeholder engagement for REDD+ Kanyinke Sena (IPACC, Kenya) <i>in absentia</i> [presented by Josep A. Garí] • Forest monitoring and MRV systems Julian Fox (FAO, Zambia) • Social & environmental dimensions of REDD+ Julie Greenwalt (UN-REDD, Nairobi) • Governance dimensions in REDD+ Marie Laberge (UNDP, Dakar) • Enabling local benefits in REDD+ interventions Rocio Hiraldo (ENDA, Senegal) • Questions & comments
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Time	Sessions / Chairpersons	Topics & speakers
14:30	<p>4.- THE REDD+ PROCESS IN NIGERIA</p> <p><i>Chairpersons:</i></p> <p><i>Julie Greenwalt (UN-REDD) & Prof. Eze Bassey (University of Calabar)</i></p> <p>➤ The session will end with an open debate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nigeria REDD+ process and the <i>Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme</i> Salisu Dahiru (FME, Nigeria) • Background and context for REDD+ in Nigeria Prof. Francis Bisong (University of Calabar, Nigeria) • Forest policies & actions in Cross River State Odigha Odigha (Forestry Commission, Cross River State, Nigeria) • U.N. views on sustainable development Janthomas Hiemstra (UNDP-Nigeria) • The Presidential Initiative on Afforestation (PIA) Thomas Fameso (PIA Implementation Committee, Nigeria) • Community carbon assessments in Cross River State Bridget Nkor (Forestry Commission, CRS) • The legal framework for a successful implantation of REDD+: Experiences from Ghana and proposals for Nigeria Yinka Agidee (The Rock and Partners, Nigeria & Ghana) • Critical perspectives on REDD+ Comrade Edem (GREENCODE & Climate Cool, Nigeria) • Emerging REDD+ processes in other Nigerian states Samuel Teltully (Taraba State, Nigeria)
17:00	Summary of sessions by <i>rapporteurs</i> & End of day	
TUESDAY 20th MARCH 2012		
9:00	<p>5.- REDD+ INITIATIVES IN THE WORLD</p> <p><i>Chairpersons:</i></p> <p><i>Salisu Dahiru (FME, Nigeria) & Prof. Lydia Bassey (University of Calabar)</i></p> <p><i>(coffee/tea break at around 11:00 hrs)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa REDD+ initiatives: Case studies from Liberia, Ghana and Ethiopia John Mason (NCRC & Katoomba Group, Ghana) • Democratic Republic of Congo: The national REDD+ readiness process Fabien Monteils (UN-REDD, DRC) • REDD+ in Africa: ENDA's insights and approaches Rocio Hiraldo (ENDA, Senegal) • REDD+ initiatives in Latin America & Asia: Brazil, Indonesia, Vietnam Josep A. Garí (UN-REDD, Nairobi) • Bridging the gap through <i>sustainable solutions</i>: Social business and community engagement Chiedu Chukwumah (Reach Global Company, USA) • An option for national forest monitoring for REDD+: The joint INPE-FAO venture in Brazil Julian Fox (FAO-Zambia) • Zambia: REDD+ progress Maureen Mwale (Zambia REDD+ Team) • Building a REDD+ Strategy: A comparative analysis Fabien Monteils (UN-REDD, DRC) • Questions & plenary discussion
13:30	Lunch	

Time	Sessions / Chairpersons	Topics & speakers
15:00	<p>6.- FOREST, CLIMATE & REDD+ INITIATIVES IN NIGERIA</p> <p><i>{ an open forum of initiatives that are relevant for REDD+ }</i></p> <p>Chairpersons: Prof. Emmanuel Oladipo (NTTCC) & Dr. Joy Atu (University of Calabar)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CRS Forestry Commission's activities Odigha Odigha (CRS/FC, Nigeria) • The Omo-Shasha-Oluwa Forest Elephant Conservation (REDD+) Initiative Nick Wicks (PNI) and Damola Ogunesan (NCF), with representatives of Ogun, Ondo and Osun states • REDD Feasibility Assessment in the Takamanda-Mone Landscape, Cameroon: Can REDD save gorillas from logging? Francis Okeke (WCS, Nigeria) • Communities' perspectives on REDD+ Rev. Essien (Akwa Esuk Eyamba community, Akpabuyo LGA, CRS, Nigeria) with Tony Attah (Concern Universal, Nigeria) • Community involvement in forest conservation Helen Ndim (Buanchor community, CRS, Nigeria) • Community engagement in preliminary REDD+ activities: Summary of One Sky's experiences Etim Omini (One Sky, CRS, Nigeria) <p>→ other presentations (to be confirmed)</p>
17:00	Summary of sessions by the <i>rapporteurs</i> & End of Day	
WEDNESDAY 21st MARCH 2012		
9:00	<p>7.- REDD+ LABORATORY: DISCUSSION IN THEMATIC GROUPS</p> <p><i>These discussion groups are proposals only, aiming at examining in detail some of the matters presented on the previous sessions.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institutional, legal & coordination arrangements for REDD+ in Nigeria (leaders: Salisu Dahiru & Yinka Agidee) 2. Planning & managing a national REDD+ process (leaders: Fabien Monteils & Dr. C. C. Ikeji) 3. REDD+ projects in Africa (leaders: John Mason & Nick Wicks) 4. Engagement of community stakeholders (leaders: Tony Attah & Rocio Hiraldo) 5. MRV and forest monitoring systems (leaders: Julian Fox & Bridget Nkor) 6. Participatory Governance Assessments for REDD+ (leader: Marie Laberge) 7. Socio-environmental safeguards and multiple benefits (leaders: Julie Greenwalt & James Odey) 8. REDD+, alternative livelihoods and the private sector (leaders: Chiedu Chukwumah, Arikpo Arikpo & Ochuko Odibo)
11:00	Coffee/Tea break	
11:30	<p>8.- IMPLEMENTING REDD+ IN NIGERIA</p> <p><i>{ panel & debate }</i></p> <p>Chairperson: Prof. S.O. Abang (University of Calabar)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debriefing from the working groups (from session 7 above) • Comments from a Panel (composition to be defined) • Open debate on implementing REDD+ in Nigeria: Lessons, challenges, opportunities and priorities
13:30	Lunch	

Time	Sessions / Chairpersons	Topics & speakers
15:00	9. SYNTHESIS <i>Chairperson:</i> <i>Dr. David Eni</i> <i>(University of Calabar)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test (20-minutes multiple-choice test to self-assess learning) • Draft synthesis of the University – by Sylvanus Abua and other <i>rapporteurs</i> • Open review of the University event – by participants • Remarks by international delegations & representatives from Nigerian states • Next steps in the Nigeria REDD+ process – by Salisu Dahiru
16:30	10. CLOSING CEREMONY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesis of the <i>REDD+ University</i> by Odigha Odigha (Chairman, CRS/FC) • Final remarks by Salisu Dahiru (National REDD+ Coordinator) and Josep A. Garí (UN-REDD Representative) • Closing address by the State Secretary to Government, Cross River State • Hand-out of certificates
17:00	Cocktail (kindly offered by the Cross River State's Forestry Commission) & End of event	

Abbreviations & acronyms:

CRS	Cross River State
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
tbc/tbd	to be confirmed / to be determined
FC	Forestry Commission
FME	Federal Ministry of Environment
LGA	Local Government Area
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
PIA	Presidential Initiative on Afforestation
REDD+	Reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, <i>plus</i> forest conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of carbon stocks
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-REDD	United Nations collaborative initiative for REDD+ [a FAO/UNDP/UNEP partnership]
USA	United States of America