Reflection on Forest GHG Inventories

Measurement Reporting and Verification Joint Workshop

UN-REDD MRV Session

Zapopan, Jalisco, México
23rd June 2010

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1. Presenting Countries: Mexico

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GHG forest reporting

Activity Data x Emission Factors = Emission estimates

Reporting based on 1996 guidelines

- Changes in forest and other woody biomass stocks
- Abandonment of croplands, pastures, or other managed lands
- CO2 emissions and removals from soils
- Forest and grassland conversion
- Other categories of reporting and specific cases (Disturbance: storms, fire, insects, BGB, Shifting cultivation, flooding/drainage wetlands)

Opportunities

- Countries are already working on activity data.
- Many countries are already working on their emission factors.
- Mexico has a set of locally adjusted allometric equations based on comprehensive long term forest inventory datasets.
- There are already available data sets of forest disturbances e.g. Fires.
- Importance of coordinating field data with remote sensing data: specially interesting for identifying degradation.

Challenges

- Reporting requirements for REDD+ not clear.
- Methodological approaches to report on degradation still unclear.
- GHG Inventories require well organized institutional set ups to coordinate the mixing of emission factors and activity data.
- Defining National Forest Inventories for Emission Factors might benefit from stratified approached rather than systematic non-stratified ones: pre-stratification vs post-stratification.
- Uncertainties for GHGs are still to be defined for Tier 2.
- Annual reporting for emission estimates might be challenging.
- Importance of focusing on areas undergoing changes.
- Ground verification of RSS data not always available.