

Introduction

Next week, the UN-REDD Programme will host its fifth Policy Board meeting at the International Monetary Fund facility from 4-5 November in Washington, D.C. This particular Policy Board meeting is significant as the board will be asked to endorse the UN-REDD Programme's five-year strategic plan as well as consider funding requests for full and initial National Programmes from five countries. Two other countries will present roadmaps for National Programmes to be submitted after the board meeting. Coming just days after the CBD COP10 in Nagoya and a few weeks before UNFCCC COP16, the Policy Board provides a valuable opportunity for countries to take stock of progress with national level REDD+ activities.

The UN-REDD Programme will also host, together with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the Forest Investment Program (FIP), the first joint meeting on 6 November to explore the ways in which the three initiatives can continue to collaborate, in order to deliver streamlined support to the 48 countries they collectively work with.

The demand for, and interest in, the UN-REDD Programme continues to grow. We're encouraged by the concrete advancement of REDD+ in our pilot and partner countries. And we look forward to interacting with the countries as well as the diverse stakeholders, including representatives of civil society and Indigenous Peoples, who will participate in our Policy Board meeting.

Travel safe... we'll see some of you next week!

Yemi Katerere
Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

News

New Carbon Maps Contribute to Wider Conservation

The UN-REDD Programme has helped to develop specialized carbon maps that highlight areas where investments in carbon could contribute to community livelihoods and conservation goals.



World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), overlay the carbon held in the vegetation and soils of a country's terrestrial ecosystems with other key features. These include population densities; economic activities such as honey and gum production; the location of existing protected areas and biodiversity.

Mapping where a country's carbon stocks overlap with areas that are important to wildlife and local peoples' livelihoods is underway in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The aim is to support international efforts to conserve forests in order to combat climate change, but in a way that delivers other benefits including conservation of economically-important ecosystems linked with water, fertile soils and other crucial services.

The maps, being compiled by a partnership led by the UN Environment Programme's

Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary General and UNEP Executive Director, said: "The aim is to assist governments in setting priorities for carbon investments. In Tanzania for example, several carbon rich parts of the country are in areas where the ranges of almost 70 per cent of the country's mammal species overlap".

UNEP-WCMC's work is being supported through two streams of funding: the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), and the UN-REDD Programme.

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For more information on the UN-REDD Programme visit www.un-redd.org

Maps have been developed for Cambodia, Jiangxi Province in China, Ecuador, Honduras, Nigeria and Tanzania. Under the UN-REDD Programme, UNEP-WCMC is expecting to do further work for the Democratic Republic of Congo and Indonesia.

The launch of these maps coincided with the Convention on Biological Diversity's 10th Conference of the Parties Meeting in Nagoya this month, where progress on the 2010 Biodiversity Target committed to by the world's governments will be reviewed, and other issues, including biodiversity and climate change, are being considered.

Jon Hutton, Director of UNEP-WCMC, said: "Tropical forests host more than two thirds of the world's terrestrial species, and provide vital ecosystem services that help to maintain people's livelihoods. With global biodiversity under unprecedented threat, identifying areas

that are high in both carbon and biodiversity offers an opportunity to direct scarce financial resources in ways that create win-win situations for climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation."

All maps and reports are publicly available and downloadable at:
www.unep-wcmc.org/climate/publications.aspx
www.carbon-biodiversity.net
www.un-redd.org/multiple_benefits/tabid/1051/Default.aspx ■

UN-REDD-INPE Training on National Forest Monitoring Systems

The UN-REDD Programme and Brazil's National Institute for Space Research (INPE) collaborate to help interested REDD+ countries set up their own national satellite forest monitoring systems.



Hands-on training jointly delivered by the UN-REDD Programme and Brazil's INPE on the TerraAmazon system in the INPE facilities in Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil.

The joint initiative between the FAO component in the UN-REDD Programme and Brazil's National Institute for Space Research (INPE), entitled "Forest monitoring systems based on Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System techniques" held its first intensive training course 4-15 October at INPE's headquarters in Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil, focusing on the insights of the Brazilian satellite forest monitoring system known as TerraAmazon. Trainers from the UN-REDD Programme, through FAO, and REDD+ country delegations from Ecuador, Guyana and Mexico participated in this pilot course aimed at supporting countries in their set-up of an autonomous national system for monitoring of deforestation and forest degradation.

REDD+ implementation will require advanced ways of monitoring forest carbon stocks nationally. In collaboration with Brazil's INPE, the UN-REDD Programme will facilitate countries to get acquainted and trained with the operational Brazilian forest monitoring system in order to improve their own national technical capacity, providing the opportunity among REDD+ countries to set up independent satellite forest monitoring systems that will be valuable also as a tool to report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, following the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines and Guidance.

According to Ernesto Diaz Ponce Davalos from the National Forestry Inventory (NFI) Department in CONAFOR, Mexico, "Mexico already monitors its forests through image processing techniques and found out about the operational INPE forest monitoring system. This course gives Mexico the opportunity to learn in-depth about the Brazilian TerraAmazon system. Our system can explore the implementation of the TerraAmazon methodologies and its administration to help us improve our own forest monitoring."

Brazil's INPE is fully committed to sharing its experience in large-scale monitoring of deforestation that can help provide accurate and transparent data to the public. The Brazilian monitoring system and projects (TerraAmazon, PRODES, DETER, and DEGRAD) have been presented and are shared with the countries to help them advance their own forest monitoring.

Maria Janeth Delgado Aguilar from the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador who works on the country's SocioBosque project, praised the benefits of this training opportunity, "Ecuador will start monitoring deforestation with high frequency (every 15 days) as a component of its forest monitoring and wants to look into the possible existing tools to speed up in-country used image processing techniques which are rather slow." She also considered the many functionalities of the TerraAmazon platform which could be implemented in the existing Ecuadorian system to improve the quality control of mapping activities and the multi-user option to work with different users on the same satellite images.

Currently, monitoring systems in many countries are not accurate enough or simply non-existent for the monitoring of forest carbon stocks that will be required for REDD+ implementation. For this reason, countries are exploring how to design and implement an operational forest monitoring systems in a cost-efficient way. The INPE platform is freely

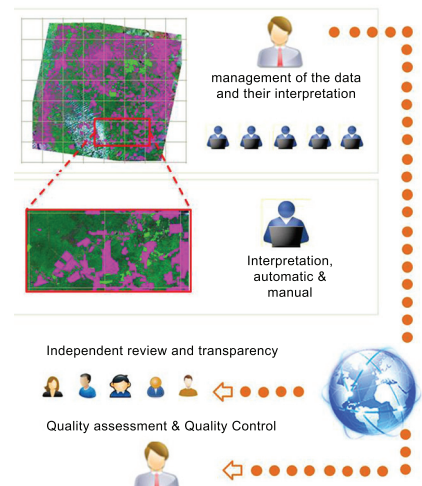
available and provides options, tools and algorithms which can be adapted according to country needs.

Haimwant Persaud from the GIS Department in the Guyana Forestry Commission, considered the training very important for his country since they are in the phase of setting-up their own national Measuring Reporting and Verification (MRV) system and aim to have an operational forest monitoring system similar to Brazil. "Guyana is interested in testing if the TerraAmazon system can be applied. One of the great advantages I see in using the Brazilian system is the structure based on "rules", allowing periodical statistics of mapping activities and thus reporting. Further testing in-country will be done to see if the system functions well for the Guyana conditions," said Persaud.

To develop strong nationally-owned forest monitoring systems, technical and institutional capacity building is key. The UN-REDD Programme, through FAO, will take on intensive training together with key partners such as INPE, and will provide technical help and assistance for in-country training and implementation for satellite forest monitoring.

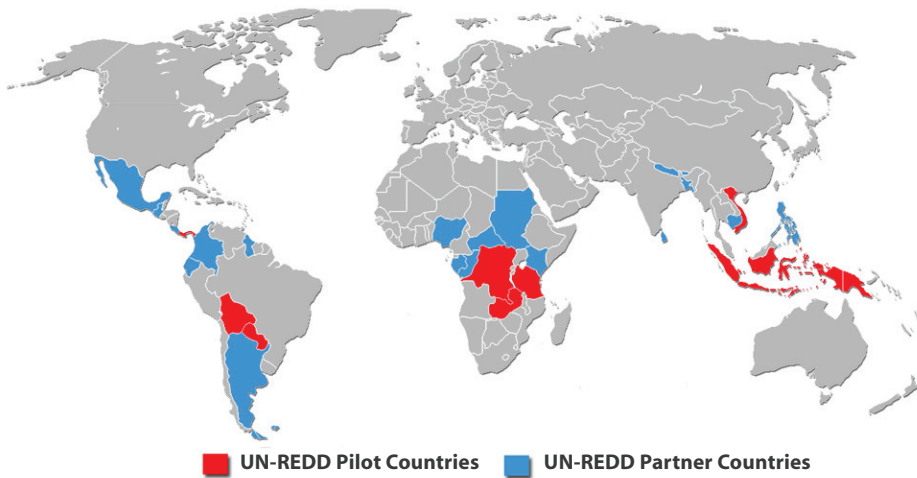
The goal of the collaboration in this capacity building effort is to train technical forest people and IT persons from interested REDD+ countries. This will allow them to use the system, adapt it to country needs and use training on the TerraAmazon system as a capacity building tool to enhance existing national forest monitoring systems. ■

A Multi-user and transparent national forest monitoring system: the INPE system



2 New Countries Join the UN-REDD Programme

The UN-REDD Programme welcomes Gabon and Guyana as new partners to the Programme.



The UN-REDD Programme's Policy Board agreed in an inter-sessional decision in October to welcome Gabon and Guyana as partners of the Programme and official observers to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board. These two countries join the Programme's nine pilot countries and 18 other partner countries across Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America (see map and fact box).

While current UN-REDD Programme funding is programmed for nine pilot countries, partner countries can take advantage of many other benefits of the UN-REDD Programme, such as networking, and knowledge sharing, which is facilitated by the UN-REDD Programme's online community of practice through its dedicated workspace.

Partner countries can also participate in global and regional workshops and have

FACT BOX:

UN-REDD Pilot Countries:

Bolivia
Democratic Republic of Congo
Indonesia
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Tanzania
Viet Nam
Zambia

UN-REDD Partner Countries:

Argentina	Kenya
Bhutan	Mexico
Cambodia	Bangladesh
Central African Republic	Nepal
Colombia	Nigeria
Costa Rica	Philippines
Ecuador	Republic of Congo
Gabon*	Solomon Islands
Guatemala	Sri Lanka
Guyana*	Sudan

**New UN-REDD partner countries as of October 2010*

official observer status at UN-REDD Policy Board meetings, the next one is scheduled for 4-5 November 2010 in Washington, D.C. The UN-REDD Programme continues to pursue several funding options, enabling the Programme to expand the nature of its support on REDD+ to partner countries in the future. In the meantime, the Programme is very keen to support the exchange of experiences among countries, and engage with partner countries on REDD+ readiness. ■

New Info on Multiple Benefits for REDD+

To coincide with the 10th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, the UN-REDD Programme has added new materials on the biodiversity and ecosystem benefits of REDD+ on un-redd.org.

These pages provide access to a wide range of new material on ecosystem-based benefits, along with resources, and pages devoted to the multiple benefits of REDD+ at global and national levels. This revamped section of our website will continue to be updated with further resources as the work of the UN-REDD Programme progresses.

Here's a sample of some of the publications you can access from our new Multiple Benefits section:

- Beyond Carbon: Ecosystem-based Benefits of REDD+
- Multiple Benefits: Issues and Options for REDD
- Carbon, biodiversity and ecosystem services: Exploring co-benefits in Nigeria

You can also find a series of nine issue papers, on various aspects of multiple benefits for REDD+, by clicking on our new Multiple Benefits Publications section. ■



REDD+ Partnership Launches New Website

The Interim REDD+ Partnership launched its new website, reddpluspartnership.org, during its recent workshop at the UNFCCC Climate Change Talks in Tianjin.



The new site is an entry point to essential information on initiatives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) in developing countries. Through this website, the 69 countries that have joined the REDD+ Partnership share documents, including the outcomes of the Oslo Climate and Forest Conference, and the International Conference on the Major Forest Basins (Paris) –

both held in 2010 – and exchange information and views related to REDD+ activities seeking to scale up REDD+ actions and finance.

Immediate action is expected to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and coordination of REDD+ initiatives and financial instruments, to facilitate among other things knowledge transfer, capacity enhancement, mitigation actions and technology development and transfer. The website is also used as a tool for

communication among partners and between partners and stakeholders, and for sharing information with a wide audience.

In its recent workshop on 2 October 2010 in Tianjin, China, the REDD+ Partnership reviewed and welcomed the progress made with the voluntary REDD+ database and the analysis of gaps and overlaps in REDD+ financing, both developed by the UN-REDD Programme Team and the World Bank hosted Facility Management Team of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, in collaboration with the Forest Investment Program.

Visit the REDD+ Partnership website at www.reddpluspartnership.org. It can also be accessed through the UNFCCC REDD Platform. ■

Features & Commentary

Paraguay's National Programme for REDD+

REDD Regional Technical Advisor for the UN-REDD Programme in Paraguay, **Santiago Carrizosa**, highlights the steps Paraguay has taken since 2008 to develop their National Programme document for REDD+, which will be presented at the upcoming UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting in November.



Reducing deforestation and forest degradation in Paraguay is imperative not only to control the release of emissions into the atmosphere, but also to preserve the livelihoods of all forest-dependent communities. Such a forest-livelihood relationship takes on a special meaning particularly in the context of uncontacted groups such as the Ayoreo who still live a

nomadic life in the forest. Of the several different sub-groups of Ayoreo, the most isolated are the Totobiegosode. Since 1969, many have been forced out of the forest, but some still avoid all contact with outsiders. Ensuring the integrity of the forested homeland of the Ayoreo and all other Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities is one of the main challenges of the UN-REDD Programme in Paraguay.

Since late 2008, when the UN-REDD Programme was launched in Paraguay, the Secretariat for the Environment (SEAM), the National Forestry Institute (INFONA), FAO, UNDP, and UNEP have been working closely with the Coordinating Committee for Indigenous Peoples (CAPI) and other civil society organizations to develop a proposal for a national capacity building REDD+ programme in Paraguay. REDD+ is an initiative that goes beyond protecting and enhancing carbon stocks and also supports ecosystem and social benefits, such as the conservation of biodiversity, watershed protection, sustainable management of forests, carbon payments to communities, and improved governance. To achieve these multiple benefits, REDD+ requires the full

engagement and respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent communities.

The development process of the UN-REDD National Programme in Paraguay has been guided by the UN-REDD Programme Operational Guidance on the Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities, which underscores the importance of respecting Indigenous Peoples' rights, including ensuring their full participation and inclusion, and seeking their free, prior and informed consent, as per the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. CAPI, the main coordinating body of Indigenous organizations in Paraguay, is composed of 14 organizations of Indigenous Peoples and has been participating in the process and providing valuable advice to ensure an informed, transparent, and participatory process in Paraguay. In fact, CAPI is one of the members of the National Technical Team together with SEAM and INFONA that are working on the National Programme.

Developing Paraguay's National Programme is a process that has received the input of multiple representatives from government, civil society, and Indigenous People's organizations. Since October 2009, CAPI has held four informative workshops on climate change, REDD+ and UN-REDD Programme concepts, principles and operational modalities which provided key elements for the proposal. One of the key contributions of CAPI derived from this process is Chapter 3 of the National Programme document, entitled "Guidelines of the Coordination for Self-Determination of the Indigenous

Peoples (CAPI) for implementation of the National Joint Programme in Indigenous Peoples' Territories". This is significant as this is the first time that a UN-REDD National Programme includes such a chapter. The chapter states 14 key points that will guide the implementation of the National Programme in Indigenous Peoples' territories. For example, one of the guidelines states that "no REDD+ activity will be initiated without the free, prior and informed consent of such peoples or community."

Furthermore, output 3.2 of the National Programme includes an activity for the development of a consultation protocol for free, prior and informed consent for REDD+. On 25 June 2010, following intensive working sessions between SEAM, INFONA and CAPI, the National Technical Team pre-approved a preliminary draft of the UN-REDD National Programme for consideration at the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board that will meet in Washington, D.C. on 4-5 November 2010. The main objective of this proposal is to support the

Government of Paraguay in its efforts to overcome the drivers of deforestation and degradation of forests, hence, ensuring that the country is ready for REDD+. To achieve the proposed objective, the preliminary draft proposes to pursue the following three outcomes and respective outputs:

Outcome 1: Improved institutional and technical capacity of Government and Civil Society organizations to manage REDD+ activities in Paraguay

Outcome 2: Capacity established to implement REDD+ at a local level

Outcome 3: Increased knowledge and capacity building on REDD+ for forest dependent communities, especially indigenous peoples and other relevant stakeholders in the country

As the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board reviews the above proposal in early November, the Paraguayan National Technical Team (SEAM, INFONA, and CAPI) will continue with the consultation and

awareness-raising process for the document amongst Indigenous Peoples groups and representatives of government and civil society. Comments from these stakeholders, UN-REDD Programme staff, and other relevant actors will be incorporated into the proposal in early 2011 and the National Technical Team hopes to initiate its implementation in mid-2011. The process undertaken by SEAM, INFONA and CAPI since late 2008 suggests that the UN-REDD process is on solid ground and shows potential for the preservation of the forested homeland of the Ayoreo and other Indigenous Peoples in Paraguay. ■



Santiago Carrizosa is the REDD Regional Technical Advisor for the UN-REDD Programme in Paraguay and is based in the UNDP Regional Centre in Panama City, Panama.

Santiago Carrizosa

Biodiversity Benefits of REDD+

The UN-REDD Programme recently convened a workshop exploring the biodiversity benefits of REDD+ in Nairobi, and **Elifuraha Isaya Laltaika**, the elected representative of indigenous peoples in Africa to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, highlights the challenges and opportunities discussed.



The idea of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in Developing countries (REDD+) has generated a considerable degree of interest as well as significant international discussions since its introduction under the UNFCCC in 2007. It is a scheme that aims at rewarding developing countries in their efforts to conserve their forests. REDD+ was necessitated by the recognition that almost 20 per cent of all global carbon emissions are a result of deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. REDD+ is therefore a welcome move seen as a positive fiscal incentive for environmental protection. It provides for a unique opportunity to transform the forest sector and forest landscapes in anticipation for maximum financial gains.

However, since the primary aim of REDD or REDD+ is to reduce carbon through making money, REDD+ has the potential to bring about imbalance between the need for finances on the one hand, and the need for biodiversity conservation on the other. This article is a reflection on the need for a 360 degree view of forests to include their value beyond carbon and money, also referred to as 'multiple benefits of forests'.

Biodiversity Benefits of REDD+ Workshop

From the 20-23 of September 2010 in Nairobi, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN-REDD Programme jointly convened an expert workshop on Biodiversity Benefits of REDD+. The following ideas were refined by listening to the enriching presentations there and taking part in lively group discussions.

Forests offer more than carbon

Biodiversity has been defined to include a variety of genetically distinct populations and species of plants, animals, ecosystems and micro-organisms with which human beings share the earth. In other words, forests conserve as part of biodiversity, both visible and invisible organisms. Some of these organisms can not be said to be of immediate

economic value such as snails and butterflies or sparsely available medicinal herbs and tubers. However, their existence in the ecosystem is not in any way insignificant from the ecological standpoint. Therefore, to confine what the forest has to offer to only carbon and money is to expect to live by bread alone; mankind needs more than only bread.

Plantations: Enough for today, but what about tomorrow?

In an effort to offset more carbon and get more money, actors will invariably indulge in reducing indigenous forests in order to plant trees that have the ability to offset more carbon. This is precarious to biodiversity since some species are native to some places because of the natural vegetation there. This means that the disappearance of such vegetation will spell automatic disappearance of such biodiversity.

Similarly, since scientific discoveries are on-going, replacing indigenous trees with plantations also entails interference with possible or potential scientific discoveries and breakthroughs. For indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities, replacing indigenous forests with plantations solely to offset carbon and get money means the erosion of culture and natural wealth for a "one-day meal."

Eviction of local communities

Another challenge of considering forests in terms of carbon offset and money-making alone relates to developing a system that

truly provides benefits to local communities and indigenous peoples. If emphasis is given to generating money, indigenous peoples and local communities will be sidelined by corporations and other actors. Their right to effective participation in development processes, including the right to free, prior and informed consent is likely to be undermined. There is also the likelihood for them to be evicted from their ancestral land if doing so will entail offsetting more carbon and making more money.

Striking a balance

The main obstacles for achieving multiple benefits are that the real value of forest

ecosystem services are not known or appreciated in decision-making. However, for REDD+ to be free from risks, there is a need to look at the multiple values and services of forests as a whole. Such a holistic approach will not only address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation but will also ensure conservation of important biodiversity for potential scientific breakthroughs as well as for the best interest and welfare of indigenous peoples and other forest dependent local communities.

For the full report from the Biodiversity Benefits of REDD+ workshop, got to: www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWREDD-01 ■



Elifuraha Isaya Laltaika

Elifuraha Isaya Laltaika (LL.M in Environmental Law) is the elected indigenous peoples of Africa representative to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board. The author wishes to express his thanks to the UN-REDD Programme for the

invitation to the recent biodiversity workshop in Nairobi, as well as for the financial support to enable him to attend.

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Reports & Analysis

UN-REDD FPIC Workshop in Panama

The UN-REDD Programme held a consultation with Indigenous Peoples from Latin America and the Caribbean to facilitate the development of guidelines on how to apply the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and develop recourse mechanisms for UN-REDD Programme activities during the REDD+ Readiness process.



Participants discuss the practical application of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) at the UN-REDD Programme's recent FPIC workshop in Panama.

The UN-REDD Programme convened a four-day workshop between 4-7 October in Panama to advance the development of guidelines for free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) and recourse mechanisms for the UN-REDD Programme. This was the second step of a four-step process that was initiated with a regional consultation on FPIC and recourse mechanisms for the Asia and Pacific region held in Hanoi in June of this year. Draft guidelines developed in Hanoi were reviewed and elaborated by participants during the consultation in Panama. A third regional consultation will be held for the Africa region in January 2011 to receive input from Indigenous Peoples and civil society organizations from this region. Following the Africa consultation, the fourth step of the process will be to open the guidelines to a public comment and input process. The resulting guidelines, reflecting

inputs from all three regions, will be added as an annex to the UN-REDD Programme Operational Guidance on the Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and other Forest Dependent Communities.

This body of work is a crucial component of the UN-REDD Programme's objectives in the area of stakeholder engagement. As outlined in the Operational Guidance, the UN-REDD Programme is mandated under the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) to support the implementation of the Declaration's provisions. A key guiding principle of the UN-REDD Programme is to adhere to the principle of free, prior and informed consent as essential to ensure full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent communities in policy and decision-making processes within UN-REDD Programme activities.

The workshop brought together 54 participants from Indigenous Peoples' organizations, civil society organizations (e.g. the Bank Information Center, ClientEarth, the Forest Peoples Programme, the Center for International Environmental Law, the Rainforest Foundation Norway), representing UN-REDD Programme pilot and partner countries such as Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, and others, along with participants from UN agencies and the World Bank. Indigenous Peoples and civil society representatives to

the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the President of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues also participated.

The opening address was given by Chris Briggs, Team Leader of the Energy and Environment Group of the UNDP Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean, along with Heraclio Herrera from the National Indigenous Peoples Coordinating Body of Panama, COONAPIP (Coordinadora Nacional De Los Pueblos Indígenas De Panama). A special welcome speech was given in the evening by Don Gilberto, Vice President of COONAPIP and Chief of the Kuna from south-eastern Panama, who related a traditional story, underscoring that solutions to the dire challenge of climate change can only be found with the full participation of Indigenous Peoples.

On the first day of the workshop, presentations by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the UN-REDD Programme set the stage by providing a review of the history and recent local and global developments in REDD+. Representatives from UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank for the region then reported on current UN-REDD Programme and FCPF activities and the main issues of interest in Latin America and the Caribbean. On day two, there were reviews of the legal basis for FPIC under international law, as well as from the perspective of Indigenous Peoples, followed by presentations on current FPIC and stakeholder engagement initiatives under the UN-REDD Programme. Representatives from Indigenous Peoples' organizations shared experiences on specific country-level approaches to REDD+ stakeholder engagement in Bolivia, Panama, and Paraguay. The UN-REDD Programme's Regional Coordinator for the Asia and Pacific region gave a detailed presentation on an eight-step pilot FPIC process that was carried out by the UN-REDD Programme in Vietnam

in Lam Dong Province. A short documentary on this process is also available online.

During the second half of the workshop, participants formed five working groups tasked with examining different aspects of FPIC and recourse implementation. The groups reviewed key terms and issues to form guidelines for effective consultation processes as well as FPIC and recourse. Two groups also provided an analysis of what specific UN REDD activities FPIC should be applied to. Each group reported on their initial conclusions on day three, allowing for further input and discussion with the broader group.

There were a number of important issues that emerged, such as the need to make the process appropriate to the regional, national, and local community context where necessary. As the legal frameworks and the historical context of Indigenous Peoples in

Latin America and the Caribbean may be quite distinct from other regions, participants stressed that the guidelines should be able to accommodate these differences. The challenges related to providing adequate information on REDD+ at the community level and defining meaningful representation and consent were also raised.

The final guidelines for each topic area were presented on the afternoon of the last day of the workshop. The outputs were a set of strong, practical recommendations for applying FPIC to UN-REDD Programme activities that will be used to update the present draft guidelines. The President of COONAPIP, Betanio Chiquidama, gave the closing address and thanked the participants for their presence in Panama.

A full report on the workshop and a set of draft guidelines for the Latin America and

Caribbean region will be developed after this meeting, and will be posted on the UN-REDD Programme's workspace, which also holds important background documents and copies of all the presentations and working group reports. Please also refer to the UN-REDD blog for posts on the workshop and future updates on UN-REDD Programme activities. ■



Some of the 54 participants who attended the UN-REDD Programme FPIC workshop in Panama pose for a picture on the closing day.

REDD+ at COFO

During the 20th session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO), the UN-REDD Programme participated in information events on REDD+ and forest monitoring, briefing delegates on the latest REDD+ developments from around the world.



Participants listen to presentations at the information event entitled "The current status of REDD+: national and international developments" that took place on 5 October at COFO in Rome.

The 20th session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Committee on Forestry gathered 116 countries at FAO headquarters in Rome from 4 - 8 October 2010 to discuss topics related mainly to the role of forests in sustainable development, with an emphasis on climate change and its effect on forest fires, water resources and biological diversity and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+).

One of the various information events entitled "The current status of REDD+: national and international developments" took place on 5 October, focusing on new developments in the REDD+ arena, opportunities for REDD+ financing as well as lessons learned from the implementation of activities and plans for future national strategies.

Stressing that REDD+ isn't limited to forests alone, Peter Holmgren, FAO Director of the Climate, Energy and Land Tenure Division, speaking at the information event, gave an overview of the developments of REDD+ highlighting the increasing demand for this global service. He pointed out that REDD+ is a cross-cutting issue that addresses three major global challenges: climate change, biodiversity, and food security.

During the same session, Juan Manuel Torres Rojo, Director- General of the National Forest Commission (CONAFOR), Government of Mexico, presented the main pillars of Mexico's national REDD+ strategy. The ENAREDD+ strategy includes:

- The development of a strategic vision for sustainable land management for REDD+
- Pilot activities that promote sustainable land management in communities through participatory planning approaches
- Capacity building to monitor forest cover changes and carbon links at the national and local levels
- Enhanced coordination among government agencies at both federal and state levels

Agus Sarsito, the Director of International Cooperation from the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia also provided a status of REDD+ in

Indonesia stressing how this country is currently applying a phased approach to REDD+, and work with bilateral and multilateral partners, such as the UN-REDD Programme, are currently underway.

Tiina Vahanen, Senior Officer from the UN-REDD Programme, presented the opportunities that REDD+ financing is offering the forest sector as the REDD+ Partnership, established last May 2010, scales-up its funding for REDD+ activities. She emphasized that the scale of financing for REDD+ is significantly larger than conventional international forest financing and that REDD+ is a significant mitigation opportunity, to which the "forestry community" has a lot to offer with existing tools and approaches.

Emerging Initiatives on Forest Finance In a parallel plenary session at COFO, delegates discussed new developments on forest finance. Yemi Katerere, Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, along with panelists from the Global Environment Facility, World Bank, Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, UNFF and Canada made presentations on current work programmes and financing targeted for forestry, and in particular on REDD+, forestry management and conservation, capacity development and reforms, investments, and forest landscape restoration. Panelists highlighted, among other things, the need to collaborate and closely coordinate these efforts to maximize the potential for financing forest activities to mitigate climate change.

A second information event also informed delegates about the status of the Global Remote Sensing Survey of Forests which is

part of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (FRA 2010) launched during COFO. The Survey of Forests is aimed at improving knowledge on land-use change dynamics over time, including deforestation, afforestation and natural expansion of forests.

Adam Gerrand, FRA Remote Sensing Survey Coordinator, gave an overview of the survey

providing an update of the work already carried out. Some 75 per cent of the world has been covered so far as the validation of information on land cover and land-use is still under way. The methods applied and the work developed with countries was presented by Remi D'Annunzio, also from the FAO Remote Sensing Survey Team. Two country delegates (Greg Reams, from the US Forest Service and Carlos Bahamondez, from

the Chilean Forestry Institute, INFOR) provided their insights on participating in the survey and the possible linkages between the survey and the national level.

For more information on the 20th Session of COFO go to: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/cofo/en/> ■

Looking Ahead

FCPF Participants Committee Meeting

1 - 3 November 2010, Washington, D.C., USA

UN-REDD Programme 5th Policy Board Meeting

4 - 5 November 2010, Washington, D.C., USA

FIP Sub-Committee Meeting

8 November 2010, Washington, D.C., USA

14th International Anti-Corruption Conference

10 - 13 November 2010, Bangkok, Thailand

UN-REDD/Chatham House Monitoring Governance Workshop

18 - 19 November 2010, Rome, Italy

COP 16 UNFCCC

29 November - 10 December 2010, Cancun, Mexico

Forest Day 4, "After Copenhagen: Maintaining the Momentum"

5 December 2010, Cancun, Mexico

For more information and registration go to <http://www.forestday.org/>

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