

Dear Reader,

With 12 weeks to go before the negotiations in Copenhagen, there is a visible momentum and excitement around REDD. However, there also remains much skepticism and doubt that a deal can be reached at COP 15 in Copenhagen. Some have even suggested that it is time to openly consider Plan B in the event that there is no agreement on REDD.

In view of this, the High level event on REDD convened by the United Nations Secretary-General on 23 September couldn't come at a more critical time. Speaker after speaker pleaded support and commitment to sealing the deal on REDD.

But it was the President of Guyana who challenged everyone to focus on the opportunities that REDD offers rather than on the problems and challenges. While it is accepted that REDD issues are complex, previous negotiations such as the Kyoto Protocol faced similar complexities and challenges, yet agreement was reached.

It is this positive spirit and thinking that is needed to make a case for an agreement in Copenhagen. That REDD is doable and is a win-win solution for the environment and people is undeniable and largely recognized.

But progress hinges on leadership. Some countries, like Norway and Guyana, have made substantial commitments to REDD -- one in financial terms and the other in forest area. We need to see more examples such as these ones. More developed and developing countries need to step forward and make clear commitments that will spur the rest to move ahead with REDD.

Yemi Katerere
Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat



Looking Ahead

Third Policy Board Meeting of the UN-REDD Programme to take place in Washington, D.C. from 29-30 October 2009

Previous Issues

August 2009

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please contact us at un-redd@un-redd.org

News

United Nations event on forests and climate change underscores North-South agreement and support for REDD

In an unprecedented display of cooperation between developed and developing countries on climate change, 18 Heads of State gathered at UN headquarters in New York to publicly express their commitment and support for REDD. They asserted that the new climate change agreement to be negotiated in Copenhagen must address in an effective and equitable way the role of forests as a mitigation option. [Read full article...](#)

Systematic review of methods to measure and assess terrestrial carbon

A team of world experts is working on a scientifically-based review of methods for measuring and assessing terrestrial carbon, for countries embarking on REDD [Read full article...](#)

Features & Commentary

UN-REDD and indigenous peoples' engagement: the case of Africa

By Elifuraha Isaya Laltaika [Read full article...](#)

Reports & Analysis

Several UN-REDD countries participate in discussion on assessment and monitoring forest degradation

Participants from UN-REDD countries attended a technical meeting on forest degradation at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy from 8-10 September 2009. [Read full article...](#)

UN-REDD countries meet to share experiences on measuring, reporting and verification systems for REDD

A measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) meeting held in FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, from 10-11 September 2009, brought together representatives from nine UN-REDD countries and three UN agencies. [Read full article...](#)

US\$4.38 million UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme launched

Viet Nam is the first pilot country to fully start implementing activities that will help to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. [Read full article...](#)

Find out more about the UN-REDD Programme here

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