

## Introduction

It is certainly encouraging to see the greater awareness of, and interest in REDD+. We see this in the number of countries that continue to express their interest to join the UN-REDD Programme and the on-going progress with the UNFCCC negotiations. These are encouraging developments. And this month, the UN-REDD Programme is pleased to welcome yet another group of countries as official partners of the Programme and observers to its Policy Board.

But with this growing interest comes challenges. The biggest one is finding the financial resources to enable countries to embark on their national REDD+ readiness preparation plans. While there have been encouraging pledges made by developed countries, it is not clear how much new money is actually available to support readiness activities in countries seeking to develop REDD+ strategies.

As more countries commit to reducing carbon emissions from their forests and thereby holding the increase in global temperature rise below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, adequate resources need to be made available.

It is, however, encouraging to note that the REDD+ Partnership agreement adopted in Oslo on 27 May 2010 states clearly that the intent of the Partnership is "to enable the mobilization of financial and technical resources from developed countries in order to scale up the implementation of REDD+ actions". And the UN-REDD Programme's implementing agencies (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) have indicated their willingness to ready themselves to effectively respond to the anticipated level of scaling up.

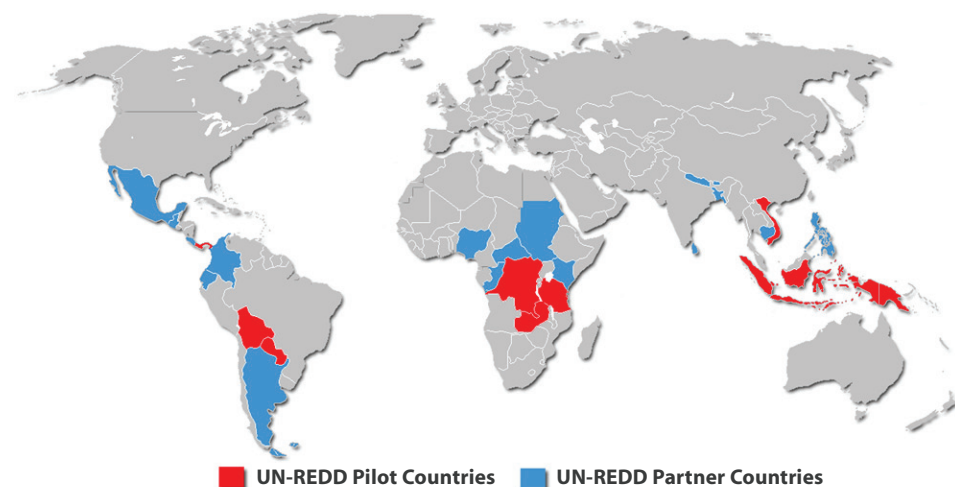
The UN-REDD Programme will be engaging with potential donors in the coming months, so that we can continue to support vital REDD+ efforts around the world.

Yemi Katerere  
Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

## News

### 5 New Countries Join the UN-REDD Programme

The UN-REDD Programme welcomes Bangladesh, Bhutan, Central African Republic, Colombia, and Guatemala as new partners to the Programme.



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For more information on the UN-REDD Programme visit [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org)

The UN-REDD Programme's Policy Board agreed in an inter-sessional decision in August to welcome Bangladesh, Bhutan, Central African Republic (CAR), Colombia and Guatemala as partners of the Programme and official observers to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board.

This group of five countries joins the Programme's nine pilot countries and 13 other partner countries across Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America (see map).

"We are extremely happy and honored to be part of the UN-REDD Programme," says Karma Tsering, Chief Forestry Officer in Bhutan's Ministry of Agriculture and Forests. "(It's) not very complicated to appreciate REDD in the context of Bhutan's current development principle of "Gross National Happiness", and its long-standing belief of living in harmony with nature."

Current UN-REDD Programme funding is programmed for its nine pilot countries, but partner countries can take advantage of many other benefits of the UN-REDD Programme, such as networking, and

## FACT BOX:

### UN-REDD Pilot Countries:

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

### UN-REDD Observer Countries:

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

*\*New UN-REDD partner countries as of August 2010*

knowledge sharing, which is facilitated by the UN-REDD Programme's online community of practice through its dedicated workspace. The workspace acts as a knowledge sharing tool where pilot and partner countries can find past and current information about REDD+ readiness activities, key documents, discussion fora, a calendar of events, meetings, mission and

workshops, and other information tools, enabling countries to share information about their own REDD-related activities with each other.

Partner countries can also participate in global and regional workshops and have official observer status at UN-REDD Policy Board meetings, the next one is scheduled

for 4-5 November 2010 in Washington, D.C. In addition, the Programme also offers pilot and partner countries access to our satellite imagery archives and the opportunity to participate in technical workshops that the Programme is supporting on a global level.

"We are delighted to welcome these five new partner countries to the Programme," says Dr. Yemi Katerere, Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat. "They will surely enrich the Programme with valuable REDD+ inputs and contributions and benefit from our strong community of practice."

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 and engage with partner countries on REDD+ readiness. ■

## UN-REDD in Latin America

The UN-Programme's pilot and partner countries in Latin America and the Caribbean make important progress in their REDD+ readiness efforts.



*A Cloud Forest in Latin America*

REDD+ strategies in the UN-REDD Programme's three Latin American pilot countries (Bolivia, Panama and Paraguay) and among its partner countries in the region (Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico) continue to make significant inroads. Below are some highlights and details from recent and upcoming activities.

### Bolivia

**23-26 August:** the Coordinating Body for the Indigenous People's Organization of the Amazon (COICA) is organizing an important regional meeting with all the heads of its partner organizations in Bolivia and the UN-REDD Programme has been invited to participate and present in this event.

### Paraguay

**12 July:** The United Nations Resident Coordinator of Paraguay submitted the National Joint Program to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, to be considered at the next Policy Board meeting.

### Panama

**4-7 October:** A regional workshop on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be organized in Panama City by the UN-REDD Programme and partners.

### Ecuador

**14- 17 June:** Ecuador hosted the Fourth Field Dialogue on REDD+ readiness

**21-25 June:** UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) conducted a mission in Ecuador

**19-21 July:** The UN-REDD Programme conducted its first joint mission to Ecuador to identify the support the Programme can provide to the government.

### Mexico

**July:** Mexico is operationalising the MOU it signed with Norway in May on REDD+ related activities. In the cadre of the UN-REDD Programme collaborative partnership, FAO and UNDP have been requested to provide support to these activities.

### Colombia

**August 2010:** Colombia is welcomed as a new UN-REDD Programme partner country.

### Guatemala

**August 2010:** Guatemala is welcomed as a new UN-REDD Programme partner country.

### Other Partnerships

**12-13 July:** Brazil's Ministry of Environment invited the UN-REDD Programme, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and the Global Environment Fund (GEF) to participate to a two-day meetings to identify the synergies between these multilateral platforms and request support to facilitate the leading role that Brazil wants to play in promoting South-South cooperation on REDD+. ■

## New Resources for REDD+ Negotiators

The Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD) will develop and provide resources, including updates on the UN-REDD Programme, to help developing country negotiators working on REDD+ in the lead-up to COP-16 in December.

# FIELD

Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development

REDD+ negotiations have progressed rapidly over the last few years, making it difficult for negotiators and others to keep up. To help inform REDD+ negotiations, FIELD will be providing briefing papers and other support to developing country negotiators working

on REDD+ in the lead-up to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in December this year in Cancun.

FIELD will also follow REDD+ developments outside the official climate change negotiations, for example, reporting on outcomes from the Interim REDD+ Partnership and UN-REDD Programme events, and will provide updates to interested representatives of governments, civil society, indigenous peoples and others.

FIELD is a group of international environmental lawyers based in London and its work includes advocacy, advice, capacity-building and research. FIELD works with a wide range of governments and stakeholders, focusing on developing countries, civil society and indigenous peoples.


FIELD will provide information under this project on a neutral, non partisan basis. When feasible, FIELD will provide the information in English, French and Spanish.

For further information on this initiative, you can consult their website. If you would like to join FIELD's REDD+ distribution lists, email: [field@field.org.uk](mailto:field@field.org.uk).

This project is funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. ■

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You can subscribe to the UN-REDD Programme's RSS feed by logging onto [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org), and clicking on the  RSS button on the homepage or in our Media Centre.

Once you've subscribed, you will automatically receive updates anytime the Programme adds new articles, announcements, reports on national and global programme activities, job vacancies, videos, and news alerts to the website. ■

## Reports & Analysis

### Investing in Good Governance for REDD+

The UN-REDD Programme held a governance side event at the Bonn Climate Talks in August, where participants discussed existing national REDD+ governance initiatives and explored ways to enhance country ownership of REDD+ governance through multi-stakeholder approaches.

On 5 August, the very day that the REDD+ text was discussed in the AWG-LCA, the UN-REDD Programme held its side event, "Investing in Good Governance for REDD+: Seeking Common Ground" at the Bonn Climate Talks. Based on the idea that information about governance efforts needs to be shared more widely and systematically, the event sought to deepen a common understanding of the range of governance activities required - and sometimes already undertaken - to prepare an efficient, equitable and effective REDD+ mechanism. Participants discussed existing national governance initiatives that relate to REDD+ readiness, with specific examples from Philippines and Ecuador.

In his opening remarks Charles McNeill, UNDP Senior Policy Adviser on REDD+ in the UN-REDD Programme, noted that often when different actors speak about governance for REDD+ they may be talking about distinct aspects of governance. For example, some think about it in the context of illegal activities and corruption, while others focus on governance as a coordination issue or stakeholder engagement. "Today, we'll try to unpack elements of governance for REDD+, based on specific country examples," said McNeill.

Florence Daviet, Associate Manager at the World Resources Institute, presented an analysis, first launched last May at a

Chatham House/UN-REDD Programme workshop, of what REDD+ countries have identified as governance challenges in their national UN-REDD Programmes and Readiness Preparation Proposals. Recurring elements across 16 documents have been found to be:

1. Stakeholder consultation and participation in REDD+ planning and implementation
2. Transparency and accountability of REDD+ systems and processes
3. Government coordination in REDD+ planning and implementation
4. Legislative reform and enforcement

"Consensus on some issues such as unclear tenure and weak law enforcement are universally mentioned," she highlighted. She pointed to possible gaps such as gender issues and strategies to engage women, the role of the judicial system, and strategies to engage local government and law enforcement bodies, and overall plans to monitor these elements.

Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, chair of the Tebtebba Foundation and REDD+ negotiator for the Philippines, spoke of the development of the





*Investing in Good Governance for REDD+ : Panelists at the UN-REDD Side event in Bonn, 5 August 2010*

national REDD+ strategy in the Philippines, a process initiated and driven by civil society. In the Philippines, she noted, the Indigenous Peoples Act recognizes certificates of ancestral domain titles and claims, and a recognition of free Prior and Informed Consent. Civil society organizations hired experts and engaged with the department of forestry to develop a proposed REDD+ strategy that relies on implementation by local governments. Although some critiques were raised that indigenous peoples were not sufficiently engaged in the preparation of this draft, Tauli-Corpuz noted that it is useful and integrates different drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. The challenge now will be to ensure that traditional practices of indigenous

communities are sustained and reinforced and that capacity is built to do so.

Marco Chiú, Undersecretary of Climate Change for the Government of Ecuador, examined Ecuador's approach to REDD+ governance through UNDP's framework of legality (rules), legitimacy (ie/ proper functioning of institutions and their acceptance by the public) and participation (ie/ efficacy of government and the achievement of consensus by democratic means). Rules, he pointed out, are laid out by provisions in the national constitution, the national development plan, the national environmental policy and the presidential decree of 1815. He described Ecuador's institutional arrangements, and

a process of participation that includes information, consultations, engagement and capacity building, which will start with a focus on indigenous peoples this year. John Samuel of UNDP's Oslo Governance Centre presented on Democratic Governance Assessments for REDD+, an approach to be supported by the UN-REDD Programme that emphasizes national ownership and accountability. These assessments, he noted are developed and owned by the key stakeholders and citizens of a given country, and they help to build the national and local capacity of the government and forest-dependent communities. Samuel explained that the assessments have more validity and impact than externally driven assessments and are both a practical and a political approach. The best safeguard, he noted, is when people claim their rights, participate in the process and have ownership of it. "Unless and until there is ownership," he emphasized, "change just won't happen."

Discussions touched on how to include women in designing REDD+ strategies; the role of local stakeholders in independent monitoring; the relationship between good governance and ensuring fair benefit-sharing mechanisms; and the tracking of poverty alleviation outcomes. Victor Fodeke, head of the newly formed Nigeria REDD Technical Committee, highlighted that the message he'd take home was one of "information, consultation, engagement, and capacity building." ■

## Looking Ahead

### XXIII IUFRO World Congress

23 - 28 August 2010, Seoul, Republic of Korea

### Workshop on Forest Governance and REDD in Latin America and the Caribbean

30 August - 3 September 2010, Oaxaca, Mexico

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