

## Introduction

As part of its tribute to the International Year of Forests in 2011, the Republic and Canton of Geneva paid the UN-REDD Programme a special honour by dedicating its 2011 grape and wine harvest to the UN-REDD Programme. Every year, Geneva extends this honour to an international organization headquartered in the city (the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat is based in Geneva), in part to put a spotlight on the issues these organizations address. The dedication was designed to bring awareness to the work of the UN-REDD Programme as a way to highlight the importance of preserving tropical forests around the world.

At first glance, the link between a grape harvest in Geneva and tropical forests in developing countries might not seem an obvious one. But standing in those vineyards during the dedication ceremony was a good reminder of how important all facets of nature are to our livelihoods. From the vineyards in Geneva to the tropical forests across Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America— global climate change presents a major threat to all these life-supporting systems. We all need to share a profound reverence and commitment to protecting and sustainably managing the world's environment, which nourishes us, inspires us spiritually, and directly and indirectly supports the livelihoods of millions.

This was an opportunity for the UN-REDD Programme to highlight the potential that REDD+ holds for the conservation of forest biodiversity, water regulation, and other non-timber forest products, such as medicines, and conserving forests for their intrinsic value. Climate change will require that we rethink how we value and use our forest resources, and that we will need to think of ways of managing forests and populations that will be impacted by a changing climate.

The UN-REDD Programme thanks the Republic and Canton of Geneva once again for the opportunity to speak about these vitally important issues. During the remaining months of the International Year of Forests, I hope there will be many more opportunities to highlight the variety of reasons the world must preserve its tropical forests.

See pictures from the event on the UN-REDD Programme's Facebook page at: <http://tinyurl.com/UN-Redd-ProgrammeFB>

Read more on Geneva's vineyard dedication to the UN-REDD Programme (French only): <http://tinyurl.com/Geneva-Vineyard-Dedication>

Yemi Katerere

Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

## News

### UN-REDD at the Oslo REDD Exchange

The UN-REDD Programme highlights partner country progress in the areas of free, prior and informed consent, environmental and social safeguards and participatory carbon monitoring for REDD+ at Norway's first bi-annual REDD+ Exchange.



Three and a half years after Norwegian Prime Minister Stoltenberg announced Norway's commitment to provide funding for REDD at the Bali summit in 2007, Norad and the Norwegian Ministry of Environment

convened around 150 REDD+ technical experts, practitioners, government representatives and civil society actors in Oslo to take stock of the REDD+ process, and to exchange lessons learned thus far.

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

The Oslo REDD+ exchange, which took place 23-24 June, put particular emphasis on matters related to REDD+ safeguards and policies addressing the underlying drivers of deforestation.

Norwegian Minister of Environment and Development Assistance, Erik Solheim, addressed the many risks associated with REDD+ and argued that, "the risk of inaction was a lot higher than the risk of action." Strong signals from Norway on a continued emphasis on governance and anti-corruption efforts within REDD+ were also evident – a view which was backed by Indonesian Minister Kuntoro Mangkusubroto and his remarks on the importance of proper "governance infrastructure," as well as the need to pull stakeholders out of their comfort zone as necessary institutional changes and policy reform are needed for improved governance.

The Oslo REDD Exchange allowed for a number of interesting, relevant and thought-provoking presentations, interventions and discussion on a wide range of topics within the REDD+ discourse. Recurring questions and concerns throughout the exchange underscored the need for clarifying land tenure issues, how to deal with free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) when a government does not acknowledge the existence of Indigenous Peoples in a country, and also a recognition that a “move from ideas to implementation [within REDD+] has proceeded somewhat more slowly than appeared likely only two years ago”, said Frances Seymour, Director General of CIFOR.

Four presentations were given by the UN-REDD Programme. The head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, **Yemi Katerere**, gave a joint presentation

together with Benoit Bosquet from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility on REDD+ sustainability elements from a multilateral perspective, which focused on the importance of institutional arrangements, such as the need to address governance, tenure and gender issues, as well as the need for political will at a high level to keep the momentum in national REDD+ preparedness and implementation processes. **Tim Clairs**, Principal Policy & Technical Advisor, UNDP, gave a presentation on the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for FCPF Multiple Delivery Partners and highlighted that UNDP’s social and environmental standards were accepted as substantially equivalent to those applied by the World Bank.

During a parallel session, **Josep Gari**, Regional Technical Coordinator, UNDP, introduced

the audience to how the Free, Prior and Informed Consent process would be applied to the REDD+ process in DRC, outlining the challenges and concrete steps expected in the coming year. **Patrick van Laake**, Senior Technical Advisor, UNDP, gave an overview of the participatory carbon monitoring initiative which has been undertaken in Vietnam, to actively engage local communities in the forest monitoring process.

Norway’s Forest and Climate Ambassador, Hans Brattskar, closed the Oslo REDD Exchange by expressing that Norway’s ambition is to repeat the Oslo REDD Exchange every other year. Norad will publish a report from the Oslo REDD Exchanges, which is expected to be available at [www.osloreddexchange.org](http://www.osloreddexchange.org) in August. ■

## REDD+ Participatory Governance Assessments Piloted in Indonesia and Nigeria

The UN-REDD Programme together with government counterparts and UNDP country offices in Abuja, Nigeria and Jakarta, Indonesia have initiated pilots on the Participatory Governance Assessments (PGAs) for REDD+.

The purpose of the PGAs for REDD+ in Indonesia and Nigeria is to provide a framework for a participatory process at the country level to conduct governance assessments for information sharing on how REDD+ safeguards are promoted, addressed and respected in a systematic manner.

### In Indonesia

For the ongoing PGA pilot in Indonesia, there have been several consultations with a panel of experts to look at the overall design and scope of the PGA for REDD+. This PGA will be looking at three areas of governance in particular: legal and policy frameworks; capacities of REDD+ actors (nationally and sub-nationally), including civil society actors and business entities; and the impact of existing laws and practices. In addition, the PGA will address anti-corruption and conflict issues.

In July, provincial consultative meetings were held in both Riau and Central

Sulawesi – both to enrich the overall design of the PGA through input from relevant stakeholders and to ensure ownership at the provincial level. In these consultation meetings, participants included key provincial government representatives, academics, non-governmental organizations (working on environmental, Indigenous Peoples and gender issues), and the forest business association. The purpose of these consultative provincial meetings was to provide inputs and improve the design and plans for the PGA process.

There will also be a national consultative meeting on the PGA design where ministries, such as Ministry of Forestry, UKP4, Ministry of Environment, Indonesia’s National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), and national level civil society actors will take part to discuss and advance the PGA process further.



### In Nigeria

In May 2011, a brainstorming workshop was held with key Nigerian REDD+ stakeholders from federal and state levels in Lagos, during which consensus was reached on the value of developing PGAs for REDD+ in Nigeria. The workshop also identified key governance issues which should be assessed, and on a broad timeline and steps for the first phase of Nigeria’s PGA process, which will be from July until December 2011.

A national consultant will be recruited by the end of July to start with governance mapping and analysis work to inform a planned workshop during the third week of September (dates are not confirmed yet), where governance methodologies and next steps will be discussed and agreed. ■

## DRC Advances its National REDD+ Forest Monitoring System

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) presented the newly launched start-up phase of their national forest monitoring system at the UN Climate Change talks in Bonn last month.

During the DRC's side event in Bonn, representatives from the country explained how its National Forest Monitoring System will allow DRC to follow all actions related to the implementation of its national REDD+ policies and measures. The monitoring system will work as a platform to obtain information on their REDD+ results and actions, related directly or indirectly to national REDD+ strategies and may also include actions unrelated to carbon assessment, such as forest law enforcement. With the technical assistance of FAO, Brazil's National Space Agency (INPE) and other stakeholders, the country aims to set up an autonomous operational forest monitoring system. An initial version will be launched in Durban, South Africa during COP 17.

Discussions at the side event explored the relationship between national forest monitoring systems, Measuring, Reporting, Verification (MRV) and information systems, and the relationship between national forest inventories on emission factors and satellite land monitoring systems on activity data. There were also questions related to the need to develop a sub-national monitoring system and also the role of civil society in developing these monitoring systems. The side event gathered representatives from other REDD+ countries and partners interested in learning more about DRC's experience. Participants welcomed DRC's initiative and shared their experience on

forest monitoring with other partners during the UN climate change talk.

### Other REDD+ developments in Bonn

Overall REDD+ discussions during the UN Climate Change talks in Bonn included how reference levels should be used as a benchmark to assess the changes in forest cover and carbon stocks. A general need was raised for clarification on terms, including the difference between "reference emission levels" and "reference levels" and definitions of forests. There was a call from several countries to use the FAO-Forest Resources Assessment.

Parties gathered at Bonn also discussed what MRV for REDD+ should be, including among others:

- Consistent with any guidance on MRV for nationally appropriate mitigation actions
- Non-intrusive and respect national sovereignty, circumstances and capabilities
- Simple
- Transparent
- Flexible
- Cost-effective

In the final decision on REDD+ in Bonn, countries only agreed to the fact that the characteristics for MRV should follow what is already agreed in appendix I of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's decision 1/CP.16. ■



## UN-REDD Programme Agencies (FAO & UNDP) Are Hiring

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) are seeking to fill several project positions with the UN-REDD Programme, ranging from young professionals to a senior position as Programme Coordinator.

Check out the Vacancies page at [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org) for more details on the following positions:

**Programme Coordinator (FAO)**  
(UN-REDD Country Implementation)  
**GRADE LEVEL:** P-5  
**DUTY STATION:** Rome

**Forestry Officer- REDD+ (FAO)**  
**GRADE LEVEL:** P-3 (4 posts available)  
**DUTY STATION:** First 6-12 months in Rome; afterwards outposted to a Region or Country Programme

**Forestry Officer- REDD+ (FAO)**  
**GRADE LEVEL:** P-2 (2 posts available)  
**DUTY STATION:** First 6-12 months in Rome; afterwards outposted to a Region or Country Programme

**PROGRAMME SPECIALIST - REDD+ (UNDP)**  
**GRADE LEVEL:** P-3  
**DUTY STATION:** New York

Additional FAO vacancies (some in Rome, some field based) will be posted on-line within the next couple of days/weeks at: <http://www.fao.org/employment/project-vacancies/en/>

If you're interested and fulfill the essential requirements, please apply. ■



## Features & Commentary

### Regional Workshop in Ecuador Focuses on Rights and REDD+ in the Amazon

Civil Society representatives from the UN-REDD Programme participated in the workshop which recommends the establishment of a regional REDD+ Observatory for the Amazon that focuses on the rights of Indigenous Peoples in REDD+.

By: **Juliana Splendore**, IPAM

The Regional Amazonian Workshop on Rights and REDD+, organized by Rainforest Foundation Norway (RFN) and Center on Planning and Social Studies (CEPLAES), was held during 30 May to 2 June in Quito, Ecuador. The event's objective was to share information and experiences from REDD+ initiatives, particularly with regards to the engagement of Indigenous Peoples and civil society, social and environmental safeguards, and the issue of rights to natural resources, including the rights of native indigenous territories. The Amazonian Environmental Research Institute (IPAM) in Brazil participated in this workshop as the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board civil society representative for the Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) region, alongside regional UN-REDD Programme staff. The workshop included the participation of NGOs and some government representatives working on REDD+ in LAC.

In its presentation, IPAM representative, Mariana Christovam, explained the UN-REDD Programme's objectives and resources, while highlighting key components and activities of the approved National UN-REDD Programmes in the LAC region. Ms. Christovam also spoke about civil society participation in the UN-REDD Programme, stressing the functions of the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, which includes

representatives of Indigenous Peoples and civil society. Challenges, successes, and IPAM's next steps in its function as civil society representative to the Policy Board were also presented, such as producing newsletters to communicate information of the most important REDD+ events. IPAM intends to continue to visit other LAC partner countries of the UN-REDD Programme together with COICA (the Indigenous Peoples' representative for LAC on the Policy Board), to strengthen the development of REDD+ in important meetings.

During the workshop, other presentations focused on: the background of international debates concerning REDD+; the decisions taken by the UNFCCC COP 16 (Conference of Parties) and the perspectives for UNFCCC COP 17; the REDD+ process in Ecuador; and international initiatives such as the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the UN-REDD Programme. Nationally-led REDD+ processes and initiatives in Paraguay, Guyana, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador were presented, including details on Ecuador's Socio Bosque Program and the Mesa REDD initiative in Peru. The Mesa REDD initiative is a group in Peru composed by over 60 civil society and indigenous organizations and representatives of the private sector which provides inputs into the Peruvian REDD+ strategy and policy with the government.

last day the groups shared the main discussion points of each group with all the participants. Work groups highlighted the importance of considering territory rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities as a priority in the REDD+ context, the necessity of systematizing and publicizing different experiences of safeguards monitoring and verifying systems, and the importance of informing local communities of their rights established at the international level, such as in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

The event concluded with brief comments given by representatives of each country concerning disclosure initiatives, training and an overview of civil society groups that look at issues of climate changes and REDD+. The final suggestion was the creation of a regional REDD+ observatory similar to the initiative of Brazil's civil society, the REDD+ Observatory. A report is being developed that includes the workshop discussions, conclusions, and presentations.

Events such as this one are fundamental for the strengthening of the relationships between civil society and Indigenous Peoples in LAC. During the workshop, the context of REDD+ discussions in different countries in the region were made clearer and included how civil society and Indigenous Peoples are being organized in this context; seeking alternatives to best take advantage of the benefits that REDD+ can offer them.

IPAM intends to carry out missions to UN-REDD Programme partner countries in LAC to strengthen relationships with representatives and obtain more information on the consultation processes in-country. The objective is to expand civil society participation in the design and implementation of National UN-REDD Programme activities and strategies and to share information on the advances made by the UN-REDD Programme on the national and international level.



Group work allowed the participants to go into greater depth on key issues, including rights, safeguards, information and control systems, stakeholder consultations and FPIC.

Much of the workshop's focus was on rights over national resources, information and control systems, social and environmental safeguards, consultations, and Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). At the end, work groups were created to broaden the debate concerning these subjects, and on the



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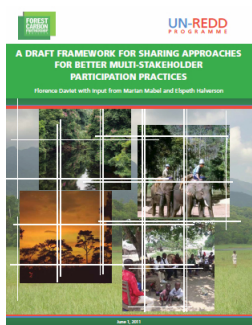
## Reports & Analysis

### UN-REDD and FCPF Publish Three Joint Papers

The UN-REDD Programme and the World Bank-hosted Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) released three jointly commissioned papers last month on multi-stakeholder participation, benefit-sharing and safeguard for REDD+.

The papers have been peer reviewed by international experts and UN-REDD Programme and World Bank staff, and revised for publication by the authors. Drafts of the papers were originally prepared for the REDD+ Partnership Workshop, "Enhancing Coordinated Delivery of REDD+: Emerging Lessons, Best Practices and Challenges," held 26 November 2010 in Cancun in conjunction with UNFCCC COP16.

#### A Draft Framework for Sharing Approaches for Better Multi-Stakeholder Participation Practices

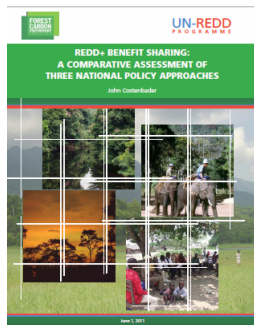


Many countries are beginning to engage stakeholders in domestic REDD+ decision-making processes, often with support from bilateral, multilateral and non-governmental initiatives.

This publication seeks to support the effectiveness of such processes by identifying emerging lessons on stakeholder participation practices. The publication focuses on four topics: a) A set of common terms relating to stakeholder participation; b) A framework

for categorizing and describing different types of stakeholder engagement processes to facilitate sharing of relevant experiences; c) A discussion of the types of information most relevant for practitioners to share; and d) Next steps for developing a comprehensive and sustained approach to sharing information and experiences between and among partners, and identifying good practices.

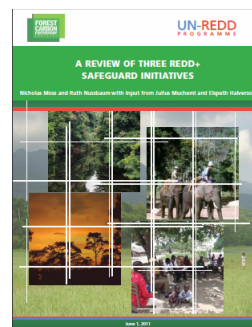
#### REDD+ Benefit Sharing: A Comparative Assessment of Three National Policy Approaches



This publication outlines national benefit-sharing approaches from three areas of forest management policy with respect to REDD+, including: payments for ecosystem services (PES), participatory forest management (PFM) and forest concession revenue sharing arrangements. The paper begins with a broad overview of each policy approach, incorporating examples of such approaches in

practice from several countries. Country experiences with regard to their national REDD+ planning are briefly profiled as demonstrative of each approach. Next, the architectural traits of the policy approaches are comparatively evaluated, and a brief assessment provided of their abilities to address drivers of deforestation. Finally, some challenges and lessons learned from REDD+ benefit sharing planning to date are summarized, including suggestions of where next steps might be focused and some conclusions offered.

#### A Review of Three REDD+ Safeguard Initiatives



While the AWG-LCA decision forms the basis for safeguards in the context of support for readiness and REDD+, questions remain as to how they will be interpreted and applied, the extent of the benefit that they can provide and the challenges in their implementation. This publication seeks to contribute to the discussion on practical experiences regarding safeguards by outlining current approaches to the application of social and environmental standards and principles. It highlights the current REDD+ safeguard initiatives from the FCPF, the UN-REDD Programme, and REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards (SES), and the lessons learned and anticipated challenges to application of REDD+ safeguards. ■

## Looking Ahead

### COICA Regional Summit of the Amazon Basin

15-18 August, 2011: Manaus, Brazil

### UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

International Environment House,  
11-13 Chemin des Anémones,  
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

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