

**News**

**Donor Support Increases for UN-REDD**

With commitments now totaling US\$169.9 million, the UN-REDD Programme starts 2013 with more donor support than ever.



Since the UN-REDD Programme was launched in September 2008 with an initial pledge of US\$35 million from Norway, the Programme's donor base has grown to also include support from Denmark, the European Union, Japan, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Spain. Contributions from these six generous donors now total US\$169.9 million.

Among the newest contributions to the UN-REDD Programme is a recent deposit of US\$34.8million from Norway to support the Programme's activities in 2013. This deposit is approximately US\$15 million more than Norway initially pledged for this year. Norway's contributions to the UN-REDD Programme now total US\$141.2 million.

In addition to the contributions for 2013 already deposited by Norway, the European Union (EU) and Luxembourg have both recently signed donor agreements totaling US\$15.6 million (US\$13 million from the EU and US\$2.6 million from Luxembourg) with the UN-REDD Programme's Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office,

which administers donor contributions to the REDD Programme.

In January 2013, Denmark pledged US\$1.8 million, which is pending final approval by relevant authorities, adding to their previous contributions of US\$8 million between 2009 and 2012. Spain also increased its contribution in 2012 by US\$648,000, bringing their total deposit to the fund to US\$2 million. Japan's commitments remain at more than US\$3 million.

The UN-REDD Programme continues to be incredibly grateful to these donors for their vital contributions, which allow the Programme to provide technical and financial support to 46 partner countries across Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin American and the Caribbean. Visit [www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org) to learn more about how the UN-REDD Programme and its donors are helping countries to advance their REDD+ readiness and implementation efforts. More information on contributions, transfers and expenditures is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY page: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/CCF00>. ■

**UN-REDD at COP18 and Forest Day 6**

At the UNFCCC Climate Change talks (COP18) in Doha last month, the UN-REDD Programme engaged in a number of events aimed at building national REDD+ capacities; Norway and UN-REDD announce US\$30 million for a second phase of REDD+ in Viet Nam.

At the UN-REDD Programme COP18 side event, entitled "Meeting Country Needs for REDD+ Readiness and Beyond", Norway signed a Joint Declaration with the Government of Viet Nam and a US\$30 million financing agreement with the United Nations to support a second phase of the UN-REDD National Programme in Viet

Nam. This second phase (2012-2015) will significantly scale up the work Viet Nam has been doing, with support from Norway and the UN-REDD Programme since 2009, to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Read more on the new financing agreement for REDD+ in Viet Nam on the following link: [bit.ly/R7JdKf](http://bit.ly/R7JdKf).

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

Before the signing of Viet Nam's Phase II agreement, high-level representatives from Costa Rica, Mexico and Nigeria presented their latest progress in the areas of REDD+ safeguards and legal preparedness to more than 100 participants and REDD+ stakeholders in attendance at the side event. Read more on side event interventions from Costa Rica, Mexico and Nigeria on this link [bit.ly/RK4Ose](http://bit.ly/RK4Ose).



**REDD+ Financing: Closing the Gap**

The REDD+ financing discussion forum at FD6, hosted by the UN REDD Programme, IUCN and UNEP, brought together a panel of international experts to address the challenges posed by the current REDD+ finance gap. Although the REDD+ community often focuses on the financial gap between predictions of what is required for REDD+ and what is currently pledged for REDD+, one of the clear messages to emerge was that narrowing the 'perspective gap' was a critical precondition to narrowing the financial gap. Read more about this event on this link [bit.ly/10ObfvB](http://bit.ly/10ObfvB).

**UN-REDD Engages with Indigenous Peoples at COP18**

The UN-REDD Programme had a number of discussions with indigenous peoples' networks and representatives that participated in CoP 18. Since the UN-REDD Programme's inception in 2008, its practice of consulting regularly with indigenous peoples has shaped the Programme's approach and action in countries, leading to the promotion of strong stakeholder engagement principles for the UN-REDD Programme, including a strong body of work to apply the principle of free, prior and informed consent. The discussions around CoP 18 provided an opportunity to discuss the progress and future goals for ensuring the continued inclusion of indigenous peoples in REDD+ processes as the initiative evolves and grows. Read more about this event on this link [bit.ly/ZaxZWD](http://bit.ly/ZaxZWD).

**UN-REDD Supports REDD+ Partnership Progress at COP18 in Doha**

On 5 December, 173 participants including 27 ministers, high-level representatives from REDD+ Partnership countries and stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment to the REDD+ Partnership, and to continue their REDD+ efforts during a new period of work. The meeting, supported by the UN-REDD Programme and Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, was co-chaired by Mr. René Castro Salazar, Minister for Environment, Energy and Telecommunications, Costa Rica, and Mr. Jonathan Pershing, Deputy Special Envoy for Climate Change, USA. They opened the meeting with remarks about how the Partnership has evolved since its launch in May 2010, and its prospects looking forward. Aspirations for the REDD+ Partnership were high. Read more about this event on this link [bit.ly/14dp3og](http://bit.ly/14dp3og). ■

**REDD+ Progress in Bhutan and Cambodia**

Over the past few months, UN-REDD Programme partner countries Bhutan and Cambodia have taken important steps forward in their REDD+ readiness efforts.

**Bhutan's REDD+ Updates**

In November, the Watershed Management Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests of Bhutan collaborated with the UN-REDD Programme to organize a two-day training workshop in Phuentsholing, Bhutan. The workshop highlighted the unique position that Bhutan is in, with considerable national technical capacities and existing legal mandates to conserve and sustainably manage their forests.



The workshop provided participants with an overview of the elements involved in the development and implementation of Bhutan's national forest monitoring system for REDD+ and potential options for the development of forest reference emission levels and reference levels (RELS/RLs). The event also presented how Bhutan planned to build on its existing technical systems and capacities, with presentations from government officials on the status of their national forest inventory, remote sensing/Geographical Information Systems (GIS) capacities and their national communications (including the national GHG inventory) to the UNFCCC.

Break-out discussion groups presented on the following topics:

1. National circumstances and capacities relevant to the implementation of REDD+;
2. Institutional arrangements for the implementation of Bhutan's national forest monitoring system;
3. Moving towards the design of policies and measures to implement REDD+ activities in Bhutan, including the roles and responsibilities of specific stakeholders.

The workshop began with an overview of the international context of REDD+, including a review of the UNFCCC negotiation process and how REDD+ has evolved to focus on mitigating emissions from the forestry sector. Bhutan's National REDD+ Focal Point, Mr. Tashi Samdrup, set out how Bhutan has engaged in REDD+ since 2010, including joining and receiving support from the UN-REDD Programme.

Next steps for Bhutan's REDD+-readiness efforts will focus on strengthening institutional arrangements, and building and linking technical capacities to develop and implement their national forest monitoring system. The workshop was funded through target support from the UN-REDD "Support to National Actions" Global Programme.

Multiple benefits and REDD+ environmental safeguards workshop held in Bhutan  
In October, the UN-REDD Programme also supported a workshop in Paro, Bhutan, to build awareness about the multiple benefits of REDD+, and build capacities for implementing REDD+ safeguards. Participants used the UN-REDD Programme Benefits and Risks Tool at the workshop to identify policies, laws and regulations that could contribute to the country's national approach to safeguards. There was strong and vocal representation from those working on environmental issues in the field from different districts. It is hoped that the workshop will make a substantive contribution to the development of the Bhutan's national REDD+ strategy, in particular those parts which refer to safeguards.

This workshop was also organized by the Watershed Management Division of the Department of Forest and Park Services, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests of the Royal Government of Bhutan.

Follow this link [bit.ly/XtCvz5](http://bit.ly/XtCvz5) to download workshop presentations.

**Cambodia's REDD+ Updates**

The UN-REDD Programme in Cambodia recently hosted two events aimed at bolstering engagement with civil society organizations and Indigenous Peoples in REDD+, as well as identifying next steps for the country's broad range of REDD+ activities.

Cambodia's national consultation workshop on engagement with Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and Indigenous Peoples (IP) was held to raise awareness of REDD+ within CSOs and IPs, gain feedback and inputs into a consultation plan for the Programme, and select CSO and IP representatives for Cambodia's UN-REDD Programme Executive Board (PEB). The workshop brought together with more than 130 participants from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and CSOs, IP networks and organizations and government authorities. The participation of stakeholders is an essential element for the success of REDD+ initiatives including representation on the Board and the development of a National REDD+ Strategy. Prior to this workshop, an initial discussion was held earlier in 2012, where key CSOs and IPs members agreed to use a self-selection process for representative selection.

During a number of meetings and discussions held in 2012, CSOs and IP groups developed

a self-selection process, creating an effective model for stakeholder engagement for REDD+ activities in Cambodia. As a result of the self-selection process, Mr. Chhith Sam Ath from the NGO forum and Mr. Nok Ven, from Mondulkiri were elected as representatives from CSOs and IP groups respectively. Through this process, they also developed relationships with other organizations in Cambodia that are interested in REDD+ activities, and built a network of relevant organizations. Two of the important recommendations of the workshop were the need to establish technical teams on a formal or informal basis, and the need to clarify a modality to formalize consultation structures at national level.

In October 2012, Cambodia's second UN-REDD Programme Executive Board (PEB) meeting was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and welcomed the self-selected CSO and IP representatives for the first time. Together with delegates from the Forestry Administration, the General Directorate for Administration of Nature Conservation and Protection, the Fisheries Administration, United Nations agencies, the European Union, Embassy of Japan and Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce, CSO and IP representatives participated in the discussion on progress and changes to the work plan of the Programme. The main progress included

the establishment of Cambodia's REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat and training in forest monitoring. The work plan focused on the establishment of operational structures of Cambodia's UN-REDD National Programme, capacity building on measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and reference emission levels (REL), awareness-raising activities, a cost-benefit analysis of existing forest management and its approaches, and the integration of REDD+ into natural resource planning.



The PEB meeting concluded that significant progress had been made in the fall of 2012, despite a delay in the beginning of the Programme. The next step for Cambodia's UN-REDD Programme is to have technical teams, advisors and consultation groups onboard, followed by the implementation of activities in the work plan. ■

**New Head of UN-REDD Secretariat**

**Mr. Mario Boccucci is appointed the new Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland.**



**Mr. Mario Boccucci,**  
Head of the  
UN-REDD  
Programme  
Secretariat

The selection process for the Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat has been completed and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Mr. Achim Steiner, has appointed Mr. Mario Boccucci for this position.

As the newly appointed Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat,

Mario Boccucci brings with him 20 years of experience with international organizations on operational and policy work focused on sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems, forest management, governance of natural resources, biodiversity, land uses and climate change mitigation and

adaptation. Prior to joining the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat in Geneva in January 2013, Mario was Chief of the Terrestrial Ecosystems Unit with UNEP, stationed in Nairobi, where he was responsible for the development and operationalization of strategies for forests, agriculture, drylands, mountains, and REDD. Prior to joining UNEP in 2008, Mario worked with the World Bank as Senior Climate Change and Forests Specialist, and previously with the European Commission working on natural resources management and rural development.

Mario's experience spans across the wide spectrum of REDD+ issues, in the field, in country offices, and at headquarters. His first job was with FAO in Belize on monitoring and assessment of land cover, followed by remote sensing work on land suitability in Morocco. Mario then joined the

European Commission covering the South Pacific, based in Fiji, where he developed and supervised wide-scale programs for agricultural development, participatory land use management and stakeholder engagement. Whilst with the World Bank, Mr. Boccucci was based in Indonesia and in Washington DC where, among other things, he supported the development of the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) and REDD+ processes, as well as forest investment strategies. During his four years in Nairobi, Mario spearheaded UNEP's work on REDD and efforts to connect the land and sustainable development agendas.

The UN-REDD Programme would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the excellent work done by Ms. Mette Loyche Wilkie in the past six months as the Interim Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat. The Programme congratulates her for her very effective leadership of the Secretariat and to thank her and FAO for taking up this demanding additional task at a very busy time. Mr. Boccucci took up his new post as of 21 January 2013. ■



## UN-REDD Advances Work on Safeguards and Multiple Benefits of REDD+

The UN-REDD Programme recently brought together forestry experts from across the world to increase awareness of the multiple benefits of REDD+, and build capacity for developing REDD+ safeguards.

The three-day workshop, entitled “REDD+ Beyond Carbon: Safeguards and Multiple Benefits”, brought together 46 delegates, including representatives from 14 UN-REDD Programme partner countries from Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, alongside members of civil society and indigenous peoples organizations. The UN-REDD Programme workshop was hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in November in Cambridge, UK.



(From left) Margaret Athieno Mwebesa (Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda), Bridget Nkor (Forestry Commission, Nigeria) and Kekilia Kabalimu Alfred (Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Tanzania) take part in an interactive break-out session.

As part of its UN-REDD Programme work, UNEP supports countries in their work on safeguards, the quantification, valuation and mapping of multiple benefits and monitoring the impacts of REDD+ on ecosystem services and biodiversity. The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to share country experiences of REDD+ planning for multiple benefits and safeguard implementation, as well as South-South learning and the opportunity to learn about the decision-support offered by the UN-REDD Programme.

The workshop stressed the fact that forests play a vital role in climate change adaptation and mitigation, but they are also vital for biodiversity, ecosystem services such as water catchment and soil conservation, and the livelihoods they afford forest communities.

“A properly-structured REDD+ mechanism cannot just look at carbon, it needs to take into account potential benefits and also potential risks that come from valuing forests based on carbon,” explained Ms. Julie Greenwalt, Programme Officer for UNEP.

“Discussion has gone from being focused on carbon and climate change mitigation to looking at forests more comprehensively, taking into consideration how forests contribute to sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. It’s by looking at the whole picture that the mechanism is properly understood by the international community but also by national and local communities,” added Ms. Greenwalt.

“Different countries are taking different paths, and it’s all relatively new, so the best way to figure it out is by bringing people together. Those who are interacting with the forest on a daily basis understand these issues best, so this is a great opportunity for all of us,” said Mr. Barney Dickson, Head of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Programme at UNEP-WCMC.

For Mr. Roney Samaniego of Panama’s national environment authority (ANAM), workshop sessions on safeguards proved invaluable. “Although there is discussion on safeguards going on in Panama, this workshop has advanced my thinking. It’s given me ideas I can take back with me about how to bring stakeholders together and get them on the same page,” he said.

Panama is one of the UN-REDD Programme partner countries to have used spatial planning software, called Marxan, to identify priority areas for protecting coastal and marine biodiversity; an experience from which the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is keen to learn.

“One of the biggest benefits of this meeting is sharing what has been done in DRC, and

seeing how other countries’ experiences are evolving. Latin America has fought against deforestation and in Asia they are really trying to conserve what they have as we have done in DRC,” said Mr. Roger Bokwala of DRC’s Ministry of the Environment.

Indonesia is facing similar issues, according to Ms. Laksmi Banowati from the country’s UN-REDD Programme. “The most important thing is to know more about safeguards, valuation and mapping, and about the status of other countries – we want to learn what’s going on in other countries,” she said.

“Most challenging for Indonesia now is monitoring and a Safeguards Information System. We’ve done a lot on safeguards, certification and governance but until now have not had monitoring systems. We need support on how to collect safeguarding information and put it into one system,” added Ms. Banowati.



More than 40 forestry experts from Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the recent UN-REDD Programme workshop on safeguards and multiple benefits.

The UN-REDD Programme also took valuable lessons from workshop, especially on the need for capacity building and the close connections between environmental and social risks and benefits, a point stressed by Ms. Mina Setra of Indonesia’s Indigenous People’s Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN).

“You can’t separate the environmental from the social. Forest degradation happens due to social problems and vice versa, it’s all connected. Multiple benefits means social and cultural as well as economic and environmental benefits,” said Ms. Setra.

The full workshop report is available to download at [bit.ly/155bmr0](http://bit.ly/155bmr0).

The presentations from the workshop can also be found on the UN-REDD workspace. ■

## Forest Experts Collaborate to Develop New Forest Governance Guide

The UN-REDD Programme recently convened a group of experts from around the world to start developing a new resource to help collect and measure data related to forest governance.

This small group of 15 experts, including national representatives from Ecuador, Uganda and Vietnam, met at the European Forestry House in Brussels from 28-29 November 2012 to develop an outline of the guide tentatively entitled "Practical Guide on Assessing and Monitoring Forest Governance". By presenting existing methodologies and drawing lessons from past and current experiences on forest governance assessments, the guide will

cover process planning, data collection, data analysis and use of data. A provisional table of contents was developed and the experts also started identifying case studies on which the guide would draw upon.

This initiative stemmed from the conclusions of an earlier meeting organized in June 2012 by the UN-REDD Programme, in collaboration with FAO, the World Bank, the European

Forest Institute and the EU FAO Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Programme, where international and national experts identified the need for guidance to assist practitioners undertaking forest governance assessments. This June meeting concluded with a plan to produce the resource collaboratively, using a small group of experts working in close coordination with a consulting author.

The list of experts participating in the group as well as the proceedings of their first meeting can be found at [bit.ly/YMXv4G](http://bit.ly/YMXv4G).

A second meeting is planned for April 2013 to review the first draft of the guide prepared by the consulting author. ■

## Features & Commentary

### REDD+ in Indonesia – Is Indonesia Ready?

After three years of effective REDD+-readiness work, supported by Indonesia's UN-REDD National Programme, the country is progressing towards the next phase of its REDD+ efforts. By: **Rogier Klaver**

When is a country ready for REDD+? And when will REDD+ be ready for a country? These are the ultimate questions we ask ourselves as Indonesia's UN-REDD National Programme comes to an end. On 30 October 2012, the three UN agencies of the UN-REDD Programme (FAO, UNDP, and UNEP) and Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry operationally closed the country's National Programme after three years of working towards REDD+ readiness in Indonesia. The Programme focused on several key areas related to REDD+ readiness, including: the development of national policies and stakeholder engagement; methodologies and provincial piloting; and preparation for implementation at the district level. Did the UN-REDD Programme achieve its objective of supporting the Government of Indonesia in attaining REDD+ readiness?



Carbon Partnership Facility (World Bank), USAID,

It is important to acknowledge that the UN-REDD Programme was one of many REDD+ initiatives in Indonesia. There are other REDD+ initiatives by international development partners such as AusAID, Forest

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) and others. In addition, Indonesia signed a bilateral REDD+ partnership with Norway shortly after Indonesia's UN-REDD National Programme started, resulting in the establishment of a National REDD+ Task Force. This Task Force became responsible for setting the REDD+ agenda and working to implement it. UN-REDD Indonesia adapted to these new developments by supporting the agenda set by the Task Force, including the development of a REDD+ Strategy and a strategy for Information, Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV).

While the UN-REDD Programme might not have been a game changer in Indonesia in terms of shaping the National REDD+ Programme, the Programme was effective in influencing the rules of the game. The Programme was successful in engaging stakeholders at local and national level. This was first demonstrated through a series of consultations for the National REDD+ Strategy covering the whole country. Consultations such as these helped to enhance the level of ownership of the activities and the outputs.

The UN-REDD Programme in Indonesia implemented jointly with the Ministry of Forestry, which took on a leading role in the programme. As one of the main national stakeholders in REDD+, the Ministry was at the forefront of national programming as well as the international negotiations. As REDD+

evolved internationally and nationally, we continuously tried to adapt to the changes in the REDD+ environment and anticipate these changes where possible.

A driving force behind the provincial level activities was the Central Sulawesi REDD+ Working Group, which was established with the support of the UN-REDD Programme. Most of the UN-REDD Programme activities in the pilot province of Central Sulawesi were conducted and led by the Working Group that consists of a wide variety of stakeholders. Their achievements were supported by the Governor of Central Sulawesi who signed a number of decrees based on their contributions, thereby committing provincial budget to the further implementation of the decrees.

A number of methodologies were developed and tested. Building on the existing forest monitoring capacities of the Ministry of Forestry, the Programme helped redesigning the National Forest Inventory, including quality control and data management. This resulted in the improvement of forest data, and of transparency in the way the data are managed. Learning from existing Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and National Program of Community Development, options for benefit distribution were developed. To identify the most suitable sites for REDD+ implementation, opportunity costs and socio-economic impacts analyses were conducted. In addition, a toolbox was developed and tested to incorporate multiple benefits in the decision making process. Key to the methodology development was capacity building, through trainings as well as through participation in the implementation as part of the ownership by the Government of Indonesia.

REDD+ continues to evolve in Indonesia. The UN-REDD National Programme is completed. The country is looking to replace the REDD+ Task Force with a more permanent REDD+ agency and MRV institution. A dedicated UN Office for REDD+ Coordination in Indonesia (UNORCID) was established to support the REDD+ process in Indonesia. FAO, UNDP and UNEP in Indonesia are working to follow up UN-REDD Programme activities in Central Sulawesi province. Although the UN-REDD Programme in Indonesia has been operationally closed, the country continues to work toward REDD+

readiness. We believe that the outcomes of the UN-REDD Programme have made valuable contributions to Indonesia's REDD+ readiness. We also believe that specific follow up within the context of REDD+ will consolidate the UN-REDD Programme's achievements in Central Sulawesi.

So is Indonesia REDD+-ready? Central Sulawesi is ready to implement the next step of REDD+, where piloting of five REDD+ activities will test the effectiveness of the foundation and provide additional lessons. National institutions like the Ministry of

Forestry and the REDD+ Task Force continue to improve the systems for REDD+. Several things may go differently than expected. REDD+ will continue to evolve, just as the required systems and capacities in Indonesia will continue to evolve.



Rogier Klaver is Natural Resources Officer at FAO in Indonesia. Between 2009 and 2012, Mr. Klaver worked with FAO Indonesia for the UN-REDD Programme. ■

## More Countries Engage with IPCC's Emission Factor Database

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has an emission factor database that is becoming an essential tool to countries, particularly in the context of REDD+. By : **Matieu Henry**

During the tenth meeting of the IPCC Emission Factor Database (EFDB) editorial board held in Langkawi 1-4 October 2012, more than 150 new data was approved for inclusion in the database under the following areas: LULUCF sector on biomass and carbon stocks, biomass increment, litterfall, allometric equations and CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> emission factors for wetland, tropical and temperate forests.

The IPCC EFDB is managed by the IPCC's Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and is meant to serve as an open library of emission factors and other parameters that can be used for estimating greenhouse gas emissions and removals. Several participants from UN-REDD Programme partner countries contribute to the EFDB and use it as an important source of information for their national forest inventories.

Emissions factors are coefficients which quantify the emissions or removals per

unit of human activity. Emission factors are necessary to prepare the GHG inventory and assess the contribution of human activities, including the REDD+ activities. Emissions factors and the extent to which human activities take place are combined to assess emissions and removals. The information contained in the EFDB is crucial to support countries to prepare their GHG inventory.

The data contained in the EFDB is supported by background documentation, technical references and other relevant information to enable users to select data suitable to their national situation. The responsibility of selecting and using this information appropriately remains with the users themselves. Country-specific information on emission factors and other parameters used for national GHG inventories is important especially for developing countries that often do not have such information, or the resources to develop that. The database may also give useful information for reviews

of annual inventories under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol. It is important that national emission and removal estimates accurately reflect the national situation as these estimates are used not just for international reporting but also underpin the development of national climate change policies.

The data in the EFDB is organized according to five inventory sectors: Energy, Industrial Processes and Product Use, Agriculture, LULUCF and Waste. An Editorial Board, comprising country-nominated experts, evaluates the data proposed for inclusion in the EFDB according to well-defined criteria. Users are encouraged to submit their proposals on emission factors or other related parameters by contacting the Technical Support Unit (TSU) of TFI ([ipcc-efdb@iges.or.jp/nggip-tsu@iges.or.jp](mailto:ipcc-efdb@iges.or.jp/nggip-tsu@iges.or.jp)).



Matieu Henry is a Forestry officer at FAO for the UN-REDD Programme, supporting National Programmes in Asia to setup their MRV systems. ■

## Reports & Analysis

### New UN-REDD Publications

The UN-REDD Programme has recently released several new publications tackling various technical REDD+ issues including REDD+ safeguards, freedom of information, land tenure, forest finance, and free, prior and informed consent.

#### New UN-REDD Programme Policy Brief on REDD+ Safeguards

The UN-REDD Programme is pleased to launch its third Policy Brief, entitled "Putting REDD+ Safeguards and Safeguard Information

Systems into Practice", which examines the current state of work on REDD+ safeguards and outlines some of the key considerations for countries as they develop approaches to promote and support REDD+ safeguards. The brief also provides information on how



safeguards are currently being addressed and respected. Read more about this publication at [bit.ly/ZoqR55](http://bit.ly/ZoqR55).

Download the Policy Brief in English on this link [bit.ly/14dBhx1](http://bit.ly/14dBhx1). French and Spanish versions of this UN-REDD Programme Policy Brief will be available on the UN-REDD Programme website in February.



### New Report on Freedom of Information and REDD+



Access to information is both as a prerequisite for full and effective engagement of stakeholders and as a foundation for transparency and accountability in REDD+.

A new report of the UN-REDD Programme, entitled “**Ensuring inclusive, transparent and accountable national REDD+ systems: the role of freedom of information**”, describes how the implementation of freedom of information laws can inform the development of transparent systems to access REDD+ information. The right of access to information is grounded into international environmental, anti-corruption and human rights law. Read more about this publication at [bit.ly/14dGTy8](http://bit.ly/14dGTy8).

Read the executive summary in English ([bit.ly/ZotVy5](http://bit.ly/ZotVy5)), French - [bit.ly/14dHbOB](http://bit.ly/14dHbOB)), Spanish ([bit.ly/Zou44z](http://bit.ly/Zou44z))

Read the full report in English at: [bit.ly/YN5NcN](http://bit.ly/YN5NcN) (the French and Spanish version will soon be available on the UN-REDD Programme website).

### Land Tenure and REDD+: The Case of Mesoamerican Countries



The new UN-REDD Programme publication, entitled “**Tenure of Indigenous Peoples Territories and REDD+ as a Forestry Management Incentive: The Case of Mesoamerican Countries**”, provides an

analytical framework to guide the REDD+ readiness and implementation processes by examining the interactions between existing initiatives of Payment for Environmental Services (PES), other incentives to protect forests and the current development of collective land and natural resources tenure of indigenous peoples in the Mesoamerican region. Read more about this publication at [bit.ly/XGXCQC](http://bit.ly/XGXCQC).

Download the publication in English ([bit.ly/10TNeCT](http://bit.ly/10TNeCT)) and Spanish ([bit.ly/Z0txjC](http://bit.ly/Z0txjC)).

### Lessons Learn on Free, Prior and Informed Consent in Asia-Pacific



The new UN-REDD Programme publication, entitled “**Free, Prior and Informed Consent for REDD+ in the Asia-Pacific Region: Lessons Learned**”, presents recent field-

level experiences in the application of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) from the region and distills useful lessons learned and recommendations. Read more about this publication at [bit.ly/Xw25Dr](http://bit.ly/Xw25Dr).

Download this publication in English ([bit.ly/10Qa9Op](http://bit.ly/10Qa9Op)), French ([bit.ly/ZdV3E0](http://bit.ly/ZdV3E0)) and Spanish ([bit.ly/10Qalgz](http://bit.ly/10Qalgz)).

### Little Forest Finance Book Now Available in Bahasa Indonesian, French and Spanish



Following the October launch of the Little Forest Finance Book at the Convention on Biological Diversity COP11 in India, the publication is now also available in Bahasa Indonesian ([bit.ly/12T0uYT](http://bit.ly/12T0uYT)),

French ([bit.ly/YPN5Br](http://bit.ly/YPN5Br)) and Spanish ([bit.ly/152OnMF](http://bit.ly/152OnMF)).

Published by the Global Canopy Programme, with financial and technical support from the UN-REDD Programme, the Little Forest Finance Book is a primer for anyone seeking to overcome the challenges of scaling up forest-friendly finance. The book describes obstacles that are currently stalling investment in activities that reduce tropical deforestation, or maintain or restore forests, and presents fourteen catalysts that can be used to overcome these obstacles. ■

## DRC Finalizes Series of Studies on Drivers of Deforestation

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) recently finalized a series of five studies undertaken on the causes of deforestation and forest degradation, as part of the country's REDD+ preparation process.

These studies, conducted in 2011-2012, have enabled the DRC to reach a national consensus on the main drivers of deforestation in the country. Previous to this, various stakeholders had very different understandings about what these drivers were. The studies are therefore a very important step in advancing REDD+ efforts in the country.

The studies were done by various actors, including civil society from the DRC, FAO, Catholic University of Louvain and UNEP. Various tools and methodologies were used to conduct these studies, including focus groups, remote sensing and statistical

analysis. Their results have been compared in order to insure the reliability of the final conclusions.

**Study 1:** Summary report presenting and comparing results from the various studies undertaken on the causes of deforestation and forest degradation in the DRC ([bit.ly/10ZFfmR](http://bit.ly/10ZFfmR))

Conducted by: UN-REDD Programme/FAO

**Study 2:** Qualitative study of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the DRC ([bit.ly/Ze0XFc](http://bit.ly/Ze0XFc))

Conducted by: DRC civil society, UN-REDD Programme/FAO

**Study 3:** Quantitative study of the variables explaining deforestation and forest degradation in the DRC: data from remote sensing, and historical and statistical analysis ([bit.ly/ZQTNT8](http://bit.ly/ZQTNT8))

Conducted by: Catholic University of Louvain, UN-REDD Programme

**Study 4:** Quantitative study of the variables explaining deforestation and forest degradation in the DRC: data from the field ([bit.ly/10U6e4z](http://bit.ly/10U6e4z))

Conducted by: DRC civil society, UN-REDD Programme

**Study 5:** Qualitative study of the causes and agents of deforestation and forest degradation in a post-conflict DRC ([bit.ly/YhqA4C](http://bit.ly/YhqA4C))

Conducted by: UNEP ■

## Three New Go-REDD+ Issues from UN-REDD in Asia-Pacific

The latest issues from the UN-REDD Programme "Go-REDD+" Asia-Pacific listserv explore some alternative thinking on REDD+ implementation; discuss how best to ensure rural communities benefit from REDD+; and highlight best practices for reforestation and forest restoration.

### Go-REDD+

The Go-REDD+ issue entitled, **Why a Project-based Approach to REDD+ Implementation is Inappropriate**, looks into fundamental changes in thinking and approach to REDD+ implementation between project-based and national approach, and which one of them can be more beneficial to address underlying causes of GHG emissions

from forests for systemic solutions and what are challenges to achieve the national REDD+ approach. Download it at: [bit.ly/Zk9M05](http://bit.ly/Zk9M05).

The Go-REDD+ issue entitled, **Ensuring Rural Communities' Benefits in REDD+**, explores how to safeguard the rural poor's and indigenous people's benefits in REDD+ and what measures need to be taken to ensure that they have access to the potential benefits of REDD+. Download it at: [bit.ly/159tHmM](http://bit.ly/159tHmM).

The Go-REDD+ issue entitled, **Reforestation and Forest Restoration under REDD+: Avoiding the Mistakes of the Past**, discusses what lessons we have learned from the past experience in reforestation and forest restoration and what are recommendations to avoid historical pitfalls, which are applicable to REDD+. Download it at: [bit.ly/15eX6vL](http://bit.ly/15eX6vL).

### About Go-REDD+

Go-REDD+ is a bi-monthly newsletter distributed by email and managed by the UN-REDD Programme team in Asia-Pacific. The main objective is to distribute information, synopses of research results and activities related to REDD+ in Asia-Pacific, to assist countries in their REDD+ readiness efforts.

Access previous Go-REDD+ articles in the Go-REDD+ archive at [un-redd.org](http://un-redd.org). ■

## Looking Ahead

### Scoping mission to Colombia

21-24 January, 2013: Bogotá, Colombia

### Republic of the Congo Inception Workshop

22-25 January, 2013: Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

### Regional Forum and Workshop on Anti-Corruption and Free, Prior and Informed Consent for REDD+

29 January-2 February, 2013: Lima, Peru

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