Community-based AR & biomass projectsreport from developers workshop (organized by ENCOFOR)

Community benefits

Girma Amente

General context

- Most of the projects are in rural areas where poverty level is high
- High expectation from CDM projects to contribute to poverty alleviation and local development

Community Benefits from the AR&biomass projects

- Social
- Economical
- Environmental

Social benefits

- Recognized access to land and natural resources,
- Strengthened community organizations
- Skill development through trainings.
- Socially accepted indigenous species
- Some projects are highly beneficial to women



Economical benefits

- Income and job opportunities through involvement on tree planting activities
- Access to timber and non-timber forest products (firewood, construction wood, medicinal plants, fruits, honey, etc)
- Rural electrification
- Access to carbon credits

Environmental benefits

- Improved land management
- Reduced pressure on natural forests
- Improved quality and quantity of water
- Carbon sequestration

Challenges

- Contribution to SD versus volume of CERs.
- Inadequacy of the carbon credit to cover the costs
- Fair distribution of the carbon money among the stakeholders involved.
- Equitable distribution of resources within community groups

Conclusion

- Benefits from AR& biomass projects can contribute to poverty alleviation and enhancing food security.
- Benefits due to access to carbon credits should be seen as integral part of other benefits.
- The more the communities benefit from their resource the more they care for it.