

## REDD+ and poverty reduction: what is working and what is possible?

Several REDD+ pilot countries are including poverty reduction / poverty alleviation and improved livelihood in their readiness phase, as co-benefit outcomes of reduction of emissions from forests. This side event shares experiences and insights from India, Nepal, and Mexico, and identifies key lessons learned and potentials for adaptation.

The case studies represent different forest compositions and diverse socio-economic and demographic conditions in varying governance set-ups. The focus is on design and implementation features for REDD+ programmes related to forest communities, the place of poverty reduction and livelihoods in the discourses, and the accrual and distribution of benefits to address equity.



## Programme

**Chairs:** Dr. Michael McCall, ITC-University of Twente/ UNAM

Brief Introduction of the topic and posing 3 central questions which all Panelists will be asked to address in their presentations and wrap-up the discussions:

**Question 1. What features of national (or sub-national) REDD+ policies and governance mechanisms are contributing to poverty alleviation / poverty reduction and livelihood improvement?  
For example: Are incentives and Benefit Distribution System (BDS) being addressed in REDD+ pilot implementation, aimed at poverty objectives?**

**Question 2. To what extent has community participation and process ownership in REDD+ activities contributed to poverty alleviation / reduction and livelihood improvement of forest users?**

**Question 3. Can engagement of local communities in MRV improve their share of REDD+ payments? Are there recognized 'good practices' which can be scaled up and out?**

## Presentations:

Speakers on Himalayan countries' experiences:

1. **Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky**, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
2. **Dr. Tek Maraseni**, University of Southern Queensland, Australia; **Dr. Tim Cadman**, Griffith University, Australia; and **Dr. Federico Lopez-Casero**, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan
3. **Dr. V. R. S. Rawat**, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) India

Speakers on Mexico's experience:

4. **Dr. Margaret Skutsch**, UT/UNAM: forest enhancement in low value forests as key to poverty alleviation.
5. **Mr. Arturo Balderas**, UT/UNAM: development of local carbon markets as a poverty strategy.

## Questions and Comments from the floor

**Remarks** by Mr. Resham Dangi, Joint Secretary, MOFSC, GON

**Summary by Chair** Dr Michael McCall: Key messages for policy makers

Monday 03 Dec 2012

11:30-13:00

Side Event Room 6