

REDD+: From Trade-offs to Synergies?

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REDD+ Challenges



- Leakage (national and international)
- Permanence
- Additionality
- Good governance (transparency, accountability, inclusiveness)
- Participation and representation
- Distribution of benefits
- Safeguards (environmental and social)
- Forest tenure
- Monitoring, Reporting, Verification
- Finance

Current status of REDD+

- Progress in designing REDD+ is slow (e.g. recent SBSTA conclusions)
- Negotiations are starting to discuss drivers of deforestation
 - Leakage cannot be avoided otherwise
- Forest Day 6 has started to explore the wider context of forests



Forests and people

- Forests are inhabited by 350 million to 1.2 billion people (WRI 2002, WWF 2002)
- These 5–17% of the global population have been historically marginalized from decision-making processes and market activities
- Coordination between national and local institutions and organisations is notoriously weak

Forest connections

- Deforestation and the vulnerability of forest communities are caused by a wide and complex set of socio-economic issues, both inside and outside the forest sector
- Therefore, REDD+ policies and must be linked to broader development strategies in order to be successful
- Such strategies would need to address
 - the root causes of deforestation and the broader political and economic causes of vulnerability
 - connections with other polices within the climate regime as well as broader international relations issues

Forests – agriculture link

- One of the main causes of deforestation is agriculture
- Forest conservation and agriculture often fall under different ministries and policies are rarely joined up
- Given the primary need for food and in many cases the greater contribution of agriculture to foreign exchange earnings, many countries tend to privilege agriculture over forest conservation
- Therefore for REDD+ programs to succeed, they must be placed in the context of national low carbon development strategies which properly balance agricultural and forest conversation needs and policies

Forests – adaptation link

- "Triple goals" of evolving REDD+: achieve not only climate mitigation and poverty reduction, but also build resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Example of synergy of adaptation and mitigation objectives
 - protecting forests through REDD+ provides natural insurance as forests are natural safety nets for poor households, especially in the face of external shocks
- Approaches building on such synergies
 - "climate compatible development"
 - "climate smart agriculture"
 - "ecosystem-based adaptation"
 - "slash and mulch agriculture"

Conclusion

- Achieving successful REDD+ requires a boarder and deeper stance.
 - E.g. agriculture and adaptation play a crucial role in determining the success of REDD+
- By combining mitigation and adaptation objectives and forestry and agriculture objectives, REDD+ has the opportunity to confront possible negative externalities from forest carbon commodification
- REDD+ needs to address both, carbon and human livelihood objectives

Thank you!