The Makira Forest Project, Madagascar:

Forest Carbon Financing for Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation and Improved Livelihoods

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> > UNFCCC December 1-12 Poznan



Madagascar

A biodiversity **hotspot** country (very high diversity, endemism, and threats): more than 80% of flora and fauna are endemic

Environmental **degradation** due to deforestation and slash and burn practices – 90% of GHG emissions from land use change

More than 70% of the population of 18 million below the **poverty** line: 75% in rural areas

A challenging combination of population growth, resource dependence to meet subsistence needs, and slow economic growth.



Ensuring community involvement in governance and resource management



The government is committed to a new system of protected areas that better integrate communities thru new governance structures

• PA limits, internal zoning and resource use rules defined in public consultation at local levels - Up to 25% of new PAs can be zoned to allow community resource use

• Forest resource-use rights are transferred to community associations (COBAs) by the state - COBAs involvement in PA management structures

Communities derive long term benefits from secured access, sustainable use, limited sale of resources



Makira Forest Project: a conservation partnership



<u>Landscape</u>

- Largest intact humid forest
- Exceptional biodiversity
- Critical ecosystem services
- ~300,000 inhabitants
- Subsistence agriculture, cash crops
- Forest products

Objectives

Conserve biodiversity, enhance human welfare, protect environmental services, reduce carbon emissions

- Financing thru avoided deforestation
- Community co-management of PA
- Community empowerment to improve land mgmt

Engaging communities to ensure permanence

Establishment

<u>2002:</u> Pilot project for forest carbon finance
<u>2005:</u> Makira receives temporary PA status
<u>2006:</u> Pilot program to market 40,000 ton CO2
<u>2008:</u> 401,000 ha protected area,
280,000 ha zone of community mgmt permit for permanent status

Community Engagement

2008: 17 'sites', 30 villages, +13,000 inhabitants, 47 associations, + 50,000 ha 2011: 46 sites & 100,000 ha forest under community management

Governance

Collaborative co-management with federation of local community associations (COBAs)



Mechanisms and standards to ensure multiple benefits

WCS signs an agreement with GOM to market Makira Carbon 9.1 million tons to 2033 (current contract thru 2012).

50% to communities for improved land stewardship

potential model for future REDD revenue management in Madagascar

VCS register for baseline assessment and monitoring protocols CCB certification for design standard ensuring investors of multiple benefits Informing national REDD strategy



Validation/Work Plan/Budge



Conservation through successful community engagement : lessons learned

- Forest protection activities in Madagascar have been successful deforestation rate 0.12%/yr inside PAs 0.53%/yr national
- Forest carbon offsets provide long term funding & help leverage sustainable practices at the site level: <u>40,000 tons CO2e retired</u>
- Communities are empowered through resource rights and governance structures : <u>address issues of tenure</u>, equity to reduce risks of impermanence
- Incentives to communities lead to improved management of resources that benefit others : <u>addressing leakage and reducing impermanence</u>
- Site level approaches can inform national level strategy : <u>forest carbon</u> revenue distribution structure, VCS, CCB





THANK YOU

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