

Financial incentive mechanisms for ecosystem co-benefits

Katia Karousakis, OECD Promoting Ecosystem Co-benefits in REDD+ UN-REDD workshop April 27-29, 2010



Overview

- REDD-plus implications for biodiversity
- Synergies with biodiversity: Promoting biodiversity co-benefits in REDD
- Beyond co-benefits: multiple payments for multiple benefits
- Key messages and conclusions



International REDD design elements

- Scope: REDD, REDD+
- Financing: Market, fund, phased
- Baselines/reference levels: National, sub-national
- Permanence
- Gross vs net deforestation
- Local communities and indigenous peoples

Eg. REDD Scope and Financingand implications for biodiversity

• Scope

- REDD = reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
- REDD+ = REDD, including conservation, sustainable forest management, and enhancement of carbon sinks
 - Some

• Financing

 Market: REDD credits would need to be fungible with existing AAUs. Units therefore in tCO2e. MarketObased approaches likely to mobilise higher levels of sustainable and long-term finance due to ability to fully engage the private sector. Hence more REDD-plus

Promoting biodiversity co-benefits in REDD

- Based on economics of targeting multiple ecosystem services: spatial cost-benefit analysis
 - A. Identify areas with high ecosystem service benefits
 - B. Identify areas with high risks of deforestation and degradation
 - C. Evaluate opportunity costs

Then... Develop policies and incentives to capture benefits

- Data and economic estimates of (A) can highlight where government or private-sector REDD investors can get 2 benefits for the price of 1.
 - Some tools and blueprints:
 - National gap analysis by CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas...

WEP WCMC Carbon and Biodiversity Atlas



Carbon tonnes/ha Low (0 - 175)

Medium (175 - 313) High (313 - 626) Panama: 20% of carbon stored in high carbon, high biodiversity areas



Targeting payments in Madagascar



Source: Wendland et al, 2009

Beyond biodiversity co-benefits: Multiple payments for multiple services

• Payments for biodiversity can be:

- voluntary vs. regulatory
- fund-based vs. market-based
- Voluntary initiatives to bundle carbon and biodiversity are emerging
 - e.g. CCBA, Plan Vivo, CarbonFix... i.e. *green* REDD credits
 - Good but may not provide the scale necessary to significantly alter behaviour and impact biodiversity at global scale
- Other regulatory mechanisms and policy approaches for biodiversity are likely to be needed



- Successful REDD –plus mechanism will likely lead to substantial biodiversity co-benefits
- Ensure appropriate level of biodiversity safeguards in REDD-plus where needed. For example:
 - If A/R activities included in REDD, safeguards to avoid mono-crop plantations
 - Propose safeguards to ensure if net, rather than gross, deforestation rates used to estimate emissions, that loss of mature forests can be avoided
 - Support local and indigenous stakeholder participation in REDD to account for their knowledge and role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
- But *over-emphasis* on biodiversity-related criteria imposed on REDD-plus can increase transaction costs, and may consequently be counter-productive for biodiversity. Need appropriate balance -REDD is ultimately for GHG emissions - do not overload UNFCCC mechanism



- Invest international biodiversity financing in economic valuation and spatial mapping of biodiversity (and ecosystem) benefits.
- For OECD countries, biodiversity funding should aim to complement REDD financing e.g. for high biodiversity/low carbon areas
- REDD demonstration activities provide an important opportunity for biodiversity policy-makers to promote and financially support biodiversity monitoring, reporting and verification
- Consider creation of a <u>technical expert group</u> to establish best practice guidelines and principles
- Further work in the near future to analyse experience with different REDD demonstration activities and gather lessons learned



Thank you

- <u>OECD (2009)</u> *Promoting Biodiversity Co-Benefits in REDD*
- <u>OECD (2004) Handbook on Biodiversity Valuation</u>
- <u>OECD (forthcoming, 2010) Enhancing the Cost-Effectiveness of</u> <u>Payments for Ecosystem Services</u>

<u>www.oecd.org/env/biodiversity</u> <u>www.oecd.org/env/cc/redd</u>

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