UN-REDD PROGRAMME Newsletter

Introduction

In December, REDD+ took another significant step forward when an official agreement on REDD+ was reached at COP16. The UN-REDD Programme applauded the decision, and upon further reflection over the past month, we remain encouraged that REDD+ is on the right track to achieving its goal of reducing emissions from the forestry sector in developing countries.

The COP16 agreement defines REDD+ from a policy perspective, outlining the scope, type of eligible activities, safeguards, and main elements, as well as identifies pending methodological issues to be addressed. Safeguards were one of the biggest breakthroughs in the REDD+ negotiations. The agreement now recognizes the need to "promote and support" safeguards, and requests that a "system for providing information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected" is developed. Safeguards include critical issues such as forest governance, respect for the knowledge and rights of Indigenous Peoples and members of local communities, and actions that are consistent with conservation of natural forests and biological diversity.

Technically, the agreement ratifies definitions and provides methodological guidance to continue working on national REDD+ strategies. Politically, the REDD+ agreement provides a positive signal for donors and REDD+ countries to keep working on and investing in the readiness phase.

The REDD+ agreement builds on some of the early lessons from REDD+ programmes and initiatives. Initial REDD+ activities in countries have provided vital knowledge which has helped to identify gaps and overlaps. The REDD+ Partnership was another response that helped coordinate donor efforts and contribute some early learning on REDD+. Multilateral, bilateral and NGO initiatives also played a role in the implementation and coordination of many REDD+ activities. All of these efforts underscore how critical initial activities are in helping to further articulate the details on which a comprehensive agreement can be built.

The hard work on implementing the Cancun agreement is just beginning. For the UN-REDD Programme and other actors involved in the readiness and fast-start activities, we now have clearer guidance on what the REDD+ framework will include and what work needs to be done. The work that REDD+ countries undertake in implementing readiness activities between now and 2012 will be important next steps in supporting the Cancun agreement. The framework provides some elaboration on the activities that developing countries need to undertake in the development and implementation of REDD+, such as a national plan, national reference emission levels, and robust and transparent national forest monitoring systems. Since these are the activities the UN-REDD Programme has been supporting over the past two years, we remain in a good position to further support and inform the UNFCCC process, as it works towards a comprehensive REDD+ agreement.

Yemi Katerere Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

News

UN-REDD in Cancun

The UN-REDD Programme organized and participated in various events at COP16 and Forest Day 4 in Cancun, with the goal of facilitating and contributing to knowledge sharing and a greater understanding of what countries need to make REDD+ work.



Knowledge is often best shared face to face. While there is an impressive body of literature on critical REDD+ issues ranging from ecosystem benefits to good governance and financial mechanisms, stakeholders need to exchange, talk and challenge each other in person. COP16 provided such a space, and the share of events dedicated to REDD+ was an indication of how hot REDD+ has grown since Copenhagen.

Sharing knowledge and lessons learned and convening a broad constituency of

In this Issue

News

UN-REDD in CancunPage 1.
Norway and UN-REDD Help Mexico Strengthen its MRV System Page 2.
Zambia Launches Implementation of its UN-REDD National ProgrammePage 2.
UN-REDD FPIC Consultations in AfricaPage 3.
Features & Commentary
2011: International Year of ForestsPage 3.
Early Lessons on REDD+Page 4.
Reports & Analysis
Estimating the Opportunity Costs of REDD+Page 5.
Land Tenure and Climate Change MitigationPage 6.

For more information on the UN-REDD Programme visit www.un-redd.org

stakeholders to advance thinking and find operational solutions to upcoming REDD+ issues is one of the objectives of the UN-REDD Programme. The UN-REDD Programme organized and participated in a number of events and panels that were instrumental platforms in sharing knowledge on REDD+. These events included:

- The high level event "Delivering as One: Achievements and Lessons Learned from REDD+ Readiness Activities" (see summary and presentations), which emphasized the need for partnerships between governments, UN agencies, the World Bank and NGOs to deliver effective and equitable REDD+ outcomes.
- Building on the "REDD+ Hour" workshops launched in Nagoya, three

Issue no. 15 Dec 2010/ Jan 2011

"REDD+ Hour" Open Sessions (links to 1st, 2nd and 3rd session) were organized throughout the two weeks at COP16 in Cancun, bringing together countries and various UN-REDD Programme experts in an informal, one-on-one setting to respond to questions about

- REDD+ and the status of the negotiations.
 REDD+ Hour workshop on biodiversity, highlighting safeguards for biodiversity, tools for incorporating biodiversity conservation into REDD+ and monitoring of biodiversity.
- The Viet Nam UN-REDD Programme presented its pioneer work on Free, prior and informed consent in a side event hosted by RECOFTC.

At Forest Day 4, the UN-REDD Programme's involvement included:

- Dr. Yemi Katerere's (Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat) participation in the panel on climate finance
- An FAO/UN-REDD Programme event on Delivering the emission reductions in REDD+: Challenges for customizing MRV for national circumstances
- Two events co-hosted by UNEP/ UN-REDD Programme, on Optimizing multiple benefits of sustainable forest management and REDD+ and REDD+ and Forest Finance: A 360° view on forest finance

At both COP16 and Forest Day 4, the UN-REDD Programme was there to listen and engage with REDD+ countries, in order to better understand and service the needs of REDD+ countries moving forward. The

Programme was grateful for the chance to meet with various REDD+ stakeholder in person and looks forward to similar opportunities throughout 2011.



Hands-on training jointly delivered by the UN-REDD Programme and Brazil's INPE on the TerraAmazon system in the INPE facilities in Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil.

Norway and UN-REDD Help Mexico Strengthen its MRV System

At a special event held during the United Nations climate change negotiations (COP16) in December, Norway and Mexico sign a US\$15 million collaborative agreement to build Mexico's REDD+ capacities in the area of measuring, reporting and verification (MRV).

The agreement, entitled "Reinforcing REDD+ Readiness in Mexico and enabling South-South cooperation," aims to strengthen Mexico's capacities for a national MRV system of greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals of sinks, forests carbon stocks and natural forest area changes in accordance with UNFCCC decisions and methodological guidance.

The implementation of the agreement will be carried out by the National

Forestry Commission (CONAFOR -Comisión Nacional Forestal) with the technical and administrative support from UN-REDD Programme's FAO and UNDP agencies, as part of their commitment to the United Nations System "Delivering as One" in Mexico.

Norway and Mexico agreed that disseminating the Mexican experience in developing its own MRV system with other REDD+ countries, and promoting the



United Nations Mexico Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Magdy Martinez-Soliman and Political Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway Arvin Eikeland Gadgil sign the US \$15 Million cost sharing agreement on 10 December 2010

regional exchange of experiences and capacities on REDD+ will be key in expanding the global knowledge base on such methodologies and approaches.

Zambia Launches Implementation of its UN-REDD National Programme

The Integrated Land Use Assessment (ILUA) and the UN-REDD Programme in Zambia join forces to support country efforts for a future REDD+ mechanism.

Building on the work established by the first phase of the Integrated Land Use Assessment (ILUA), 2005-2008, the Zambian Deputy Minister of Tourism Environment and Natural Resources, Vera Tembo, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, Kanni Wignaraja, launched the implementation of Zambia's UN-REDD National Programme along with the second phase of ILUA (ILUA II) in November 2010. The three-year (2010-2012) UN-REDD National Programme will develop Zambia's capacity to prepare for a future REDD+ mechanism, expected to provide financial incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The ILUA II programme (2010-13) aims to improve the use and dissemination of ILUA-generated data and seeks to enhance capacity in collecting and analyzing forest resource information for sustainable forest management, REDD+ monitoring and carbon inventory.

More than 70 people from various organizations, NGOs, government ministries, academia, private sector, media, and civil society organizations participated in the November launch.

"The continuation of ILUA will deliver and widely disseminate nationally relevant land use information to help guide national land use management and development planning, strengthen capacity in planning and implementation of sustainable forest management and REDD+," said Ms. Tembo.

She also stressed that without the concerted collaboration of key sectors such

as agriculture, energy, mining and finance, the UN-REDD Programme and ILUA II will not be sustainable.

The UN-REDD Programme is catalyzing momentum from ongoing efforts established in the country to build a strong REDD+ framework. The success of the UN-REDD Programme and ILUA II in Zambia will depend on a consolidated effort and the inclusion of a wide range of partners.

The UN-REDD Programme in Zambia will primarily focus on building institutional and stakeholder capacities, developing an enabling policy environment as well as benefit-sharing models and adequate monitoring, reporting and verifications systems. The Deputy Minister and UN Resident Coordinator were also joined by Lilian Kapulu, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources (MTENR), Dr. Noureddin Mona, country representative for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), Dr. Gaoju Han, Sub-regional coordinator for Southern Africa, FAO, representatives from the Norwegian and Finnish embassies as well as a representative from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

A REDD+ mechanism in Zambia would provide financial incentives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from forest lands by receiving compensation for sustainable management of the resources allowing communities to be engaged in other alternative livelihoods.



Speakers at the implementation launch of Zambia's UN-REDD National Programme, from L to R: Kanni Wignaraja, United Nations Resident Coordinator; Vera Tembo, Zambian Deputy Minister of Tourism Environment and Natural Resources; Marja Ojanen, Embassy of Finland; and Lillian Kapulu, Permanent Secretary MTENR.

UN-REDD FPIC Consultations in Africa

The UN-REDD Programme will meet with Indigenous Peoples and forest-dependent communities from Africa next week to receive inputs and guidance in an on-going process to develop guidelines and recourse mechanisms for Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for REDD+.



The UN-REDD Programme is undertaking a series of consultations with Indigenous Peoples and other Forest Dependent Communities in three regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)) to develop FPIC recourse guidelines for the UN-REDD Programme. The regional FPIC consultation for Africa will take place in Arusha, Tanzania on 24-27 January 2011, and will be the third regional consultation that the UN-REDD Programme has held over the past year.

The initial consultation took place in Hanoi, Vietnam in June 2010, and resulted in a set of draft guidelines which were further elaborated during a similar consultation in the LAC region in October 2010. These draft guidelines will be further developed after receiving input from this regional consultation for Africa.

After the recommendations from all three workshops are analyzed and merged, the draft guidelines will be released for a public comment and input process and will

then be added as an annex to the UN-REDD Programme's Operational Guidance on the Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and other Forest Dependent Communities.

The Africa region consultation will gather about 60 participants from Indigenous and tribal peoples organizations, civil society, the UN-REDD Programme, FCPF and a variety of partner organizations from Africa, in particular representing UN-REDD Programme partner countries, including Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Building on the guidelines drafted in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean workshops, the Programme hopes that the Africa consultation will help to refine a set of definitions, recommendations, and guidelines for FPIC processes and recourse mechanisms to be applied to UN-REDD Programme activities to inform a final draft of guidelines to be adopted by the UN-REDD Programme.

Features & Commentary

2011: International Year of Forests

The Director of the United Nations Division on Forests and head of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat, Jan McAlpine, highlights the role the International Year of Forests will play in bringing critical attention to the world's forests.

The United Nations General Assembly designated 2011 the International Year of Forests (Forests 2011) to raise awareness

on sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests. Throughout Forests 2011, events will be organized around the world at the national, regional and local level. All events will capture the message of Forests 2011 – a celebration of the many wonders of forests and their special relationship to the people who depend on them. There are great success stories the world over of people sustainably managing their forests for shelter, food, income, medicine and clean water; for income, trade, sustenance and a way of life. These stories exist and are plentiful.





central Α event of Forests 2011 is the International Film Festival.Launched in conjunction with the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival in Wyoming, USA, we received more than 170 films submissions from

more than 25 countries across six categories. Each film had a unique story to tell, stories that can help inspire and encourage action.

One film, "The Man Who Stopped the Desert," followed the story of Yacouba Sawadogo, an illiterate peasant farmer from Burkina Faso, Africa, who transformed the lives of thousands across the Sahel region of Africa. Through an ancient agricultural planting technique that he pioneered on his own, Sawadogo brought trees to a barren land, helped them grow and flourish and improved the lives of all in that region. The United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat will also be running a "Forest Heroes" campaign, to help highlight the stories of those whose dedication to forests and forests issues deserve special recognition. Throughout Forests 2011, nominations will be accepted and winners announced, having their stories shared with the world through the Forests 2011 website.

Part of the power of the International Year of Forests is that it is a global event, with events organized by many different governments and groups. While the UNFF has been designated as the focal point for implementation of Forests 2011, the central idea is "we provide the platform, you provide the action," and we have received many pledges to action. Germany is holding their launch event during the International Green Week in Berlin from 21-30 January. China is holding a national tree planting day on 12 March. Israel will launch its "Green Belt" seedling planting program. Schools, museums and other organizations are holding Forests 2011 exhibits. These events are but a few of the countless activities being held throughout Forests 2011.

NEWSLETTER

Issue no. 15 Dec 2010/ Jan 2011

Forests 2011 will be an unprecedented opportunity to bring attention to forests throughout the world. The spotlight on forests and climate change, and particularly the growth of REDD+ with crucial support from the UN-REDD Programme, has provided extensive political commitment and financial resources for forests. At the same time, Forests 2011 provides the opportunity for increased visibility of forests and their importance among the wider public, both in developed and developing countries. Through this linkage, Forests 2011 and REDD+ are helping us work in synergy to ensure that forests are sustainably managed in the near future so that present and future generations can continue to enjoy the wonders of the world's forests.



.....

Jan McAlpine is Director of the United Nations Division on Forests and head of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat, based at UN Headquarters in New York.

Early Lessons on REDD+

At the start of a new year, UN-REDD Programme team members reflect on the early lessons that are emerging in the Programme's work with REDD+ partner countries.

After a little over two years in operation, early lessons are emerging from the UN-REDD Programme's work with partner countries, which are important to take stock of in order to design and implement robust REDD+ strategies moving forward. Below are excerpts from recent interviews with UN-REDD Programme team members, discussing what the Programme has learned so far in some of the work areas related to REDD+ readiness and implementation.

On the Multiple Benefits of Forests...

Barney Dickson, Head of Programme, Climate Change and Biodiversity, UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)



What are some of the inroads that have been made the area of REDD+ and the multiple benefits of forests? "What I think there

is, is the increasing recognition of the many

benefits, in addition to climate mitigation, that REDD+ can deliver. This is being seen at

both the international level in negotiations themselves on the REDD+ mechanism, but also most importantly at the country level where we are seeing a number of countries within the UN-REDD Programme who are really keen to take the multiple benefits of forest forward, and ensure that when they are implementing REDD+, they are not just thinking about the carbon benefits, but also about the other benefits REDD+ can deliver."

What is a concrete example of the current work the UN-REDD Programme is doing related to the multiple benefits of forests? "In Tanzania, one of the Programme's partner countries, they have been working with Tanzanian GIS experts over the past year to produce maps showing the relationship between carbon stored in their ecosystems and other potential co-benefits. So we are talking about areas of biodiversity importance, areas of importance for production of non-timber forest products, and so on. A small indication of how successful that was, we printed 500 copies of those maps, and Tanzania a little while later came back with a request for additional 1000 copies. Clearly they see it useful for raising awareness within the country."

Moving forward, what are some of the biggest challenges related to the advancement of multiple benefits?

"The biggest challenge or objections in this work area is why bother? REDD+ is a mechanism about climate mitigation, the finance that REDD+ is going to deliver will likely be based on performance on reducing carbon emissions, so why should a country bother about the impacts on biodiversity and why should they bother about the impacts REDD+ activities may have on other ecosystems services?

Part of addressing this objection is showing the sort of magnitude of the benefits can be delivered with relatively small inputs. By adjusting the way that REDD+ gets implemented to a relatively small degree, we can see significant benefits being delivered so it's not matter of countries having to radically overhaul their plans, but it is a matter of paying some attention to the consequences of REDD+ for these different ecosystems services."

On MRV...

Alberto Sandoval Uribe, Senior Officer Climate Change, FAO



Almost 2 years into the UN-REDD Programme's work in the area of MRV, what have we learned about MRV capacity in countries?

UN-REDD P R O G R A M M E

"One of them most important things we've learned is that although some countries had already initiated efforts a long time ago on forest inventories and efforts to monitor vegetation, what we are trying to do now is to put all the pieces together so that they act in a more integrated way. This way, countries will have systems that consider all the vegetation areas, while also being able to measure the effects of REDD+ like measuring carbon emissions."

What is a concrete example of the current work the UN-REDD Programme is doing related to MRV?

"In Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), for example, they already had a process of forest inventory, but the training we have been doing there together with Brazil's National Institute for Space Research (INPE) has allowed that the satellite monitoring systems of vegetation are now integrated into DRC's forest inventories, creating an efficient system to measure a country with complex vegetation and with difficult access to vegetation areas. This way, DRC will be able to integrate not only their forest inventories but also the remote sensing data in order to reach the most complex areas of the country in an efficient way and within the time required by climate change."

What are some of the most challenging aspects of MRV systems development that we have to figure out as we move forward? "One of the advantages that the world has now is the great availability of satellite images. However, we will have to find a way to standardize them and make them easily available for all countries so that we can reach homogenous solutions, in order to have results from various countries that can be compared... Some of the difficulties and challenges that we have is how can we get to countries with the necessary training and tools so that they don't have to start from scratch and they can use these technologies in a centralized wav. Nowadays there are already suppliers that can distribute satellite images through the internet. So moving forward, we might look at ways of having these suppliers provide simple solutions to the process that will allow countries to dedicate themselves exclusively to interpret the data since they would not need to get the images or develop techniques of processing the information that already exist."

On Stakeholder Engagement...

Nina Kantcheva, Stakeholder Engagement (REDD+), Environment and Energy Group, UNDP



What have we learned so far in the area of stakeholder engagement for REDD+? "One of the most important lessons that

important lessons that we have learned over the past two years is that stakeholders such as

Indigenous Peoples and forest dwelling communities are an essential part of the equation of the success of REDD+, and they must be involved from the very early design, and early stages of the REDD+ process."

What is a concrete example of the current work the UN-REDD Programme is doing related to stakeholder engagement?

"One of the items that we have been working on for the past year is the issue of obtaining free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of Indigenous communities in the REDD+ process. This is an essential way in implementing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which was passed by governments in 2007 and which most of our pilot countries have adopted.

In an effort to help support countries' implementation of the Declaration, we are carrying out workshops with IndigenousPeoplesineachofthethreeregions (Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean). This process is fascinating and its very important because even though FPIC is acknowledged as a right of Indigenous Peoples, there is not so much guidance on how to carry it out, and obviously it is essential for our programmes to have an operational guidance on how to do that."

Moving forward, what are some of the biggest challenges related to stakeholder engagement and REDD+?

"Some of the questions that still come up are how to make sure that all necessary information reaches the community level so that stakeholders can give consent and make informed decision. There are also tough questions around how do you ensure that there was no coercion or pressure from any other party and how to ensure that the right governance structures of Indigenous Peoples are respected. Part of our response to these concerns is to continue to consult widely through the regional workshops we are currently undertaking to address the issue of how to FPIC."

Reports & Analysis

Estimating the Opportunity Costs of REDD+

The UN-REDD Programme recently collaborated with a team of experts from the World Bank Institute (WBI), the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the ASB-Partnership at the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF) to provide critical training to identify the range of costs associated with REDD+.

REDD+ experts from nine African countries, all members of the FCPF and/or the UNREDD Programme attended the training session entitled, "Estimating the Opportunity Costs of REDD+", held for the first time in Arusha, Tanzania, on 22-25 November 2010.

In order to receive REDD+ funding, countries and communities must reduce deforestation and forest degradation; a goal which is generally not free of costs. In fact, reducing deforestation and degradation

foregoes the benefits of alternative land uses, such as crop and livestock production. These foregone benefits or opportunity costs can be a significant component of the costs of REDD+. In addition, there are other costs such as implementation, administration and transaction costs.

"A thorough understanding of the economics of land use change is key for the success of REDD+ schemes", said Gerald Kapp, Senior Knowledge Management Specialist



on behalf to the World Bank Institute and FCPF, at the opening of the workshop. "In many areas, land owners will only maintain their forests and not convert to agriculture if they can achieve sufficient income through forests, including carbon credits," said Mr. Kapp.

"In order to develop the right incentives for forest maintenance, project developers and policy makers need to know what



profits a land owner can get from different forms of land use. With this training course, we want to help them to develop tools for economic analysis of land uses and for making informed decisions", says Pablo Benitez, Senior Economist at the World Bank Institute.

Attendees of the training were senior technical experts from ministries, national research institutes and other organizations involved in the preparation, implementation, and discussion of national REDD+ strategies in their countries. They learned about data for opportunity requirements cost analysis as well as the possible applications and limitations of the opportunity cost approach.

Colleagues of the FCPF and UN-REDD Programme in Democratic Republic of the Congo spoke about their advanced stage of REDD+ readiness and expressed interest to cooperate on future efforts to estimate the administrative and implementation costs of REDD+ as well as efforts to further define procedures of measurement, reporting and verification (MRV).

Participants from Tanzania and other countries preparing REDD+ initiatives, stated that available information is highly variable. This makes estimations of present values and averages difficult to generate. Attendees emphasized that technical support from the UN-REDD Programme and World Bank will be needed to help countries establish full cost estimations of REDD+ and abatement cost curves.

Issue no. 15 Dec 2010/ Jan 2011

The UN-REDD Programme in Tanzania supported more than 20 Tanzanian experts to attend the training. "We are working with several REDD+ pilot projects in Tanzania that are keen to understand the cost of REDD+ project development. We will continue analyzing opportunity costs of REDD+ in the Tanzanian context, but also include implementation costs, transaction costs and institutional costs in further studies to get a more complete picture of the real cost of REDD+ projects", explained Ralf Ernst, UN-REDD Programme Coordinator in Tanzania.

In the closing ceremony, training organizers committed to continue cooperating to further assisting REDD+ readiness in African, Asian and Latin American countries with technical support and resources.

Land Tenure and Climate Change Mitigation

Experts from the UN-REDD Programme, the FAO Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture project (MICCA project) and the FAO team responsible for the voluntary guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources, recently came together to identify what is needed to address land tenure issues in the implementation of climate change mitigation policies.



The expert meeting entitled "Land tenure issues and requirements for implementing climate change mitigation policies in the forestrv and agriculture sectors"was organized at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy on 15-17 November 2010 to identify and discuss the key land tenure issues that affect climate change mitigation initiatives. Some of these issues include unclear and often complex customary tenure arrangements that are still prevailing in many developing countries. Climate change mitigation policies for the forestry and agriculture sectors will have to address land tenure issues in order to

foresee, plan and distribute risks and benefits of incentive schemes such as REDD+.

The meeting, which brought together 50 participants from governments, international organizations, non-governmental

organizations and academia, discussed tools and processes for clarifying and registering rights and defining minimum land tenure requirements for implementing schemes. compensation How and whether carbon rights should be defined is not yet clear in many cases, but it was agreed that unless benefits from rights are distributed fairly, conflicts may arise. Legal recognition and basic documentation of community and other collective tenure arrangements are thus needed, which will require innovative methods in order for processes to be completed within time and budget constraints. The meeting also concluded that guiding principles should include transparency in decision making processes and general availability and access of information, an enabling legal framework and conflict resolution mechanisms.

Experts at the meeting cautioned that tools, mechanisms and processes for clarifying and registering rights (statutory or nonstatutory) must be implemented with caution, accounting for local circumstances, as the different means of clarifying rights can have both positive and negative impacts. Their application may cause or resolve conflicts, and improve or worsen the position of vulnerable groups, depending on context.

Mechanisms such as REDD+ are unlikely to succeed in the absence of an understanding of who holds the rights to land and carbon. Legal recognition of the rights of land and resources users provides security to both local communities and investors, thereby facilitating long-term planning and investments on different scales. Ways of dealing with unclear or complex tenure arrangements must thus be sought in order to upscale mitigation initiatives.

Finally, the meeting concluded that tenure security and climate change are two issues among many and activities such as REDD+ that are undertaken to address these issues do not operate in isolation. Prioritized objectives for the forestry and agricultural sectors must continue to include food security and livelihoods. Processes for clarification of rights as well as climate change mitigation initiatives will need to be implemented under these premises, within a broader development perspective.

Visit the meeting website: http://www.fao. org/climatechange/65623/en/



Looking Ahead

United Nations Forum on Forests, 9th Session 24 January - 4 February 2011, New York, USA

UN-REDD Programme Regional FPIC Workshop

24 - 27 January 2011, Arusha, Tanzania

Chatham House Illegal Logging Stakeholder Update

27 - 28 January, 2011, London, UK

9th RRI Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change 8 February, 2011, London, UK

UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

International Environment House, 11-13 Chemin des Anémones, CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

www.un-redd.org un-redd@un-redd.org

Photo credits – Inside spread: © Gillian Allard Images sourced from www.unfccc.int; fao.org; www.un.org; un-redd.org; reddpluspartnership.org;

