

TZ - REDD

Newsletter Issue 10 - June 2013

CONTENTS

I. National REDDiness...

- Updates from the National REDD+ Task Force
- Updates on the National REDD+ Programme from the Norwegian Embassy
- Stakeholder Participation in National REDD Strategy Finalization – A CSO Perspective
- UN-REDD Multiple Benefits Mapping Project
- Updates from CCIAM

II. Updates from the Field

- Jane Goodall Institute
- MCDI
- TaTEDO
- TFCG and MJUMITA

III. Highlights from Abroad

IV. Resources

The TZ-REDD quarterly newsletter is part of the TFCG/MJUMITA project funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway. The newsletters aim is to keep practitioners, donors, universities and CSOs up-to-date about REDD projects in Tanzania, upcoming events, and REDD developments around the world. Earlier editions of TZ-REDD are available at www.tnrf.org/redd

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, including conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, **(REDD+)** has been identified as one critical approach in mitigating global climate change by reducing the levels of greenhouse gas emissions that enter our atmosphere. Today, fifteen to twenty percent of global GHG emissions are attributed to deforestation and forest degradation due to activities such as increased logging and agriculture. Many of these countries reside in the Global South, where poverty is rife and resource exploitation is a means of livelihood security. However, if such countries can reduce their rates of forest degradation and deforestation and develop strategies to conserve forestlands, then they deserve to be financially compensated for these efforts.





I. National REDDiness

Updates from the National REDD+ Task Force

Submitted by the National REDD+ Secretariat (IRA-UDSM)

Development of National REDD+ Safeguards underway

The government of Tanzania, through the National REDD+ Task Force (NRTF), engaged a consultant to facilitate the development of the National REDD+ safeguards. To date, two major outputs have been produced in draft form: 1) a *safeguard review report*; and 2) a *national REDD+ safeguard framework*.

The NRTF has redesigned its website (www.reddtz.org) and started a blog (www.reddtz.blogspot.com/)! It includes news, publications, project background and a blog, among other resources.

Safeguard review report: This report analyses different international standards (e.g., UNFCCC safeguards, World Bank/ Forest Carbon Partnership Facility safeguards, UN-REDD social and environmental principles and criteria (SEPC), and REDD+ social and environmental standards (REDD+SES), as well as national legal and policy frameworks related to REDD+ (e.g., Environmental Management Act, Environmental Policy, Agriculture and Livestock Policy, National Forest Policy, Forest Act, Land Policy, Land Act and Village land Act and other relevant legislation). The report has been produced to assist REDD+ practitioners and policy makers in Tanzania understand and compare various approaches to REDD+ safeguards and standards. The report findings will contribute to the development of national safeguards and standards for REDD+ in Tanzania. The draft report is currently being reviewed by members of the NRTF and the Technical Working Group (TWG) on Safeguards, and, after subsequent updates, will be publically released and shared in consultation workshops at multiple levels.

National REDD+ safeguards framework: The framework has been developed to provide guidelines (a roadmap) on the steps needed to establish and use safeguards in Tanzania for a country-led, multi-stakeholder assessment of REDD+ programme design, implementation and outcomes. The framework outlines a ten step process. The steps borrow heavily from those outlined in the REDD+ SES guidelines, facilitated by CARE International and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance. Wide consultation and stakeholder involvement in the process of developing REDD+ safeguards is underway. Stay tuned for forthcoming opportunities.

The National REDD+ Strategy endorsed and launched

Following a National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan validation workshop, consultations were held with members of the National Climate Change Steering and Technical Committees to seek approval of the documents. The final strategy documents were submitted to the government through the Director of Environment-Vice President's Office. The Government endorsed the documents, and officially launched them on 20 March, 2013.



Hon. Lazaro Nyarandu, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism launching the National REDD+ Strategy! (Photo credit: Petter Hveem, Norwegian Embassy)

Public awareness-raising on REDD+ strengthened!

The National REDD+ Secretariat and its project partners have been working to improve public awareness on climate change and REDD+ activities. In addition to stakeholder consultations held during the development of the National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan, consultations have been undertaken in 45 villages across 13 districts. The consultations are being done in partnership with MJUMITA, through village public meetings, focus group discussions and interactive videos. Lessons learnt at these meetings were documented, and will be shared with the public in due course. Zonal REDD+ stakeholders' workshops aimed at raising awareness on Tanzania's REDD+ initiatives have also been held in the Central Zone (Singida, Manyara and Dodoma), Eastern Zone (Coast and Morogoro), Northern Zone (Arusha, Tanga and Kilimanjaro) and Southern Highlands Zone (Mbeya, Rukwa, Njombe and Iringa). These zonal workshops brought together participants from 62 districts, and involved a wide range of stakeholders, including Local Government Authority staff, Regional Natural Resource Advisers, NGOs (particularly those implementing REDD+ pilot projects), community representatives and the private sector. *Television* and radio programmes have been produced to raise public awareness on climate change and REDD+ in Tanzania. There has also been regular information sharing through the [National REDD+ website](#).

Networking on REDD+ strengthened

The National REDD+ Secretariat and its project partners have been working to improve information sharing and networking on REDD+ activities in the country. Learning Networks have recently been established to improve coordination and communication on REDD+ issues, including to ensure that more information on REDD+ is shared across networks/ forums in Tanzania. Field Dialogues on REDD+ have also been conducted, including field visits to Kilosa District (TFGC/MJUMITA project sites of Chabima and Dodoma Isanga villages) and Kondoa District (AWF project sites of Mnenia and Mapinduzi villages) between January and March 2013. The objective of these field dialogues was to develop stakeholder consensus on a set of REDD+ lessons learnt and best practices from field action. The dialogues brought together representatives from REDD+ pilot projects, including Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI), CARE – Zanzibar, African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), and Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFGC)/Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania (MJUMITA). The dialogues also brought together representatives from the Climate Change Impacts Adaptation and Mitigation (CCIAM) Programme, district staff, and community representatives (village leaders, forest scout/ patrols, beekeepers, environmental group members, and contact farmers). Key REDD+ lessons learnt on governance, benefit sharing mechanisms, gender, land tenure and ownership, capacity building, MRV (Monitoring, Reporting and Verification), and activities to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation were documented. You can read more on the [national REDD blog](#). A publication with more details on the outcomes of this dialogue is expected in May 2013.

Updates on the National REDD+ Programme from the Norwegian Embassy

Submitted by the Norwegian Embassy

- In March 2013, the Mid-Term Review of the Tanzania REDD+ Policy Project took place. The Project is supported by the Norwegian Embassy and implemented by the Institute for Resource Assessment (IRA), University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM). The [Review report](#) is now available on the Embassy's website (www.norway.go.tz).
- In December 2011, the cooperation between the Norwegian Embassy and WWF was suspended when embezzlement of funds was discovered in two projects supported by the Embassy, one of which was a REDD+ pilot project. As of December 2012, all misused funds have been returned and all other remaining issues have been resolved. The Embassy and WWF are currently in the process of re-establishing both projects.
- As of 14 February 2013, the Norwegian Embassy has terminated all cooperation on REDD+ with the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) as WCST did not fulfil the required contractual obligations for the REDD+ pilot in Pugu and Kazimzumbwi forest reserves.

Strategy Finalization – A CSO Perspective

Submitted by TNRF

With the official launch of the National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan, it is useful to reflect upon how civil society organizations (CSOs) were engaged in the finalization of these documents, and to what extent CSO feedback was addressed.

As with previous drafts, the National REDD+ Task Force (NRTF) invited comments from stakeholders, including CSOs, on the second draft (June 2012) of the [National REDD+ Strategy](#) and the accompanying draft [Action Plan](#). With coordination from TNRF, CSOs facilitating Tanzania REDD+ pilot projects submitted [feedback and comments](#), as reported in the last TZ-REDD [newsletter](#). In summary, these CSO recommendations included the following:

- Key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation should be more clearly prioritized.
- Safeguards development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement need to be more explicitly addressed, e.g., through a dedicated Key Results Areas (KRA).
- Clarification of land tenure/ ownership is critical, particularly with regard to village land vs. general land, and carbon ownership/ tenure should be explicitly linked to land/forest tenure.
- Commitment to gender equality, good governance (including accountability, transparency and participation), and cross-sectoral action on REDD+ should be strengthened.
- Commitment to implementing equitable benefit sharing should be clarified/ strengthened, including well-governed systems that allow for locally appropriate approaches coupled with a coherent national scheme (e.g. a nested approach).
- Finance mechanisms should be made clear both in the strategy and in the action plan.

These recommendations were shared with the NRTF Secretariat and other stakeholders during the final Tanzania National REDD+ Strategy validation workshop (24-25 October, 2012).

Below are general reflections on the strategy development process and the Secretariat's incorporation of CSO recommendations in the final documents:

- In general, there was strong participation in development of the Strategy. Various stakeholders have been involved at each stage of the process, including the CSOs that have provided feedback on each draft. For many stakeholders, the content of the final draft was well anticipated because they had been familiar/ involved with its development in prior drafts.
- The issue of finance remains unclear; even following the validation workshop the revised strategy does not describe any mechanism(s) for exploring other options beyond public funding.
- The strategy gives priority to safeguard issues and MRV. However, no emphasis is given to national level reporting and monitoring, and no clear commitment to this was expressed during the validation workshop. There is some focus on MRV in the strategy, but with little emphasis on how it will link with the National Carbon Monitoring Centre (NCMC).
- The strategy development process allowed sufficient

time to consider comments and recommendation submitted by CSOs and other stakeholders, and in many cases consensus was reached. For example, it was agreed that the CSO recommendation regarding "prioritization of key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation" was unrealistic due to limited time, lack of information and the scale/occurrence of drivers.

In sum, **although the CSOs facilitating REDD+ pilot projects feel that some key issues remain unclear in the National REDD+ Strategy, they agree that the Strategy development process was generally inclusive and positive.**

UN-REDD Multiple Benefits Mapping Project

Submitted by Lisen Runsten (UNEP-WCMC)

The Tanzania National REDD+ Strategy states that "REDD+ is expected to bring much more than emissions reductions; a properly designed mechanism is expected to contribute to multiple benefits. Depending on the location and type of REDD+ activity, these benefits potentially include poverty alleviation, forest dependent communities' rights, improved community livelihoods, technology transfer, sustainable use of forest resources and biodiversity conservation." In response to this, and as part of the UN-REDD National Programme, a project is currently underway to support Tanzania in the development of multiple benefits maps to inform REDD+ planning and safeguards policies, focusing on environmental aspects. The project runs from January to June 2013 and aims to develop enhanced national scale spatial datasets, statistics and maps on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Tanzania for the purpose of informing REDD+ policies and measures, notably land use planning and prioritization of REDD+ intervention zones. It also aims to build capacity within Tanzania on spatial analysis of datasets of relevance to multiple benefits and environmental safeguards for REDD+, and approaches to developing information systems for safeguards using open source GIS software.

The project is being conducted in collaboration with the Tanzania Forest Service (TFS), SUA and FAO, in consultation with other institutions and stakeholders. UNEP-WCMC, based in Cambridge, UK, is leading the implementation. The detailed aims of the project, and the production of map outputs, were decided at a stakeholder meeting in Morogoro in February 2013. The technical work is largely carried out in Tanzania, through working sessions together with staff from TFS and SUA. The first working session was held 8-24 April, and the second 13-29 May 2013. Map outputs will mainly be relevant to environmental multiple benefits and safeguards, covering biodiversity and ecosystem services, and will serve as aids for decision making and implementation of different REDD+ activities. Results will be presented at a workshop in mid-June 2013.

For questions, please contact lisen.runsten@unep-wcmc.org

Updates from the Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation (CCIAM) Programme in Tanzania

Main Activities November 2012 – March 2013

Submitted by CCIAM

Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation (CCIAM) is a 5-year program (2009 – 2014) supported by the Royal Norwegian Embassy. Collaborating partners include:

Tanzania: Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Ardhi University (ARU) and Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA); and

Norway: Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB), University of Oslo (UIO-Oslo), Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo (CICERO) and Norwegian Agricultural Economics Research Institute (NILF).

CCIAM's objective is to develop and sustain adequate national capacity to effectively participate in climate change research projects, capacity building, documentation, awareness raising and outreach. Particular emphasis is given to REDD initiatives, including through implementation of research projects on REDD+ and PFM sites.

Programme Meetings:

The 3rd Annual CCIAM meeting was held on 9 November, 2012, at the University of Dar es Salaam. The 37 participants came from the Norwegian Embassy, collaborating institutions and Ministries. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Chacha Musabi, representing the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training.

The 20th and 21st Programme Management Team (PMT) meetings were held on 11 February and 26 March, 2013, respectively, at SUA. Sixteen participants from collaborating institutions (SUA, UDSM, ARU and TMA) attended each of these meetings.

Capacity Building:

Human Resources: Training scholarships have been provided to 51 Masters and 16 PhD Tanzanian students. Four PhD students hold international scholarships and are registered in two Norwegian Universities (UMB and UiO), and 12 PhD students holding national scholarships are locally registered at SUA, UDSM and ARU. Twenty-four Masters Students have completed their training, and 27 Masters Students have completed their course work and are currently conducting field research work in various parts of Tanzania, most in the National REDD+ pilot sites.

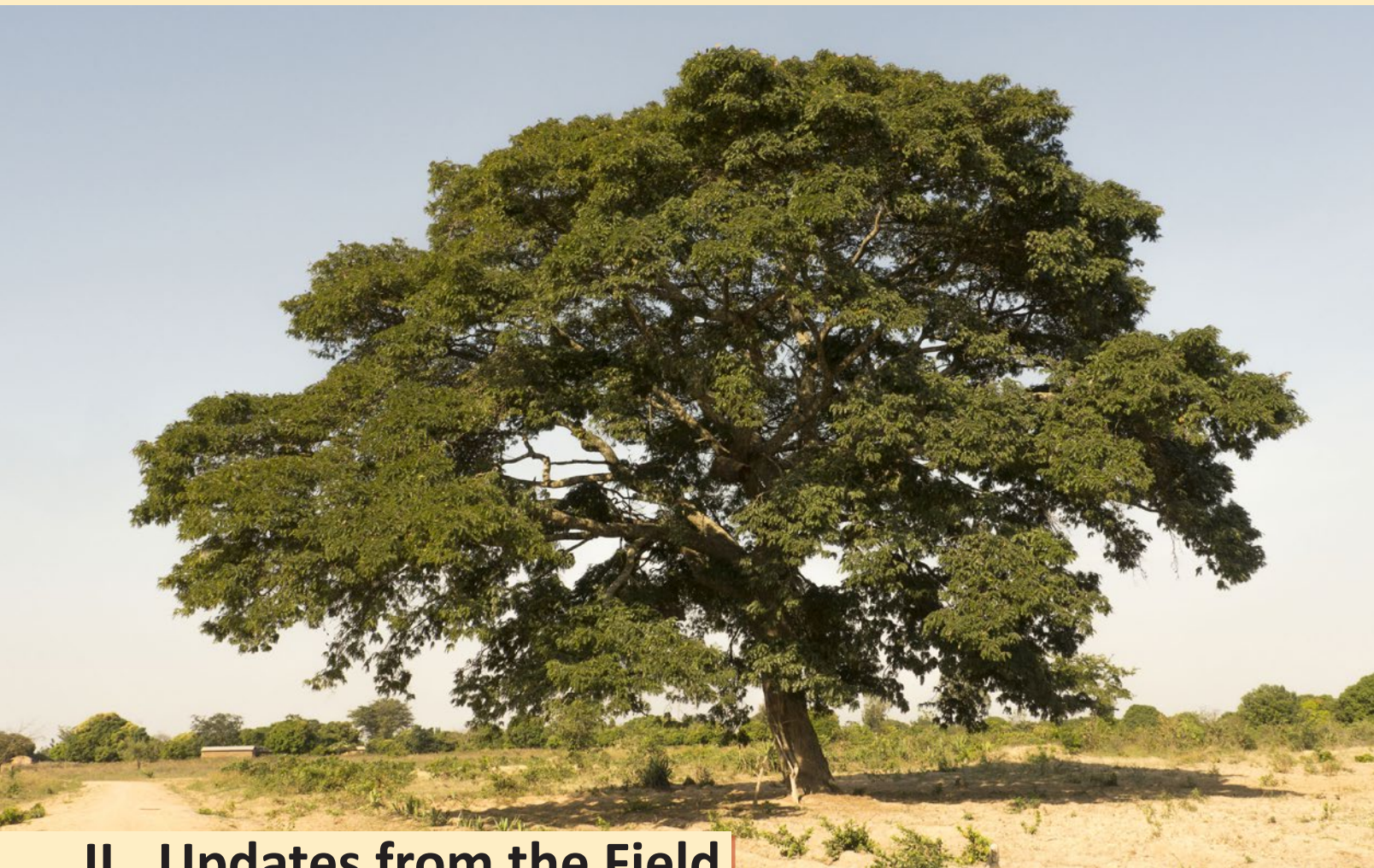
Short Courses:

A short course on '*Climate Change and Development*' was conducted in Kibaha, Tanzania on 17 – 22 December 2012. Twenty-five participants from collaborating institutions, representatives from three Ministries, including one member of the NRTF, and two journalists attended the course. The course was facilitated by 10 resource persons from the 4 collaborating institutions (TMA, SUA, ARU and UDSM).

A short training course on Airborne Laser Scanned (ALS) and Synthetic-Aperture Radar (SAR) Applications in Forest Inventories and Biomass Estimation was conducted from 11 to 22 March 2013 at SUA, Morogoro. Twenty-one participants from collaborating institutions and two Ministries attended the course. The course was facilitated by resource persons from UMB - Mr. Endre Hofstad, Tor Peder Lohne Hansen, Prof. Terje Gobakken and Prof. Svein Solberg.

Workshops: The 1st CCIAM Programme Writers Workshop was held from 28-30 January, 2013 in Bagamoyo. There were 60 participants from collaborating pilot sites, Ministries and NGOs operating REDD pilot projects. Forty-one papers were presented. The papers are being edited and the workshop proceedings will be posted under: <http://www.suanet.ac.tz/cciam/>





II. Updates from the Field

REDD+ pilot project updates are submitted by project staff on a periodic, voluntary basis for information sharing at a broader level.

Jane Goodall Institute

Project: Building REDD Readiness in the Masito Ugalla Ecosystem Pilot Area in Western Tanzania

Facilitating organization: Jane Goodall Institute (JGI)

Submitted by: Edwin Nssoko

Masito Ecosystem communities prepare funds management arrangements to enhance sustainability

The design and implementation of the JGI facilitated REDD project aims to achieve sustainable results and benefits. Towards this end, the project team, in collaboration with the Kigoma District Council, has assisted JUWAMMA (the inter-village CSO facilitating REDD+ implementation) in becoming the agent authorized to collect fines (taxes) for illegal natural resource uses in the Masito forest. This includes charcoal production, pole and timber harvesting, withies (thin reeds, or “Hanzarani”), cattle grazing, etc. As part of this arrangement, JUWAMMA will also oversee the management of all forests in the REDD project area and surrounding area.

The ongoing process of establishing JUWAMMA’s terms as a collection agent provides important considerations and lessons. The proposal to appoint JUWAMMA the tax/ fine collection agent was initially presented to the Kigoma District Executive Director, who welcomed it as a ‘win-win’ for JUWAMMA and the District. JUWAMMA was one of ten applicants in a competitive process for determining who the appropriate tax collection agent would be. Submitting an application to this

process required payment of a non-refundable Tsh. 220,000 fee. After being selected as the collection agent, JUWAMMA negotiated terms with the District. The parties agreed that JUWAMMA would submit Tsh. 950,000 to the District each month. The remainder of money collected in taxes/ fines will be held by JUWAMMA, who will cover their administrative and management costs, such as paying Community Forest Monitors, as well as distributing a percentage of remaining funds to participating villages. The formula for this sharing of tax revenues was based on the estimate that JUWAMMA will collect Tsh. 140,000 per month minimum from each village participating in the project. However, the revenue collected in practice has been much lower. In some villages, like Sigunga and Lyabusende, it has been difficult to collect even Tsh 50,000 per month. The current formula for tax revenue sharing between the District, JUWAMMA, and the villages they represent, does not seem to be fair or practical. It would require JUWAMMA to collect approximately Tsh. 11,400,000 a year from just the 7 villages participating in the REDD project. This is 63% of the total annual natural resource tax revenue that the District would normally collect from all 78 villages in the jurisdiction. The REDD+ project Director, Mr. Nssoko Edwin, has requested that there be a review carried out and that there be a revision of this tax collection formula so that terms that are fair, realistic and manageable for JUWAMMA.

This tax revenue sharing model was proposed during a September 2012 REDD+ project workshop that aimed to identify revenue streams that will enable JUWAMMA to sustain forest management activities when the grant funded REDD+

project ends. For example, fines collected will be used to pay Community Forest Monitors, as well as to cover administrative costs. Despite the current challenges in establishing fair terms, JGI believes this model can be widely replicated in other REDD pilot projects/PFM projects, to contribute to policy change, reduce carbon emissions, enhance biodiversity and other ecosystem service benefits, and improve sustainable livelihoods.

Building capacity to manage wildfires for reduced deforestation and forest degradation

Eighty-seven residents (74 men and 13 women) from 12 villages were selected by village governments to be part of wildfire fighting crews. They were trained on various techniques for wildfire detection, prevention, suppression and preparedness. They were educated on the adverse impact of wildfires on the environment, human health, national economy and global climate change. These individuals will be the first responders and play a key role in organizing the village to respond to and stop the spread of wildfires. The participating villages were Ilagala, Songambebe, Karago, Sunuka, Kirando, Lyabusende, Kazuramimba, Mwamila, Uvinza, Chakulu, Malagarasi and Sigunga. This is one of the strategies to address deforestation and forest degradation in Western Tanzania.

Strengthening youth capacity to understand and act on climate change and REDD+

Training was provided to 667 (358 male, 309 female) students in the JGI [Roots & Shoots](#) programme and other youth from the Masito-Ugalla project area and surrounding villages. (Participating villages included Uvinza, Chakulu, Malagarasi, Mwamila, Kazuramimba, Ilagala, Kirando, Karago, Sunuka, Lyabsende, Songambebe and Sigunga). The objective of the training was to create awareness among youth and school organizations on climate change and carbon sequestration principles, in order to empower the next generation of leaders to make positive changes within their communities and curb deforestation and forest degradation in Western Tanzania. Training covered the risks and threats of unsustainable forest management practices, as well as a basic introduction to forest carbon sequestration principles and processes. The training session was participatory and encouraged knowledge exchange between the students and youth groups. Participant feedback confirmed that 97% of participants found the sessions relevant and useful. The training was facilitated by the project Community Development Officer and the JGI Roots and Shoots coordinator.

Supporting learning on improved and diversified farming systems

Training on improved farming systems was provided to 75 village residents from Ilagala, Karago and Sunuka villages. This training was provided in direct response to feedback provided to JGI during the REDD mid-term evaluation. The training aimed to improve farmers' current practices, thus increasing production (and ultimately income) from their existing farms and decreasing the need to continually shift and establish new farms. Three demonstration plots were established with village farmers groups to train other village members from the project area and beyond. The training participants were provided with appropriate knowledge and technology on improving current farming systems through the use of agro-forestry, multi-cropping, fertilizers and improved seeds. The

main objectives of the training were to improve the livelihoods of local community members by enhancing incomes through better farm management, and to reduce pressure on forests as part of REDD+.

JGI has continued supporting poultry farming as an income generating activity in all six villages participating in the project. The target of this support has been poor families, vulnerable groups and disadvantaged groups in each village. The objective is to empower and provide an alternative source of income to these families, and to reduce dependency on illegal forest products such as charcoal and illegal timber harvesting. One hundred and fifty chickens have been bought, vaccinated and distributed to households in Karago, Kirando and Lyabusende villages, and an additional 150 chickens can be distributed.

MCDI

Project: Combining REDD, PFM and FSC certification in South-Eastern Tanzania

Implementing organization: Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI)

Submitted by: Glory Massao

[This article builds upon previous MCDI updates in the TZ-REDD newsletter. For more information, see past newsletter issues available [here](#).]

Fire management

Early burning, as part of fire management for REDD+, is scheduled to begin in three villages in May, following the end of the rainy season.

Method development

MCDI is developing a new method for assessing the carbon emissions avoided from abatement of frequent late season bush fires in dry land forests such as miombo. A notable challenge has been the fire history mapping. The MODIS fire maps are poor at detecting fires under the forest canopy, so MCDI have mapped burn scars that are detectable on LandSat images. However, only about 10-15% of images from 2001 to 2011 are available, and many suffer from flaws such as striping and cloud cover. The resulting paucity of data has created high uncertainty in the estimates of historical late dry season burn frequencies. Another challenge has been the lack of historical data from satellites that measure fire intensity; burn date is a reasonable proxy but would also be bedevilled with uncertainties and since this is also at the centre of the project's theory of change this problem will be resolved via an expert consultation.

Biodiversity monitoring

Biodiversity monitoring is set to begin shortly following early burning. This is expected to involve monitoring ground nesting birds, because they are likely to be affected by the changing fire regime. Their populations

can be monitored by looking at the abundance of birds, as well as broad scale shifts in the most common bird species present.

Most Significant Change analysis

MCDI undertook a 'Most Significant Change' (MSC) analysis of the project impacts. 'MSC' is a simple method of systematically capturing stories about changes that have happened as a result of the programme, and *evidence* for these changes. The MSC report revealed various issues, including a food shortage being experienced by most household as a result of community members primarily cultivating a cash crop (sesame) that is being adversely impacted by climate changes. Concerns about weak leadership and governance of some Village Assembly meetings were also revealed.

Boundary conflicts

Ongoing boundary conflicts between some participating villages continue to be a challenge to the project.

TaTEDO

Project: Community-Based REDD Mechanisms for Sustainable Forest Management in Semi -Arid Areas (Case of Ngitilis in Shinyanga-Western Tanzania)

Facilitating organization: Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO), in partnership with DASS, NAFRAC and District Councils in Shinyanga Rural and Kahama

Submitted by: Mary Swai and Robert Otsyina

High level decision makers learn about REDD+ experience from the pilot project in Shinyanga

As part of raising awareness, helping decision-makers learn about project experience on the ground, and identifying lessons learned from REDD+ implementation, the UN-REDD National Tanzania Programme facilitated a visit of roughly 40 high-level decision makers to our REDD+ Pilot project in Shinyanga.



[Delegation of Permanent Secretaries and other high level decision makers visit Shinyanga to learn about and discuss REDD+. Photo credit: Mr. Pastory Mwesiga]

The overall **goal** of TaTEDO's pilot project is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through sustainable forest management and carbon market incentives. This particular project focuses on private forest owners at community level to explore mechanisms for their involvement in REDD process. The project **purpose** is to assist 250 Ngitili owners in 10 villages of Shinyanga rural and Kahama districts to establish a robust local institutional framework that effectively manages the restored Ngitilis to capture benefits arising from REDD.

Participants in the UN-REDD trip, visited the TaTEDO project on 18 and 19 April, 2013. Participants included, the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Vice Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children, and other high level representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture and Food Security; Energy and Minerals; Lands and Human Settlement Development; Water and Irrigation; Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (Wildlife); as well as representatives of the National Environmental Management Council, Tanzania Forest Service, Tanzania Forest Research Institute (TAFORI), and the Directors of Environment, Forests, and Environmental Planning and Research of Zanzibar.



[Visiting team meets with Regional Authorities. Photo credit: Mr. Pastory Mwesiga]



[Shinyanga District Commissioner introduces the visiting delegation to village leaders. Photo credit: Mr. Pastory Mwesiga]

Following brief meetings with Regional and District officials, the visiting team was briefed on the project goal and purpose, as well as its initiatives to address the key deforestation and forest degradation drivers in Shinyanga, which include charcoal making and fuelwood, expansion of agriculture into forest areas, overgrazing by livestock, and poverty. Visitors also learned about the core project approaches, activities, and achievements, including the following:

- Ngitili owners' groups have been formed at village level, and an association of Ngitili owners has been formed at the regional level.
- Interventions undertaken to address drivers have included: improved agricultural technologies, efficient and alternative energy technologies (improved stoves, biogas, solar), improved grazing practices, and income generating activities.
- About 50% of villagers in the project sites are practicing improved agriculture, and production has improved - especially in Kahama - from 4 bags of maize per hectare to 9 bags. The main practices being adopted include: planting in lines, use of improved seeds (especially cotton and maize), and application of farmyard manure/chemical fertilizers. About 30% of the communities have established woodlots or are practicing agroforestry.
- About 11 % of households in project sites are using improved cook stoves. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the promoted stoves to these communities is the ability to remove the smoke.
- Improvements in vegetation, tree size, and the number of new trees in most Ngitilis registered to the project have been observed. Beyond this, similar improvements are being seen in some Ngitilis that are not registered under the REDD+ project, but whose owners have nonetheless been involved in REDD+ project related training, and are subject to bylaws protecting Ngitilis. Initiatives undertaken by Ngitili owners include enrichment planting, conservation, boundary establishment, improved grazing management and enforcement of village by-laws. New areas for Ngitili have been set aside. Beekeeping is also picking up in a number of villages, and some are already harvesting honey.
- The project also facilitated development and testing of a participatory benefit sharing mechanism. About 83,000,000/- Tsh was shared among the participating project villages. Through trial payment, a number of development activities and projects have been initiated. Some villages have initiated/finalized construction of dispensary/school buildings. At household level, some have invested on transport (motor bikes), school uniforms, agricultural implements and inputs, food, business, etc.

After the initial briefing, the team visited two villages, Manyada in Shinyanga and Ngulu in Kahama. They had the opportunity to see various project interventions, including individual and school Ngitilis, private woodlots, improved wood cooking stoves and charcoal stoves for baking, solar lighting technologies, and biogas plants. The visitors were able to have extensive discussions with community leaders and individuals to better understand the processes and mechanisms of REDD+, and to assess impacts of the interventions on the communities and the natural resource base. They also discussed ways the interventions could be scaled out to benefit other communities. In both districts the team was led by the District Commissioners.



[A farmer at Ngulu explains the establishment and benefits of his woodlot to the visiting delegation. Photo credit: Mr. Pastory Mwesiga]

Project beneficiaries in both villages explained that they have had considerable training and awareness on REDD+ and on how to manage their Ngitilis to generate more benefits now and in the future. Village residents reported that crop yields have increased as a result of using improved agronomic practices, especially improved seeds, and that fuelwood use has decreased by using improved stoves which require about 45% less fuelwood. The women using improved cooking stoves were particularly excited about the lack of smoke, which is a source of adverse health impacts and 'red eye' among women. Village residents are also expecting that they will get more income from the sale of carbon credits, as additional benefits to sustainable management of their Ngitilis. All participating villages have established by-laws registered with the district councils to help protect their Ngitilis and woodlots.

Community members raised the concern that the project only covers an average of 25 Ngitilis in each village. They recommended that the project be extended to include all Ngitilis in each village, and thus to increase the overall impact. Community members also raised concerns about the market for honey, as majority of households have developed an interest in venturing in that market. Community members asked for support in obtaining equipment for honey extraction, to ensure their product fetches the premium price in the market

The visiting delegation said they learned a lot from the project and the communities, and that the REDD+ initiative appears to be working and benefiting the communities. One of the key issues raised by the visiting team, as well as the district officials, concerns scaling up the project to benefit other districts and households.

Other key messages or outcomes of the discussion included recognition that REDD+ is a multi-sectoral initiative, and thus that collaborative efforts from each sector are crucial. More support should be provided to the LGA to scale up the initiatives to other areas and to ensure communities benefit from them. More emphasis should also be put on co-benefits, rather than carbon incentives, as the level of carbon credits from dry areas such as Shinyanga will be low and may not attract much money. Beekeeping was one of the initiatives that farmers want to be expanded, and farmers requested support from the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism. She promised to support the communities with training and promotion of honey marketing opportunities. The Kahama District Commissioner, Mr. Benson Mpesya, promised to provide 20 improved beehives to the Ngulu villagers as a support to the initiated effort. He also promised to scale up the initiatives to other villages within the district by integrating the REDD+ activities in the district plan.

The delegation was encouraged to make regular visits, as this kind of exchange provides an important chance to see the reality of the benefits and challenges of REDD+, as it is developing and being implemented on the ground.



[An Ngitili group chairman explains the benefits of solar lamps introduced by the project. Photo credit: Mr. Pastory Mwesiga]

On-going project challenges and lessons

Apart from the issues raised during the visit and discussions summarized above, the project team has identified the following lessons and challenges:

- Ngitilis' and forests' value are getting more recognition following implementation of the REDD+ project and the benefit sharing processes. The continuing rise of Ngitili values, and the awareness of these values, are likely to escalate challenges and risks, such as boundary conflicts, fragmentation of land, etc. Development of village land use plans and title deeds for Ngitilis should be emphasized in REDD+ implementation.
- Village by-laws have proven to be efficient and important instruments in protecting forests, especially where bylaws are developed and enforced by local communities, and thus safeguard their interests.
- Behavior and attitude changes towards sustainable utilization of forests resources is a gradual process, The project is supporting this through several awareness and capacity building activities. While the REDD+ project is focusing on addressing key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, intensive and continuous awareness raising is critically important to facilitate adoption.
- When designing benefit sharing mechanisms, ensuring effective participation of key stakeholders is critically important.
- Ensuring accountability and transparency, particularly at village levels, is crucial for the success of REDD+, especially with regard to benefit sharing.
- Co-benefits, especially from agriculture and energy interventions, are adding more value to REDD+. Integration of productive activities with REDD+ is motivating local communities to participate in REDD+ implementation.

TFCG and MJUMITA

Project: Making REDD Work for Communities and Forest Conservation in Tanzania

Implementing organizations: Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and MJUMITA (Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania)

Submitted by TFCG/MJUMITA

Progress on linking communities in Lindi and Kilosa Districts with the voluntary carbon market

Over the last 3 months, the TFCG and MJUMITA REDD project has focused on formalizing MJUMITA's role as a service provider to the communities and in ensuring that the Verified Carbon Standard and Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project criteria are met. From the outset of the project, it was envisaged that MJUMITA would aggregate and sell carbon on behalf of the participating communities. In order to achieve this, a financial transfer mechanism was to be developed that would channel REDD financing from a REDD fund or from the voluntary carbon market to the local level, in ways that compensate and provide incentives for community level managers responsible for forest conservation. Certification will be sought under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) system, which is now recognized as one of the world leaders in the certification of voluntary sector forest carbon sales. Additional benefits will be gained by undertaking benchmarking through the Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Project Standards which assess the degree to which emission reductions generate additional social and biodiversity benefits.

Reasons that the REDD project is striving for VCS and CCB validation and certification include:

- Absence of REDD financing mechanism at national level
- Absence of multilateral REDD financing mechanism
- Proposed close of the REDD pilot project is 2014
- Communities need to be paid for emission reductions from 2014 onward if REDD is to be sustained

For VCS and CCB, MJUMITA will act as a service provider linking the communities with the validators, verifiers and buyers. With a view to seeking and documenting communities' consent for MJUMITA to act as the service provide, the project has begun a consultation process with the communities. In Lindi, the project has conducted meetings with village council members and network members participating in REDD to discuss, understand and invite village governments to agree to sign MoUs. Draft MoUs were presented as a starting point for discussions during a series of capacity building sessions that included training on the REDD revenue sharing mechanism; REDD governance issues focusing on transparency, participation, accountability and the need for free, prior and informed consent at all levels and stages of REDD implementation; and requirements for accessing the voluntary carbon market. Three-hundred and seventeen community members (177 men and 140 women) from four MJUMITA networks in Lindi (UMIKIWAMI, MHIMIRU, UMICHITA and MHIMINA) participated in the meetings. The proposed MoUs describe MJUMITA's role as a service provider to the communities for VCS and CCBA. MJUMITA's roles would include communication and technical services.

The Draft MoUs:

- Facilitate post-pilot project REDD implementation
- Reiterate that the Villagers are the project proponents for VCS and retain their rights to their land and forests
- Assure facilitation for accessing the voluntary carbon market and clarify that the costs of monitoring, verification and facilitation will be recovered from the REDD revenues in proportion to villages' emission reductions and in consultation with the participating communities
- Commit MJUMITA not to charge villages that do not succeed in selling carbon credits
- Provide for termination at any time
- Assign specific tasks to the service provider



Draft MoUs between communities and MJUMITA are reviewed by community members in Lindi. (Photo credit: Someni Mteleka, MJUMITA)

If the village agrees, the MoU will be signed between the project proponents (Village Councils) according to the Village Land Act, Forest Act and Local Government Act and the Service Provider (MJUMITA, according to the project document)

Comments provided by the community members included the need for transparency during implementation; involvement of the District Council; and discussions on the potential costs involved. These comments are currently being addressed in the second draft to be presented to the District or landscape stakeholders before presenting the revised MoU to the village councils.



III. Highlights from Abroad



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Source: Adapted from article in [UN-REDD Newsletter No. 36](#)

The National UN-REDD Programme in Tanzania supported a learning visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) (12-16 February 2013) to enhance understanding of how the DRC's national satellite forest monitoring system, called TerraCongo, functions, and to assess whether a similar system could help monitor national forest cover and disseminate other REDD+ information in Tanzania.

The visiting Tanzanian delegation learned how TerraCongo helps provide information on REDD+ safeguards and pilot activities, as well as how the system is used in disseminating private sector investment for REDD+. DRC delegates provided a detailed explanation of their national forest monitoring system (NFMS), including its institutional set-up, data sharing policy, web dissemination portal, transparency guidelines and users' feedback function.

The Tanzanian delegation also shared its own experience on national forest monitoring and assessment, as the DRC is currently initiating development of a national forest inventory.

The DRC has launched a new video (in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#)), developed by DRC in collaboration with the UN-REDD Programme team at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research. The video provides an in-depth introduction to its NFMS [geo-portal](#).

Read the full story in the UN-REDD newsletter [here](#).

Experts at UN-REDD Hosted Meeting Highlight Tenure as a Key Factor for REDD+

Source: Adapted from article in [UN-REDD Newsletter No. 36](#)

“...forest experts and stakeholders agreed that securing tenure for indigenous peoples and local communities is one of the most crucial issues to be solved in the sustainable management of forests.”

Experts from UN-REDD Programme partner countries, civil society and international institutions discussed *Tenure of Land and Forests Under REDD+* at an expert meeting (25-27 February, Rome) hosted by the UN-REDD Programme at FAO. Participants agreed that “REDD+ provides an opportunity to achieve sustainable forest management and mitigation action and gives momentum for renewed interest in supporting local communities and indigenous peoples to regulate tenure”.

The expert group further agreed that:

- “REDD+ implementation will benefit from a broad approach to govern and secure forest, land and natural resources tenure rights. This will require reviewing and improving existing legal frameworks for land and forest tenure and recognizing customary rights of local communities.”
- “Sound carbon rights require secure tenure and ...the impact of carbon rights on benefit sharing systems for local communities and indigenous peoples needs to be taken into consideration”
- “Tenure work under REDD+ is seen as a broader and in-depth process of improving rights and responsibilities, accountability and the fight against corruption”

The group identified three areas for improvement:

- “Reform of the legislative framework of tenure and national land-use plans as well as institutional development of tenure administration and capacity building;
- Establishment of benefit sharing systems, transparency and compliance with existing and emerging laws and regulations;
- Effective participation of stakeholders, particularly local communities as well as enhanced communication and cooperation between global, national and local levels.”

A full meeting report will be posted on the [UN-REDD Programme website](#).

FPP Reviews History and Sluggish Implementation Progress of Safeguards from REDD+ Financing Schemes

A recent [article](#) written by Francesco Martone and Tom Griffiths, and published by the Forest Peoples’ Programme, revisits safeguards established by major REDD+ ‘readiness’ financing schemes, including the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) and the UN-REDD. Martone and Griffiths review the context in which these safeguards were developed, and highlight their main purposes and some key distinctions between them. They also review the recent, sluggish progress on actual development and implementation of these safeguards at the national level, citing several challenging cases. For example, in February 2013 “indigenous peoples’ organisations in Panama withdrew from collaboration with the UN-REDD Programme and National Joint Programme in Panama due to longstanding concerns about the UN and government failure to ensure effective participation and the lack of effective and timely actions to uphold FPIC and ensure alignment with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”.

As Tanzania embarks on its own path towards national safeguards, through what it is hoped will be an inclusive and transparent process, it may be useful to reflect on such early experiences with safeguards development and implementation elsewhere.

IV. Resources

**New Report:
National REDD+ Strategy Development and Implementation Process in Tanzania
Mid Term Review - Final Report**

Source: Embassy of Norway [website](#)

Independent consultants, Nordeco, carried out the review in March 2013. The report, which reflects the opinions and conclusions of the consultants, covers, among other things, project design and relevant to Tanzania, Norway and the global REDD discourse; project effectiveness, generally and with regard to each major project outcome; project efficiency; project impacts, including with regard to vulnerable groups; and project sustainability and risk management. Project partners have been given the opportunity to respond to the draft review report.

Read the full mid-term review report [here](#).

**New Guidance:
UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent**

Source: [UN-REDD Newsletter no. 36](#)

“The UN-REDD Programme recently launched the [UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent](#) (FPIC) and the associated [Legal Companion](#), which outlines related existing international law and emerging State practice affirming that indigenous peoples have the right to effective participation in the decisions, policies and initiatives that affect them and that FPIC is a legal norm that imposes duties and obligations on States.

The Guidelines outline a normative, policy and operational framework for seeking and obtaining FPIC in the context of REDD+. There will be periodic updates to this version based on the application of the guidelines, increased information and experience related to the application of FPIC more generally, and continued input and feedback from governments, indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities, practitioners, experts and partners. In the meantime, the UN-REDD Programme invites actors and practitioners around the world to apply, use and interpret these Guidelines for their own purposes and to help the Programme test and improve their utility on an ongoing basis.”

**New Briefing:
Carbon rights legislation: not yet ready for private sector REDD+**

Source: Briefing [abstract](#)

“REDD+ is already developing private sector engagements, making rights to sell and benefit from reduced emissions (carbon rights) a crucial issue. Our review of private sector REDD+ projects reveals tendencies for legal arrangements that reinterpret tenure law so as to bundle the new commodity of carbon regulation with existing rights to tangible resources. Provisions for benefit sharing, particularly those aimed at addressing the underlying causes of forest degradation, are often vague or missing. Given the size and duration of private REDD projects, this has far reaching and long term implications for communities and countries.”

Citation: Ntantumbo, Isilda and Camargo, Marisa. Feb 2013. Carbon rights legislation: Not yet ready for private sector REDD. IIED Briefing Papers. IIED. Available [here](#).

Online Resource:
Tanzania and other countries' progress featured on REDD+ Countries Database

Submitted by Louisa Denier (Global Canopy Programme)

As tropical forest nations advance in their efforts, the design of their national REDD+ readiness processes and the accessibility and transparency of information are becoming increasingly key determinants of effective stakeholder engagement and of the fast, effective and equitable adoption of the foundations for REDD+ itself.

The Global Canopy Programme (GCP)'s Internet platform – the REDD Desk – (www.theredddesk.org) was launched in late 2009 as a centralised and collaborative, multi-language knowledge platform to disseminate information on REDD+ readiness at all levels (international to local). The REDD Desk has successfully established itself as a key resource for news, events and the latest REDD+ research for the international REDD+ community, aggregating information on REDD+ from partner sites, list servers, conferences and news services.

The REDD Desk also includes information on REDD+ readiness in a range of tropical countries around the world, including Tanzania. The REDD Countries Database presents key information on REDD+ related financing, activities, policies, plans and statistics across tropical countries around the world (set to grow to 26 country profiles by December 2013). Future developments will also include analyses of legal frameworks for REDD+ within tropical forest countries and the ability to compare different standards and methodologies for REDD+ design. For a link to Tanzania's country profile see: <http://www.theredddesk.org/countries/tanzania>

Working with a global network of developed and developing country partners engaged in tropical forest conservation, the REDD Desk is the single largest online library of REDD+ activities globally.

The REDD Desk welcomes your feedback. Please send comments to contact@theredddesk.org. Follow @theREDDdesk on Twitter for REDD+ news and platform updates.

New research article:
Participatory Forest Carbon Assessment and REDD+: Learning from Tanzania

Source: [Abstract](#)

“Research initiatives and practical experiences have demonstrated that forest-related data collected by local communities can play an essential role in the development of national REDD+ programmes and its’ measurement, reporting, verification (MRV) systems. In Tanzania, the national REDD+ Strategy aims to reward local communities participating in forest management under Participatory Forest Management (PFM). Accessing carbon finances requires among other things, accurate measurements of carbon stock changes through conventional forest inventories, something which is rarely done in PFM forests due to its high cost and limited resources. The main objective of this paper is to discuss experiences of Participatory Forest Carbon Assessment (PFCA) in Tanzania. The study revealed that villagers who participated in PFCA were able to perform most steps for carbon assessment in the field. A key challenge in [the] future is how to finance PFCA and ensure the technical capacity at the local level.”

Citation: Kusaga, Mukama; Mustalahti, Irmeli; and Zahabu, Eliakimu. 2012. “Participatory Forest Carbon Assessment and REDD+: Learning from Tanzania”. International Journal of Forestry Research. Volume 2012 (2012). Article ID 126454, 12 pages.

**New Policy Brief:
Land and Forest Tenure Reforms in West and Central Africa**

Source: [RRI description](#)

“This policy brief looks at land and forest tenure reforms in West and Central Africa. It uses the recommendations from the 2009 International Conference in Yaoundé on Forest Tenure, Governance, and Enterprise as its points of reference, particularly those calling on Central and West African states, and regional and sub-regional institutions to initiate or accelerate reforms to statutory tenure systems that would lead to the “legal recognition of community owned forests” or the “doubling of land areas under community ownership” by 2015.”

**Online Resource:
New Forest Trends website tracks REDD Expenditures and Forest Finance**

Source: [RRI Blog](#)

“Over US\$7.3 billion has been pledged to support REDD+ readiness in the run up to 2015, with US\$4.3 billion to be spent in the period between 2010 and 2012. Yet, despite high level multilateral and bilateral or government financial commitments, information remains limited on exactly how much of this money is actually flowing to the national level, the types of REDD+ activities supported in this Fast Start period, and the organizations managing and actually implementing these activities.

RRI Partner Forest Trends (with funding from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety’s International Climate Initiative, the Skoll Foundation and RRI) is tracking REDD+ finance in thirteen countries [to including Tanzania] to determine:

Actual commitments and disbursements of REDD+ finance;

Timelines between when funds are committed and actually disbursed;

The types of organizations receiving and implementing the REDD+ activities (e.g. government, NGOs, large international consulting firms and consultants, or community organizations);

Types of activities supported by the current financial pledges.

To demonstrate this tracking, Forest Trends has launched a new website: <http://reddx.forest-trends.org/>. The aim of this initiative and website is to provide information that will help governments and other REDD+ stakeholders better assess gaps and needs against national REDD+ strategies and to have a better understanding of the financial flows associated with REDD+ financing.”

**Online Resource:
Landesa's LandWise Database on Women's Land Rights Issues**

Source: [Landesa website](#)

"The Landesa Center for Women's Land Rights (LCWLR) believes that all women should have secure rights to and control over the land they use and the land they farm. An initiative of the LCWLR, LandWise empowers policymakers, researchers, legal practitioners, and women's advocates to strengthen women's land rights around the world through access to relevant and reliable information. LandWise is a free online resource connecting users to legal materials, information about relevant customary practices, and explanatory materials."

**Online Resource:
LEAF Technical Resources**

LEAF website ([about](#) & [resources-tools](#))

The Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (LEAF) website "includes a variety of resources (by topic, type or country) and tools related to technical capacity building focused on REDD+, climate change mitigation, gender mainstreaming, and policy and market incentives for improved forest management and land-use planning in Asia". While these resources are not specific to Tanzania or Africa, there may be relevant tools and useful experiences to learn from.

The five year LEAF program "engag[es] regional governments, forestry and climate mitigation specialists and universities in technical capacity building focused on REDD+."





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Conservation Group
Shirika la Kuhifadhi
Misitu ya Asili Tanzania

