

Making REDD Work for Communities and Forest Conservation in Tanzania



Summary of project achievements between September 2009 and August 2014

Date: 19th August 2014

1) Introduction

The project 'Making REDD work for communities and forest conservation in Tanzania' has laid a solid foundation for demonstrating that a pro-poor model of REDD can achieve the dual goals of GHG emission reductions and poverty alleviation. The project has laid the foundation for a community carbon enterprise. With support from the project, MJUMITA has gained the consent of 22 villages to sell their verified emission reductions; has established an equitable benefit sharing mechanism; and has successfully made 'trial payments' to test the benefit sharing model. The project has supported strategies to reduce deforestation including improved agriculture, more formalised land tenure, improved governance and improved community-led land and natural resources management. These strategies have proved effective and the project has achieved emission reductions of 40,178 tons of CO₂ eq between 2012 - 13 in Lindi based on internationally recognised methods to measure emission reductions. The project has developed project design documents and project implementation reports for Lindi and has submitted these for validation and verification according to the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCB) project standards. The public comment period for the CCB documents has been completed and the validation and verification process is underway. MJUMITA have prepared marketing materials for the Lindi site and have begun to meet with potential buyers. The documents for the Kilosa / Mpwapwa sites are now being finalised. RNE has granted the project a four-month extension to 31st December 2014.

This report provides a brief summary of the achievements of the TFCG and MJUMITA REDD readiness project during the 5 years of implementation from September 2009 to August 2014. The achievements of the project are described in relation to the targets agreed between TFCG and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in 2009.

Project Summary

The **goal of the project** 'Making REDD work for communities and forest conservation in Tanzania' is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in Tanzania in ways that provide direct and equitable incentives to communities to conserve and manage forests sustainably.

The **project purpose** is to demonstrate, at local, national and international levels, a pro-poor approach to reducing deforestation and forest degradation by generating equitable financial incentives from the global carbon market for communities that are sustainably managing or conserving Tanzanian forests at community level.

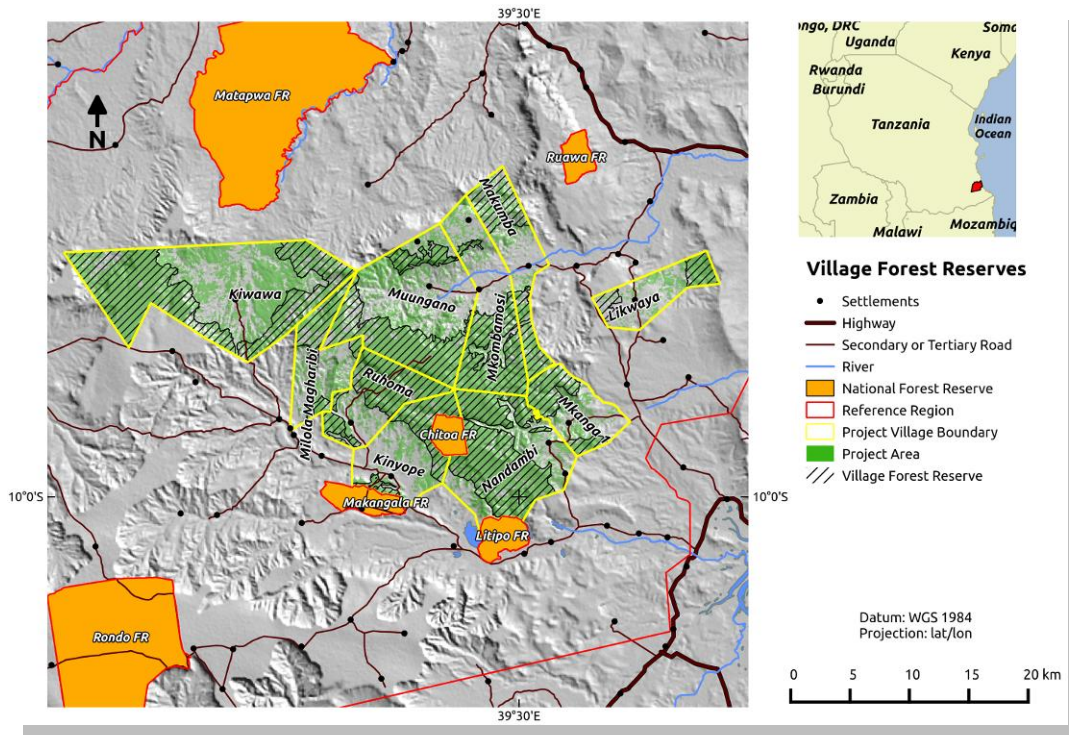
The project has been piloting a mechanism whereby REDD finance can bring about additional reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by channelling tangible incentives to reduce deforestation as directly as possible to communities with forests on their land. In the absence of a compliance market for REDD or a fund-based mechanism, the project is assisting communities to access funds from the voluntary carbon market. The model could also be used to channel different types of REDD finance to communities.

The project has been financed by the **Government of Norway** through the Royal Norwegian Embassy. **Project Partners:** Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania (MJUMITA).



2) Project Location

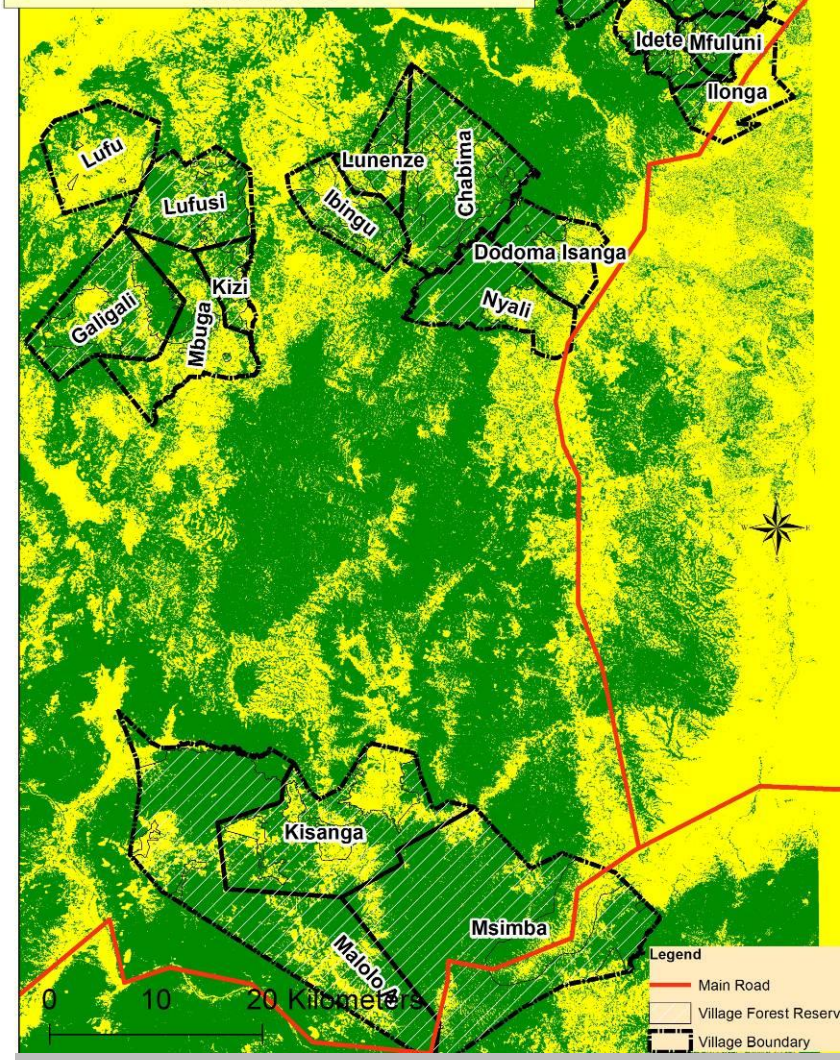
The project is being implemented in two sites.



Site 1: 10 villages in Lindi Rural District and Lindi Municipality.

Area of forest in 10 village forest reserves in Lindi: 32,169 ha

Forest-Non forest Map Showing TFCG/MJUMITA REDD Project Site in Kilosa and Mpwapwa District 2010.



Site 2: 17 villages in Kilosa and Mpwapwa Districts

Area of forest in 12 village forest reserves in Kilosa: 103,595 ha. Area of forest in 5 village forest reserves in Mpwapwa: 16,103 ha

3) Project status at August 2014 in relation to the targets and indicators agreed between TFCG and the Royal Norwegian Embassy for the project 'Making REDD work for communities and forest conservation in Tanzania'.

Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement as per project document	Status at end of Year 5
Goal: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation in Tanzania in ways that provide direct and equitable incentives to rural communities to conserve and manage forests sustainably.	
110,000 tonne reduction in CO2 emissions from deforestation and degradation by end of project	There has been a measurable reduction in GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. In Lindi, 40,178 tons of CO2-e of <i>ex post</i> net anthropogenic GHG emission reductions were recorded between March 2012 – May 2013. There was no increase in deforestation in the leakage belt compared to the baseline. Emission reductions for the Kilosa project site are being calculated according to VCS methods.
Increased contribution of sustainable forest management and carbon financing to the livelihoods of 20,000 poor men, women and children by end of project	By August 2014 approximately US\$ 459,836 has been paid to 49,025 people (including 10,614 men, 12,165 women and 21,272 children and dependants) from 27 villages (10 in Lindi, 12 in Kilosa and 5 in Mpwapwa) through performance-related, trial REDD payments. Of this, approximately US\$ 152,600 has been spent on community development projects selected by the respective communities; with the balance paid as individual payments. Community development projects that have been paid for using the REDD trial payments include construction of classrooms for primary schools, water supply infrastructure and health care facilities.
Purpose: To demonstrate, at local, national and international levels, a pro-poor approach to reducing deforestation and forest degradation by generating equitable financial incentives from the global carbon market for communities that are sustainably managing or conserving Tanzanian forests at community level.	
Mechanism developed and implemented for linking pro-poor community forest management with carbon financing	MJUMITA's equitable REDD benefit sharing model is based on the principle that all community members are 'shareholders' in the community forest and therefore have a right to dividend payments from REDD revenues from village land. The mechanism has been developed through extensive consultation with communities, government and other stakeholders and draws upon experiences of natural resources revenue sharing in Namibia; and pro-poor direct payments to households in Brazil. Details of the benefit sharing model are described in each village's REDD by-laws. MJUMITA have also developed guidelines that describe how the Community Carbon Enterprise will be run. The revenue sharing model has been piloted in each of the 27 villages.
Government policies in Tanzania provide the legal basis for an equitable share of carbon financing to community level managers from jointly managed forests by end of project	In December 2013 the Policy and Planning Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism published JFM guidelines that provide recommendations on sharing profits from carbon-related payments. The guidelines specify the percentage of profit from carbon revenues that should be paid to communities from jointly managed forests. The percentage varies depending on the legal status of the forest; and ranges from 27 % in plantation forests to 46 % from Nature Reserves. The mechanism to calculate 'profit' is not clearly defined. The guidelines were issued too late in the project lifespan for inclusion of a jointly

Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement as per project document	Status at end of Year 5
	managed forest.
30% of management positions in village forest management committees are represented by poor and marginalised groups by end of project	All 27 villages now have Village Natural Resources Committees in place. In Lindi, 37 % of VNRC members are women and 68 % are from the poorest wealth category whilst in Kilosa, 39 % of the VNRC members are women.
20,000 poor men, women or children report increase in income, assets or reduced vulnerability by end of project	Through the direct REDD payments all women, men and children in the poorest wealth categories in each village, have received REDD payments.
Output 1: Replicable, equitable and cost-effective models developed and tested at the group or community level for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) on village and government forest land in ways that maximize benefits to communities, forests and the nation.	
A self-financing carbon co-operative based on sound 'state of the art' business principles established and functioning within MJUMITA by end of project	<p>A carbon enterprise that is embedded in MJUMITA has been developed. The enterprise's business model demonstrates the potential for it to be self-financing under current market conditions, once verified emission reductions are sold. So far, 22 villages (10 in Lindi and 12 in Kilosa) have signed MoUs with MJUMITA to act as a service provider in linking them with the voluntary carbon market; and have signed by-laws outlining the village-specific REDD benefit sharing mechanisms. Progress in the five villages in Mpwapwa District has been slower due to their joining the project at a later date than the Kilosa villages.</p> <p>The project design documents and implementation reports for the 10 villages in the Lindi project site have been prepared and submitted for validation and verification according to CCB and VCS standards. The validation and verification site visit for Lindi by the VCS and CCB-accredited auditors was completed in August 2014. CCB documents are available on the CCB website http://www.climate-standards.org/category/projects/ and the public comment period has been completed. With a view to finding a buyer for the verified emission reductions, the project has developed marketing materials and has begun to approach potential buyers.</p> <p>The project design documents and project implementation reports for Kilosa and Mpwapwa are under development.</p>
REDD / A/R revenues being channelled to at least 20 communities and covering at least 50,000 hectares of forest by end of project	Performance-related REDD revenues have been channelled to 27 (10 in Lindi and 12 in Kilosa and 5 in Mpwapwa) communities. These 27 communities have cumulatively established village forest reserves covering 151,866 ha of forest and woodland.
At least 25,000 poor men, women and children report financial benefits from REDD	49,025 people (including 10,614 men, 12,165 women and 21,272 children and dependants) have received REDD payments as a result of the project.
Output 2: Replicable, equitable and cost-effective models developed that are designed to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and to reduce leakage across project sites in ways that build capacity of communities and other stakeholders.	
Leakage strategies developed	The strategies described under the next indicator also aimed to address

Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement as per project document	Status at end of Year 5
and implemented in and around 20 communities involved in the sale of voluntary emission reduction credits.	leakage. Additional steps to address leakage include training provided to farmers in adjacent villages on conservation agriculture; and awareness raising in adjacent villages on REDD, climate change and fire prevention.
Strategies identify drivers of deforestation and include measures to address those drivers.	<p>Deforestation drivers were identified for each site based on remote sensing, ground-truthing and stakeholder consultation.</p> <p>Through a participatory planning process at sub-village, village and landscape level, strategies to address the deforestation drivers were then developed. The strategies include improved governance, village land use planning and management, community based forest management, improved agriculture, improved access to microfinance, bee-keeping, tree planting and improved social services and infrastructure.</p> <p>The project then supported the implementation of these strategies through training, technical support and awareness raising. In each village training was provided to community leaders and ordinary citizens on natural resources governance. Village offices were constructed in 10 villages in Lindi, 12 villages in Kilosa and 2 villages in Mpwapwa. The project supported 21 communities (10 in Lindi, 11 in Kilosa) to develop village land use plans all of which have been approved and signed at village and district level and are now under implementation. Integrated in the village land use planning process was the establishment of village forest reserves. Awareness raising meetings and events covering topics including forest fire prevention, participatory forest management, REDD, climate change and HIV/AIDs reached more than 10,000 people in the participating communities.</p> <p>Two Agriculture Strategies were developed for the project by the Agriculture Research Institutes of MATI Naliendele (for Lindi) and MATI Ilonga (for Kilosa) in order to reduce dependency on shifting cultivation and to improve resilience to climate change. The strategies are focused on introducing improved agricultural techniques including Conservation Agriculture. The project then developed a step by step guide to implement the recommendations of the strategies; recruited agricultural officers; trained community based conservation agriculture trainers in each village; and provided training on conservation agriculture to at least 1702 farmers (1032 men, 670 women).</p> <p>In order to increase opportunities for local enterprises thereby reducing dependency on shifting cultivation and increasing household incomes, the project supported improved access to microfinance. 68 village savings and loans associations (37 in Kilosa, 31 in Lindi) have been established as a result of training provided by the project with members investing loans in a range of enterprises including agriculture and trading.</p> <p>The project has also taken steps to secure land tenure including supporting 22 villages to apply for their village land certificates (although only two villages have received their certificates despite close follow-up for over 1 year); and supporting 22 villages to start the process of establishing individual village land registries. To achieve this each of the newly constructed village offices has been provided with a filing cabinet to store the village land registries; and Village Land Customary Certificate registry books and seals have been prepared for the 10 Lindi villages whilst those for Kilosa have been ordered. These will enable individual</p>

Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement as per project document	Status at end of Year 5
	land owners in each village to be issued with customary land certificates.
150 project staff and partners and 200 community leaders trained in REDD / AR and climate change	<p>In order to build the capacity of other stakeholders involved in REDD at local and national level, the project has provided training on a range of REDD-related issues. Training has been provided for at least 235 government and NGO staff. This includes training for: 20 Government staff on PFM and REDD; 67 local government staff on REDD and carbon measurements; 15 NGO and 3 government staff on social impact assessments and REDD; 6 project staff on VCS, CCB and the carbon market; 91 teachers and education professionals on REDD and environmental education; 8 Government staff on a 'Landscape approach to planning and management in the context of REDD', and 'Conflict management in the climate change context'; 5 local government staff on record keeping on village savings and loans associations; 1 Ward Extension Officer on conservation agriculture, 20 project staff on First Aid and safety measures at the work place; and 8 District staff trained on Measurement Information System to facilitate VSLAs.</p> <p>Training on climate change, PFM, REDD, good forest governance, carbon monitoring, conservation agriculture, fire prevention, beekeeping, microfinance, first aid and / or environmental education has been provided to at least 8217 community members including (4778 men and 3439 women) from the 27 villages since the start of the project.</p>
Increased technical backstopping and training opportunities on REDD and participatory forest management are provided over the long term to Tanzania.	Following a feasibility study that was funded by this project during Year 1, the project <i>"Empowering Communities through training on Participatory Forest Management, REDD+ and Climate change initiatives"</i> (ECOPRC) was launched in February 2013. The project is a partnership project between FTI-Olmotonyi, MJUMITA and RECOFTC with the leading partner being Olmotonyi. The project aims to establish a long-term training programme covering REDD and PFM. So far the training curriculum has been developed with technical input from RECOFTC.
Output 3: Monitoring, evaluation and documentation processes supported that assess the overall impact of the project at local and national levels and communications of the findings.	
Poverty and forest management impacts of carbon financing documented across 20 communities by end of project	<p>During Year 1 the project developed a monitoring, evaluation and communication plan. This has been implemented over the last 5 years. Monitoring data has been collected and presented in biannual and annual reports have been prepared and submitted to RNE and the project advisory committee; and have been used in the development of the CCB and VCS project design document and implementation reports. Biannual project team meetings have been held bringing together team members from the project partners, including local government, to review and evaluate progress. Annual landscape evaluation meetings have been held to review progress with local stakeholders including local government and community representatives. Monitoring data has also been shared with researchers at national and international levels.</p> <p>The project has had a strong focus on communication. Information about the project and advocacy-related messages have been communicated through the mass media including 49 newspaper articles, 65 radio programmes and 26 television programmes or news items. The project developed and broadcasted three documentaries on equitable benefit sharing in REDD; on REDD standards and one community-oriented documentary describing the experience of implementing the MJUMITA</p>

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	<p>REDD model. The project web page includes links to reports and other technical papers about the project. Biannual site level newsletters in Swahili with information about the project have been distributed in all project villages. Project staff have made at least 45 presentations about the project at multi-stakeholder meetings in Tanzania and internationally including at meetings in Kenya, Ethiopia, USA, Cameroon, Zambia, Mozambique and Norway.</p>
<p>Two publications produced that profile lessons learned from the project by end of project</p>	<p>The project has collaborated in the Global Comparative Study of REDD led by CIFOR. This has resulted in a number of publications with information and analysis of the project including:</p> <p>Tenure Issues in REDD+ Pilot Project Sites in Tanzania by Therese Dokken 1, Susan Caplow, Arild Angelsen and William D. Sunderlin</p> <p>The Challenge of Establishing REDD+ on the Ground: Insights from 23 sub-national initiatives in six countries by William D. Sunderlin, Andini Desita Ekaputri, Erin O. Sills, Amy E. Duchelle, Demetrius Kweka, Rachael Diprose, Nike Doggart, Steve Ball, Rebeca Lima, Adrian Enright, Jorge Torres, Herlina Hartanto, Angelica Toniolo, and Edenise Garcia</p> <p>Instituting REDD+ An analysis of the processes and outcomes of two pilot projects in Brazil and Tanzania. 2013. By Arild Vatn, George Kajembe, Rubén Leiva-Montoya, Elvis Mosi, Maria Nantongo and Dos Santos Silayo. Published by IIED.</p> <p>Who should benefit from REDD+? Rationales and realities. 2013. By Cecilia Luttrell, Lasse Loft, Maria Fernanda Gebara, Demetrius Kweka, Maria Brockhaus, Arild Angelsen and William D. Sunderlin. Published in <i>Ecology and Society</i> 18(4): 52. http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-05834-180452.</p> <p>The project also hosted various researchers participating in the CCIAM research programme. As a result, more than 13 scientific papers with information related to the project have been presented by CCIAM researchers at various conferences; and 4 papers have been published in international academic journals including:</p> <p>Mwakaje A.G, King'ori K, Temu S, Lokina R and Chalu H (2013): The impact of reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD) on forest-dependent livelihoods by gender in Tanzania and the role of the institutional framework for equitable benefits. <i>International Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation Volume</i> 5(3) pp 165-175.</p>
<p>Output 4: Advocacy process supported at the national and international levels that promote equitable and effective REDD benefit sharing mechanisms and in particular with regard to forest managers at the community level.</p>	
<p>Carbon benefit sharing agreements reached with FBD, Ministry of Finance and local governments in jointly managed forests</p>	<p>The project did not achieve this target. Due to delays in the publication of the MNRT benefit sharing guidelines for joint forest management, it was considered too risky to embark on this activity. Although the guidelines were published in December 2013, this was too late in the project lifespan to initiate activities. Furthermore, given strict VCS rules on 'additionality', the risk that emission reductions from an already established government forest reserve might be considered ineligible, was also considered too high to invest in this. Resources were therefore re-directed to increasing the number of villages and forest area included in the project's CBFM work; and to advocating for the finalisation and publication of the JFM benefit sharing guidelines.</p>

Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement as per project document	Status at end of Year 5
<p>The findings of the project are directly contributing to international policy dialogue in at least three international climate change meetings relating to REDD.</p>	<p>Findings of the project including key recommendations have been regularly communicated to the international community through presentations, sharing of printed materials and managing a display booth with IRA and TNRF, during UNFCCC CoP meetings including at least 10 presentations made by TFCG and / or MJUMITA staff at UNFCCC CoP meetings 15 – 19.</p> <p>Key recommendations that the project has raised during CoP meetings include.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REDD has the potential to reduce emissions and reduce poverty; • Reliable, adequate and accessible finance is needed and should reach those who bear the opportunity cost of REDD as well as those implementing the strategies to reduce deforestation; • REDD needs clear social and environmental standards if it is to be effective and equitable; • FPIC, social impact assessment, participatory planning are needed for REDD to be effective and equitable. • More effort is needed to build linkages between REDD and the agriculture sector; • There are similarities with traditional ICDPs but there are also significant differences which require a shift in attitudes and practice; • MRV should be well integrated in the implementation of strategies to reduce deforestation at community level.
<p>The findings of the project have directly influenced Tanzanian policy in relation to REDD</p>	<p>In Year 1, the project developed an advocacy strategy with 6 key objectives. Through meetings, media and technical papers, the project has advocated for these policy changes. The six advocacy objectives are listed below with a very brief description of progress towards these over the last 4 years is presented below:</p> <p><i>Advocacy Objective 1. The JFM revenue sharing agreement is approved by the end of 2011.</i></p> <p>The JFM revenue sharing guidelines were published in December 2013 and include specific guidelines on sharing REDD-related revenues in different categories of government forest.</p> <p><i>Advocacy Objective 2. The National REDD Strategy or National Forest Policy recognizes that unreserved forests on village land are under the control of the village authority by 2012.</i></p> <p>The 2013 National REDD strategy concludes that ‘In this respect, villages have right of ownership to forests in their village land.’ This contrasts with the 2009 national REDD framework in which non-reserved forest on village land was classified as general land.</p> <p><i>Advocacy Objective 3. Carbon stored in forest biomass in village land forest reserves is recognized by the National Forest Policy as property of villages by 2012.</i></p> <p>The 2013 National REDD strategy talks about the need for greater clarity on tree tenure, it does not specifically mention carbon tenure.</p> <p><i>Advocacy Objective 4. The National REDD Strategy adopts a nested approach that provides the options for community groups to directly trade their credits to a National REDD Trust Fund or directly to the</i></p>

Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement as per project document	Status at end of Year 5
	<p><i>international market by 2012.</i></p> <p>The published National REDD strategy provides a definition for a nested approach however it is not mentioned again in the main body of the text. Instead there is a strategic objective 'To explore, analyze and negotiate financing options by 2013.' We understand that this will include consideration of a nested approach.</p> <p><i>Advocacy Objective 5. Taxation on all sales and proceeds derived from carbon credits sold and received by communities either through the National REDD Trust Fund or international sources are clarified in the National REDD Strategy by 2012.</i></p> <p>The final National REDD strategy makes some references to taxation however these statements do not refer to achieving greater clarity on tax on carbon credits. As such, little progress has been made on this issue and more work is needed in order to achieve this objective.</p> <p>However at local level, Lindi District Council has asserted that it has a right to charge a levy on all revenue/income generated from the district through cess. In this respect the district wrote a formal letter to all of the project villages that will be paid performance based payments from REDD revenue stating that they must pay a 5% levy (cess) to the District. As such the District was paid 5 % of the REDD revenues for each of the 8 villages that succeeded in reducing emissions in Lindi making a total of TSH 6,433,072. These funds are expected to support the district in monitoring and providing technical assistance to the respective villages in Lindi.</p> <p><i>Advocacy Objective 6. Safeguards that protect ecosystem services including biodiversity are mainstreamed into the National REDD Strategy and other relevant policy documents by 2012 and are being enforced and monitored as an integral part of the ongoing REDD process in Tanzania</i></p> <p>The published National REDD strategy includes a chapter on REDD+ Safeguards. The National REDD safeguards were developed in a consultative way and by September 2013 were submitted to the government for further review and approval. These have not been approved to date.</p>

4) Lessons learned and recommendations

- Uncertainties in carbon markets and lack of progress in international negotiations mean that sellers of REDD credits will struggle to get a price > US\$ 7 / US\$ 7.50. This is low in relation to costs (transaction and opportunity) making REDD an uncompetitive land use option in some areas.

Recommendation 1: External support is needed in order to smooth the transition to a performance-based system by reducing market-related risks e.g. by assisting sellers of voluntary REDD credits to secure a price of at least US\$ 10.

- In Tanzania, the withdrawal of support for 'REDD readiness' is taking place before a funding mechanism is in place. If funding is now restricted to being performance based, there is a risk that the interests of non-state actors, particularly communities, will be poorly represented in the design of the funding mechanism, resulting in a less efficient, equitable and effective system.

Recommendation 2: Development partners should provide continued support for advocacy efforts that support forest-owners, particularly local communities, to engage in negotiations on REDD financing at national and international level.

- Agriculture causes the majority of deforestation in Tanzania. BUT Agricultural initiatives such as SAGCOT are promoting the expansion of agricultural land; best practices for 'climate smart small-scale agriculture' are poorly articulated; and most small-scale farmers in Tanzania have no access to technical support to adopt climate-smart agricultural techniques.

Recommendation 3: Invest in research, advocacy and capacity building on climate smart small-scale agriculture and advocate for better alignment between REDD and national agricultural policy.

- Carbon stock assessment and calculating baseline deforestation rates has been a major cost for the project. Developing the capacity of the national carbon monitoring centre to provide this information to international standards is critical for scaling up REDD in Tanzania.

Recommendation 4: Support the establishment of the National Carbon Monitoring Centre including building its capacity to generate and update wall-to-wall deforestation mapping and mandating it to make such data accessible to sub-national initiatives.

- A pro-poor REDD model can reduce emissions and improve livelihoods. Scaling up needs investment in FPIC and establishment of strategies to reduce emissions. The successful REDD pilot projects are an opportunity to catalyse expansion.

Recommendation 5: Support the scaling-up of REDD from the grassroots up, using the pilot projects as catalysts for expansion.

- The REDD pilot projects have used multiple strategies to address deforestation drivers. Rigorous research to pinpoint the 'value-added' and cost effectiveness of these strategies in relation to their impact on emission reductions would be valuable.

Recommendation 6. Support a comparative study to determine which strategies have the greatest 'bang for your buck' in terms of emission reductions.

- Delays by local and central government to issue village land certificates; the practice of 'splitting' villages; and the municipalisation of some villages all undermine community forest tenure.

Recommendation 7. Given that there are over 10,000 villages in Tanzania, it is important that the powers to issue village land certificates are devolved to District Councils. Furthermore splitting villages or 'integrating' villages into municipal areas should only be done with the consent of the affected villages.

For more information please visit:
www.tfcg.org/makingReddWork.html

