



Operationalizing REDD+

Current challenges and realities

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Seminar

International Forestry Policies: The role of national forest data and information

11 June 2015



1. Introduction

- UNIQUE forest and land use, our work on climate
- State of REDD+, UNFCCC negotiations and committed finance
- Challenges moving from international commitments to operationalization

2. Case studies exemplifying REDD+ challenges and opportunities:

- **Zambia** Integrated Forest Landscape Program
- Private forestry sector engagement in **Ethiopia**
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in **Cameroon**

3. General recommendations for moving forward

UNIQUE at a glance

- **Forest sector consulting and forest management company**
 - Focused support to:
 - Forest and timber sector
 - Transition to sustainable land use systems balancing multiple needs
 - 5 thematic divisions with balanced portfolio of domestic & international projects
 - Diverse clients include governments and public authorities, financial institutions and development banks, international organizations, private sector enterprises
- **Climate Division interdisciplinary team covering 3 core areas:**



UNFCCC rules lay foundation for moving forward: Warsaw REDD+ Framework (2013) decisions provide methodological guidance on:

- **Importance of tackling drivers of deforestation**, requiring close partnerships between forest stakeholders across sectors
- **Monitoring, reference levels and MRV** based on existing systems and capacity building, with independent assessments as relevant
- **Safeguards** agreed in Cancun condition for result-based payments

Finance: Industrialized countries commitment to increase climate finance to \$100 billion per year by 2020 was reinforced at G7 Summit

- German promise to double support for adaptation, mitigation and forest protection in developing countries from €2B to €4B by 2020
- BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes provides multilateral (Norway, US, UK, and Germany) financial and technical (World Bank) support to achieve GHG emissions reductions in land sector, including REDD+

Multi-level governance of REDD+ ...

... from international goals to local implementation

*international
policy level*

UNFCCC

Bilateral

WB FCPF

BioCarbon Fund

UN REDD

*national
policy level*

REDD+ implementation

*subnational
level*

Jurisdiction

- *framework*
- *funding*
- *readiness*

- *REDD+ strategy*
- *R(E)L / NFMS / MRV*
- *safeguards / SIS*

*projects &
programs*

Challenge: Continued forest loss due to complex causes



Zambia: Context and problem

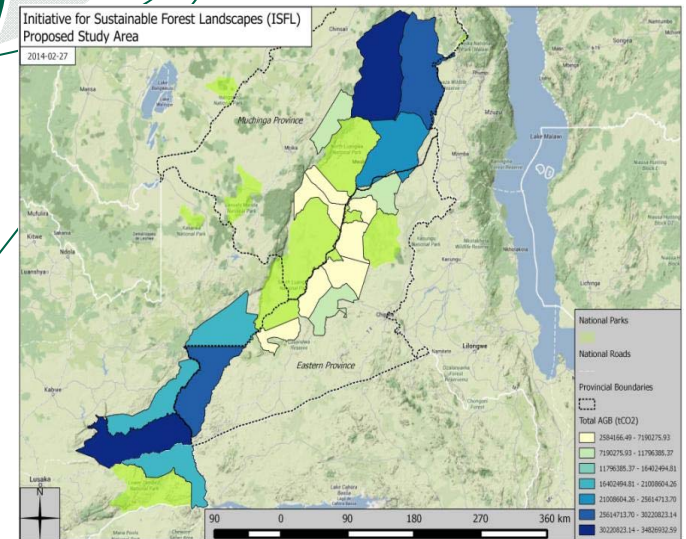
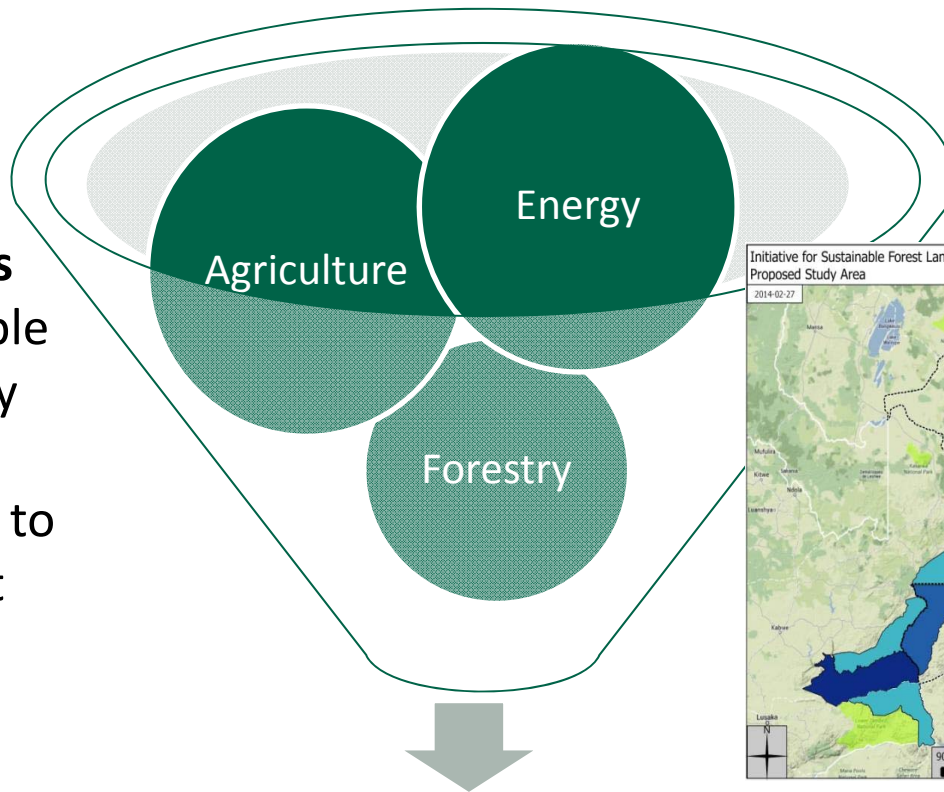
Socioeconomic context: forests in Zambia provide jobs for 60% of rural households who depend heavily on natural resources, including forests, for their livelihoods.

- Poverty and hunger pre-empt efforts to achieve conservation.
- Lack of local-level alternatives to forest conversion to charcoal and agriculture.
- Unclear roles of various institutions from national to district level- forestry department, environment, climate change secretariat, etc.



Cross-cutting policy frameworks and institutional arrangements should serve to create an **enabling environment** facilitating low-carbon investments, such as land use planning, tenure reform

Sector interventions to support sustainable land use practices by rural farmers and provide alternatives to unsustainable forest use.



Performance-based payments for net carbon emission reductions within sub-national jurisdiction

Farmer outreach

- Inputs
- Skills training
- Business partner + markets
- Community organization

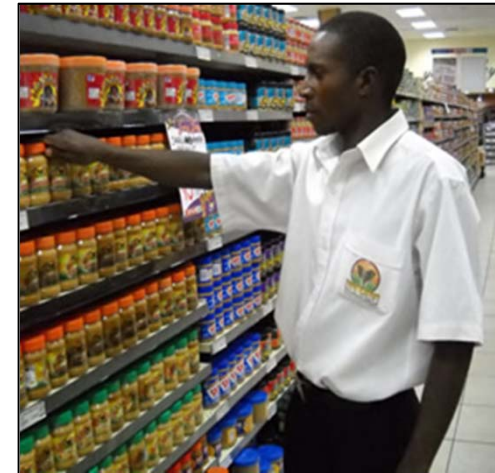


Markets

- Its WILD! brand
- Engage local and international consumers
- Reduce middle men to maximize farmer benefits

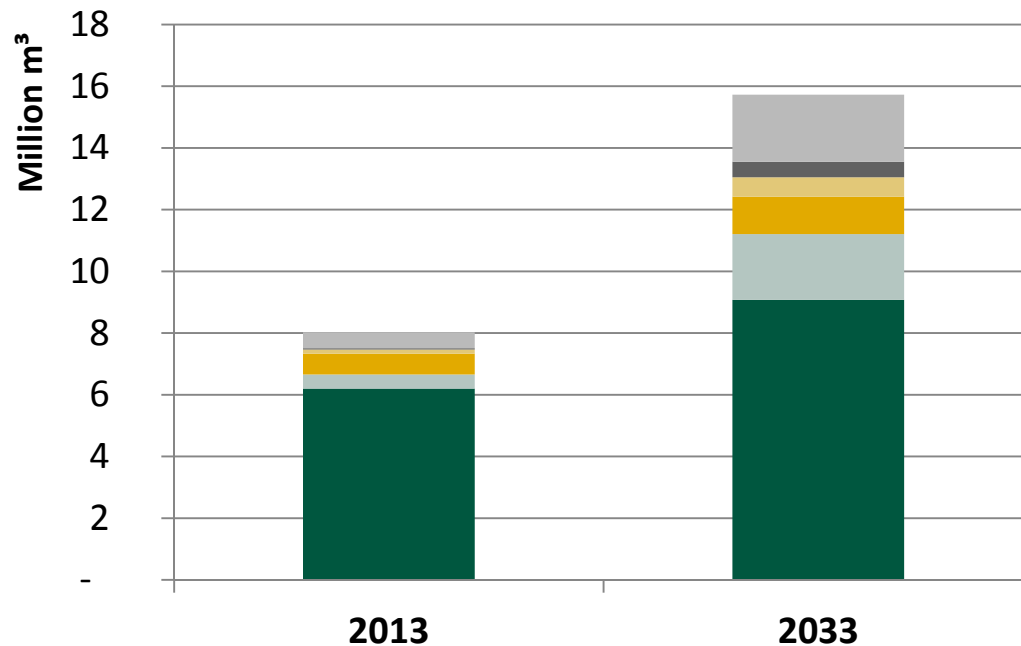
Improved land use practices

- Sustainable business models
- Higher yields
- Value-added food processing
- District-level partnerships



Ethiopia: Context and problem

Roundwood demand in 2013 vs. 2033



- Paper consumption
- Utility poles
- Furniture (public and commercial)
- Furniture (private households)
- Residential and non-residential construction (multi-storey)
- Residential housing (one storey)

- Recent Forest Sector Review suggests roundwood demand will double in next 20 years, increasing from 8 to 16 million m³/year.
- Gaps between supply and demand currently met through unsustainable timber extraction and imports.
- Ethiopia's national Growth and Transformation Plan aims to transform the economy by enhancing productivity, strengthening the domestic industrial base, and improving private sector engagement.
- State-owned forestry enterprises lacking technology and best practice know-how for natural resource establishment, management and value chains required for producing high quality forest products.

- Roundwood gaps closed through **public and private investments** in sustainable domestic production and industrialization to provide quality timber products such as construction timber, electricity poles and furniture timber, while contributing to Ethiopia's economic objectives.
- **Broad definition of private sector**, including smallholder woodlot owners and cooperatives and international forestry enterprise
- **Increase capacity of government** and line ministries to support private investors, communities and business through extension.
- **Public-Private Dialogue** bringing public and private actors around the table common platform to agree on policy interventions and enabling conditions for joint investments in sustainable forestry
- Provide **incentives and access to finance** for private sector engagement
- Identification and demarcation of **suitable land** for forest establishment, through planting and assisted natural regeneration

Engage smallholders and international business in public-private partnerships for forest establishment, management and product manufacturing, providing capital, latest technology and best practice

Commercial core + smallholder sawlog plantation outgrower scheme

Extension and inputs provided through commercial business in collaboration with forest administration

Establishment of cooperatives and capacity building for business



Cameroon: Context and problem

- Roughly 40% of the country is forest dense humid tropical forests
- Population 2015 : 22 millions (rural: 58%), Human Development Index: 152 out of 187; Poverty rate: 45%, esp. in rural areas
- Indigenous forest dwelling populations systematically marginalized from policy-making
- Civil society organizations advocating for indigenous peoples rights through REDD+ process

Government developed **FPIC guidelines for REDD+** to ensure REDD+ activities not only avoid undue harm to local forest communities, but promote respect for the human rights of indigenous peoples and improve forest governance related to stakeholder participation.



- General agreement that since the majority of forests relevant for REDD+ are located where indigenous peoples and other forest communities live, adequate participation mechanisms are required to ensure the effectiveness of REDD+ and the long-term delivery of local and global benefits.
- UNFCCC decisions on REDD+ do not expressly state that FPIC is required for REDD+ implementation, however they do support “[r]espect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations,” with specific reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add., Appendix 1 2 (c).
- Each REDD+ country has flexibility in national safeguards approach

Operational Guidelines for Obtaining FPIC for REDD+ in Cameroon:

1. Defining who are FPIC “rights holders” as ‘indigenous’ is often a controversial term and non-indigenous also have right to FPIC.
2. ‘Free’ means no coercion, intimidation or manipulation and if a community does say “no”, there must be no repercussions.
3. ‘Informed’ means complete disclosure of all information related to the plans for REDD+ in a language and medium that is comprehensible and easily accessible by the affected communities.
4. ‘Prior’ means consent must be sought and obtained before engaging in any activity on community land and that enough time must be given for communities to appreciate the impacts of the proposed activities.
5. ‘Consent’ means relevant communities have the choice to accept or refuse the project at hand, in this case, the particular REDD+ initiative, whether it is a national programme or specific forest carbon project.

- How can REDD+ address the diversity of deforestation and forest degradation drivers, agents and their underlying causes in a way that produces multiple benefits for smallholder farmers, local land users and communities?
 - **Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Programme?**

- How to engage the private sector to leverage the much-needed additional finance to implement REDD+, including through a “greening” of forest-related business models?
 - **Private forestry sector engagement in Ethiopia?**

- How to design and implement REDD+ strategies and projects in a way that meets internationally agreed social safeguards in contexts where forest dwelling communities often remain marginalized from national-level policy-making?
 - **Free, Prior and Informed Consent in Cameroon?**

Recommendations for way forward

- To avoid losing momentum and stakeholder confidence, it is important to advance more countries from Readiness to implementation and results-based payments
- To achieve this, policy-makers should keep in mind the challenges in operationalizing complex multi-sectoral programs
- REDD+ at landscape level includes development of cross-sectoral structures, value chains and markets- capitalize on existing models of success and aim to achieve upscaling
- Enabling productive uses of forests that reduce poverty, create jobs and build resilience through deforestation-free business models combined with private sector incentives to invest in natural resource establishment, management and forest product value chains
- Effective stakeholder engagement is critical- specific roles and incentives for participation need to be understood

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