



WWF

NEWS

ISSUE 3

2014

FOREST AND CLIMATE PROGRAMME

CANOPY

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM WWF'S INTERNATIONAL FOREST AND CLIMATE PROGRAMME

LOCAL ACTIONS LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR REDD+ IMPLEMENTATION IN KUTAI BARAT, INDONESIA

WWF-Indonesia is making major strides in partnering with local communities to demarcate and preserve vast sections of forest in the Kutai Barat area. A recent visit to Linggang Melapeh village with members of the WWF Forest and Climate Programme including Policy Director Josefina Brana-Varela, Bruno Perodeau, Technical Lead for WWF-DRC's work on REDD+, Flory Botamba, Project Manager for REDD+ for People and Nature at WWF-DRC, Zulfira Warta, Senior Advisor for WWF-Indonesia and Data Kusuma, Project Leader for WWF's Kutai Barat work, set the stage for sharing challenges, lessons learned, and best practices of making REDD+ a reality as part of a broader green development program in Kutai Barat.

The island of Borneo is home to one of the most biodiverse landscapes in the world. In the Heart of Borneo—a wild, remote region at the island's core that reaches into the nations of Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei—ancient tropical rainforests support a vast array of wildlife and 14 of the 20 watersheds that supply the island's major rivers.

At least 11 million Borneans, including a million forest-dwelling indigenous



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Members of the WWF Forest and Climate Programme met with government officials during the visit to the Kutai Barat area.

people known as the Dayak, depend on the forest's resources for their lives and livelihoods. Those resources, and the unique landscape that holds them, are rapidly disappearing. Indonesia alone is losing 1.17 million hectares of forest per year to unsustainable logging, mining, and the spread of oil palm and paper fiber plantations. The pressures driving deforestation are particularly intense in Indonesia's Kutai Barat district, where 2.4 million hectares of contiguous

tropical forest remain intact and where nearly half the land has been allocated for development through government-granted concessions.

The increase in global populations and expanding economic activities in the developing world are placing ever increasing pressures on land and its resources in the tropics, creating

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WWF

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FOREST AND CLIMATE PROGRAMME

CANOPY

NEWS AND INFORMATION
FROM WWF'S GLOBAL FOREST
AND CLIMATE PROGRAMME

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FEATURE

LOCAL ACTIONS LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR REDD+
IMPLEMENTATION IN KUTIA BARAT, INDONESIA ... 1

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Why we are here

WWF's Forest and Climate Programme works to ensure that the conservation of tropical forests as carbon stores is secured by green economic development that benefits people, the climate and biodiversity in transformational ways.

www.panda.org/forestclimate

MEDIA

VIDEO



**Finding a balance
among charcoal,
timber and liveli-
hoods in Zambia**

Davison Gumbo,
regional scientist with
the CIFOR Forests and

Livelihoods Programme, discusses research focused on understanding how the complex challenges of deforestation and environmental degradation affect Zambia's forests.

WATCH: bit.ly/1hWAu5t

VIDEO



**Indigenous tribe
defies soy producers**

Many farmers in
Paraguay have sold their
land to big soy producers.

But the indigenous Aché
community is going down a different path by earning
a livelihood with sustainable farming and forestry
management. Video via DW, by Anja Kimmig.

WATCH: : bit.ly/1kAzclB

WWF NEWS

CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT IN BONN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT NO PROGRESS ON REDD+ DISCUSSIONS

The global community was unable to reach agreement on the issues still under discussion regarding the mechanism to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) at the close of United Nations climate talks in Bonn last month. REDD+ negotiators, representing Parties to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), were in Germany for two weeks in June to progress negotiations over a global climate treaty to be signed in Paris in December 2015, which should include REDD+ as a tool to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, both pre- and post-2020.

At the 19th Conference of the Parties (COP19) last year, negotiators overcame differences on key issues to agree on a set of decisions on incentives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, known as the Warsaw Framework for REDD+.

In a major step forward at Bonn, Brazil submitted its forest reference level to the UNFCCC as a benchmark against which its progress in achieving emission reductions and removals through REDD+ activities can be measured. With this move, Brazil is the inaugural country to potentially qualify for REDD+ finance under the UNFCCC mechanism applying the rules agreed upon in the Warsaw Framework for REDD+. Brazil's data will now be reviewed by international experts.

“We are excited that Brazil has taken this important action to advance REDD+ by being the first country to submit reference levels to the UNFCCC,” said Josefina Brana-Varela, Policy Director for WWF's international Forest and Climate Programme. The submission will now set the processes that were



Bonn Climate Change Conference - June 2014

agreed upon by these parties in motion, which includes making all information available through an “information hub” as a first step. The design and operationalization of the hub is still in progress, but the UNFCCC Secretariat has posted the reference-level information on its web platform in the interim.

In a nod to the organization's expertise on REDD+ issues, WWF was invited to present at the day-long technical expert meeting (TEM) on land use, along with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), UN-REDD, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), and other international organizations. Susana Vélez Haller discussed WWF-Colombia's experience in the Putumayo region in developing an integrated approach to climate-smart landscapes. The meeting was one of two TEMs convened during the Bonn sessions to focus on the potential of cities and urban environments, as well as on land use, including forests and agriculture to reduce or limit emissions and adapt to existing climate impacts by 2020.

At the meeting, negotiators continued working on pending issues related to REDD+ but did not make progress on deciding whether further methodological guidance was needed on non-carbon benefits as well as non-market-based approaches, in particular Bolivia's Joint Mitigation and Adaptation Mechanism. Parties were also unable to determine whether these topics should be part of REDD+ discussions going forward.

“The outcome for REDD+ here in Bonn is unfortunate in that no consensus was reached; however, it is undeniable that REDD+ is one of the most advanced mitigation mechanisms under UNFCCC and could make an important contribution to closing the gigatonne gap before 2020,” said Brana-Varela.

As the world now eyes the road to COP20 in just a few short months, WWF is calling for tangible actions on REDD+ as part of a broader climate architecture that can contribute toward a new, universal climate deal scheduled to be signed off in Paris next year.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES TRAIN OTHERS IN COMMUNITY MEASUREMENT, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION IN GUYANA



© COURTESY CHARLES HUTCHINSON/WWF-GUYANA

Empowering indigenous communities in Guyana to monitor and better manage their own natural resources.

In Guyana, the North Rupununi District Development Board (NRDDB), an indigenous community-based organization, is training the Wai Wai community of Kanashen in Community Measurement, Reporting and Verification (CMRV). The project, initiated by WWF-Guianas, establishes a model for developing CMRV capacity in remote indigenous communities, while empowering those communities to monitor and better manage their own natural resources.

The 249-member Kanashen community's titled land covers 1.5 million forested acres—2.9 per cent of Guyana's land area—and the CMRV project supports the community's desire to manage their land as a Community Owned Conservation Area (COCA). The CMRV provides them the opportunity to establish a system for monitoring not only their forest cover and carbon stocks, but also the means to monitor their other natural resources, including fish stocks, water quality, wildlife and community well-being indicators (including a happiness index). Six community members are being trained as monitors and are building their skills in everything from measuring trees in

forest plots to calculating carbon stocks to community-interviewing techniques and water quality data recording. They use smartphones to input the data and later download it to computers for analysis and mapping.

Guyana, with a land area of 215,000 square kilometres and a population of 800,000, enjoys one of the lowest population densities and highest percentages of forest cover of any country on Earth. Eighty-five per cent of the country is cloaked in rainforest. Guyana has the world's first performance-based national-scale REDD+ payment scheme in a bilateral agreement with Norway, which has been in place since 2009. Guyana also has the world's first national-scale MRV system, and this project is providing a model for how that system can be seamlessly integrated with CMRV on Amerindian titled lands, which make up 14 per cent of the country. The project works closely with the Guyana Forestry Commission to ensure that the techniques used for assessing carbon stocks are standardized with the national system.

The Kanashen project builds on the capacity developed by the Norad-funded Global Canopy Programme (GCP)/Iwokrama/NRDDB project among 16 communities of the North Rupununi. The current project is using the skills, lessons learned and smart phone technology developed under GCP's project to build a powerful and replicable model for training Guyana's other indigenous communities. Toward that end, the project is not only building the capacity of the Kanashen community, but also developing the NRDDB's capacity to deliver CMRV training to other communities. Already other indigenous communities are clamouring to be trained in the techniques in order to develop their own CMRV capacity and better manage their own resources.

(Reporting by Charles Hutchinson, WWF-Guyana)

WWF-INDONESIA CONDUCTS THREE-DAY BIODIVERSITY SAFEGUARD WORKSHOP FOR FOREST INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS IN MAHAKAM ULU DISTRICT, EAST KALIMANTAN

In an effort to build capacity of timber industry stakeholders (community, government and private sector) on biodiversity safeguards, the WWF-Indonesia Kutai Barat Office and local Forestry Agency recently conducted a three-day biodiversity workshop at PT. Ratah Timber in newly split district (from Kutai Barat) Mahakam Ulu, East Kalimantan.

PT. Ratah Timber, one of IUPHHK-HA (Forest Timber Product Exploitation Permit on Natural Forest) holders of 93,000ha of forest area, hosted the three-day event at its Mamahaq Teboq Camp.

Biodiversity safeguards are a forest-monitoring activity for land use in order to ensure that the presence of diverse flora and fauna remains intact and managed in a sustainable way. Biodiversity monitoring has been a work in progress in PT. Ratah Timber since 2012.

The biodiversity safeguards workshop was divided into three sessions with active participation from representatives of the Forestry Agency of Mahakam Ulu and the technical staff of PT. Ratah Timber and similar companies; the University of Kyoto, Japan; WWF-Japan; and WWF-Indonesia Kutai Barat Office.

The first session aimed to increase concession companies' staff knowledge and skills around biodiversity safeguarding activities in logging concession areas. This included discussions on the utilization of camera traps and data analysis, among other topics. Subject matter experts (SMEs) were Professor

Kanehiro Kitayama and Dr. Hiromitsu Samejima of University Kyoto Japan along with members of the WWF-Indonesia and WWF-Japan teams. The experts from the University of Kyoto shared their experiences and best practices related to biodiversity safeguards and camera trapping for sustainable forest management in the concession unit of IUPHHK-HA.

The second session focused on providing a sharing platform for PT. Ratah Timber's and other similar companies' experiences, information and knowledge of biodiversity safeguarding studies and practices. Additional participants from the neighbouring timber companies in Mahakam Ulu joined the session.

The workshop wrapped up with a field visit to provide hands-on experience around stationed-camera traps and plot-based vegetation calculations done by WWF-Indonesia in the PT. Ratah Timber concession area.

Arif Data, Project Leader of the WWF-Indonesia Mahakam Ulu Programme, presented on a study that WWF-Indonesia, the University of Kyoto, Japan and PT. Ratah Timber conducted together on the impact of logging activities on forests and biodiversity over the past two

years. The study uses vegetation calculation plots and camera trap sets placed randomly on PT. Ratah Timber concession areas between 2012 and 2014.

"The district government and concession holder parties in Mahakam Ulu can utilize the results of the biodiversity safeguarding study done on PT. Ratah Timber for sustainable forest management," said Data.

The current results of the study will be shared in a series of trainings and workshops. Concession holder parties will be invited to learn about the research and discuss opportunities for replication and capacity building around biodiversity safeguards.

Professor Kitayama, one of the experts from the University of Kyoto, underscored the importance of real intent by the concession holders in implementing the biodiversity safeguard to synergize timber production and environmentalism in well-planned sustainable forest management. The Agriculture and Forestry Agency, represented by Head of Forestry Yason Liah, welcomed the workshop and study as a useful resource for concession holders and government staff, particularly those who work directly in the field in Mahakam Ulu.

"We hope this activity is not merely a one-time training and workshop, but is also followed by the planning and future actions from those who participated in the event," Mr. Liah concluded.

(Reporting by Sri Jimmy Kustini, WWF-Indonesia/Kutai Barat)

WWF PARTICIPATES IN "MOVING AHEAD WITH REDD+: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES" WORKSHOP

In April, the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) hosted a workshop that aimed to explore the latest thinking on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+).

On the first day, some of the key players in REDD+, including WWF Forest and Climate Programme Policy Director Josefina Brana-Varela, debated the challenges and opportunities for moving REDD+ forward. On the second day, attention turned to the strategic environmental and social assessments of REDD+ and safeguards.

The event also focused on IIED's forthcoming work on REDD+ and how the Sustainable Development Goals can complement REDD+, and saw the launch of a new Gatekeeper publication that shares three lessons to help ensure the success of a REDD+ project in southeastern Tanzania.

The workshop featured input from speakers and participants from multilateral agencies, governments, research and conservation organizations, and the private sector.

[MORE: http://slidesha.re/1mP55Vs](http://slidesha.re/1mP55Vs)

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© Jimmy Kustini, WWF-Indonesia/Kutai Barat

The three-day biodiversity safeguard workshop was organized by the WWF-Indonesia Kutai Barat Office.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The community of REDD+ practitioners and experts from around the world grows every day, and WWF's global Forest and Climate Programme is working to ensure that the capacity building and informational materials it produces are available to the most diverse audience possible. Many of the publications highlighted here are available in English, Bahasa, French, Portuguese and Spanish, and they can help us build our collective capacity to deliver successful REDD+ initiatives around the globe that benefit people and nature.

REDD+ BRIEFS

Promoting non-carbon benefits in REDD+ actions



This document is the first output of a recently launched collaboration on REDD+ between WWF's Forest and Climate Programme and

Wageningen University and Research Centre's REDD@WUR Network. The policy brief explores the concept of non-carbon benefits (NCBs), one of the ongoing items of discussion at international REDD+ negotiations and the elaboration of domestic implementation strategies.

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DOWNLOAD: bit.ly/wwfwurreddbriefs


MAPPING UNFCCC REDD+ 2014

Mapping UNFCCC REDD+: A visual guide to the systems and structures supporting REDD+ within the UNFCCC

WWF is excited to continue its partnership with the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies to produce a new 2014 series of visual maps detailing REDD+ within the UNFCCC system.

These maps provide negotiators and observers alike the tools they need to understand the complex streams of the UNFCCC processes and how REDD+ fits into these; they were timed for use at the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn, Germany, in June 2014.



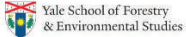
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DOWNLOAD: bit.ly/REDDMaps14



2014

Mapping UNFCCC REDD+: a visual guide to the systems and structures supporting REDD+ within the UNFCCC

Produced in partnership by:

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COMPLETING THE PUZZLE:

Putting the pieces together for a REDD+ proposal in Madre de Dios

This paper, produced jointly by WWF-Peru and the Madre de Dios Regional Government (Spanish acronym: GOREMAD), is the result of the systematization of experiences from the Environmental Services and REDD+ Roundtable (Spanish acronym: MSAR) in the Madre de Dios region of Peru. These experiences describe the building of a new alliance between MSAR and GOREMAD to prepare and implement REDD+ within the framework of green development and sustainable natural resources use.

The creation of MSAR and the new Regional Environmental Authority (Spanish acronym: ARA)—institutionalized through a social pact—is a sign of the consolidation of government policy for environmental governance. This roundtable serves as the voice of experience and offers support to the national and regional governments in preparing and implementing REDD+.

DOWNLOAD: bit.ly/1nuifck

DOWNLOAD IN SPANISH: bit.ly/1hANrAo

REDD+ INSPIRING PRACTICE:

Building community forests in Indonesia

This REDD+ Inspiring Practice explores the development of community conservation areas and community-based forest management in the remote villages of Indonesia's Kutai Barat district. Amid intense pressures from development and deforestation, and despite a legal framework that is unclear in its protection of customary rights to the land, these villages are working collaboratively—and successfully—to protect and secure government recognition for their traditional uses of the forest.

DOWNLOAD: bit.ly/1nuitjy



REDD+ CAPACITY BUILDING

Estimating tropical forest carbon stocks using existing inventory data



There is a high level of interest in measuring the quantity of carbon in tropical forests as a result of the development of initiatives such as REDD+,

which aim to provide funding to achieve the preservation of these ecosystems. Ground-based forest inventories remain an important method for collecting this information and for validating estimates based on remote sensing data. However, many different organizations are often involved in efforts to establish carbon-based projects in tropical forest regions, and their efforts are often poorly coordinated.

This publication, which was produced by WWF-Peru in collaboration with the WWF Forest and Climate Programme, outlines the steps that can be taken to compile and analyse field-based carbon stock data from a range of sources in order to build a consistent, regional dataset of tropical forest carbon stocks. The results are illustrated using findings from a case study undertaken in Madre de Dios, southern Peru.

DOWNLOAD: bit.ly/1kKPVcy

REDD+ CAPACITY BUILDING

WWF FOREST AND CLIMATE PROGRAMME LEARNING SESSIONS ARE FREE AND ARE DESIGNED TO LEVERAGE AND SHARE REDD+ KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE. EVERY MONTH, WE INVITE A REDD+ EXPERT TO PRESENT ON A KEY ISSUE SO THAT REDD+ PRACTITIONERS CAN HAVE ACCESS TO THE LATEST INFORMATION RELEVANT TO REDD+.

To watch an archived Learning Session or to register for an upcoming webinar, please visit: bit.ly/REDDlearn

LEARNING SESSION 24: 'DEFORESTATION SUCCESS STORIES' AND THE ROLE OF REDD+

Pipa Elias, a REDD+ expert and forest policy consultant for the Union of Concerned Scientists presents their recent publication, 'Deforestation Success Stories'. Pipa focuses on how factors such as REDD+ policy, payments for ecosystem services, strong governance and establishing moratoria contributed to slowing down the pace of deforestation in Guyana, Brazil, Kenya, Madagascar, Costa Rica, and other nations. She also covers how lessons drawn from such successes can be replicated in different countries to address climate change.

VIDEO: bit.ly/1wry6uh

LEARNING SESSION 23: DEVELOPING ALLOME- TRIC EQUATIONS FOR REDD+ MRV

In this webinar, Rosa C. Goodman, an independent consultant working in forest conservation and sustainable management, uses the example of the southwestern Amazon to explain where and why new allometric models may need to be developed for REDD+ measurement, reporting and verification (MRV). More generally, Rosa will discuss how to design an unbiased sampling strategy, go about the field work, and develop and select new models. She shows how new models can increase accuracy for individual tree biomass estimates and change regional estimates, and offers recommendations for future biomass and allometry work.

VIDEO: bit.ly/U7oARj

LEARNING SESSION 22: MAKING SENSE OF THE FCPF CARBON FUND'S METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) recently approved the "rules document" that will guide the development and selection of large-scale REDD+ programmes in five to 10 forest countries. Many view the Carbon Fund as a critically important piloting space to test the concept of results-based payments for programmes that address the drivers of deforestation and degradation, and as a possible pre-cursor to a REDD+ window under the Green Climate Fund. So what do these rules look like? And what do they mean?

This learning session features Joshua Lichtenstein of Bank Information Center who helps us make sense of the major social issues in the rules document, including social and environmental safeguards, land rights and tenure, benefit sharing, grievance and redress.

VIDEO: bit.ly/RyZQNO

MANY VIEW THE CARBON FUND AS A CRITICALLY IMPORTANT PILOTING SPACE TO TEST THE CONCEPT OF RESULTS-BASED PAYMENTS FOR PROGRAMMES THAT ADDRESS THE DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION, AND AS A POSSIBLE PRE-CURSOR TO A REDD+ WINDOW UNDER THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND.



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REDD+ SPECIES

PLEASING POISON FROG

Common Name

Pleasing Poison Frog

Scientific name

Ameerega bassleri

Location

Peru

Status

Near Threatened

The pleasing poison frog, or *Ameerega bassleri*, is the second-largest frog of the *ameerega* genus. This amphibian is endemic to Peru and can often be spotted in the Amazon Basin. Pleasing poison frogs are diurnal and inhabit freshwater and terrestrial areas near small streams and creeks.

This amphibian has many morphs, displaying a vivid range of reds, greens and blues. Female frogs deposit eggs on the ground and the larvae are then transported to streams by the male. Due to residential and commercial development, much of the habitat has been converted into coffee plantations and cattle pastures, rendering these beautiful frogs vulnerable to rapid changes in landuse.

WWF-Peru and the WWF Forest and Climate Programme work to support creation and effective management of natural protected areas such as the Amazon Basin through political advocacy and the design of conservation master plans and capacity-building efforts.

Sources: EOL.org, IUCN, GBIF, WWF
Reporting by Jasmine Benjamin, WWF-FCP

REDD+ PEOPLE



© JHONATHAN JARA/WWF-PERU

ANGGELA MICHÍ AND JIANG OLIVER LIAO TORRES

Interview with Anggela Michi and Jiang Oliver Liao Torres, GOREMAD's Natural Resources Management office in Madre de Dios, Peru

What is your role?

A&J: Our role is to establish REDD+ guidelines and mechanisms in Madre de Dios (MDD), with the ultimate aim of reducing GHG emissions in the region. We also manage work related to strengthening governance in Madre de Dios.

How did you get involved in this work?

A&J: In 2008, feasibility studies were undertaken, including the creation of the REDD consortium, formed by over 10 institutions—all with short timetables, but that got REDD work going in the area. Afterwards, in 2010, WWF supported the activation of the REDD Roundtable, which was eventually renamed “Environmental Services & REDD+ Roundtable” (MSAR in Spanish). Later in 2010, WWF and UNAMAD (the local university) carried out a special training course targeted at multiple institutions in Madre de Dios: an MRV diploma for REDD+. Through this certificate programme,

members of several institutions—including institutions from the regional government—were duly trained in specific subjects that helped them better understand REDD+ topics such as deforestation, carbon stocks and forest inventory.

In 2013, the Regional Government of Madre de Dios (GOREMAD) undertook an active role in the process through the recognition of a space for participation, debate and discussions created through a regional ordinance. Moreover, this space also helps us with the capacity building of the MSAR's members and officials. This is a long-term project with results focused on setting a deforestation baseline, which we did between 2008 and 2011. MDD is considered a priority area for REDD+ implementation. We not only participate at a national level, but we are also part of an important platform through our involvement in the Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF), a unique international collaboration between 22 states and provinces from Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Spain and the United States. MSAR has collaborated on other projects, such as the Regional Environmental Commission (CAR), which has one of the most active commissions in charge of developing the Regional Climate Change Strategy (ERCC). The products generated by MSAR are used as inputs to prepare this strategy.

How long have you been working in REDD+?

A&J: We have been working in REDD+ since 2008. It has been a long and arduous process, mainly because it was a new idea then and nobody was interested in this subject. Here in MDD, the process started with private initiatives, such as MADERACRE's REDD project, MADERACRE and MADERYJA (in a forest concession). AIDER also worked

on a REDD project in the Tambopata National Reserve. These were the two early initiatives in REDD, and since then there have been many others.

What is the most important thing to move REDD+ forward in MDD?

A&J: One of the most important things to move REDD+ forward here is to identify key stakeholders who are contributing to deforestation and then to work side by side with them to revert this situation. MDD is a biodiversity capital of Peru and that designation underscores the importance of halting deforestation. We must find the way to reduce pressures upon forests and generate more profitability to those working with resources in more deforested zones.

Who are your key partners?

A&J: Our key partners are members of MSAR. To better understand this, it is important to point out that MSAR's structure is based on working commissions and sub-commissions, each with a responsible institution. There is a participatory spirit within the MSAR that we enjoy. On the other hand, we also work with several NGOs, such as AIDER, on the deforestation baseline, and WWF-Peru in the carbon mapping. WWF-Peru is currently in charge of the Technical Secretariat, with aims to bolster specific actions of the MSAR's sub-commissions.

How do you collaborate with WWF? What do you do with them?

A&J: We have a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with WWF. In 2010, WWF-Peru focused on building capacities for officials, resource and planning management of GOREMAD and supporting the Amazon Indigenous REDD+ proposal, so we collaborated with them on that work. It is also worth mentioning that FENAMAD is the regional indigenous organization that

focuses on issues related to indigenous peoples and ensures their well-being, and WWF collaborates with them too. WWF also provides key support for many studies of the deforestation baseline and carbon stock studies in the region. We believe the technical and financial support that WWF-Peru has provided to us has been critical.

What is the biggest challenge for you in the REDD+ work?

A&J: One of our biggest challenges is how to better communicate, disseminate and make REDD+ work visible to communities who are not aware of REDD+ and its process. We believe that the technical nature of discussions and meetings has slowed down the process, because the language used is often hard to understand and full of jargon. We strongly believe that all the results must be translated into a simpler language to be more comprehensible to the public at large. The important thing is to communicate results with everybody and find the way to reach them. We have to include every single person during the process so they do not feel excluded.

What is the biggest achievement you have seen in REDD+?

A&J: We have seen big strides in the technical aspects of our work, such as establishing the deforestation baseline and adapting it for MDD. Another important achievement is the capacity that has been built with GOREMAD officials and representatives.

What is a lesson learned during the REDD+ work?

A&J: A lesson learned during the REDD+ work was the need to identify the collaborative work with key partners, as well as the translation of technical issues into simpler language to share it with farmers and other community members, among others, who were not fully aware of REDD+. We have also learned about the importance of stakeholder participation and that everybody must join in efforts to make it work. Finally, the need for coordination and communication efforts between the national and subnational government is quite vital; the lack of these efforts has delayed the process.

What is your favourite part of this work?

A&J: Learning about and working on a daily basis with all of the technical aspects of REDD+—deforestation, carbon stocks and reference levels.

(Reporting by Jhonathan Jara, WWF-Peru)

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO MOVE REDD+ FORWARD HERE IS TO IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS WHO ARE CONTRIBUTING TO DEFORESTATION AND THEN TO WORK SIDE BY SIDE WITH THEM TO REVERT THIS SITUATION.

REDD+ EXPERT

INTERVIEW WITH MARIA EUGENIA ARROYO, FOREST AND CLIMATE COORDINATOR, WWF-PERU

Maria Eugenia ("Maru") coordinates forest and climate activities for WWF-Peru, with a particular focus on REDD+ work.

What is your role?

Maru: I am the forest and climate coordinator for WWF-Peru, which also means that I'm the point person for our REDD+ work.

Where do you work and what are your overall goals in this work?

Maru: I am based in our offices in Lima, but much of our work focuses on the Madre de Dios region.

The Madre de Dios Region, in the southern Peruvian Amazon, spans 8.5 million hectares of intact, low-lying rainforest. It is home to the world's greatest concentration of bird species, as well as jaguar, tapir and other large Amazonian mammals. The forests in Madre de Dios also support the region's people, including indigenous communities living in voluntary isolation.

What is your academic or professional background and/or what did you study that led you here?

Maru: I am a forest engineer with a special focus on environmental management. I am also currently pursuing my master's in social management. I had been working in Madre de Dios for the Peru Forestry Agency before I came back to Lima to work. For

me, being in the field means working with the local partners in Madre de Dios. I love going to Madre de Dios and working with the local team and local partners, because we get to see the whole process work. Over the past three to four years, we have seen real change. We have seen high involvement from stakeholders and tangible leadership from the regional governments, which wasn't there before. It's exciting to see all the sectors, each with their own interests, coming together to work.

How did you become involved in REDD+ work?

Maru: Before joining WWF, I was working for another international NGO on clean development mechanisms, and that group became a member of the REDD+ roundtable in Madre de Dios, which was promoted by WWF. About a year after the roundtable was created, there was a call for applications for an assistant position in the Peru office and my boss told me I should apply, so I

applied, got the job, and have been with the team since then, moving up and taking on more REDD+ work over the years. When the opportunity came up, it was a great chance for me to combine my interests in climate change and forests.

How does WWF-Peru collaborate with local and national governments on REDD+?

Maru: We work with governments both at the sub-national and national level. At the sub-national level we are focused in the Madre de Dios region in the Peruvian Amazon. This is one of our priority places for the Amazon programme and also a priority area for the Forest and Climate strategy of the Peru office. We are implementing REDD+ there as a means for green development and for improving governance.

At the national level, we work to provide technical assistance on REDD+ issues to the government.

COURTESY MARIA EUGENIA ARROYO



How are indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) involved in REDD+ work?

Maru: At WWF we are supporting the Amazon indigenous REDD+ proposal, which has been recognized by the government. Indigenous peoples are also members of the Madre de Dios REDD+ and environmental services roundtable, which means they are involved in the work and planning to implement REDD+ in the region. Finally, IPLC also leads the Amazon indigenous REDD+ roundtable of Madre de Dios, meaning they have really taken ownership of this work.

What are some of the biggest challenges you see when working on the REDD+ process in Peru?

Maru: Like other places working to implement REDD+, some big challenges are weak governance, legal gaps and complicated drivers of deforestation such as mining, which all make it more challenging to “complete” REDD+.

What have been your biggest successes over the past few years of working on REDD+ in Peru?

Maru: We have seen big strides in improving governance. In the particular case of Madre de Dios, we are very proud of the work we have done to help improve coordination among the various stakeholders in the region and to improve participation. That being said, we still have much work to do.

Where do you see for the future of REDD+ in Peru?

Maru: As REDD+ moves ahead, I think that the greatest contribution it can bring to our country is making governance better, with its potential to improve livelihoods and as one way to tackle drivers of deforestation.

MY FAVOURITE PART OF THE WORK I DO IS GOING TO THE FIELD IN MADRE DE DIOS AND COLLABORATING WITH OUR PARTNERS THERE. I THINK OUR RELATIONSHIPS IN THE REGION ARE INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT IN HELPING TO MAKE REDD+ A REALITY, SO I LOVE BEING INVOLVED IN THAT.

What is the best part of your work?

Maru: My favourite part of the work I do is going to the field in Madre de Dios and collaborating with our partners there. I think our relationships in the region are incredibly important in helping to make REDD+ a reality, so I love being involved in that.

What would you like to see happen with REDD+ in Madre de Dios?

Maru: My dream would be to see Madre de Dios developing under a landscape approach, along with the funds to implement a green development plan. If we can help make that happen, we could help keep forests standing while also improving the livelihoods of indigenous communities and other forest-dependent people. This would also improve other economic activities like sustainable forest management and hopefully would help improve the practices of other economic activities. But to do any or all of this successfully, the government will need to strengthen its capacity to implement it, because they are the ones that will be keys to making this happen.

What are the biggest challenges in working with governments in Peru?

Maru: The biggest challenge we see is weak governance institutions. Because the process of centralizing governments only started about 10 years ago, many times the responsibility to do something has been transferred to an office that has limited financial and human resources to operate. Otherwise we often see contradictions in laws—some laws promote forest conservation while others don’t, so they essentially cancel each other out. The other challenge is that the drivers of deforestation, particularly mining in the case of Madre de Dios, is so complex that we can’t tackle that by working with just one sector. We need to work across sectors and also at different levels on mining issues, but at times it’s hard to coordinate between levels with local governments.

How is COP20 an opportunity for Peru?

Maru: COP20 in Peru is a great opportunity for the government to really commit to forest conservation on a tremendous scale. This event and the preparations for it will lead to more involvement from a variety of ministry offices, such as agriculture and irrigation, cultural affairs and economic affairs, to highlight the work we have done. It’s also a great opportunity for indigenous peoples to show the work they have done on REDD+ on an international stage. As we sometimes say, Peru is not a forest country, it’s a country with forests, because if you look at the income from the forest sector on its own, it’s very small. Right now the perceived value of the forest is very low in some parts of the country, so this is our chance to highlight the huge potential and value of our forests and to change conceptions about the importance of preserving them.

REDD+ EXPERT

INTERVIEW WITH DR MAIRON BASTOS LIMA, ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY GROUP, FOREST AND NATURE CONSERVATION POLICY GROUP, AND REDD@WUR NETWORK, WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH CENTRE (WUR)

What is your role with the Forest and Climate Programme and with Wageningen University and Research Centre?

MBL: My role is to be the focal point of this collaboration between the WWF Forest and Climate Programme and REDD+ work at WUR, meaning the network of 70+ researchers at Wageningen University who focus on REDD+ topics. This is a postdoctoral research position for one-and-a-half years, and through it we are trying to create knowledge leadership on emerging issues related to REDD+.

What is your academic/work background that led you here?

MBL: I am originally a biologist, but one of those who gradually moved into the social sciences. I have a master's and a PhD, both in environmental studies. I did my master's in Canada and my PhD in the Netherlands. My previous research had mostly been on land use sectors, so I have more experience with drivers of deforestation than with forest conservation policy

per se. My master's research was on sustainable agri-food systems. I worked on analysing chains from the seed to the plate and trying to find ways to make these systems more sustainable. In my PhD work, I came closer to the climate discussion as I was researching biofuel policies. I have also done some smaller, EU-funded work related to REDD+ in Indonesia and on biodiversity conservation by indigenous peoples in Brazil. In short, I have worked on a mixed bag of subjects but all of them have been related to sustainable land use, especially on the social and policy dimensions. This position is an extension of my interests and past experiences, and I'm very excited about it.

What do you find most challenging about your work with REDD+ policy?

MBL: The biggest challenge is also the biggest virtue of REDD+—integrating diverse sectors and thinking about forests as more than just trees. Forests are part of the larger picture, which is really what an ecosystems or systems perspective is all about. Those of us working in REDD+ have to be very aware of this context and the fact that in the REDD+ process, different sectors and players are involved—policy design, finance, stakeholder inclusion, biophysical dimensions and forest ecology, not to mention, of course, carbon accounting. So it is a



COURTESY MAIRON BASTOS LIMA

challenge to bring that all together into something that makes sense. Of course none of us can be experts on all of these dimensions, but we do need to be able to place those elements in the broader REDD+ picture, which is both incredibly daunting and tremendously exciting.

How can REDD+ be a tool for sustainable land use?

MBL: We should think of REDD+ as a catalyst to bring transformations to agricultural policy, forest policy and sustainable land use policy, both at the government level and also in the private sector. Hopefully REDD+ and all of the related discussions and changes that we're seeing both on the ground and at the policy level can ignite deeper and more fundamental change in the way we deal with forest ecosystems and the way we do activities that are our current drivers of deforestation. REDD+ can be a part of this change, and it needs to be if we want enduring results. If we only think about REDD+ in terms of money, we end up with a race against things such as mining and agriculture that REDD+ will never win. For example, in the context of some African countries, REDD+ activities may be competing with commodities like oil, and there is no way REDD+ can match that, so we must look at it as a catalyst first and foremost!

THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IS ALSO THE BIGGEST VIRTUE OF REDD+—INTEGRATING DIVERSE SECTORS AND THINKING ABOUT FORESTS AS MORE THAN JUST TREES. FORESTS ARE PART OF THE LARGER PICTURE, WHICH IS REALLY WHAT AN ECOSYSTEMS OR SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE IS ALL ABOUT.

What are non-carbon benefits (NCBs)? Who defines them? How do you measure them?

MBL: NCB is UNFCCC lingo for everything forests (and REDD+ activities) do beyond storing carbon. This includes three basic types of benefits:

- **Environmental benefits** - biodiversity conservation, freshwater, etc.
- **Social benefits** - sustainable livelihoods, income creation for local communities, social economic development
- **Governance** - improvements in governance, participatory forest monitoring, clearer land tenure systems, greater land tenure security

This definition is more or less how NCBs are understood in the community of organizations and individuals who work on REDD+. While some of this wording is in official documents from the UNFCCC, there is no one, absolutely unambiguous definition of these.

There is no one way to measure these, and how to monitor the benefit also depends on which benefit you're looking at. Most countries use proxies to monitor progress.

Why do non-carbon benefits matter?

MBL: NCBs matter first to the people who live in relevant areas impacted by REDD+, but ultimately they matter to everybody. Biodiversity benefits and global goods make a difference on a global scale, governance benefits matter on a national scale and sustainable incomes to local people matter on a very personal scale. REDD+ could in theory exist without NCBs, but because they impact so many aspects of work, it's important to incentivize them and for countries implementing REDD+ to ensure that these NCBs are delivered. While REDD+ did and does need a standardized unit for measurement (tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year reduced) we all know that forests are

more than that. So any REDD+ activity that only focused on carbon at the expense of these other benefits would fall very short of its potential.

Who do non-carbon benefits impact the most? Do those people/stakeholders have a seat at the table?

MBL: NCBs matter most to the people who feel the effects of drivers of deforestation on a daily basis and those who feel the impacts of interventions like REDD+ first-hand. Countries are asked to have a national REDD+ focal point, which could be a dedicated agency at the national level, and part of the work of that group would be to oversee stakeholder involvement in the REDD+ process. Of course, each country has its own way of doing this, so the quality and quantity of that stakeholder involvement will ultimately depend on the countries implementing REDD+. Many nations do have room for improvement in this regard.

What are non-market-based approaches?

MBL: NMBA, like NCB, is an all-encompassing term. We know that REDD+ can be financed through different means, but we are not yet clear exactly what those means will be. However, there is an understanding that REDD+ can be financed through market mechanisms (through the trade of standardized units, carbon credits) and that it can also be financed through funds and other forms of investment. There are many important elements in the effective implementation of REDD+ that aren't about markets—subsidy reform, land use activities and different policy instruments—and these would all fall under the term NMBAs.

REDD+ EXPERT *(Continued)*

Why should they be a part of the REDD+ discussion going forward?

MBL: If we think of REDD+ only in terms of markets, we would be giving it short shrift and probably wouldn't be able to accomplish what we want to accomplish—which is forest conservation and sustainable development. So remember, REDD+ is a catalyst to accelerate broader and deeper changes in policy and in practice, and many of those depend on NMBA, or at least would benefit greatly from them. The next step is to determine which NMBA work best under which circumstances.

What is the gigatonne emissions gap? How can forests and land use contribute to closing this gap by 2020?

MBL: This is the nickname for the gap that we have right now between our current level of GHG per year and where those emissions should be if we are to take the lowest-cost pathways to climate change mitigation. These scenarios are developed by the IPCC and UNEP, which releases an emissions gap report every year and basically shows that our emissions are far above where we should be. In other words, mitigating climate change is becoming more and more costly. Our goal now is to try to catch up with the homework that we haven't been doing and close that gap by 2020. It should actually be called the gigatonnes gap (plural) because we are already emitting annually 6 gigatonnes of CO₂ equivalent more than we should be emitting in 2020 if we were to thread on those lowest cost scenarios of climate change mitigation.

Forest and land use can make a big difference in this, as agriculture, forestry and other land uses are responsible for 24 per cent of GHG emissions. In some regions, including Southeast Asia, central Africa and Latin America, these are actually by far the main sources of emissions, which means targeted action in these regions can actually make a big difference with immediate results in reducing annual emissions. This is advantageous compared to reducing emissions from energy sectors (which is, of course, very important), as that can take longer to do. So when working on reducing emissions from the forest sector, we can help buy the time necessary for changes in the energy sector to kick in. Given that we need fast action before 2020, this is a very effective way to do it.

Please describe your most recent Bonn experience. Have you been to international negotiations before?

MBL: This was my first time at a UNFCCC meeting, though I had been to negotiations at Rio+20 and much of the structure was similar. The time was filled with keeping track of the negotiation sessions, talking to negotiators in hallways, attending side events and general networking. It was very useful for me and for my work.

What was the most rewarding and most challenging about the conference?

MBL: The whole experience was very rewarding—I loved the energy and buzz. In fact, when it's over, you miss that action and working on a daily basis with our team and your colleagues. It is certainly a bonding experience. However, it's strenuous to work for two weeks straight thinking about nothing but forests, carbon and climate!

Coming out of Bonn, how are you feeling about the future of REDD+?

MBL: I think that in the coming years we're going to see countries really dig in on implementation. Now that the framework is ready to go, it's time to get hands-on. REDD+ is voluntary, so those who are participating have some expectations for REDD+, and they have been negotiating the rules along with everybody else, so we all know there is a lot of work still to be done, but I think countries are excited to get moving and are seeing the light at the end of a long tunnel.

Finally, how many languages do you speak, what are they, and how did you learn so many?

MBL: I speak four languages—English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. I studied English because I wanted to do my master's in Canada. I learned French because I had planned to do my PhD in Geneva, which didn't end up happening, and also because many of my closest friends in Canada during my master's spoke French. Portuguese is my native language, having grown up in Brazil. Spanish is quite similar to Portuguese, but I started working on it because I was involved in a project last year where most of our meetings were held in Spanish and we had partners from Spain, Bolivia and Mexico. My Spanish has actually been very useful in this position and I actually use it far more than I anticipated—a great co-benefit!

FEATURE *(Continued)*

competition and conflicts and resulting in the unsustainable use of both land and resources. Many of these conflicts stem from the farm-forests frontier, where the need for agricultural expansion is pushing back the area covered by standing forests, while degraded land that could be restored to production remains unutilized.

In the village of Linggang Melapeh with a population of approximately 2000, sustainable forest management is a way of life, and is becoming more important every year. The community there owns 13,000 HA of land, approximately 400 of which are protected—90 HA are formally categorized as forests with the highest level of protection, while the community is working to upgrade another 300 to a higher level of forest protection. Over the years, the community has seen marked changes in land use as pressure on the land has increased from oil palm companies and rubber harvesters. However, during the Forest and Climate Programme visit, members of the community highlighted the importance of conserving the area's natural resources through stricter forest regulations rather than turning to the quick profits but potential long-term damage to the their lands.

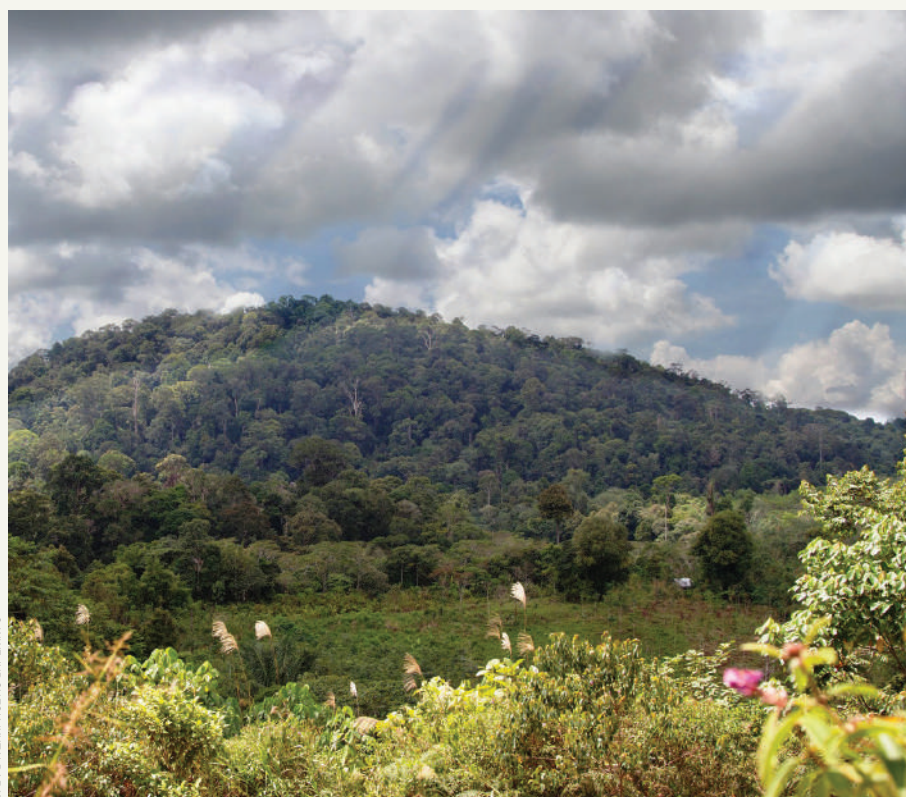
Like many forest-dependent communities, the population of Linggang Melapeh is growing, and as these new pressures on the forests mount, people there are taking concrete actions to manage the land in a way that's beneficial for their livelihoods and the environment. Most of the population in Linggang Melapeh relies on rubber plantations as the main source of income for the household. Villagers sell rubber latex to buyers who mostly come from outside the village and additional revenue streams may come from shops, food stalls, small gardens near their homes, and temporary employment. The community also maintains a few plots for harvesting

other non-timber forest products such as rattan, vegetables and herbs.

Located near the regional capital city of Sendawar, Linggang Melapeh is a popular place for weekend visits from urban residents who take advantage of the hiking trails, a small, six-room guest house, and lake for boating, all managed by the local community. The government provided funding in 2012 for basic infrastructure projects to make the area more assessable and easy to navigate for both visitors and locals alike. As the population in Sendawar grows, the community could potentially see up to 20,000 visitors per year, providing a small but steady source of income that has the potential to increase as eco-tourism efforts ramp up.

While WWF started laying the foundation for REDD+ four years ago, as in any forest community, work on conserving and managing the area has been happening for generations. Monitoring is usually done on a weekly basis when people go check on farming plots near the forest or when they harvest non-timber products like rattan, vegetables, herbs, fruits or wild boar. During these regular check-ins community members keep a close eye on signs of wildfire, excessive hunting of the local animals such as wild boar by outsiders who then sell the meat at markets and damaging extraction practices that could potentially degrade the lands.

Establishing officially recognized forest protection status is a key part of preserving the resources. The community came



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Located near the regional capital city of Sendawar, Linggang Melapeh is a popular place for weekend visits from urban residents.

FEATURE *(Continued)*

together to adjust the status of the forest regulation in 2011 so that the level of protection would remain high. In 2012, a community board was established to explicitly implement forest protection regulations. The regulations have had a major impact because people feel a newfound motivation to safeguard the land and regularly remind each other not to damage the forest. The protected forest has become a source of pride for residents of the village that should be guarded now and for future generations. Today, this board also oversees sanctions for those who violate rules related to farming, cutting trees, or hunting deer and leopard. The board also manages forest educational and research activities in the area, and promotes the community land as a learning resource for local university students working on forestry issues.

Since WWF began working on REDD+ in Kutai Barat in 2010, it has focused on participatory land use planning and mapping as a means to build REDD+ readiness and secure a voice for local and indigenous communities in development policies and plans on the regional and national levels. The goal is to help communities gain awareness of the legal, environmental and economic issues surrounding their land use, skills and capacities for sustainable development and planning, and recognition of their traditional knowledge and customary rights.

As part of this ongoing monitoring work, Linggang Melapeh has developed three-dimensional maps of their customary lands that record and reinforce traditional knowledge and practices. Using simple materials—including newspapers, wood and glue—and, when available, satellite images, villagers crafted visual representations of their land and its uses. These have served as a valuable inventory of the community's natural resources, and as a locus of dialogue about the land's past and plans and concerns for its future.

Next year, the Indonesian government will distribute funding to communities to specifically tackle forest and critical land rehabilitation, and the community of Linggang Melapeh has been identified as one of the recipients. The programme empowers community members in that they are both beneficiaries and implementers of the work. As a first priority the community will focus on making 300 HA into protected forests. The community has prioritized this because authorities believe that this upgraded forest protection status could ultimately lead to increased income from eco-tourism, which could help keep younger families in the community from moving to urban areas in search of other jobs.

In addition to working on the local level with communities like Linggang Melapeh to lay the groundwork for REDD+, WWF is also supporting the implementation of sustainable development practices at a national level. For example, WWF is working across Indonesia to change the way oil palm plantations are concessioned and is pushing companies to use degraded lands for oil palm plantations rather than using forested areas or high conservation value forests for planting.

WWF-Indonesia, along with support from the WWF Forest and Climate Programme, is also collaborating on the submission of an Emissions-Reductions Programme Idea Note (ER-PIN) to the FCPF which would potentially unlock funding for emissions reductions payments. If approved, funding from the FCPF Carbon Fund would add significant momentum for jurisdictional or subnational REDD+ in Indonesia and could help bring access to credible international partners and to technical assistance.

As the visit to Linggang Melapeh village in Kutai Barat came to a close, and after many thoughtful discussions with local community members, government authorities and other stakeholders, the message was very clear—the work happening on the ground in Indonesia, both in small communities and at the national scale, demonstrates how REDD+ can be used as a tool to advance sustainable development while conserving forests and tackling climate change in a way that benefits both people and nature.

AS PART OF THIS ONGOING MONITORING WORK, LINGGANG MELAPEH HAS DEVELOPED THREE-DIMENSIONAL MAPS OF THEIR CUSTOMARY LANDS THAT RECORD AND REINFORCE TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES.

NEWS *(Continued)*

NEPAL ON ITS WAY TO ACCESS RESULTS-BASED PAYMENTS FOR REDD+



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Nepal presenting its Idea Note at the Carbon Fund's Ninth Meeting (CF9) in Brussels, Belgium

Nepal made new headway in the REDD+ readiness process with the approval of its Emission Reductions Project Idea Note (ER-PIN) at the Carbon Fund's Ninth Meeting (CF9) organized by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility under the World Bank in April 2014 in Brussels, Belgium.

This opens new horizons in REDD+ readiness for Nepal with the potential to bring additional resources of up to US\$70 million for the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) through the government of Nepal. This is based on the resolution made at CF9 to negotiate a Letter of Intent with Nepal for an estimated volume of up to 14 million tonnes of emission reductions (CO₂ equivalent) over a five-year period from 2015 to 2020.

The World Bank, in collaboration with donor countries, is piloting the results-based payment system through the Carbon Fund to assist developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and foster conservation, sustainable management of

forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (activities commonly referred to as REDD+) by providing value to standing forests.

Nepal's ER-PIN covers the 12 districts of TAL, one of the Global 200 eco-regions, and includes over a million hectares of forests that are critical to local livelihoods as well as critical for biodiversity conservation. The emission reductions target can be achieved by addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation through sustainable management of forests, proper land use planning, providing access to alternate energy, promoting private forestry and providing alternative livelihoods for local communities and indigenous people while ensuring social and environmental safeguards. The programme will also protect and improve critical tiger habitat and improve community well-being. By generating results-based payments, the programme will catalyse further development of REDD+ capacity and implementation while simultaneously advancing the national readiness process.

WWF was a key partner of the government in the entire ER-PIN development process, delivering technical expertise and financial support for the process.

"WWF Nepal strongly believes that together we can achieve so much more," stated Anil Manandhar, Country Representative of WWF-Nepal. "This new development for Nepal will help build new partnerships with the government, local communities, indigenous people, experts, civil society, academia and donors while strengthening existing ones."

Along with Nepal, ER-PINs from Ghana and the Democratic Republic of Congo were also selected from among six countries that included Chile, Mexico, the Republic of Congo and Peru. As next

steps, the government of Nepal will work with numerous stakeholders, partners and the national REDD+ Working Group to develop an Emission Reduction Programme Document (ER-PD) based on the submitted ER-PIN. The World Bank has allocated US\$650,000 for Nepal to partially support the development of the ER-PD.

The Nepalese delegation at CF9 included representatives from the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Department of Forests, NEFIN, REDD Cell and WWF-Nepal.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO ACCEPTED INTO WORLD BANK CARBON FUND "PIPELINE" TO ADVANCE REDD+ WORK

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Emission Reductions Programme Idea Note (ER-PIN) was provisionally approved last week in Brussels, Belgium, by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's (FCPF) Carbon Fund, which is administered by the World Bank. DRC's programme would be one of the first jurisdictional-scale REDD+ programmes in Africa, including approximately ten million hectares of forest and two and a half million hectares of mixed agricultural lands and savannah.

Joining the Carbon Fund's "pipeline" will now make available up to US\$650,000 to support the World Bank's "due diligence" process and development of a full programme proposal worth up to US\$60 million to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in western DRC. As a next step, DRC was asked to revise its proposed approach to measuring emission reductions before moving forward with full programme development.

NEWS *(Continued)*

The programme will focus on Mai-Ndombe, a region on the front lines of deforestation and degradation in the Congo Basin, given its proximity to the rapidly growing city of Kinshasa. It includes the world's largest Ramsar site as well as critical habitat of the endangered bonobo—a great ape that lives only in DRC. WWF has supported many initiatives to improve livelihoods and support conservation goals in this critical region, including working with local communities in participatory mapping of lands and land use.

“This represents an exciting new approach to forest management in the Congo,” said Raymond Lumbuenamo, WWF-DRC National Coordinator. “It will set up a long-term programme for protecting forests across an area the size of Greece, and, more important, for improving livelihoods and indigenous tenure and dealing with issues related to illegal logging.”

The Mai-Ndombe programme was designed by the government REDD+ agency CN-REDD, with support from WWF, Wildlife Works Carbon and the local NGO umbrella group, the Groupe de Travail Climat REDD (GTCR).

“The implementation of the REDD+ process is an important opportunity for the DRC to embark on a long-term economic and social low-carbon development process without sacrificing our forest resources,” said Victor Kabengale, REDD+ National Coordinator for CN-REDD. “The innovative lessons that we have learned and will learn in this very exciting process will be shared with other developing tropical forest countries, especially those in the Congo Basin region.”

While there are major challenges to advancing conservation and sustainable development in DRC and the Congo

Basin more broadly, including limited governance, illegal trade in timber and limited law enforcement capacity, WWF views this as a unique opportunity to support an initiative that, if successful, can improve livelihoods and advance conservation in the Mai-Ndombe region.

“The Mai-Ndombe programme represents an unprecedented scale of climate action and protects one of the most important areas for biodiversity in Africa. We are thrilled that we can continue to support the DRC government and collaborators in this important work,” said WWF REDD+ Landscape Director Paul Chatterton.

WWF gratefully acknowledges the support of our donors in this work, especially the government of Norway and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

CREATION OF THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY MARKS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN MADRE DE DIOS, PERU

According to GOREMAD's Natural Resources and Environment Management, this is the first step toward building a regional strategy based on sustainable use and natural resources conservation, particularly in the forests of Madre de Dios. These ecosystems contribute to the well-being of local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as to the well-being of over 5,000 families—including indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation.

“The creation of the Regional Environmental Authority (ARA) entails the implementation of rights and effective capacity of the government in three levels: standardize, regulate and manage public affairs within its competency, in this particular case related to environmental competences and landscape planning,” states Ronald Rojas Villalobos, GOREMAD's Natural Resources and Environment Regional Manager.

ARA MDD seeks to a) develop a sound regional environmental management based on ecosystems and sustainable development in order to improve the quality of life of local dwellers; b) foster public participation, as well as intersectoral and interinstitutional coordination, through the Regional Environmental Commission; c) promote a landscape and intercultural approach to ease formal access to natural resources use; and d) consolidate institutionalism at the regional level to ensure the legal framework enforcement in terms of environment and rights to a healthy planet.

GOREMAD and WWF-Peru support the capacity building and provide technical advice for implementing a policy and institutional framework in Madre de Dios, according to a sustainable vision. WWF-Peru was part of the technical supporting group for creating the ARA, together with other civil society organizations, such as AIDER, Pronaturaleza, ACCA, Caritas, GIZ, Proyecto Perubosques and SPDA.

It has also been provided with support and coordination from the Amazon Interregional Council (CIAM), in which a specific proposal was developed according to the local and regional reality of Madre de Dios. This was based on a technical and legal analysis of the functions and tasks related to environment and natural resources.

NEWS *(Continued)*

DEFORESTATION RATES IN THE HEART OF BORNEO WORRYING, YET HOPE REMAINS

Forest cover in the Heart of Borneo (HoB) continues to shrink. Seven years after the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam signed the Heart of Borneo Declaration to conserve one of the most important areas of tropical rainforest in the world, analysis by WWF shows deforestation rates in the Heart of Borneo have actually increased between 2007 and 2012. Nevertheless, the results also indicate that there is still time for governments and non-government organizations to significantly improve their impact to prevent forest loss affecting species survival and ensure the provision of ecosystem services to the people of Borneo.

The Environmental Status Report of the Heart of Borneo 2014 is the second edition of the report on the ecological health of the Heart of Borneo conducted by WWF. It focuses on the use of satellite imagery to monitor changes in different forest types inside and outside the HoB boundary as well as assessing the likely impacts on priority species and the drivers that are forcing the change.

The report finds that, although the Heart of Borneo is faring better than the island of Borneo as a whole, 10 per cent or 2 million hectares of the Heart of Borneo forests have disappeared since the Declaration was signed in 2007. Some continued deforestation was to be expected, as much of the HoB consists of working production landscapes, but if deforestation continues at the current rates, many of the forest types will fall below the levels identified by experts as the minimal levels required to maintain ecological function.

The key reason for forest loss is the conversion of natural forest concessions to non-forest uses such as plantations. Fires are another pressure, and some losses are caused by illegal land clearance (such as incursions into protected areas).

The report indicates that the Bornean elephants that range between Sabah and Kalimantan are losing significant areas of habitat due to the deforestation. Changes in hydrology can also have impacts on millions of people who depend on the watersheds and rivers in the forests of the HoB protect.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT: bit.ly/1p1f5NE



Is mass forest restoration a real possibility for Indonesia?

WWF CAUTIOUSLY WELCOMES THE RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION INITIATIVE ANNOUNCED TODAY BY THE SINAR MAS GROUP'S ASIA PULP & PAPER (APP)

By declaring its intention to restore and support conservation of one million hectares of natural forest and other ecosystems in Sumatra and Kalimantan, APP has substantially strengthened the Forest Conservation Policy it announced in February 2013.

The initiative will require collaboration with other land managers, communities, government agencies and NGOs in the landscapes listed by APP in its announcement. Much analysis, innovation and consultation with many parties will be required to translate APP's promise into effective restoration and conservation measures.



Gate to the Heart of Borneo, Sebangau National Park, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia

NEWS *(Continued)*

WWF will continue discussions with APP and other stakeholders to offer input on potential implementation approaches, priorities and development of a time-bound action plan for achieving real conservation impacts.

“WWF and other NGOs have identified the lack of attention to APP’s deforestation legacy as a major shortcoming in the original Forest Conservation Policy,” said Rod Taylor, Director of WWF’s Global Forest Programme.

“We are encouraged by this announcement and look forward to working with APP and other stakeholders to figure out the details of where and how forests will be restored and conserved under this initiative.”

APP’s new conservation and restoration commitment represents an area roughly equivalent to the total area of pulp plantations APP currently manages. Sumatra NGO coalition Eyes on the Forest, of which WWF-Indonesia is a member, estimates that APP and its wood suppliers have cleared more than two million hectares of tropical forest since beginning operations 30 years ago.

“Abandoning deforestation after the damage is done cannot be all that it takes to be considered a responsible player,” said Aditya Bayunanda Forest Commodities Market Transformation Program Leader of WWF-Indonesia.

“APP’s commitment to undertake conservation and restoration at landscape scale is encouraging, though decisions on how this is done will need to involve local authorities, communities and other stakeholders,” concluded Bayunanda.

WWF INTERVIEW WITH RODRIGO DE LA CRUZ, TECHNICAL COORDINATOR OF ICAA/COICA PROJECT



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Rodrigo de la Cruz, Technical Coordinator of ICAA/COICA Project.

Last February, the WWF Living Amazon Initiative (LAI) and the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations in the Amazon (COICA) signed a memorandum of understanding to implement a regional vision for conservation of the Amazon, taking into account all the work that COICA and its national organizations have been doing. This includes sharing experiences, information and knowledge on conservation and sustainable management of protected areas and indigenous territories. In this interview with Rodrigo de la Cruz, Technical Coordinator of Initiative for the Conservation of the Andean Amazon (ICAA)/COICA Project, we explore the role of indigenous peoples in the conservation of the Amazon.

(Reporting by Tarsicio Granizo, WWF-LAI)

[MORE: bit.ly/Sbr1QX](https://bit.ly/Sbr1QX)

OTHER NEWS

NEW STUDY CONFIRMS “REMARKABLE SOCIAL PROGRESS” WHEN FORESTS ARE FSC-CERTIFIED

Forests that are FSC-certified for their sustainable management provide more benefits to communities than uncertified forests, according to a new study of Congo Basin logging concessions by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR).

[MORE: bit.ly/1oNCOQn](https://bit.ly/1oNCOQn)

ACRE AND GOLIATH: ONE BRAZILIAN STATE STRUGGLES TO END DEFORESTATION

Located in the heart of the Amazon, Acre, Brazil, contains just over 15 million hectares of land, most of which the state has managed to keep intact. However, its conservation efforts remain challenged by high economic reliance on agricultural, ranching and forestry/forest products and a comparatively small economy compared with other Brazilian states (Acre is the third-smallest of 27 states). Acre is now on a mission to solve the problem through a comprehensive payment for an environmental services programme, starting with carbon finance.

[MORE: bit.ly/U9933k](https://bit.ly/U9933k)

US GOVERNMENT PUTS FINANCIAL MUSCLE BEHIND REDD+ FOREST CARBON CONSERVATION PROJECTS

In an announcement made during the Carbon Expo conference in Cologne, Germany, Secretary of State John Kerry said the US Agency for International Development (USAID) will lend up to US\$133.8 million to the Althelia Climate Fund for REDD+ carbon conservation projects and “sustainable land use” initiatives like ecotourism and agroforestry.

[MORE: bit.ly/1iFK10Q](https://bit.ly/1iFK10Q)

BETTER INFORMATION FLOWS NEEDED FOR REDD+ MONITORING, REPORT SAYS

Harmonizing the flow of information between local, national and international institutions remains a key challenge to projects aimed at reducing carbon emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (known as REDD+), according to a recent analysis. The study cites obstacles and opportunities for monitoring, verifying and reporting measurable, reportable and verifiable (MRV) emissions reductions in three countries with REDD+ programmes.

MORE: bit.ly/1iPs93F

LOGGING, FIRES TAKE A HIDDEN TOLL ON AMAZON RAINFOREST

Selective logging and small sub-canopy fires are degrading vast areas of rainforest across the Brazilian Amazon and contributing to largely hidden carbon emissions, argues a study published today in *Global Change Biology*.

MORE: bit.ly/1h4mnjp

INDIA GOES GREEN, DRAFTS POLICY TO LOWER CARBON EMISSIONS

The Indian government's Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has released the first draft of a policy that may nudge the nation into complying with the United Nation's REDD+ programme. The programme is a collaborative initiative comprising numerous partner countries from around the world. REDD stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest

Degradation. The initiative was launched back in 2008 with the aim of reducing deforestation by providing monetary incentives to help communities that depend on forests for their livelihoods.

MORE: bit.ly/1iX4u6b

FSC IN THE GREATER MEKONG REGION: PAST THE HALF-MILLION HECTARE MARK, BUT WHERE TO NEXT?

On 9 May 2014, FSC reached a milestone in the Greater Mekong region with the certification of 33,149 hectares of mostly natural forest in central Vietnam managed by the Truong Son State Forest Enterprise. This brought the total area certified under FSC forest management standards in the region to 503,820ha, almost 13 years after the very first certification in Thailand in 2001. Further progress in Vietnam has since raised the total to more than 531,000ha.

MORE: bit.ly/1kKSq87

WWF REDD+ SCORECARD

40TH UNFCCC SBSTA, BONN 2013 June 2014

Issue / SBSTA Mandate	WWF REDD+ Expectations	Results	Score
Non-Market-based Approaches (NMBAs) <p>» Consideration of methodological guidance for non-market-based approaches;</p>	<p>» REDD+ can bring climate benefits in both, adaptation and mitigation, Parties should recognize and encourage the dual mitigation and adaptation benefits of REDD+ activities, when appropriate, when designing and implementing REDD+ strategies (e.g. in the form of joint mitigation and adaptation interventions at the national and subnational level).</p>	<p>No consensus reached:</p> <p>» SBSTA to continue its consideration of the development of methodological guidance on NMBAs at SBSTA 41 (December 2014).</p>	
Non-Carbon-Benefits (NCBs) <p>» Consideration of issues referred to in decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 40 (methodological issues related to non-carbon benefits resulting from the implementation of REDD-plus).</p>	<p>» Parties need to reaffirm the importance of incentivizing non-carbon benefits at the national/subnational level for the long-term sustainability of REDD+ activities by encouraging developing countries, which are implementing REDD+, to prioritize areas of intervention that can provide benefits beyond carbon.</p>	<p>» SBSTA agreed to continue its considerations of methodological issues related to NCBs at SBSTA 42 (May/June 2015)</p>	

- Progress
- Stalled Progress
- No Progress

GLOSSARY

REDD+: Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

RL: Reference Level.

SBSTA: UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

UPCOMING EVENTS

27-29 AUGUST 2014
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
**WHO CONFERENCE ON HEALTH
AND CLIMATE**

bit.ly/1oRViCN

30-31 AUGUST 2014
NEW DELHI, INDIA
**AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, HORTICULTURE,
AQUACULTURE, ANIMAL SCIENCES,
FOOD TECHNOLOGY, BIODIVERSITY
AND CLIMATE CHANGE SUSTAINABLE
APPROACHES**

bit.ly/1rHuebn

7-14 SEPTEMBER 2014
SEVILLE, SPAIN
**FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL GENERAL
ASSEMBLY 2014**

bit.ly/SqUCX1

21-23 SEPTEMBER 2014
CAMBRIDGE, UNITED KINGDOM
16TH ANNUAL BIOECON CONFERENCE

bit.ly/1o44wK0

22-23 SEPTEMBER 2014
NEW YORK CITY, USA
**UN WORLD CONFERENCE ON
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

bit.ly/Tach5Y

23 SEPTEMBER 2014
NEW YORK CITY, USA
2014 CLIMATE SUMMIT

bit.ly/1cYYcBg

3-5 OCTOBER 2014
CHAMBA, INDIA
**DEVELOPMENT, BIODIVERSITY,
AND CLIMATE CHANGE:
ISSUES AND CHALLENGES**

bit.ly/1hvFgfE

5-11 OCTOBER 2014
SALT LAKE CITY, UT, USA
**XXIV INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
FOREST RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS
WORLD CONGRESS**

bit.ly/1h3ZWLo

13-17 OCTOBER 2014
DARMSTADT, GERMANY
CLIMATE SYMPOSIUM 2014

bit.ly/Ta1aKb

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	<p>Why we are here To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. www.panda.org/forestclimate</p>
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