

Servicios SinergiA Ambientales

Boletín técnico de redes de servicios ambientales en Ibero-América



Dear Readers,



Dear Readers,

Given the wealth of new material that has been produced since the COP15 in Copenhagen, the first SinergiA in 2010 is once again dedicated to the topic of REDD. Despite widespread and grumpy disapproval of the COP15 outcomes, Pablo Martínez de Anguita was able to see the bright side of things while Jacob Olander provides practical recommendations for REDD projects to anticipate the development of REDD towards national implementation. We recommend all readers that did not have the chance to take a look at the previous SinergiA edition to visit our new overview page at <http://www.katoombagroup.org/newsletter.php>, where all SinergiA issues are now available for consultation.

Sincerely,

The SinergiA Networks

[Download this newsletter as a PDF](#)

Jan Borner
Iniciativa Amazonica

Andrea Garzon
RISAS

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OPINION

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FORESTS: WINNERS OF THE COPENHAGEN SUMMIT

2/2010

by Pablo Martínez de Anguita, Director of the Latin American Network of Payments for Ecosystem Services

Last December in Copenhagen, world leaders agreed that the reduction of deforestation is a highly worthwhile method of reducing greenhouse emissions. This was in keeping with the recommendations of the Stern Report that quantified deforestation emissions as more than 18% of global emissions, a percentage even higher than that produced by the world's transportation sector. Thus, in the sixth paragraph of the agreement, the participants recognized the crucial role of the reduction in emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD, English acronym). They agreed to create positive incentives through the immediate establishment of mechanisms such as REDD in order to guarantee financial resources for developing countries. The financing for REDD projects represent the first massive mobilization of world funds capable of saving the tropical forests that are currently disappearing at a frightening rate.

A REDD mechanism is a type of "Payment for Ecosystem Services" in which the developed countries finance those that are still developing. The goal is to develop strategies and policies that guarantee the effective management and preservation of forests, resulting in carbon compliance and conservation on an international scale. REDD mechanisms are characterized by their "Atmospheric Integrity" for promoting a stabilization of CO₂ in the atmosphere. They are characterized by their "Ecological Integrity" for helping to improve biodiversity and other ecosystem functions of the forests, such as the provision of water and food. REDD mechanisms are also known for their "Social Integrity" for recognizing, protecting, and respecting the rights of the indigenous people and local communities while assuring them that they can develop their means of living while participating in the benefits of REDD.



The challenges faced by REDD will be complex. In the majority of the countries where REDD will be applied, land ownership is rarely guaranteed. Even when it is guaranteed, it is not necessarily in favor of the local communities or original indigenous people of the region who could effectively oversee the proper management of forest resources. It

is also not clear that REDD mechanisms will, in and of themselves, reduce rural poverty which is responsible in great measure for forest deterioration. More concretely, the FAO estimates that 95% of forests in Africa belong to the government, which tends to give forest concessions to foreign companies rather than to local communities whose ancestors have inhabited the area. For this reason, practically all the authors agree that it is impossible to develop this mechanism in countries without adequate forest management. Until these three matters can be resolved, it will be practically impossible to stop deforestation.

Maybe we cannot say that the "Copenhagen Agreement" represented the beginning of the end of climate change. Nevertheless, 30 billion dollars have already been committed until 2012 to assist less developed countries while another 100 billion dollars are foreseeable annually from private and public sources. If part of this money could be applied now to facilitate the structures that would make payments for ecosystem services sustainable, fair on the local level, verifiable on the international level and capable of channeling future funds, it would put an end to at least some of the disappearance of the planet's tropical forests.

THE END OF REDD PROJECTS?

Thursday, February 25th
By Jacob Olander

The Climate Change Conference in Bali held in December of 2007 unleashed a boom of interest in REDD projects. For the first time, a consensus was reached in international negotiations regarding the importance of financing, on a large scale and as part of the larger climate change agreement, the reduction of emissions caused by deforestation in tropical countries. There was consensus that a roadmap was needed to reach definitive norms in Copenhagen last December.

With this green light - or at least yellow - NGOs, investors, and others saw a real possibility of financing that could tip the scales in favor of forest preservation. They began to design projects all over the world. There is no exact data on how many projects are currently under development and awaiting financing from the carbon markets. The numbers, however, are in the dozens if not hundreds.

While some tend to think of REDD as a mechanism based on projects and the carbon markets, the future of REDD projects becomes less clear each day. The initial enthusiasm has obviously diminished somewhat after the scarcity of results in Copenhagen but other trends also undermine the outlook for such projects.

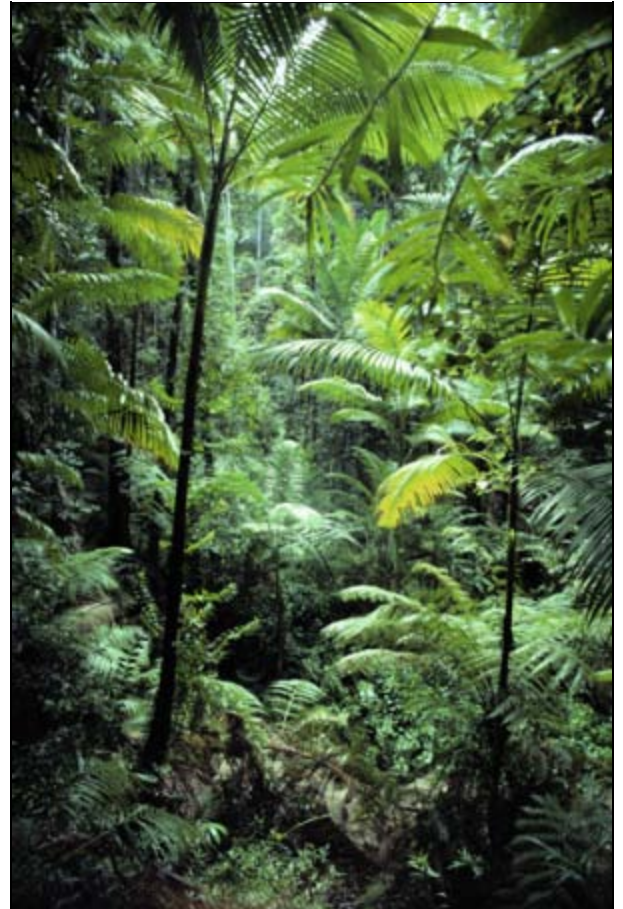
In international negotiations and diverse national proposals, there is more and more emphasis being placed on models that involve the use of public funds with the addition of market mechanisms in the more distant future, after 2015 or beyond. Possibly due to the governmental nature of the negotiators, the focus of these models is on the importance of investments that create capabilities and actions developed by governmental entities - programs and policies on a national or local scale (states, provinces, or departments.)

What does this focus mean for projects? The answer is not clear but there does seem to be a consensus reflected in recent decisions made by the CMCCC, in legislative proposals in the US, and in the state of California. The consensus appears to be that, in order to be included, the projects must be linked in some way to accounting models for the reduction of emissions on a local or national level. In principal, this would give more integrity to emissions accounting of the reductions and limit the risk of "leakage".

However, this also involves huge challenges and a complicated gap, given that the capability of some projects is far ahead of national governments' capability for monitoring, reporting and verification. Can we give ourselves the luxury of waiting until some undefined future phase, as suggested by a recent decision from the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, to evolve toward evidence-based practices? While countries are developing their national capabilities in order to produce results, we continue to lose more than 100,000 square kilometers of forest per year.

If these trends continue, will there be space and financing for these projects? It can be a very discouraging panorama for investment. National programs and policies are indispensable to the development of distinct development models with less deforestation. But these projects - local initiatives that allow for the development of innovative endeavors - are a key contact point between financing and action, being both tangible and attractive for private investment. Mechanisms must be sought that can coordinate local and national efforts.

The voluntary carbon market would appear to be an alternative, since it apparently does not depend on the complex international and government norms. Nevertheless, the voluntary market is changing, gearing itself more and more toward investments that hope to be recognized under eventual regulated models ("pre-compliance) and a lower percentage toward the purchase of credits that are exclusively motivated by environmental consciousnesses or social responsibility. It is undeniable that in order to truly have the type of large impact needed to confront deforestation, this would require going a step further than the voluntary funding that moved US\$37 million in 2008, while facing REDD needs that could run anywhere between US\$10 billion and US\$30 billion per year.



It is becoming increasingly necessary for those who are developing these projects as well as investors to think beyond project limits if they hope to have credibility and feasibility. Projects as isolated efforts will have increasingly fewer possibilities for success. The urgent task at hand is for projects and regional authorities to share the work of developing technical, legal, and financial mechanisms that allow for links between projects, national models and diverse sources of international financing. These links are necessary if the projects wish to remain viable and if the efforts of REDD are to generate results.

Initiatives undertaken by the state governments of the Brazilian Amazon, the state of California, and the processes that have begun to take place in some departments in Peru, among others, are steps in the right direction.

PROJECTS

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FOREST CARBON PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA: TRENDS IN 2009

2009

'The State of the Forest Carbon Markets Report 2009: Taking Root & Branching Out', provides a review of REDD and forest carbon transactions and projects over a 20 year period. Here is a glimpse of what they discovered about forest carbon transactions in Latin America historically:

- ▶ Latin America with 3.9 MtCO₂ sold was on top of the list of places where the most transacted credits originated.
- ▶ 19 projects in the region accounted for 22% of global transactions.
- ▶ Transaction values over time in Latin America are the global high: \$29.6 million at volume weighted average price of \$9.59/tCO₂, which increased to \$11.48/tCO₂ by mid-2009.
- ▶ Latin America has the second largest land area influenced by carbon finance: 669,952 hectares.

While Latin America clearly remains a leader in forest carbon for 2009, over half (53%) of Latin America's forestry-based offsets were transacted prior to 2002. These offsets accounted for a staggering 70% of all forestry offsets worldwide in that period. Therefore, Latin America's overall global share of forest carbon transactions has decreased from 70% to 22% over the past 7 years.

To read an extended analysis of global data and to learn of possible reasons for this shift, please use the below link to 'The State of the Forest Carbon Markets Report 2009: Taking Root & Branching Out'.

http://moderncms.ecosystemmarketplace.com/repository/moderncms_documents/SFCM.pdf

CIFORS GLOBAL COMPARATIVE REDD STUDY

2010

In 2010, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) is initiating its activities for the Comparative Global Study of initiatives for the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (GCS-REDD). The project, whose principal donor is the Norwegian Development Corporation, will initially be carried out in countries such as Brazil, Bolivia, Cameroon, Tanzania, Indonesia, and Vietnam. At least three more countries, one of them in Latin America, will enter the project by 2012.

The work is divided into four simultaneous, inter-related components. These involve an analysis of REDD policies and procedures, observation and documentation of implementation activities and projects and their impact, the development of reference levels and monitoring, and wide dissemination of research results.

<http://www.forestclimatechange.org/survey.html>

MACC PROJECT PREPARES FOR REDD IN PERU

2010, Peru

Since 2008, Peru has been strengthening its efforts for climate change adaptation and mitigation through MACC (Preservation of Biodiversity in the Protected Natural Areas of Peru for the Mitigation and Planned Adaptation to Climate Change).

Now in its second phase, the project is extending its reach to more than 25,686 square kilometers that make up 6 Protected Natural Areas. These areas are located in the central zone of the Peruvian Amazon and form part of the country's National System of Protected Natural Areas.

The objective is to avoid greenhouse emissions and stop the deforestation that is currently taking place in this part of the Peruvian Amazon. The two main strategies being used are optimized management of protected areas including buffer zones, and the promotion of sustainable production alternatives compatible with conservation. The goal is to reduce the impact on the forest of the targeted population within the scope of the project.



Selva Central en la Amazonía Peruana: área de implementación del proyecto MACC (Foto: Angel Armas)

This will be carried out via an efficient coordination among institutions, and will be implemented by the Ministry of the Environment, the National Service for Protected Natural Areas (SERNANP) and the Peruvian Trust Fund for Natural Parks and Protected Areas (PROFONAPE). The project is made possible by the German Financial Cooperation through KfW and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Security - BMU by its German acronym.

To read more [CLICK HERE](#)

REDD+ STANDARDS

2010

At least two initiatives are in place to develop social and environmental standards for REDD projects and programs which would simultaneously contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of the forests while increasing forest carbon levels (REDD+):

- 1) The Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA) and CARE International are facilitating the process of developing standards for a new regime of REDD+ for programs led by governments and implemented at national level or at state/province/regional level: <http://www.climate-standards.org/REDD+>
- 2) Representatives of different sectors involved in REDD in Brazil are collaborating on the elaboration Principles and Socioenvironmental Criteria of REDD+ for Brazil: <http://www.reddsocioambiental.org.br>

TOOLS AND METHODOLOGIES

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THE ORISIS TOOL FOR COMPARATIVE REDD COST ASSESSMENT

OSIRIS—A spreadsheet tool to support REDD+ design
Jonah Busch, Ph.D., Conservation International

The Collaborative Modeling Initiative on REDD+ Economics has developed a free, transparent, open source Excel spreadsheet tool to support international discussions on designing a REDD+ mechanism. This tool, the Open Source Impacts of REDD+ Incentive Spreadsheet (OSIRIS), allows users to compare the climate, deforestation and cost impacts of alternative approaches to REDD+ finance, scope and reference levels.

Users can make adjustments to data inputs and assumptions surrounding REDD+ reference level design, carbon price, transaction cost, national readiness costs, soil carbon, institutional hurdles to country participation, global demand for frontier agriculture, and time period of REDD+ implementation.

At the click of a button, OSIRIS will output country-by-country emission reductions (tCO₂e/yr), deforestation (ha/yr), revenue from REDD+ (\$/yr), and cost-efficiency of emissions reductions (\$/tCO₂e/yr),



Research findings based on OSIRIS, published in “Comparing climate and cost impacts of reference levels for reducing emissions from deforestation,” Environmental Research Letters 4:044006, show that a REDD+ mechanism can provide cost-efficient climate change mitigation benefits under a broad range of reference level designs. The most cost-effective REDD+ reference level designs balance incentives to reduce historically high deforestation emissions with incentives to maintain historically low deforestation emissions. A REDD+ mechanism can provide greater emissions reductions when coupled with complementary strategies to supply agricultural needs outside of the forest frontier.

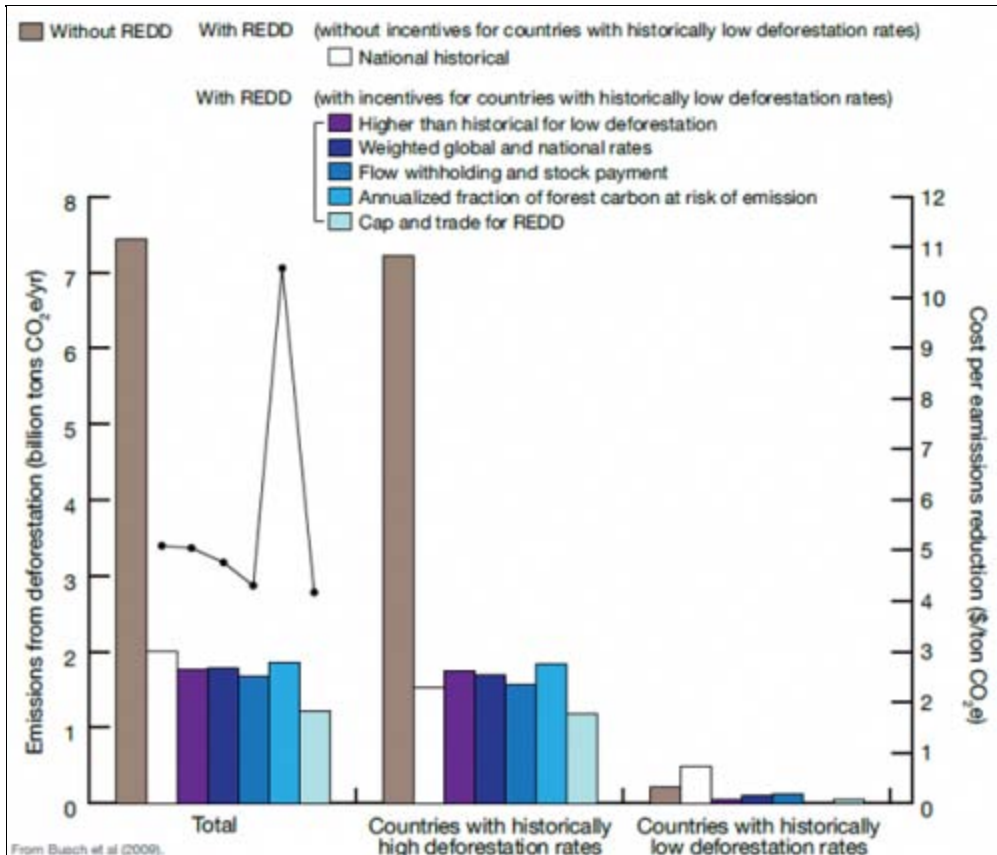


Figure. The most effective and cost-effective REDD+ reference level designs balance incentives for reducing historically high deforestation emissions with incentives for maintaining historically low deforestation emissions (Busch et al, 2009)Screen Capture of OSIRIS v3.1.

The economic model on which OSIRIS is based is an 85-country partial equilibrium in which agriculture and timber compete with forest for the use of tropical frontier land. OSIRIS incorporates leakage of deforestation and country-specific incentives to participate in REDD+ based on carbon and commodity prices and REDD+ reference levels. OSIRIS is calibrated using data on forest cover, forest loss, forest carbon density, soil carbon density, and returns to agriculture and timber.

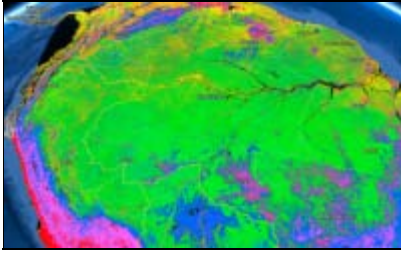
OSIRIS is a product of the Collaborative Modeling Initiative for REDD+ Economics, a consortium of Conservation International (CI), the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), the Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC), the Terrestrial Carbon Group (TCG), and the University of East Anglia (UEA). Partners include the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), the World Resources Institute (WRI), the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). OSIRIS is freely available at <http://www.conservation.org/OSIRIS>.

Currently in development are customized OSIRIS spreadsheet and GIS tools to let stakeholders compare estimated impacts of national REDD+ economic incentive designs in Indonesia, Peru and Madagascar. These incentive designs can include benefit sharing arrangements, sub-national baselines, nested accounting, sectoral regulations and incentives, and local land-use policies.

For more information please contact Jonah Busch, jbusch@conservation.org

THE CARNEGIE LANDSAT ANALYSIS SYSTEM – LITE (CLASLITE)

10 December 2010



The Carnegie Landsat Analysis System – Lite (CLASlite) is a software package designed for highly automated identification of deforestation and forest degradation from remotely sensed satellite imagery. Developed by Gregory Asner and his team at the Carnegie Institution, CLASlite incorporates state-of-the-art research in remote sensing into a simple, user-friendly yet powerful tool for non-profit institutions and governments in need of technologies for forest monitoring and environmental planning.

<http://claslite.ciw.edu/en/index.html>

PUBLICATIONS

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REDD IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

December 2009

A new publication by the Global Forest Coalition, "REDD Realities: How Strategies to Reduce emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation could impact on Biodiversity and Indigenous Peoples in Developing Countries" takes a detailed look at the treatment of indigenous people and biodiversity issues in REDD talks using case studies in 7 different developing countries. A list of seven key concerns points to the general conclusion that the REDD debate must account for policy coherence with respect to the main legally binding agreements related to forests including Article 4.1 of the UNFCCC, the Convention on Biological Diversity and human rights instruments such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP).

To read more: <http://www.globalforestcoalition.org/img/userpics/File/publications/REDD-Realities.pdf>



PAYMENTS FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES FOR FOREST CONSERVATION IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

November 2009

This study, titled "Payments for Ecosystem Services for Forest Conservation in the Peruvian Amazon: a Viability Study," is the first to quantitatively evaluate the use of PSA to achieve REDD in the Peruvian Amazon.

Commissioned by the National Service of Protected Natural Areas (SERNANP, Spanish acronym) and the Peruvian Trust Fund for Natural Parks and Protected Areas (PROFONANPE, Spanish acronym), this study suggests that PSA type conservation incentives can be applied in accordance with the country's environmental laws. Favorable economic conditions exist for PSA to be viable in the majority of the region. However, few areas have the necessary land ownership regulations to make PSA viable in the near future.

Link: <http://www.actualidadambiental.pe/?p=3495>

WHAT DOES COPENHAGEN MEAN FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN REDD-PLUS?

12/31/2009

The Copenhagen Accord recognized the need for a mechanism to funnel money into projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation while promoting conservation, enhancement of forest carbon stocks and sustainable forest management (REDD+). [Maria](#)

Bendana digs into the latest negotiating text and offers a detailed summary of the most relevant sections and analyzes what the outcome means for private sector engagement.

REDD DESIGN AND EQUITY IMPACTS

01/2010
Conservation Letters

The collaborative publication "REDD payments as incentive for reducing forest loss" on the prospects of REDD makes a case for limiting REDD to avoiding old growth forest loss and points to potentially negative equity outcomes of payment schemes in the context of southwestern Ghana, where most REDD-eligible forests are controlled by wealthy farms.

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/123245524/abstract>

REDD TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF FOREST PEOPLE?

01/2010
Rights & Resources Initiative

The report "[The End of the Hinterland: Forests, Conflict and Climate Change](#)" argues that lack of internationally binding rules for REDD could create a 'Wild West' environment in which forest people rights and needs are being ignored by uncontrolled REDD initiatives.

CASEBOOK OF REDD PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA

IDESAM & TNC

This casebook was developed by the Institute for Conservation and Sustainable Development of Amazonas (Idesam) in partnership with The Nature Conservancy-Brazil (TNC-Brazil). It offers a streamlined and practical approach to presenting REDD pilot projects and initiatives that are being developed in Latin American countries.

<http://www.idesam.org.br/noticias/cop15/casebook-web.pdf>

THE REDD OPPORTUNITIES SCOPING EXERCISE (ROSE)

Katoomba Incubator



The Katoomba Incubator has developed a tool called the REDD Opportunities Scoping Exercise (ROSE). ROSE is a tool to classify and prioritise potential REDD+ subnational activities, and assess critical constraints to project development, especially those associated with the national legal and institutional framework for carbon finance.

At the national level, ROSE assessments provide a rapid qualitative analysis (based on expert opinion) to identify key emissions abatement opportunities across different forest contexts. At the sub-national level, ROSE is a pre-cursor to the costly process of pre-feasibility and feasibility analysis. It provides a framework for a programmatic approach to REDD in which sub-national activities respond to strategic and market requirements. ROSE also recognizes the need to address policy or 'macro' level constraints to 'micro' level success; the three ROSE studies have therefore invested considerable efforts in assessing legal and institutional constraints (and opportunities) to carbon finance.

This briefing presents the ROSE approach and process as applied in Tanzania, Uganda and Ghana in 2009.

<http://www.katoombagroup.org/events/ROSE.pdf>

PRO-POOR REDD – HOW WILL WE KNOW?: SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF LAND-BASED CARBON ACTIVITIES

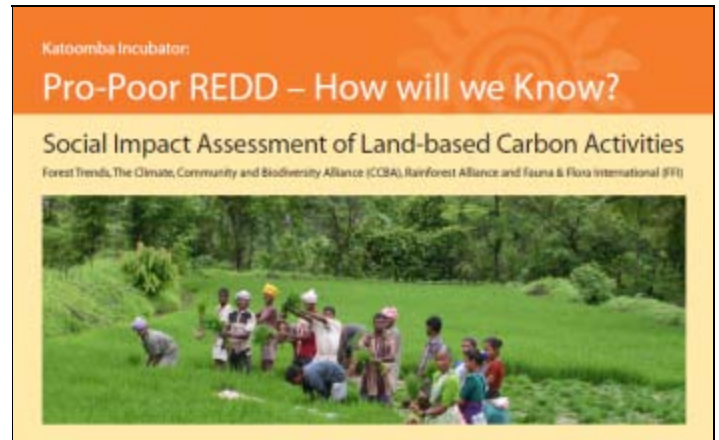
Katoomba Incubator

This briefing presents an initiative to support the cost-effective design of land-based carbon projects by developing a user-friendly manual for cost-

effective social impact assessment of multiple-benefit carbon projects. The initiative is being developed by a partnership of Forest Trends, the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance, Rainforest Alliance, and Fauna and Flora International, who combine expertise and experience in carbon finance, standard setting, auditing, and project development.

The social impact assessment (SIA) manual is being developed to accompany the Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, the most prominent and widely respected standards for the co-benefits of land-based carbon projects. It aims to help project developers monitor the socio-economic impacts of their projects, and meet the verification requirements of the CCB or other comparable Standards. The concepts described in this manual will be relevant to a wide range of site-level land-based carbon activities, whether designed for compliance or voluntary markets.

http://www.katoombagroup.org/events/pro-poor_redd.pdf



'LANDMARK' LEGAL OPINION FINDS THAT INDIGENOUS BRAZILIAN TRIBE IN AMAZON OWNS CARBON RIGHTS

12/10/2009

Ecosystem Marketplace

In December, Forest Trends released a [landmark legal opinion](#) by the Baker & McKenzie law firm which concluded that the Surui and, by extension, other indigenous peoples in Brazil have clear carbon ownership rights in their demarcated territories. The Surui, a tribe of 1200, just came into contact with Brazilians of European descent only 40 years ago and have decided to pursue international carbon finance as a way to protect their territory in the Amazon Basin.

Working with partners Kanindé, IDESAM, and the Amazon Conservation Team, the Katoomba Group Incubator is providing technical support for the Surui to develop and implement a REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) project in their territory. This work demonstrates that the territorial rights of the Brazilian indigenous peoples strengthened with the recognition of their stewardship over carbon stock, and that governments worldwide should recognize the contribution of indigenous populations towards the conservation of local forests and their ecosystem services.

OPPORTUNITIES

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LACEEP -LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS PROGRAM RESEARCH GRANTS NOW SEEKING PROPOSALS

2010

Research grants available for junior researchers, citizens of Latin American and Caribbean nations. Grants of up to \$15,000 USD. Deadline for preliminary 2 page proposal is 22 March, 2010.

Link: http://www.laceep.org/images/stories/x_call_for_proposal/x_-_call_for_research_proposals.pdf

To visit their website: <http://www.laceep.org/>

PAST EVENTS

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WORKSHOP: MARKET-BASED INSTRUMENTS AND PAYMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN FORESTRY: A REAL SOLUTION?

17 December 2009

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Present latest scientific knowledge on market based instruments and PES mechanisms from the theoretical and practical perspectives
- Discuss similarities/ differences between MBI and PES schemes, define & characterize these mechanisms
- Provide new knowledge on the applicability of MBIs and PES to forestry-specific problems.

The workshop had three sessions. The first session "A close look at MBIs and PES" focused on the presentation of the latest theoretical knowledge on MBIs and PES schemes. In the second session, "MBIs and PES in practice: selected case studies as applied in forestry", several case studies from different countries illustrating the applicability of existing policy mechanisms in forestry were presented. The third session, "MBIs and PES – a curse or a cure? ", left time for an extensive discussion among key note speakers and workshop.

Click this link for a longer description of conclusions: http://www.efimed.efi.int/portal/events/mbi_and_pes_in_forestry/programme/conclusions/

DEVELOPING A REGIONAL APPROACH TO REDD

Incubator Workshop
Tarapoto, San Martin, Peru
February 10 - 11 2010

This event brought together organizations from civil societies, native communities, and local government entities to evaluate REDD's progress since Copenhagen and to draw up working plans for San Martin. It was convened by the Regional Government of San Martin and the Mesa REDD San Martin with facilitators from the Katoomba Group, Carbon Decisions, and Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA).

The event emphasized a shared work agenda for regional REDD strategies. The focus of the workshop was on the development of a baseline or reference scenario for the Department that would reconcile theories and lower the costs of individual projects while strengthening the Department's initiatives on reducing deforestation. Peru is one of the Latin American countries that is placing great emphasis on developing REDD strategies that coordinate projects on national and local levels. The meeting was sponsored by International Conservation and Amazónicos por la Amazonía.

For additional information, please contact Karina Pinasco at Amazónicos por la Amazonía, [k.pinasco\[at\]ampaperu.info](mailto:k.pinasco@ampaperu.info)
or
Jacob Olander at the Katoomba Incubator, [jolander\[at\]jcodecision.com.ec](mailto:jolander@jcodecision.com.ec)

FUTURE EVENTS

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REDD TRAINING COURSE AND PROJECT CLINIC WITH IDESAM AND CARBON DECISIONS IN MANAUS, AM BRAZIL

March 22 - 25
Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil

Development of Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) Projects and Activities



The Institute for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of Amazonas (IDESAM), in partnership with Carbon Decisions International and the Katoomba Group announces the first course entitled "Development of Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) Projects and Activities."

The course objective is to provide high-level information and training regarding the development of REDD projects and activities for decision makers and project developers in Brazil and Latin America, presenting the theoretical bases and necessary methodologies for the design of REDD projects and initiatives.

The target audience is NGOs, private companies, researchers, consultants and government actors who are involved in the design of REDD programs, policies and projects that are underway.

http://idesam.org.br/treinamento_redd.htm

INTERNATIONAL COURSE: CLIMATE CHANGE IN TROPICAL RANCHING SYSTEMS

May 17 - 21
Turrialba, Costa Rica

CATIE's third International course is devoted to Incentive Systems for Mitigation and Adaptation to the effects of climate change on livestock systems in the tropics is aimed at professionals and agronomy graduates.. The course will take place over a four day period and will include three days of theoretical lectures, and one day of practical learning. Those interested should fill out the inscription application by April 16, 2010. For more information and a link to the application form.

ABOUT US

	<p>The Amazon Initiative (IA) The Amazon Initiative International Consortium for the Conservation and Sustainable use of Natural Resources in the Amazon (AI) was launched in 2004, in line with the policy framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), with the objective of elaborating and implementing collaborative programs that identify and promote sustainable land use systems in the Amazon. Founding members of the AI include six agricultural research institutions of member Amazonian countries, four centers of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA) through its ProCitrópicos program. The AI promotes and implements training and consulting activities along with its primary research foci. In 2008, the AI launched its Amazon Initiative Eco-Regional Program (PER-IA) which aims to contribute to the improvement of rural livelihoods and conservation of Amazonian ecosystems through research for development. Currently the AI coordinating office resides in the Brazilian Eastern Amazon Agricultural Research Cooperation (EMBRAPA). http://www.iamazonica.org.br/</p>
	<p>The Network of Environmental Services Practitioners (RISAS) The Network of Environmental Services Practitioners – RISAS – was established in 2005 as a partnership of organizations and professionals dedicated to discussion, analysis and research into the financial mechanisms available for ecosystem services protection and restoration. The organization’s mission is to provide a network open to individuals and institutions involved in financial initiatives supporting ecosystem services conservation. Based in Quito, Ecuador, RISAS’ sphere of influence extends throughout the Andean region. The network uses different tools such as meetings, emails, workshops, the website and this newsletter, to support learning and discussion around current themes and experiences related to financial mechanisms for conservation and protection of environmental services. http://www.redrisas.org/quienes.php</p>
	<p>The Katoomba Group An initiative of Forest Trends, the Katoomba Group is a global network of practitioners working to promote the use and improve capacity for payment for ecosystem services (PES). Since its founding in 1999, the Katoomba Group has addressed key challenges to developing markets and payments for ecosystem services, from enabling legislation through establishment of new market institutions to testing methods for successful project design. The organization has held 15 global conferences and dozens of training workshops, published and contributed to key publications and tools, and supported the development of PES schemes, among them the BioCarbon Fund at the World Bank and the Mexican PES Fund. It has also advised national policy discussions on financial incentives for conservation in China, Brazil, India, Colombia, and other countries. In 2005, the Katoomba Group launched the Ecosystem Marketplace, a leading source of information on environmental markets. In 2006, the Tropical America regional Katoomba was formed to strengthen regional PES capacity and facilitate ecosystem services transactions throughout Latin America. http://www.katoombagroup.org/</p>
	<p>The ‘Compensation for Environmental Services’ Learning Network ((RACSA) RACSA was established in 2006 to promote dialogue around the use of economic incentives to achieve conservation objectives and improve the wellbeing of Bolivia’s poor. Through learning and networking events , and the exchange and diffusion of information in digital and print format, RACSA seeks to increase understanding of compensation for environmental services and climate change and promote the development of successful policies and initiatives. RACSA’s members include governmental, non-governmental, private, and civil society actors dedicated to the development of environmental services in Bolivia. For more information, please visit the website of the Fundación Natura Bolivia, which currently coordinates RACSA, at http://www.naturabolivia.org./</p>
	<p>REDIPASA REDIPASA is a network of researchers from Latin American countries that are involved in PES, the management of hydrological catchment areas, rural development and management policies, and natural resource conservation. Researchers work together and exchange experiences to: standardize criteria, design and execute joint research projects; produce studies that propose mechanisms to improve PES and PES methodologies; and monitoring, evaluation, and methodologies of experiences adapted to different situations. REDIPASA aims to provide regional managers with tools to facilitate rural development and environmental sustainability over a wide area, by, compensating rural inhabitants (who are often impoverished) for conservation measures. The network also hopes to develop PES models that can be replicated and expanded elsewhere in Latin America.</p>

