

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

# REDD-plus from the UNFCCC's perspective: status of play, needs and expectations

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## OUTLINE

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## Overview of the REDD process

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- Proposal by governments of PNG and Costa Rica (FCCC/CP/2005/MISC.1) calling for COP11 (Montreal, 2005) to consider possible approaches for addressing emissions from deforestation
- Differing views but Parties agreed it is an important issue. Agreed to launch process for further consideration, starting at SBSTA 24 (June 2006)
- The SBSTA, in its 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> sessions, initiated consideration of relevant scientific, technical and methodological issues, exchanged experiences and provided proposals on policy approaches and positive incentives
- COP13 adopted a decision on "Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action" (**decision 2/CP.13**)
- After Bali - Two parallel tracks of work relating to REDD:
  - a) The SBSTA initiated a programme of work on methodological issues, during which it identified the main methodological issues relating to REDD
  - b) The AWG-LCA initiated consideration of policy approach



### COP 15 Decision on Methodological Guidance

- (i) **Guidance that should be taken into account when implementing activities relating to decision 2/CP.13:**
  - a) To identify drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and the means to address them;



### REDD+: Needs and opportunities

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At an expert meeting (May 2010) on capacity-building in relation to using the IPCC guidance and guidelines for REDD+,

Some issues raised:

- Lack of data, particularly on rates of deforestation;
- Lack of activity data, particularly on forest degradation and illegal logging; lack of country-specific emission factors;
- Limitations of remote sensing, such as cloud cover, lack of capacities to analyze and interpret data, limitations to monitoring forest degradation;
- Need to improve operational side of the IPCC guidance and guidelines and make them more user-friendly;



### REDD+ under the AWG-LCA

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- In Copenhagen, Parties started to consider a draft text for a decision on REDD+  
*(REDD+ refers to "Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forest and enhancement of forest C stocks in developing countries" – para 1 (b) (iii) of the Bali Action Plan)*
- This draft text covered the core elements for implementing REDD+ activities, including:
  - o Scope of activities, guiding principles and safeguards (e.g.



### REDD+ under the AWG-LCA

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- Parties considered further the draft text for a decision on REDD+ at the AWG-LCA sessions in June and August 2010. New proposals and text were added to the draft text (*Chapter VI, FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14*)
- On readiness activities relating to REDD+, Parties shared a common understanding of the following:
  - o There is an urgent need for scaled-up financing, particularly for readiness activities and to ensure the participation of all developing countries. There should be fast start and sustainable financing for readiness. There also needs to be better coordination for existing financing.
  - o There is also a need for capacity-building of all aspects, from institutional to technical, and to strengthen and build capacities for transparent forest governance. Better coordination of capacity-building activities is also needed.
  - o The development and implementation of national strategies and action plans need to address the drivers of deforestation and ensure the rights and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities and the implementation of safeguards.



### REDD+ under the AWG-LCA

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- A. There remains a number of key issues which are linked to the wider discussions:
  - o Financing options, particularly for full implementation (funds only, market approach, a combination of funds and markets);
  - o The inclusion of REDD+ as part of nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs);
  - o The link between MRV of actions and support;
- B. There are also issues specific to REDD+ that remain to be agreed:
  - o Scope of REDD+ activities;
  - o Safeguards for implementing REDD+;
  - o Elements required for implementation (national strategy or plan, national forest reference emission level, national forest monitoring system);
  - o If subnational level implementation would be allowed as an interim step;
  - o If, and when, details of modalities for developing reference emission levels, national forest monitoring system, MRV of actions should be developed (post-Cancun ?)
- C. Parties will continue to consider the draft text at AWG-LCA 12 in Tianjin in October 2010.



### REDD+: Needs and opportunities

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#### Recommendations made, particularly on regional cooperation:

- National agencies and international organizations should promote and enhance regional cooperation to facilitate sharing of experiences from demonstration activities and use of the IPCC guidelines, sharing and exchange of data sources;
- The secretariat to work together with or rely on regional coordinators or organizations for organizing capacity-building activities;
- Fully utilize technical capacities that already exist within countries;
- Regional cooperation should be region- or country-driven; capacity-building should focus on issues relevant or common to the region;
- Regional cooperation to promote institutional memory of capacity-building received

Full report available at:

<[http://unfccc.int/methods\\_science/redd/items/5603.php](http://unfccc.int/methods_science/redd/items/5603.php)>

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### Ongoing work and next steps

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- Taking into consideration the outcomes of the expert meeting, SBSTA32 (June 2010) requested the secretariat:
  - a) To increase the number of experts trained in the use of the IPCC guidance and guidelines referred to in decision 4/CP.15, paragraph 1 (c), by organizing and facilitating activities such as training of trainers workshops, and to work with the IPCC on promoting the use of the IPCC Emission Factor Database, and report on its progress to the SBSTA at its thirty-fourth session (June 2011);
  - a) To enhance sharing of information, experiences and lessons learned on the use of the IPCC guidance and guidelines on the UNFCCC website through an interactive discussion forum to be set up on the web platform.









