

Sustainable Forest Management and Climate Change

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Carbon and Forests

'An initial 350 ppm CO₂ target may be achievable by phasing out coal use except where CO₂ is captured and adopting agricultural and *forestry* practices that *sequester* carbon. If the present overshoot of this target CO₂ is not brief, there is a possibility of seeding irreversible catastrophic effects.'

(James Hansen et al, November 2008)

Climate Change and Markets -1

'Climate change is the greatest **market failure** the world has ever seen, and it interacts with other market imperfections'. (*Stern review*)

- it is a glaring example of market actors not covering **externalities** (destruction of environment), but letting 'society' deal with them.

The main response to the CC crisis has been to create new **markets** (such as CDM and REDD) for 'carbon' - but markets are *fickle...* (*changing, 'nervous'*): Carbon markets are determined by policy and its implementation and by investors.

Climate Change and Markets- 2

Climate change consequences will most severely hit those who have benefited least from the market: Rural (and urban) populations in developing countries.

So the new carbon markets try to create benefits for those (but it is '**against the flow of things..**', i.e market forces and power structures; land rights, market control)

The carbon markets try and introduce or use Payments for Environmental Services (CC mitigation), at global scale.

But markets will not make CC effects go away..

So **adaptation to CC** is also called for!

Adaptation and Forest – until climate gets back to 'normal' (centuries)

Forests of different kinds may help in adaptation

- Physical protection of coasts, watersheds, infrastructure.
- Sources of livelihoods.
- Physical cooling

Climate Change- Forest Focus

Therefore a *primary* CC-related focus in relation to forest *should* be:

- Help communities avoid and adapt to the worst consequences of CC, by forestry means
- Do this in ways that reduce poverty and also benefit the overall economy.
- And do it ways so capacity and mechanisms for (later?) tapping the carbon markets are concurrently built.
- And learn overall lessons for inclusion of economic values of forest environmental services into economic planning and forest governance.

Climate Change, Forests and Environmental Services

REDD = PES + SFM (+carbon accounting)

CDM (forestry) = PES + SFM plantations (+carbon accounting)

So it is possible to work with communities and stakeholders on PES and SFM and this way prepare for possible REDD or other climate-related funding. Even if PES is for other than 'carbon'.

PES mechanisms will also help set value on forest E.S. - for incorporation into economic planning.

Both REDD and CDM require a lot of tools – but at local level these are quite the same as for SFM.. (monitoring, reporting, FLEG, benefit sharing, etc.), except Carbon stock assessment (but even this is related to forest quality..)

Climate Change, Trees, Adaptation and Payment for Environmental Services – an *Example*

Coastal areas already hit – and will be even more. So *adaptation* will be to *secure* the coast and provide *responses* to disasters.

Disasters – maybe government will pay to avoid? = PES

One way to secure the coast (with trees): Mangroves.

Mangroves provide another E.S. - breeding of fish, crabs, shrimps. So maybe local fishermen should also provide PES?

Mangroves are best managed by communities.

.. and the best 'tool' in any disaster management is; Strong communities (plus effective local authorities)

REDD - main challenges, summary

Tries to resolve issues that have been largely unresolved in 'development': Land rights, corruption, accurate monitoring and reporting.. Why should those become easier because we call it something new??

Trustworthy, and independent monitoring, verification, reporting - is that possible in many countries? Also of money flows??

How many scandals does it take to 'kill REDD'?

How to get the money to the local people!!! (Equitable sharing)