



DIALOGUE ON FORESTS, GOVERNANCE & CLIMATE CHANGE

22 - 23 October, 2009

Atrium Hall

*Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW (use 14th St entrance)
Washington D.C. 20004*

Day 1 - Thursday 22 October

- 9:30 **Welcome and opening remarks**
 Andy White, Coordinator, RRI
 Manish Bapna, Executive Vice President and Managing Director, WRI
- 10:00 **Session 1 Seeing forests for the climate: Equitable and effective forest-based climate change mitigation interventions**
Chair: Robert Bradley, Director of International Climate Objectives, WRI
Panelists:
 Kyeretwie Opoku, Coordinator, Civic Response – Ghana
 Alexandra Teitz, Senior Counsel, Committee on Energy and Commerce, US House of Representatives
 Frances Seymour, Director General, CIFOR

The international community has reached consensus on the importance of reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation. Recent gatherings of the Major Economies Forum, the G8, and the G20 have affirmed the centrality of REDD to global efforts to address climate change. The United States has introduced climate change legislation with potentially important implications for the world's forests. This high-level panel will share insights on how different stakeholders view the role of forests in reducing global carbon emissions. Discussions will focus on approaches to be taken to address the issues of effective emissions reductions and the intersections with human rights, legality, and governance.

Guiding questions:

- What does the world know about how to effectively slow deforestation?
- What role do governance and legality play in addressing forest-based climate change mitigation measures?
- Can forest-based mitigation measures empower forest dependent communities?
- How have concerns over effectively reducing forest emissions been translated into national climate change legislation?

Discussion

- 11:15 **Coffee Break**

11:30

Session 2 Acting globally: Developments and insights from the UNFCCC negotiations

Chair: Jake Werksman, Program Director, Institutions and Governance Program, WRI

Panelists:

Florence Daviet, Climate and Energy Program Associate, WRI

Kate Horner, International Climate & Energy Campaigner, Friends of the Earth

Rane Cortez, Forest Carbon Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy

Bhola Bhattarai, General Secretary, Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal

Alvaro Umaña Quesada, Coordinator, High Level Negotiating Team for Climate Change, Government of Costa Rica

The Bali Action Plan created an opportunity to establish a financial mechanism to compensate for reduced forest carbon emissions. Negotiations are ongoing and evolving in the UNFCCC. This panel will explore the latest developments in the negotiations on the role of forests in combating climate change, possible outcomes at the upcoming Copenhagen Conference of the Parties.

Guiding questions:

What are the key points of debate within the negotiations around the design of REDD mechanisms?

What is the status of REDD+ and implications for forest conserving nations and communities?

How can the international community design an enabling framework for REDD that supports developing countries to address capacity constraints in a way that improves forest governance and promotes sustainable development?

Discussion

1:00

Lunch

2:00

Session 3 Making it happen: Learning from successful initiatives to slow deforestation, restore forests and promote the rights of forest communities

Chair: Andy White, Coordinator, RRI

Panelists:

Yuba Raj Bhusal, Secretary, Ministry of Forests, Nepal

Duncan Brack, Senior Research Fellow, Chatham House

Ken Chomitz, Senior Advisor, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank

The success of initiatives to reduce forest carbon emissions will largely depend on national and sub-national level policy decisions and implementation to improve forest governance. Several countries have made steps in this direction in recent years and lessons can be learned from these initiatives to inform how the world approaches forest-based climate change mitigation. Panelists will discuss initiatives like the EU supported FLEGT process, the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' tenure rights, and nationally supported community forestry initiatives.

Guiding questions:

What can previous national and international programs to improve forest governance teach future initiatives about design and implementation of forest reforms?

What kinds of forest governance reforms are likely to be integral to achieving REDD? Are there risks that some efforts at forest governance reform may be undermined by REDD? How can these risks be managed?

How can we monitor the progress that countries make in addressing key forest governance reforms as part of REDD, in order to support progress on this agenda?

3.30

Coffee break

- 3.45 Discussion
- 5:00 **Closing remarks**
Jake Werksman, Program Director, Institutions and Governance Program, WRI

Day 2 - Friday 23 October

- 9:30 **Opening remarks**
Arvind Khare, Director of Finance and Policy, RRI
- 9:45 **Session 4 Buying the credits and setting the rules: Potential impacts of US climate and energy policy for forest governance**
Chair: Robin Mearns, Lead Social Development Specialist, Social Development Department, World Bank
Panelists:
Nigel Purvis, President, Climate Advisers
David Waskow, Climate Change Program Director, Oxfam America
Brian Turner, Deputy Director, Washington DC Office of the Governor of California; Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board
Laurent Micol, Executive Director, Instituto Centro de Vida – Brazil

As negotiations on REDD's place in the global climate change agreement proceed, many countries' domestic policies to address climate change include provisions to create markets and funds for forest-based emission reduction credits. These initiatives are poised to generate significant revenues for REDD efforts. The success of REDD – especially market-based initiatives – largely depends on the standards that Annex 1 governments set for the credits they will purchase. Forest offsets are already included in California's state level efforts to cap and reduce emissions. The American Clean Energy and Security Act also creates a sizeable forest offset market, but attaches significant provisions that address the integrity of forest governance systems to the credits. This panel will share insights from these various ongoing processes, and provide a platform for an exchange between developed and developing country stakeholders.

Guiding questions:

- What are the prospects for tropical forests and forest communities being impacted by US climate change legislation?
- How have the rules for US climate change mitigation financing been developed thus far, and what are the remaining steps required before they are established?
- How will the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities be protected by the regulations and requirements imposed by such policies?

- 10.45 **Coffee break**
- 11.00 Discussion
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 1:30 **Session 5 Investing in forests: Forest governance as a key to sustained investment**
Chair: Frances Seymour, Director General, CIFOR
Panelists:
Charlotte Streck, Director, Climate Focus
Steve Corneli, Senior Vice President, Market and Climate Policy, NRG Energy
Rosalind Reeve, Forest Campaign Manager, Global Witness

For many, investor confidence in REDD systems will be the key to unlocking stable, adequate and predictable financial flows for forests in the long term. To others, market financing might undermine forest governance and rights. This panel will provide a forum for an exchange of views between representatives of companies that might purchase forestry offsets to meet domestic targets, practitioners in global carbon finance, civil society representatives, and developing country representatives that might sell REDD credits.

Guiding questions:

How will governance within forest rich countries impact upon the certainty, and permanence of emission reduction credits?

How can market governance structures be designed to ensure credibility and viability of forest carbon initiatives as part of the global mitigation response?

How can community livelihoods and human rights be supported by financing mechanism?

Discussion

3:00 **Coffee break**

3:15 **Session 6 Getting ready: Multilateral initiatives to pilot REDD**

Chair: Francesco Martone, Policy Advisory, Forests and Climate Program, Forests Peoples Programme

Panelists:

Charles McNeill, Special Advisor, UNDP

Ghan Shyam Pandey, Chairperson, Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal

Benoit Bosquet, Forest Carbon Partnership Facility/World Bank

Kenn Mondiai, Chairperson, Papua New Guinea EcoForestry Forum

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the UN Collaborative Programme on Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) are the pre-eminent multilateral efforts underway to support developing countries to prepare for REDD.

Guiding questions:

How have issues of forest governance been addressed in these initiatives?

What processes have been used to engage local stakeholders in the design and implementation of these programs?

What are the emerging best practices for consultation?

How have environmental and social safeguards shaped these initiatives?

Discussion

5:00 **Closing remarks and next steps**

Manish Bapna, Executive Vice President and Managing Director, WRI

Duncan Brack, Senior Research Fellow, Chatham House

Andy White, Coordinator, Rights and Resources Initiative

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