The Rights and Resources Initiative – Quarterly E-mail Update
April - June 2010

Dear Colleagues,

A lot has happened between April and June, not only in the world but also in the more limited world of forest rights and tenure. The REDD+ Partnership and the agreement between Norway and Indonesia were launched in May, demonstrating both a consolidating global architecture for REDD, and the continued fragmentation of climate aid. The rollback of community property rights in PNG, also in May, and the limited moratorium on new concessions in Indonesia demonstrate the difficulty of changing business as usual, as does the continued dwarfing of REDD by private investments in agriculture, oil, gas, and mining concessions in forest areas across the world. New Zealand joined the rest of the world, except Canada and the United States, in endorsing the UNDRIP, although the US pledged to review its position in April.

The massive mobilization of community forest owners in Nepal in April, led by RRI Partner FECOFUN, where over 1 million people marched and achieved political backing across political parties to strengthen their rights in the new constitution; and new consultations and platforms for negotiating tenure reforms in Liberia, Mali, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, the DRC and Peru over the last three months – all demonstrate the possibility of progress and the essential work of RRI Partners and Collaborators. RRI global dialogues in April, May and June also helped influence the REDD+ Partnership and revealed not only that REDD was indeed not as quick, easy or cheap as many had hoped or predicted, but that solid opportunities for change remained.

This quarter's listing of key events and products is long and frankly somewhat numbing. We think it useful for you to know the scale and scope of our collective interventions, as well as give you the opportunity to follow-up on the activities that most interest you. What this format does not demonstrate is the strategic value and impact of each of these seemingly small steps. RRI is establishing a new M&E system this year to better capture and illustrate our impacts, to go along with our annual independent evaluations (click here for reports). We will be making these findings available for you in the future. In the meantime we look forward to continuing our many steps towards more respect for local people and more effective forest conservation in the coming months.

Andy

Global-Level Strategic Analysis and Action

- The ***4th RRI Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change*** took place on 6 April in London. There was a vigorous debate on the REDD architecture, and the discussion influenced the process and design of the REDD Partnership. A summary report of the dialogue, prepared by IISD Reporting Services, is now available online along with photos, presentations, and agenda. View more information. Video footage of the 4th Dialogue will be available shortly on the RRI website. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

- On May 12, RRI held a workshop on **Systems of Standards, Safeguards, and Recourse Mechanisms for Forests and Climate**, in Washington, DC. The workshop took stock of the existing status of standards, safeguards and recourse mechanisms across the suite of actors engaged in forests and climate change. It also identified key gaps and issues that need to be addressed and

areas of divergence and consensus among the stakeholders to create a more coherent system or systems of safeguards and recourse mechanisms in REDD. View more information. Contact Augusta Molnar.

- The **5th RRI Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change** took place on June 22 in Washington, DC. Participants and panelists assessed the emerging REDD+ Partnership and the recent UNFCCC sessions in Bonn and the experience to date of key implementation issues in REDD. The meeting reviewed our understanding of the drivers of deforestation and the status of progress towards a framework of safeguards, reviewing policy implications and recommendations arising from the 12 May workshop. The Dialogue was covered by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Reporting Services. View more information. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

- The recent report and summary brief ***Does the Opportunity Cost Approach Indicate the Real Cost of REDD+? : Rights and Realities of Paying for REDD+*** authored by RRI Fellow Hans Gregersen with fellow forest economists Hosny El-Lakany, Alain Karsenty and Andy White questions how the opportunity cost approach has been applied and proposes a rights-based framework for better estimating likely costs and payments. View the report and brief. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

- RRI contributed a new Social Development Working Paper for the World Bank's *Social Dimensions of Climate Change* series. ***Securing Tenure Rights and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)*** contributes to the discussion of scaling-up the recognition of tenure rights within the efforts to reduce forest carbon emissions, and to put the costs of recognizing tenure rights in a broader perspective. Download it here. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

- **Rights and Resources 2009-2010:** ***The End of the Hinterland: Forests, Conflict, and Climate Change*** is now available in French (as well as English and Spanish). The report takes stock of the current status of forest rights and tenure globally, assesses the key issues and trends of 2009, and identifies questions and challenges facing forests and communities in 2010. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

- RRI co-organized a conference in Haiti on June 17-18 with the Office of the Prime Minister, Office of UN Envoy Bill Clinton, **Forest Trends** and the IDB to develop an agenda for restoration at a national scale. **Strategies for Integrated Watershed Management, Environmental Restoration and Sustainable Development in Haiti** gathered a variety of actors, ranging from local civil society to international donors to discuss key lessons from the past, assess emerging opportunities for innovative and more effective interventions, and identify priority steps to scale up the level of effort and impact in the immediate future. View more information. Contact Andy White.

- New editions of RRI's Tenure Trends analysis bulletin were distributed in May and June. May's edition focused on China's advances in forest tenure reform while June's edition analyzed the possibilities of rights rollback and governance recentralization due to REDD. View all Tenure Trends editions in English, Spanish and French. Contact Lopaka Purdy.

Country and Regional-Level Analysis and Action

Asia

- **FECOFUN***'s* Forest Caravan 2010 took place from 4-13 April in Nepal. With support from RRI partners & collaborators, district federations and other networks, community forestry stakeholders marched from 10 districts to Kathmandu to mobilize political support for recognition of community rights over natural resources and pro-poor legislation in the new constitution. The event closed with a rally in Kathmandu on April 13, during which political leaders expressed their collective commitment to FECOFUN's agenda and recommendations for the new constitution. View more information. Contact Bharati Pathak.

- RRI Collaborator **Rural Development Institute's** new study, *Who Owns the Carbon in Rural China?* examines the long-term viability of China's carbon sequestration programs in the context of ongoing reforms and the welfare of the rural poor. The report makes the case of securing farmers' rights over forestland and trees, and for establishing adequate compensatory regimes for farmers affected by carbon sequestration programs. View report. Contact Nayna Jhaveri.

- **RECOFTC's** paper *Vietnam: Why REDD+ Needs Local People* outlines why the active engagement of local communities and indigenous peoples is so crucial, and what challenges in the REDD+ processes still need to be overcome. View report in English and Vietnamese. Contact James Bampton.

- **RECOFTC's** report *Forests and climate change after Copenhagen: An Asia-Pacific perspective* explores twelve key questions about REDD+, ranging from the difference between REDD and REDD+ to the implications of REDD+ for forest governance reform to practical actions for forest stakeholders to move REDD+ forward. View report. Contact James Bampton**.**

- **FECOFUN** convened its Fourth General Assembly from June 8-10, 2010 and elected a new National Executive Committee, led by Ms. Apsara Chapagain, Chairperson, and Mr. Ganesh Karki, General Secretary. View more information. Contact Bharati Pathak**.**

- In May 2010, at the invitation of the Ministry of Forestry, Government of Indonesia, senior members of RRG traveled to Jakarta to meet with leaders from the Ministry and representatives from RRI Partners and Collaborators and gave a presentation on global trends in forest tenure reform. Boen Purnama, MoF Secretary General, invited RRI to convene more discussions and analyses on tenure reform in Indonesia, including a regional conference on Indonesian forest tenure co-hosted by ITTO, MoF and RRI in 2011. Contact Arvind Khare.

- Nayna Jhaveri joined RRI as **Asia Program Coordinator** on 1 June 2010. Nayna has specialized in **environmental justice and sustainable development in China and South Asia**. Her PhD field research focused on China's Liangshan Mountains, where she studied environmental movements and changing policies around the commons in China. She has a wealth of academic and research experience, most recently as a Research Fellow at Colgate University in New York, and has been published widely. View her RRG Staff Bio. Contact Nayna Jhaveri.

- In **Lao PDR**, a day-long coordination meeting was held on 2 April 2010. Representatives from the **National Agriculture and Forestry Institute** (NAFRI), the **Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture**, and RRI Partner **RECOFTC** met with the RRI team to discuss an implementation strategy for upcoming RECOFTC-led country activities, including a Laotian delegation visit to China, shared learning workshop on forest tenure rights, and a policy brief on forest tenure in Lao PDR. Participants concluded that the delegation visit, led by NAFRI, would coincide with the September 2010 regional conference on international forest tenure reform in China and Asia-Pacific. Participants will then return to Vientiane for a shared learning workshop, also hosted by NAFRI. Contact Ganga Dahal.

Africa

- RRI Collaborator **Sustainable Development Institute** held the *2nd Annual Conference on Community Rights and Forests* from April 27-30 in Monrovia, **Liberia**. The conference gathered Community Forestry Development committees from across Liberia to assess developments in the forestry sector in Liberia and agree on strategies for reforming the sector and promoting community rights. View more information. Contact Silas Siakor and Jonathan Yiah.

- The Third Annual Meeting of the **Africa Community Rights Network** took place in Monrovia, **Liberia** from April 27-30. Delegates from 10 African countries participated and were joined by international participants and Liberian community leaders. The conference served as a forum for reflecting on the

challenges for sustainable forest management and community rights in Africa, and the implications of international forest and climate negotiations for Africa. This meeting culminated in the Africa Community Rights Network Statement. View more information. Contact Kyeretwie Opoku and Silas Siakor.

- From April through May**, Forest Peoples Programme** and RRI Collaborator **Center for Environment and Development (CED)** held trainings in **Cameroon** for indigenous Bagyeli and Baka communities on REDD, rights and governmental and regional positions. These trainings aim to build the capacity of Cameroonian indigenous forest peoples to better understand climate change the implications of REDD, and to effectively represent their interests at multiple levels. Following the trainings, seven community consultation teams were created, joining representatives from indigenous communities with civil society support. These teams conducted community consultations on REDD and climate change in June 2010. View more information. Contact John Nelson.

- RRI Collaborator **Green Advocates** launched the Legislative Caucus on Community Rights and Natural Resources on May 21 in Monrovia, **Liberia** to advance implementation of the new Community Rights Law. Green Advocates brought to Monrovia more than 50 community forestry leaders who held extensive deliberations on the status of the community rights law, as well as benefit sharing arrangements under the 2006 National Forestry Reform Law. As part of this event, Green Advocates also facilitated a consultative meeting between community leaders and several lawmakers, which was held at the Joint Chamber of the Legislature. View more information. Contact Alfred Brownell.

- **Forest Peoples Programme** and **CED** held a workshop with Cameroonian civil society in Yaoundé, **Cameroon** on June 30 to discuss the REDD process and how to better include indigenous rights in their approaches. The workshop also enabled participants to critically analyze the evolving position of the Government of Cameroon and of COMIFAC in climate change negotiations. View more information. Contact John Nelson.

- On July 1, **FPP** and **CED** organized a meeting between **Cameroonian** government officials and civil society to enable communities and civil society to negotiate with national government ministries, and ensure that indigenous communities' concerns determine how international and national policy related to REDD and climate change is shaped and implemented. View more information. Contact John Nelson.

- RRI welcomes **Ann Dela Apekey** as she begins her position as **Africa Facilitator** as a staff member of Civic Response**.** Ann Dela brings a wealth of experience of work with social movements and of socio-economic rights promotion across sub-Saharan Africa, especially in gender and industrial relations. Her last position was with the Danish Trade Union Council for International Development Cooperation, and prior to that she held positions related to gender and labor in the Organization of African Trade Union Unity and with an International Labor Organization program. Ann Dela also teaches Gender and Industrial Relations part-time at the Centre for Development Studies, University of Cape Coast, Ghana. Contact Ann Dela Apekey.

Latin America

- In Ecuador, RRI Partner **Intercooperation** and RRI Collaborator **ALER** (Latin American Association of Radio Education) met on April 28-29 to **design workshops on Climate Change, Forests and Indigenous Peoples for radio communicators** throughout Latin America. Community radio station members who attend these workshops will be trained on issues related to climate change and forest resources, as well as how to enhance the presentation of these issues to indigenous communities. These workshops will take place in Bolivia on July 6-9th, 2010, in Perú on August 3-6th 2010, and in Nicaragua, with collaboration by RRI Partner **ACICAFOC** on September 7-10th, 2010. View more information. Contact Chris van Dam or Omaira Bolaños.

- Indigenous leaders from the autonomous territories of Nicaragua and their supporters met in Bilwi, Nicaragua May 31-June 1 to discuss key governance issues and design an upcoming training course. The meeting, **"Capacity Building and Territory Dynamics in Autonomous Indigenous Regions: Context, difficulties, and opportunities for building curricula"** was organized by RRI Partner **ACICAFOC** and RRI Collaborators **PRISMA, NITLAPAN, URRACAN,** and **CIFOR**. View more information. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

- A new book analyzing the territorial governance situation in **5 Latin American** countries, with a special analysis of **Peru** was published. Entitled "Podemos ser autónomos?: Pueblos Indígenas vs. Estado en Latinoamérica" (Can We be Autonomous?: Indigenous Peoples vs. the State in Latin America), the book is an outcome of a previous RRI event "Territories, Governance and Autonomy in Latin America" that took place in Puyo, Ecuador on March 22 - 24 led by RRI Partner **Intercooperation**. Contact Chris van Dam or Omaira Bolaños.

- Pre-COP16 **Media Workshop and Training for Mexican Spokespersons and Local Community Forestry Leaders**, June 8 – 9. RRI staff and international media firm Burness Communications worked with Collaborators **Consejo Mexicano de Silvicultura Comunitario (CCMSS)** and the **Mexican Center for Environmental Law (CEMDA)** in Mexico to prepare key messages on why and how communty forestry in Mexico is a key option for REDD plus. Three weeks later, Burness conducted a training workshop in Mexico City with 16 local community forestry leaders and 5 Mexican intellectuals and practitioners to prepare their personal stories and messaging fora roll out of the pre-COP16 media strategy. View more information. Contact Deborah Barry.

- In Lima, **Peru**, an RRI workshop on **Learning from PES for judging REDD,** was led by RRI Partners **Intercooperation** in conjunction with **ACICAFOC, Forest Trends,** and Collaborator **IUCN-ORMA** on June 15-17. Indigenous and community leaders from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Perú, México, and Panamá came together to share experiences and their critical learning from the implementation of Payment for Environmental Services (PES) schemes and how this can inform possible future participation in REDD and REDD+ efforts. **Regional level representatives from COICA and AIDESEP** also participated in this meeting. View more information. Contact Veronica Galmez (Intercooperation) or Omaira Bolaños.

Supporting Strategic Networking

- The **Global Issues in Governance of Natural Resources** international training seminar co-sponsored with MegaFlorestais and the United States Forest Service, held in Grey Towers, Pennsylvania from April12-16, gathered "next generation" leaders from forest ministries, other public agencies and civil societies to present cutting-edge analysis and information. The meeting engaged the participants in a frank and open dialogue to produce better understanding of rights and tenure issues. View more information. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

- From April 19-25, a **delegation of Nepali participants** from **FECOFUN** took part in a cross-regional learning exchange to community forest enterprises in Michoacán and Oaxaca, Mexico funded by PROCYMAF, an initiative of the National Forest Commission (CONAFOR). Mexican and Nepali foresters then traveled to Washington for a World Bank workshop on Forest Communities and Climate Change on April 26-27. The participants learned first-hand from Mexico's successful community forestry programs, and plan to integrate lessons into the forthcoming Nepali constitution. View presentation. Contact Augusta Molnar.

Coalition Coordination

- RRI Board Members met on May 14th in Washington DC for a mid-year RRI Board Meeting. Doris Capistrano was celebrated and thanked for her three years of service as Chair of the RRI Board of

Directors. John Hudson was welcomed as a new member and as the new chair of the RRI Board of Directors. Vicky Tauli-Corpuz (Tebtebba) was also warmly welcomed to the Board. Contact Arvind Khare.

- The RRI Coalition recently completed a review of its internal Memorandum of Understanding. A committee of RRI Partner representatives negotiated a new MOU and it was approved by a majority of Partners and by the RRI Board of Directors during their last meeting on 14 May 2010. The updated mission of RRI is "To support local communities' and indigenous peoples' struggles against poverty and marginalization by promoting greater global commitment and action towards policy, market and legal reforms that secure their rights to own, control and benefit from natural resources, especially land and forests." Contact Deborah Barry.

- FECOFUN, World Agroforestry Centre, Forest Peoples Programme, ACICAFOC, Civic Response, The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC), Forest Trends, FPCD, Samdhana, and Intercooperation have endorsed the new MOU. IUCN and CIFOR have decided to shift from Partner to Collaborators status. (Partners are formal members who dedicate time to the governance of the coalition and agree to strategic collaboration and planning to advance RRI goals. Collaborators are organizations that collaborate with RRI on activities but are not formal members.) Contact Deborah Barry.

- RRI Coalition and Communications Manager Pilar Siman will be leaving RRI in July to begin a Masters in Social Work at Columbia University in New York City. She will be replaced by Ms. Jenna DiPaolo, who has worked previously on communications and coordination with the Alliance for Justice and Alion Science and Technology here in Washington and is fluent in French. Please direct any communications questions to Jeffrey Hatcher or coalition governance questions to Deborah Barry.

Recent and Coming Up

July 6-9, 2010: Bolivia: Workshop on Climate Change, Forests and Indigenous People for Radio Communicators. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

July 12-17, 2010: Cameroon: CAFT training sessions for community forest enterprises. Contact Patrice Pa'ah.

July 15-16, 2010: Bamako, Mali: IUCN workshop on gender and tenure. Contact Rokia Diarra Konaré.

July 20-22, 2010: Edéa, Cameroon: Cameroon Ecology hosts Partner discussions and exchanges on REDD. Contact Cécile Ndjebet.

July 22-23, 2010: Mali: Intercooperation-Sahel and Mali Ministry of Environment's national workshop on the institutionalization of local conventions. Contact Célestin Dembelé.

July 26-27, 2010: Cameroon: IUCN/PACO Central African forest management workshop for community and civil society leaders of the Sangha Tri National. Contact Cleto Ndikumaguenge and Dominique Endama.

July 29-30, 2010: Cameroon: ICRAF meeting with local officials and traditional chiefs in Eastern Cameroon. Contact Serge Ngendakumana.

August 3-5, 2010: Edéa, Cameroon: Cameroon Ecology multi-actor forum on community rights. Contact Cecile Ndjebet.

August 3-6, 2010: Peru: Workshop on Climate Change, Forests and Indigenous People for Radio Communicators. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

August 5, 2010: Cameroon: RRI-Cameroon coalition meeting, hosted by CIFOR. Contact Solange Bandiaky.

August 9-10, 2010: Kathmandu, Nepal: 2011 Nepal Planning Meeting. Contact Ganga Dahal.

August 10-12, 2010: Cameroon: Cameroon Ecology meetings with high-level networks of MINDAF and MINFOF on tenure and rights. Contact Serge Ngendakumana.

August 11 – 12, 2010: Kathmandu, Nepal: Asia Dialogue on Community Forests and Property Rights in the Context of Climate Change. Contact Nayna Jhaveri.

August 12-13, 2010: Cameroon: ICRAF meeting with local official and traditional chiefs in Southwestern Cameroon. Contact Serge Ngendakumana.

August 16-21, 2010: Liberia: FCI planning workshop for women from Grand Bassa, Rivercess and Gbarpolu counties. Contact Foundation for Community Initiative - Julie Weah.

August 19-20, 2010: Indonesia: Regional workshop on palm oil, organized by Forest Peoples Programme. Contact Marcus Colchester.

August 30-31, 2010: Cameroon: ICRAF meeting with local officials and traditional chiefs in the Littoral. Contact ICRAF Cameroon - Serge Ngendakumana.

August 2010: 2011 Indonesia Planning Meeting. Contact Ganga Dahal.

September 7-8, 2010: Burkina Faso: Gender, rights and forests workshop. Contact IUCN Burkina,- Moumouni Savadogo and Clarisse Honadia.

September 8, 2010: El Salvador: Latin American Regional RRI Dialogue. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

September 7-10, 2010: Nicaragua: Workshop on Climate Change, Forests and Indigenous People for Radio Communicators. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

September 9-10, 2010: Nicaragua: 2011 Country Planning Meeting. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

September 9-10, 2010: Burkina Faso: Rights and tenure champions workshop. Contact IUCN Burkina - Moumouni Savadogo and Clarisse Honadia.

September 13-14, 2010: Guatemala: 2011 Country Planning Meeting. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

September 13-15, 2010: Edéa, Cameroon: REFACOF (African Women's Network for Community Forest Management) strategic planning meeting. Contact Cecile Ndjebet, Ann Dela Apekey, and Solange Bandiaky.

September 15-17, 2010, Bangkok, Thailand: Regional workshop on legal pluralism, organized by Forest Peoples Programme and hosted by RECOFTC. Contact Marcus Colchester.

September 16-17, 2010: Bolivia: 2011 Country Planning Meeting. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

September 20-22, 2010: Wuyishan, Fujian Province, China: MegaFlorestais 2010. Annual meeting of leaders of public forest agencies from major forested countries, organized by the State Forest Administration of China (SFA), and RRI. View more information on MegaFlorestais. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

September 24-25, 2010: Beijing, China: Regional Conference on Forest Tenure Reform in Asia-Pacific. Workshop on forest tenure will gather government and civil society representatives, experts, and resource

persons from key institutions of Asia. Hosted by the SFA, this event will be collectively organized by the Department of Rural Forestry Reforms and Development: SFA, and Peking University, in collaboration with RECOFTC, ICRAF, and Forest Trends. Contact Nayna Jhaveri.

September 29, 2010: Kunming, China: 2011 China Planning Meeting. Contact Ganga Dahal.

September 29-30, 2010: Cameroon: ICRAF training workshop on advocacy and negotiations and synthesis meeting on community rights claims. Contact Solange Bandiaky.

September 30, 2010: Kunming, China: 2011 Lao PDR Planning Meeting. Contact Ganga Dahal.

September 2010: Asia Regional Planning Meeting, location TBC. Contact Ganga Dahal.

October 2010: Mexico City: RRI Dialogue in Mexico. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

October 4-5: Bamako, Mali: Sahel Eco workshop on rural trees and transfer of power. Contact Mamadou Diakite.

October 11-12, 2010: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: RRI Africa Regional Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher and Solange Bandiaky.

October 18-22, 2010: Accra, Ghana: RRI Africa planning meeting. Contact Ann Dela Apekey and Solange Bandiaky.

October 21-22, 2010: Bogota, Colombia: 2011 Latin American Regional Planning Meeting. Contact Omaira Bolaños.

November 2010: Bamako, Mali: Workshop on the Issue of Pastoralism and Rights in the Sahel. Contact Rokia Diarra Konaré.

November 2, 2010: Washington DC, United States: RRI Partner Meeting. Contact Deborah Barry.

November 3-4, 2010: Washington DC, United States: Annual RRI Global Programs Meeting. Contact Deborah Barry.

November 4-5, 2010: Washington DC, United States: RRI Coalition Wide Communications Meeting. Contact Jeffrey Hatcher.

November 5, 2010: Washington DC, United States: RRI Board Meeting. Contact Deborah Barry.

January 18-21, 2011: Washington DC, United States: Annual RRI Governance Meetings. Contact Deborah Barry.

Spotlight

Does the Opportunity Cost Approach Indicate the Real Cost of REDD+? : Rights and Realities of Pay for REDD+
By Hans Gregersen, Hosny El Lakany, Alain Karsenty, and Andy White

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