APN-Sponsored Conference on “Beyond Carbon: Ensuring Justice and Equity in the Operationalisation of REDD+ Across Levels of Governance”
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Project Reference Number: AOA2011-05NSY-Forest Governance
Final Report submitted to APN

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OVERVIEW OF PROJECT WORK AND OUTCOMES

Minimum 2pages (maximum 4 pages)

Non-technical summary

An APN-sponsored conference was held at St. Anne’s College, Oxford, on 23-24 March 2012, to discuss this question of how justice and equity can be ensured for a mechanism that permeates local, national and international levels of governance. It was co-organised by the University of East Anglia, the University of Oxford and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and brought together some 110 REDD+ scholars and practitioners from around the world to address the pressing concerns of REDD+ and its implications for economically marginalised people.

What has emerged from discussions is that to get REDD+ right is to effectively coordinate and implement it across levels of governance – from international REDD+ rule making through national law making to local practice building. Challenges include: (1) communicating across knowledge traditions of natural versus social sciences and Western versus indigenous approaches; (2) a clash of framings of deforestation and underlying agendas from carbon sequestration and commodification of carbon at the international level through economic development at the national level to forest conservation and traditional forest stewardship at the local level; and (3) transforming disjointed attempts at developing ‘safeguards’ and ‘co-benefits’ internationally into integrated and livelihood-enhancing objectives on the ground.

Objectives

The main objectives of the project were:
1. Bring together the community of experts working on the theme of the conference
2. Discuss ways forward
3. Continue the exchange through publishing a special feature

Amount received and number years supported

The Grant awarded to this project was:
US$ 50,000

Activity undertaken

- Holding of international conference for 110 participants
- Holding of one-day workshop for 15 participants
- Co-guest editing a Special Feature in Ecology & Society

Results

- The international conference was a major success. It was oversubscribed in the end and participants seemed very happy with the level of depth in the discussions during plenaries and parallel events and also with the overall organization so ably undertaken by Maria Mansfield (Oxford). A few unsolicited reactions by email from participants after the conference illustrate this:
  o “I would like to congratulate and thank you and your colleagues very much for organizing such an interesting event” (Steffen Entenmann, Freiburg)
  o “Thank you very much for a very inspiring and thought provoking conference
in Oxford” (Annalisa Savaresi, Venice)
o “Thank you for a very well-organized and fruitful conference in sunny Oxford” (Maya Sepehri, Copenhagen)
o “Thank you so much for inviting me to the Beyond Carbon meeting at Oxford. I really enjoyed coming to the meeting ... Pete, whom you so kindly accommodated, has lots of good things to say about it, and I appreciate all your help greatly” (Arun Agrawal, Ann Arbor)

- The one-day workshop was excellent. We had some very interesting discussions and agreed as a group to write a paper together. *Science* has agreed to our submission. During the writing the group encountered some deadlock and we didn’t manage to finish in time for COP-18 so we will try again to submit by August this year. The offer is still open from *Science*.
- The Special Feature in *Ecology & Society* is nearing completion now. The last two revisions are now completed and the publication date is March 2014. I think we have some very important contributions on the topic in this special feature.

### Relevance to the APN Goals, Science Agenda and to Policy Processes

This project with its focus on justice and equity in REDD+ very much speaks to APN’s Mission to foster global change research. Most succinctly, the project speaks to mission element 3, “Contribute, from the science perspective, to the development of policy options for appropriate responses to global change that will also contribute to sustainable development”. Here we address the operationalization of the international mechanism of REDD+, in particular with a view to how justice and equity concerns can be addressed.

The project also relates to APN’s Goals, in particular to Goal no. 4 of “cooperating with other global change networks and organisations” – including the Tyndall Centre, the Oxford Centre for Tropical Forests, the Earth System Governance Project, University of Oxford and University of East Anglia, but to a high degree also to the other 3 goals. Goal no. 1 – “supporting regional cooperation in global change research on issues particularly relevant to the region” – REDD+ - is certainly addressed. Goal no. 2 – strengthening interactions among scientists and policymakers and providing scientific input to policymaking – is addressed to a more limited degree given that there were not many Asian policymakers attending (our target keynote speaker from the Philippines had to cancel). Goal no. 3 – improving scientific and technical capabilities in the AP region – was also addressed to some degree, illustrated perhaps best through collaborations on contributions to our Special Feature. Three papers have co-authors based in the AP region. Beyond that, the results and insights presented in the Special Feature are fundamentally crucial for the AP region as it has a large share of the world’s remaining tropical forests, and the problem of deforestation is a critical one in this region.

### Self evaluation

One of the great benefits of this conference for me was that we created a community around this issue area and we will be able to continue our collaboration beyond the current publication projects. I have been able to widen my own community of collaborators, which I am very grateful for.

### Potential for further work

Together with Thomas Sikor and others, I am working toward a large grant application on global environmental justice, in which REDD+ would be one issue area. We will be able to make use of the outputs from this project to illustrate our track record.

### Publications (please write the complete citation)

Pokorny, B., I. Scholz, W. de Jong (published online), “REDD+ for the poor or the poor for REDD+? About the limitations of environmental policies in the Amazon and the potential of achieving environmental goals through pro-poor policies", Ecology & Society.


Wallbott, L. (published online)” Indigenous peoples as norm entrepreneurs in UN REDD+ negotiations: Building rights and ‘importing power’ through interplay management and connective framing”, Ecology & Society.

Acknowledgments

I acknowledge the in-kind support from the School of International Development, University of East Anglia for my time and that of collaborators Thomas Sikor, the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research for Asher Minns’ time and support, the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford for Maria Mansfield’s significant logistical support and that of collaborator Constance McDermott. I also acknowledge the Earth System Governance Project, the James Martin Institute and the Oxford Centre for Tropical Forests for their help with publicity. Above all, I am deeply grateful to the APN for its generous financial support and to Linda Stevenson, Ratisya Radzi and others for all their excellent help and support with the planning and administration of the project. Thank you to Linda Stevenson for attending the conference on behalf of the APN.
TECHNICAL REPORT

Conferences/Symposia/Workshops

Agenda/Programme (including title, date and venue) - please see Attachment 1

Participants list (comprising contact details of each participant, including organisation, address, phone number, fax number, and email address) – please see Attachment 2

Funding sources outside the APN

A list of agencies, institutions, organisations (governmental, inter-governmental and/or non-governmental), that provided any in-kind support and co-funding for the project and the amount(s) awarded. If possible, please provide an estimate amount.

In-kind supporters:
- School of International Development, University of East Anglia for my time and that of collaborators Thomas Sikor
- Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research for Asher Minns’ time and support
- Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford for Maria Mansfield’s significant logistical support and that of collaborator Constance McDermott.
- Earth System Governance Project, James Martin Institute and Oxford Centre for Tropical Forests for their help with publicity

List of Young Scientists

Include brief detail (full name, involvement in the project activity) and contact detail (name of institution/country and email address) of your scientists involved in the project. Also include short message from the young scientists about his/her involvement in the project and how it helps develop/build his capacity and the knowledge he gained.

Unfortunately, we did not track whether participants were young or more experienced scientists. Out of memory, I can give some examples of young scientists below:

Rodrigo Arce   University of Oxford   rodrigo.arce@ouce.ox.ac.uk
Moya Burns   University of Oxford   moya.burns@zoo.ox.ac.uk
Tim Cadman   University of Southern Queensland   tim.cadman@usq.edu.au
Hector Serna Chavez   University of Amsterdam   h.m.sernachavez@uva.nl
Jeaneth Delgado   University of Freiburg   jeaneth.delgado@landespflege.uni-freiburg.de
Paulina Deschamps   University of Oxford   paulina.deschamps@keble.ox.ac.uk
Alex Dorgan   University of Leeds   alex.dorgan@googlemail.com
Frederik Eisinger   Freie Universität Berlin   eisinger@zedat.fu-berlin.de
Nsikan-George Emana   University of East Anglia   N.Emana@uea.ac.uk
Gretchen Engbring   University of Lancaster   gengbring@gmail.com
Mattia Fosci   University of Nottingham   mattia.fosci@yahoo.com
Claudia Ituarte-Lima   University of Oxford   claudia.ituarte@cantab.net
Shannah Knaup   University of East Anglia   S.Knaup@uea.ac.uk
Torsten Krause   Lund University   torsten.krause@lucid.lu.se
A few of them made it into our special feature, which was quite competitive.

In addition, the conference attracted a significant number of participants from developing countries. A few examples:

Jyotish Basu  West Bengal State University  bjyotish@yahoo.com
Joice Ferreira  Brazilian Enterprise for Agricultural Research  joice@cpatu.embrapa.br
Maria Fernanda Gebara  Getulio Vargas Foundation  mfgbarau@gmail.com
Frank Hajek  SePeru  frank.hajek@seperu.org
Stepi Hakim  Clinton Foundation, Indonesia  shakim@clintonfoundation.org
Tek Jung Mahat  Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN)  tmahat@icimod.org
Augustine Ogogo  University of Calabar  auogogo@yahoo.com

Glossary of Terms

Include list of acronyms and abbreviations

COP  Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
REDD+  Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, including forest conservation, enhancement of carbon stocks and sustainable management of forests