



International Climate Initiative (IKI)

Short description

Transparent monitoring in practice: Supporting post-Paris land use sector mitigation

Project data:

Countries:	Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Papua New Guinea, Peru
Partner institutions:	<p>Permanent REDD+ Executive Secretary (SEP-REDD), Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MINEDD) Mr. Ernest Kouame Ahoulou, Head of SEP-REDD ernest.ahoulou@reddplus.ci</p> <p>Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC), Ethiopia REDD+ Secretariat Yitebitu Moges, REDD+ coordinator yitebitumoges@yahoo.com</p> <p>National Forest Authority, Papua New Guinea Forest Policy and Planning Ruth C H Turia, Director rturia@pngfa.gov.pg</p> <p>Ministry of Environment (MINAM), Peru PNCB - MINAM, Cuerpo de Asistencia al Desarrollo Alternativo Berioska Quispe Estrada, Specialist for Institutional Strengthening for REDD+ bquispe@minam.gob.pe</p>
Implementing organisations:	<p>Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) Dr. Christopher Martius, Team Leader, Climate Change, Bioenergy, and Low-Carbon Development C.Martius@cgiar.org</p> <p>Oeko-Institut e.V. Energy & Climate Division Dr. Hannes Böttcher, Senior Researcher h.boettcher@oeko.de</p>

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
(FAO)
Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department
Dr. Danilo Mollicone
Danilo.Mollicone@fao.org

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
(IIASA)
Ecosystems Services and Management
Dr. Steffen Fritz, Deputy Program Director
fritz@iiasa.ac.at

National Wildlife Federation (NWF)
Tropical Forest and Agriculture
Dr Nathalie Walker, Director
walkern@nwf.org

Wageningen University
Department Environmental Science
Prof. Dr. Martin Herold
martin.herold@wur.nl

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Project duration:

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(36 months)

Website:

www.transparentmonitoring.org

Initial situation

The Paris Agreement stresses the importance of the land use sector for climate change mitigation. Implementing countries need reliable, authoritative, and unbiased sources of information for Transparent Monitoring (TM), sources such as, e.g. Global Forest Watch, OpenForis, Geo-Wiki, to account for emissions and removals.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the Cocoa and Forests Initiative builds on involving the private sector in monitoring and recently has accepted the IMAGES platform¹ by VividEconomics as the monitoring system. Acceptance was reached throughout all Ivorian governments, including the REDD+ Secretariat (SEP-REDD).

Ethiopia's monitoring capacities have improved over recent years but are still hampered by limited accuracy, transparency and completeness at national and provincial levels. A national system for GHG accounting and reporting and a national forest inventory exists. These systems would benefit from improved quality and sharing of land use and biomass data and efforts to close data gaps.

Papua New Guinea established a national forest monitoring system based on the national forest inventory, that already uses elements of TM and that will serve as a model for other countries.

Peru has mitigation activities and incentive systems in place but needs better integration of local expert monitoring with national data sources to stimulate an open and transparent exchange of information and stakeholder engagement.

Short description

The project goal is to develop good practice guidelines for Transparent Monitoring (TM) approaches that assist countries with limited resources and data in implementing improved monitoring in the land use sector. The project aims at developing guidance for open source tools and open access datasets

¹ <https://www.vivideconomics.com/images/>

for estimating land use related emissions and removals consistently to be implemented by national stakeholder. FAO OpenForis Initiative plays a key role in the testing of these guidelines.

The project further aims at improving data availability in developing countries through open source tools and open access datasets, thus contributing to the implementation of an enhanced transparency framework and improved assessment of mitigation actions. Specific country activities are:

Côte d'Ivoire: Development of guidance for assessing emissions mitigation along supply chains consistent with national approaches.

Ethiopia: Integration of TM approaches to improve national MRV (biomass assessment, land use change assessment, and participation of local communities in forest restoration).

Papua New Guinea: Evaluation of adoption of open data, of data accessibility policies and the improvement in participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in MRV.

Peru: Development of practices, guidance and upscaling of interactive monitoring integrating local expertise and the national monitoring system for forest protection linked to a national incentive system for forest-related mitigation.

Multiplier effect

By helping to make monitoring more transparent, reliable and trustworthy, this project will support to development of efficient and effective systems that meet the countries' needs. Monitoring systems designed following the guidance generated in the project will reduce costs by relying increasingly on open data. Open source tools and open access data also provide an opportunity for private investors to reduce costs in data gathering. Currently, uncertainties in data availability, limited capacities and low transparency of data hinder broader investments and engagement of private stakeholders.

The selected countries represent requirements of different groups of countries and are selected to allow a smooth transfer to other countries. Replicability is a guiding principle of TM approaches. Results will be communicated at various levels (e.g. UNFCCC COPs or Global Landscapes Forum) and instruments (trainings, webinars, guidance, workshops) and via far-reaching networks bearing a high multiplier potential (IPCC, FAO, GFOI, GOF-C-GOLD).