

International Workshop on REDD +
**A new framework for conservation of
tropical forests: monitoring, biodiversity
and practices**

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Eduardo Mansur
ITTO

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Findings (1)

- Workshop objective: Deepen discussions on REDD+ as a new framework for conservation of tropical forests: Monitoring, Biodiversity and Practices
 - **Fully achieved**
- REDD+: *Likely* to become the largest PES scheme ever put in place
- It enjoys a big political momentum and funding for phase 1 is gradually becoming available
- REDD+ can become a strong instrument to enhance cooperation and expand interest of many stakeholders in forests, including the private sector
- Social and biological “co-benefits” work hand-in-hand: *If well designed* and implemented, REDD+ is *likely* to generate very important benefits for biodiversity conservation as well as for local and indigenous forest dependant communities in developing world
- We should not be afraid of REDD+, but there are still **uncertainties** and **challenges** ahead. Many of them have been discussed today:

Findings (2)

- **Private sector participation** and involvement is necessary for REDD+ to succeed in the long run.
- **Benefit sharing:** one of the biggest challenges for the implementation of REDD+
- Foresters must learn **new approaches** and parameters, e.g. **permanence, additionality and avoided leakage** of carbon stocks; and how to monitor forest biodiversity in managed forests
- Forest research: A wealth of knowledge is available, but still need to cover gaps. Most important: How to make research results well known and applied in practice, to influence policy making and **avoid emotional policy decisions**

Findings (3)

- **Countries must be in the drivers seat**, and local experiences have a lot to provide to the international debate
 - Cambodia: “International trend is unclear for REDD+”
 - Ecuador: “We cannot waste more time, deforestation does not wait...”
- Risk of concentrating in few “*more important*” countries: **ALL countries are important** and should participate in REDD+
 - Togo, Comores
- **International recognition** is necessary for the global mechanism to exist and function (REDD+ cannot be a stand-alone mechanism functioning by itself)
- **Safeguards and monitoring** tools are necessary to guarantee the expected results of REDD+

Findings (4)

- Biodiversity conservation is an **enabling condition** for REDD+
- Research need for monitoring of REDD+ and biodiversity benefits (in all **the 3 components of “plus”**: PA, SFM, tree planting)
- Need to increase synergies between CBD and UNFCCC, and we all should be engaged

Findings (5)

- Some of the challenges can be turned into opportunities to solve old problems of the forest sector, like:
 - Better **forest inventories**, improved use of Remote Sensing in forests and to assess land use changes
 - Better **forest governance**, improved forest law compliance
 - Promotion of **sustainable management** of forests and **RIL**
 - Improved forest **tenure and access** rights
 - Design and implement minimum **standards and safeguards** for **biodiversity** and **social benefits** of REDD+
 - Promote more **partnerships** and **collaboration**: there is space for all of us, and more...
 - Increase **private sector involvement now**, not await for “phase 3”

Thank you for your participation
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