

Slide 4. Overview

As an overview, we need to describe what REDD is. We're talking about deforestation particularly in tropical countries. We need to understand what the drivers of deforestation are, why it occurs, and then the approaches that we're using in the international community to try and reduce deforestation. So we'll talk about the climate negotiations, we'll talk about some of the funding sources, and the pilot projects that are underway, and some of the early lessons learned.

Overview



1. What is REDD+?
 - The Drivers of Deforestation
 - The big bundles of REDD issues
2. Current Approaches
 - The Cancun REDD+ text
 - The Phased approach
 - UN-REDD and Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
3. What have we learned?
 - Lessons so far from REDD+ pilot programs

Slide 5. REDD

REDD stands for, the R-E-D-D portion, stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation. In the course of the negotiations it became clear that we needed an opportunity for additional management styles, and so the + was added to refer to reducing emissions through conservation, sustainable forest management, and enhancement of carbon stocks.

REDD+

REDD = Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in developing countries
+ = through conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks

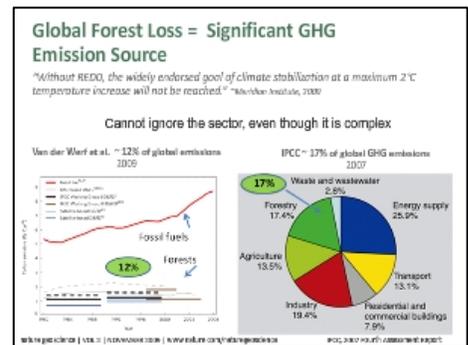


Google
Aerial ©2008, 2009

Slide 6. Global Forest Loss = Significant GHG

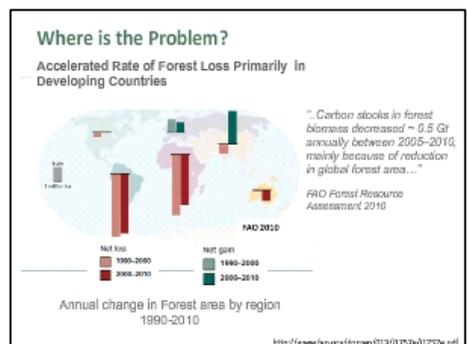
So why are we worried about deforestation? The reason is that it is a very significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. The IPCC³ originally estimated that forest emissions from forest loss were around 17 percent of all global emission types. More recent work indicates maybe it's around 12 percent, but in any event if you look at the yellow section of the graph there, that's the transportation sector and you can see that forest emissions are almost equal to the entire global transportation sector. So we simply cannot ignore them anymore.

There's no way that we can meet the goal of a maximum two degrees centigrade rise unless we deal with the forest sector, even though it's very complex.



Slide 7. Where is the Problem?

So where is the problem occurring? The accelerated rate of forest loss now is primarily occurring in the tropics and developing countries. Here you can see that South America, Africa, and Southeast Asia have been the primary locations of deforestation. And you can also notice the increase in forests sink in China, where they've had a very aggressive reforestation program.



Slide 8. REDD is Complicated

So REDD is an international mechanism to combat deforestation in developing countries, and originally it had a very narrow carbon-oriented focus where we were just looking, can we reduce carbon emissions? As the conversation developed it became very clear that you cannot just go into a forest and put a fence around it for carbon purposes. There are entire communities that live there, people that are dependent on the forest. There's issues of poverty alleviation and economic development.

REDD+ is Complicated

REDD+ is an international mechanism to combat deforestation in developing countries

Originally: Narrow purpose → Reduce C Emissions from forest loss

Now: Broader scope → economic development; poverty alleviation and livelihoods, Sustainable Forest Management etc.

Slide 9. REDD is Complicated

The debate was very strong on whether or not we should even go forward with this idea or not. There's many, many issues, and to help you sort them out in your mind if you put them in to three bundles. There are the issues dealing with carbon which has to do with project accounting versus national accounting and maybe a hybrid system and reference emission levels and so on. Then there's a whole group of issues dealing with the social issues governance and capacity, where you need to address the economic drivers of deforestation, talk about land tenure, indigenous rights, equitable distribution of benefits. And then there's the whole market part. Are we going to have a carbon market or not? Are we going to be just dependent on donor funds and what level of greenhouse gas emissions will that even provide in the long run? Will we have a voluntary or compliant system? So that helps you sort it out.

REDD+ is Complicated

The three Big Bundles of REDD+ issues:

- **The Carbon and The Accounting**
Project, National or Nested/Hybrid accounting? Reference Emission Levels (RELs); Sampling methodologies; MRV; Registries...
- **Social, Governance and Capacity Issues**
Capacity to address drivers of deforestation; Land Tenure and C rights; Safeguards for Indigenous and stakeholder rights; "Free, Prior and Informed Consent" (FPIC) and inclusion in the REDD process; Equitable distribution of Benefits...
- **The Financing**
Carbon Markets or not? Donors, Funds; Bi-lateral agreements; Project Developers, Investors and Traders; Voluntary and Compliance systems

Slide 10. What Causes Deforestation?

Let's look at what causes deforestation. It's really fairly straight forward. The forest is simply worth more as quote "something else", either for intensive agriculture or for fuel wood, or global demand for wood products. Here's a couple of examples.

What Causes Deforestation?

Forests are worth more as "something else"



DRIVERS

- Industrial Agriculture
 - Palm Oil
 - Soybeans
 - Cattle production
- Fuelwood and charcoal
- Legal and illegal logging
- Global demand for wood products
- ...

Slide 11. Drivers of Deforestation - Soybeans

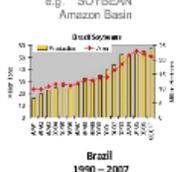
In the Brazilian Amazon, which we know is a tremendously biodiverse rich carbon-rich forest, huge areas have been cleared for soybean production for livestock feed ...

Drivers of Deforestation

Emissions of Carbon Stocks



e.g. SOYBEAN
Amazon Basin

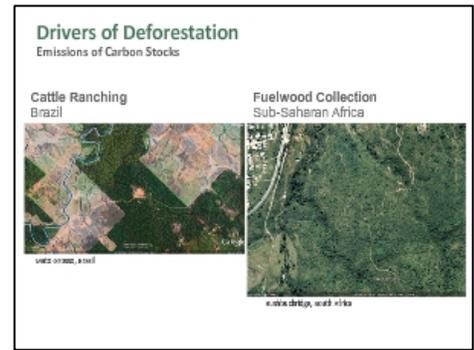


Brazil 1990 - 2007

UNEP
UNEP/WHO Collaborating Centre for Air Quality and Human Health
3-32-2007

Slide 12. Drivers of Deforestation – Fuelwood and Cattle

...also for cattle ranching. In Sub-Saharan Africa there is great dependence on fuel wood for cooking and heating so vast areas have been deforested.



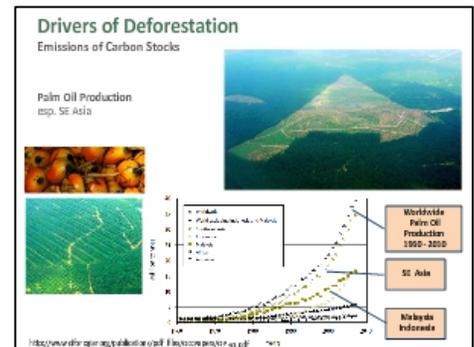
Slide 13. Drivers of Deforestation - Roads

When you put a road into a primary forest, that's the first part of a chain of events that causes fragmentation and deforestation of the much larger area.



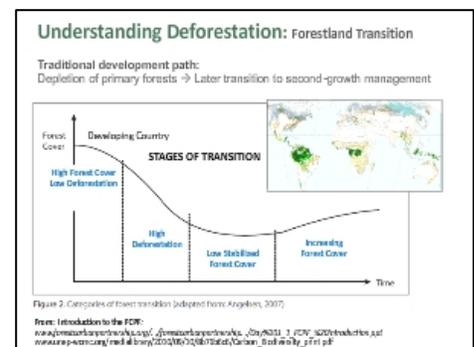
Slide 14. Drivers of Deforestation – Palm Oil

In South East Asia, palm oil is one of the largest drivers. Palm oil has many uses in lubricants and cosmetics and as a biofuel, and as the demand for biofuel increases you can see the exponential rate of use of world palm oil, which results in vast areas of monoculture palm plantations.



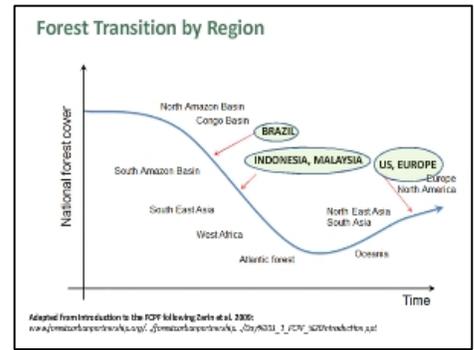
Slide 15. Understanding Deforestation

So in order to understand this deforestation trend, it helps to look at a larger forestland transition model in which almost all countries that have forests have gone through a period where they had very rich primary forest. They then went through a steep declining limb of removing that forest. They bottomed out at some point, and then many of them have come out of it and moved into second growth management.



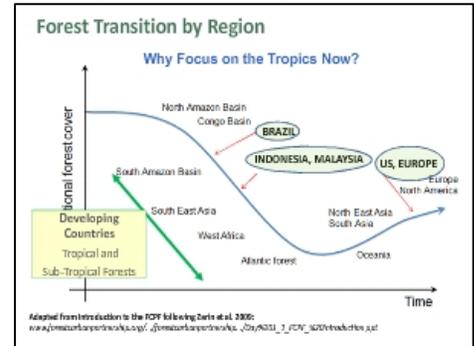
Slide 16. Forest Transition by Region

So if we look at this by region of countries that are in these various stages...



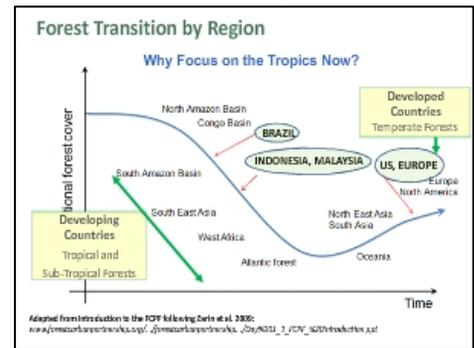
Slide 17. Developing Countries

...we can see that it is those developing countries that are now in the declining limb of the curve, and that's why the focus is on the tropics.



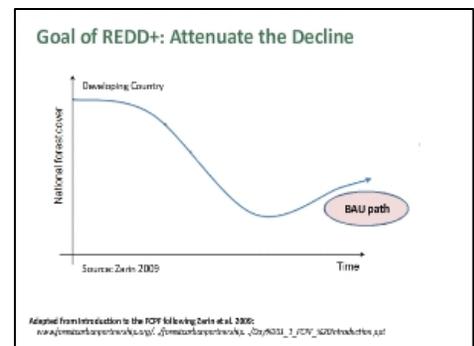
Slide 18. Developed Countries

Whereas the United States and Europe, we've already done that. We have deforested, we've moved across our countries, we deforested and now we're on the rising limb where we are more engaged in secondary forest management.



Slide 19. Goal of REDD: Attenuate the Decline

So if this is a developing country and it has this business as usual curve facing it, how can we try and attenuate that?



Slide 24. We Have a Global Forest Agreement

We now have a global forest agreement on climate strategy for forests. So this really is a big deal.

We Have a Global Forest Agreement 

 ✓ REDD+ Text adopted 

= One key element of a Global climate Strategy

Slide 25. Cancun Text for REDD

The text includes almost all the issues that were raised. The full REDD+ definition was included, countries who participated must have a national strategy, they must establish a reference level, they have to have a robust monitoring and reporting program,

Cancun Text for REDD+
Reflects many years of negotiation and debate

Negotiated REDD+ Text:

1. The full REDD-Plus Definition
"Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries"
2. Requests developing country Parties ... to develop the following elements:
 - a. National Strategy or Action Plan
 - b. Reference Emission Level (REL)
 - at National level
 - at Subnational level as interim measure
 - c. MRV: Robust Monitoring, Reporting and Verification systems

https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/acc_15/application/pdf/acc15_ks.pdf

Slide 26. Cancun Text for REDD

...they have to have a system for tracking the safeguards for making sure the benefit distribution works and so on. You need to address your economic drivers, governance issues, and so it really provides a framework for REDD to move forward.

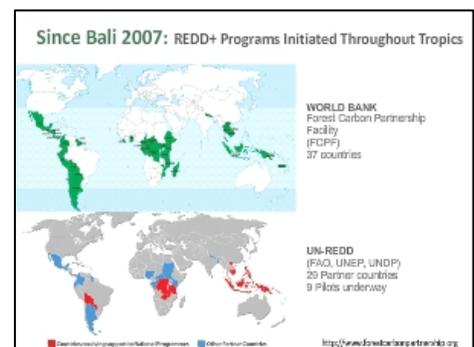
Cancun Text for REDD+
Reflects many years of negotiation and debate

- d. System for Tracking Safeguards:
Information on how the safeguards for people and livelihoods are being addressed and respected...
- e. National strategy must address:
 - Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
 - Land tenure issues: Carbon rights
 - Forest governance issues
 - Gender considerations
 - Ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities...

Bill Pending: Decision on carbon markets and guidance, if authorized

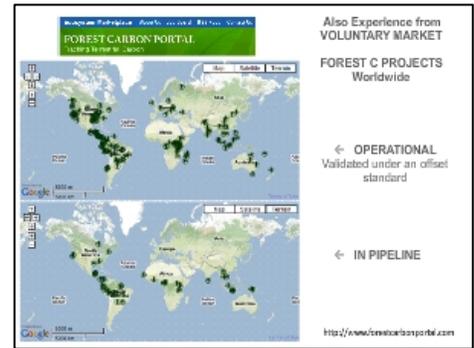
Slide 27. Since Bali 2007

The World Bank in a fund called Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and UN-REDD⁵, which is made of up a consortium of U.N.⁶ agencies, primarily FAO⁷, have started instituting pilot projects throughout the tropics to see where do we really start with this. So there's quite a number of pilots that are going.



Slide 28. Voluntary Market

In addition we have experience from the voluntary market where NGOs⁸ and project developers have been developing projects. The upper map shows projects that have already been verified through some sort of protocol, and the lower map shows projects that are in the pipeline.



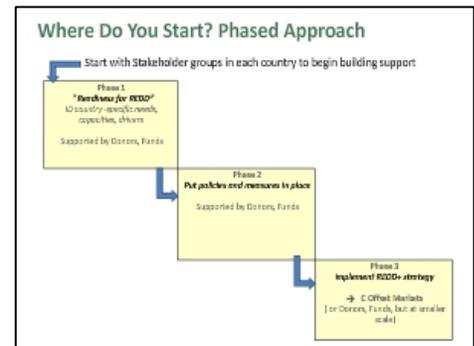
Slide 29. Forest Carbon Protocols for REDD

And we have protocols that are developing that set up the rules for defining forest carbon gains. The verified carbon standard has emerged as the primary standard-setting body, and they have a whole list now of various REDD methodologies that are available.



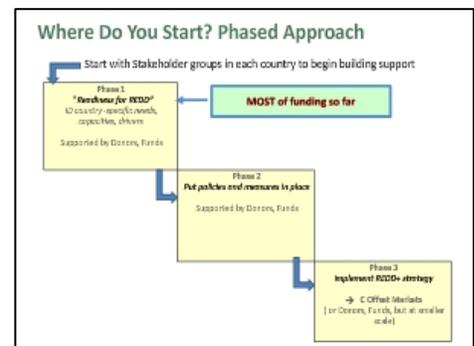
Slide 30. Where Do You Start? Phased Approach

And the way we've started on this, you know, where do you start? You have a country that has the deforestation problem, you need to start with the stakeholders first and you need to identify what capacities are there, what gaps are there, what are the drivers? This is called Phase 1 of Readiness for REDD and this, as I said, is supported by donor funds. Phase 2 would be when they're ready to start putting policies and measures in place, and it's Phase 3 when you would actually have compliance quality REDD credits to offer to a market or a fund.



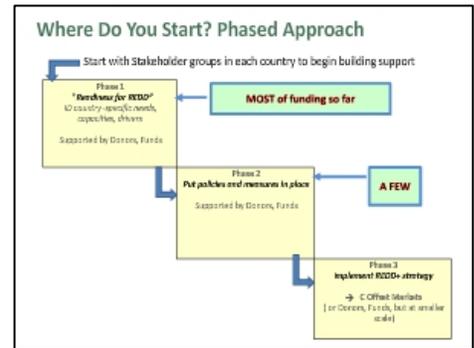
Slide 31. Most Funding So Far

So most of the funding so far from donors has been in Phase 1.

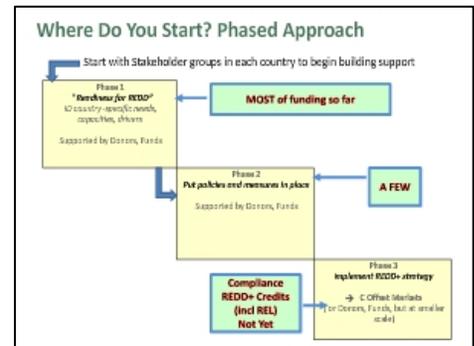


Slide 32. A Few

There's a little bit in Phase 2, but we're simply not ready yet with compliance credits.



Slide 33. Compliance REDD Credits (incl REL) Not Yet



Slide 34. Early Lessons from World Bank FCPF and UN-REDD

We've learned some early lessons and just recent reports from both World Bank and from UN-REDD have been published.

Slide 35. Three Big, Early Lessons

The three big lessons so far are that REDD is not just about forestry. You need to embed REDD into the whole economic development of the country, working across sectors. You have to work with the agricultural sector, and the ministry of finance, and so on. The process for developing REDD is as important as the final product, because REDD is, the idea is, that you're moving into a country that already has an established political structure about how resources are used, and you're talking about changing that. So there's a lot of dissention, contentious issues. And thirdly, REDD is not the solution to every problem. It's not going to solve all development problems. There's still going to be need for other forms of development assistance.

Slide 36. Policy Questions: Linking REDD with the US

If we start looking at REDD and linking it back to the United States, are there any implications for us? First of all, I was reminded and it is important, the U.S. is providing a significant amount of technical assistance to developing countries to develop capacity for REDD. USAID⁹, U.S. Forest Service International are already helping to meet some of the technical needs. The other point is that here the world is looking at forestry in terms of deforestation and they've learned a lot. Let me tell you the financial sector knows a lot more about forests than they ever used to, and the United States is not framing our concern about forests in the same terms. We've had the luxury of being a net carbon sink, so we haven't had to. But as we've seen in some of the other presentations, particularly on urban forestry, we know that urban growth is moving into our privately owned forestlands, and right now our reporting for our data does not separate between public and private lands, and the difference there will drive different policy outcomes. And so I'm always emphasizing the point that we need to start structuring our data slightly so that we can make more informed policy decisions.

Policy Questions: Linking REDD+ with the US

1. The U.S. is providing technical and financial assistance to many developing countries for Carbon Monitoring and Accounting.
 - * Programs of US AID, US Forest Service International and others help build capacity for REDD+
2. With the international focus on Deforestation and Degradation, does the U.S. express our forest trends in comparable terms?
 - * At present, U.S. forests = a net carbon sink
 - * But national data are expressed as an aggregate of Public and Private land ownerships
3. Given the projected trends of Urbanization and Forest Conversion in the U.S. (as seen in other presentations):
 - * Our aggregated forest sector data should be separated into Private and Public components, in order to show finer-grained trends

→ This would better inform policy choices for carbon management in US forests as a whole, on both private and public lands

Slide 37. As Complex as REDD is

As a final slide, this is Frances Seymour who is the Director General of CIFOR¹⁰, and I admire her tremendously. She has worked very hard during the climate negotiations to make sure that all the stakeholders were brought in through sponsoring what are called forest days. We just had Forest Day 4, and she has been very much a guardian of insuring that there's inclusionary processes, and she recently said at the Cancun COP that, "finally we're at a point where the risks of no action are greater than the risks of moving ahead." And she's ready to move ahead, and that gave a signal, I think, to the negotiators to adopt the REDD text. So thank you very much.

As complex as REDD+ is...



Frances Seymour, Director General CIFOR
Center for International Forestry Research

"Whether the objective is global climate protection, local adaptation, biodiversity conservation, or rural development, *there is an increasing sense that the risks of no action on forests are far greater than the risks of moving ahead. It's time to act.*"

Footnotes

¹REDD+=Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries

²COP=Conference of the Parties, United Nations Climate Change Conference

³IPCC= Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

⁴CDM=Clean Development Mechanism

⁵UN-REDD= United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

⁶U.N.=United Nations

⁷FAO=Food and Agricultural Organization

⁸NGO=Non-governmental Organization

⁹USAID=United States Agency for International Development

¹⁰CIFOR=Center for International Forestry Research