

LULUCF LAB – FACTSHEET

Objective

To develop a better understanding of how Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru are incorporating LULUCF into their overall Mitigation Action (MA) and scenario planning process.

Description

The LULUCF workshop (LulucF Lab) took place on 25 - 27 September 2012 in Iquitos, Peru. Twenty-five participants from four developing countries active in the MAPS Programme (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru and South Africa), attended the workshop.

Reflections

- An overall challenge in availability of data on emissions arising from LULUCF, was identified. The data that is available is either out-of-date or unspecific.
- Data is often collected without a clear objective of what it will be used for. This produces data that is not helpful to adequately capture the specific issues required to analyse the socio-economic impacts of Mitigation Actions in the LULUCF sectors.
- MAs that have an impact on both emissions reductions and socio-economic development were identified as most preferable for implementation. However the lack of databases and poor data availability on socio-economic impacts makes assessing their impact challenging. Methods need to be developed to measure socio-economic conditions in communities, to construct baselines for future evaluations, as well as to analyse the impact of the interventions on communities' quality of life. This information on the socio-economic impacts of Mitigation Actions particularly in rural areas could be used as substantiation for future mitigation projects.
- Engagement with differentiated diagnostics could assist in the identification of the impact of deforestation, for example the impacts of road building on people of different ages, incomes, education level and gender.
- There is a need to model the drivers of deforestation such as the expansion of livestock production and croplands, timber and fuel-wood demand, expanding road infrastructure, hydropower and mining. Qualitative data could assist in this by enabling an understanding of the value the forest holds for communities, as well as in understanding the motives for and against, harvesting the forest.

- Illegal deforestation drivers linked to cattle raising, land tenure, land price speculation and mining activities are challenging both in modelling and building scenarios.
- Modelling the expansion of forest degradation (using economic modelling) provides indications of which areas are likely to incur deforestation and therefore which areas need to be monitored and controlled.
- There is a need to assess the effectiveness and impacts of command and control instruments on reducing deforestation. In Brazil further analysis is needed on how best to inform restrictions to growing soy products, cattle farming and other agricultural activities and their impact on the poor.
- It is necessary to model the costs, investments and finance needs for MA implementation as well as to calculate GHG emissions for these MAs.

Country Deforestation Targets

Brazil: *Reduce deforestation by 80% by 2020.* Key drivers of deforestation are: livestock expansion, soya and maize plantations, illegal deforestation, subsistence farmers and infrastructural programmes (IIRSA, PAC).

Chile: *No targets as not a major concern within the country.* There are plans to reduce forest degradation which is a challenge in the country. Main drivers for degradation are selective wood extraction, fires and climate-change impacts.

Colombia: *No deforestation target.* There is a reforestation programme developed under CDM. The current reforestation programme targets 600.000 ha for commercial plantation and 400.000 ha restoration and environmental protection until 2014. The main drivers for deforestation are livestock expansion and palm oil plantations.

Perú: *Reduce deforestation to zero by 2020.* The current deforestation rate is 140.000 ha per year. Main drivers for deforestation are: expansion of cocoa plantations and livestock, palm oil plantations, informal mining and subsistence farming. A key issue for mitigation is the clear legal definition of land use and land ownership.

Towards the development of Mitigation Actions

1. Formalise and implement ecologic and economic zones according to the soil's carrying capacity.
2. Implement territorial management at national and local governance levels.
3. Implement programmes to value the forest (valorizar el bosque en pié).
4. Implement programmes to monitor deforestation and degradation of forests.
5. Research and understand both the impacts of climate change and dynamics within eco systems (variation in the phenology of species, variation in crops, seasons for planting).
6. Research opportunity costs of forest conservation and sustainable forest management.
7. Promote the integration of sectors and align policy.
8. Strengthen and promote initiatives for forests in other economic activities like the payment for environmental services.
9. Formalise the ownership of land.
10. Construct information systems to monitor land use.
11. Incentivise programmes for non-wood products and other forest products like apiculture.
12. Incentivise the use of appropriate technologies for the use of biomass and waste in the forest.

Next Steps for MAPS

- Address the data limitations in all countries and prioritise them as an issue. This vital for the long-term planning process that MAPS aims to stimulate.
- Produce briefs on socio-economic impacts of MAs in the Land-Use sector and the necessity of databases. Inform governments about the necessity to engage in better data collection and analysis
- Continue the dialogue amongst modelling experts in the LULUCF sector.