



# Tanzania REDD Initiative

## Newsletter

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD)

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# Launching of The REDD initiative in Tanzania



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**Front page photos: Main photo -** Hon. Dr. Batilda Burian (MP) The Minister of State in the Vice-President's Office (Environment),



*Launching of The REDD initiative in Tanzania - participants in group photo*

## Launching of The REDD initiative in Tanzania

The United Republic of Tanzania launched the national REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) initiative on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at Kunduchi Beach Hotel, Dar es Salaam. The REDD Launching event was organized by the National REDD Task Force Members through the REDD Secretariat.

The Minister of State in the Vice-President's Office (Environment), Dr Batilda Burian; officiated the event. In her speech, she emphasized that Climate Change remains a serious threat to Tanzania's development initiatives in reducing poverty and attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Although the country's Greenhouse Gas emissions are negligible in global terms, the minister said the government considers the National REDD initiative a viable opportunity for the country to meet its obligations of managing its forests and woodlands in a sustainable way and at the same time fight poverty.

"The loss of financial, human, natural, physical and social capital caused by the adverse impacts of climate change, especially severe droughts and floods are among climate change disasters of a great concern to Tanzania," the minister said.

Mr. Ivar Jorgenson, from the Royal Norwegian Embassy said the partnership between Tanzania and Norway that was signed last year is part of a larger global effort supported by Norway to help halt deforestation. The Norwegian government has allocated 100 million US Dollars for climate change issues and forest conservation in the country for the next 5 years. It is in this context, therefore, that lessons learnt from REDD activities implemented in Tanzania will be of great contribution to the global REDD programme.

During the launching ceremony, the UNDP country director, Mr. Alain Noudehou gave an overview of the UN-REDD programme. This is a one UN programme, encompassing FAO, UNEP and UNDP, being piloted in several countries, including Tanzania.

The main objective of the UN-REDD programme is to complement the national REDD efforts that are urgently needed to adapt forest management systems, and establish financing mechanisms and associated monitoring and verification systems that are attuned to the country needs", stated Mr. Noudehou. Therefore, the UN-REDD contributes to the same broad objectives outlined for the National REDD Initiative and supports government readiness for the national REDD.



*Hon. Ezekiel Maige (MP), The Deputy Minister from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism*

The Deputy Minister from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism Hon. Ezekiel Maige (MP) presented his speech on REDD related initiative in the country including Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and Wildlife Management Area (WMA). He further explained that the National REDD initiative complements the current government efforts geared towards attaining sustainable forest management and reducing poverty, particularly for forest dependent communities.

An update on REDD Research in Tanzania was presented by Prof. Maliondo from Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). He said that the programme aims at developing and sustaining national capacity to participate in climate change initiatives and in addressing the effects and challenges of climate change with particular emphasis on REDD initiatives. Prof. Maliondo said that the programme will focus on research and capacity building to address climate change and strategic interventions. The program will involve three Tanzanian institutions (Sokoine University of Agriculture, University of Dar es Salaam and Tanzania Meteorological Agency) and one foreign university (Norwegian University of Life Sciences).

Finally on behalf of the National REDD Task force members, the coordinator of the REDD Secretariat (Prof. Pius Yanda) highlighted on the science behind climate change, which is linked to an increase in emission of greenhouse gases. He further highlighted the background to REDD initiatives in Tanzania. Prof. Pius Yanda stated that the REDD initiative is an effort towards reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It was stated that about one fifth of global greenhouse gases comes from deforestation and forest degradation.

## REDD consultation workshops

Various zonal consultations have been conducted throughout the country, aimed at raising awareness on REDD initiatives and soliciting relevant information for development of the national REDD strategy. Up to this moment, consultations have been conducted at zonal level and with Directors from various sectoral ministries in Tanzania Mainland.

### i. Zonal Consultation Workshops

The National REDD Task Force and the REDD Secretariat have conducted several consultations all over the country. The aim of the consultations, in addition to raising awareness on REDD, was to examine local experiences from other initiatives relevant to REDD such as Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Consultation also aimed at examining Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) of establishing and implementing REDD initiative; and possibilities of establishing REDD networks in the country.

In order to accomplish the above tasks, the country was divided into eight zones, shown in Table 1 below. Consultations were conducted at regional and ward levels. At the regional level, various stakeholders were invited in these workshops. These stakeholders include Regional Commissioners, Regional Natural Resources Advisors, District Forest Officers, Land Officers, Agricultural Officers, Researchers, Relevant NGOs and CBOs. At the ward level village environmental or natural resources committee members and village government leaders were involved. In addition to these experts in REDD issues, the consultations also involved journalists.

The main issues that were discussed during the REDD consultations included;

- Land tenure issues
- Cost-Benefit sharing mechanism



*Mapogolo Village environmental committee together with REDD Task Force and Secretariat during zonal consultation*

- Rights of the forest dependent communities such as Hadzabe and Tindigas
- Policies, regulations and institutions governing natural resources management in the country
- Whether REDD is a Reward or Payment to local communities
- REDD to include natural forests and forest plantations
- Natural trees or planted trees vs. permanent crops such as cloves, cashew nuts, palm trees etc
- Rewards for avoided forest degradation and deforestation Vs Stewardship
- Politics of conservations (conflicting interest among the key actors)
- Land survey and land planning at village level

### ii. Directors Meeting

A one day consultative workshop was held in Dar es Salaam on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at Giraffe Hotel, with Directors from various government sectoral ministries and other public institutions. Among other things, the workshop aimed at coming up with issues which public sectors would use in developing REDD proposals.

**Table1: REDD Consultation Zone**

Zone	Regions	Ward/Village
Northern Zone	♦Manyara, Kilimanjaro and Arusha	Ayasanda
Central zone	♦Dodoma and Singida	Sejeli
Eastern Zone	Dar es Salaam, ♦Tanga, Morogoro and Coast	Amani
Southern Zone	Lindi, ♦Mtwara and Ruvuma	Ndumbwi
Lake Zone	♦Mwanza, Kagera, Mara and Shinyanga	Shibayi
Western Zone	Tabora and ♦Kigoma	Nyamori
Zanzibar	♦Unguja and Pemba	Muyuni C
Southern Highlands Zone	Iringa, ♦Mbeya and Rukwa	Mapogolo

NB: ♦ shows regions in which consultations were conducted

## Study Tours

Teams from the Vice President's Office – Division of Environment (VPO-DOE), Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism-Forestry and Beekeeping Division (MNRT-FBD) and the University of Dar es Salaam- Institute of Resource Assessment (UDSM-IRA) undertook study tours to Australia, Brazil and Norway. Experiences from the study tours is expected to facilitate, guide and provide valuable inputs into the process of developing the Tanzania National REDD strategy, particularly monitoring, assessment, reporting and verification (MARV) component. The following are experiences gathered from the study tours;

### i. Experience from the Australia

The main objective of visiting Australia in relation to establishment of REDD activities in Tanzania was to learn about the National Carbon Accounting System (NCAS). The following are the main lessons learnt from the Australian National Carbon Accounting System:

- **Government commitment**

In order to ensure success, efficiency and sustainability of a National Carbon Accounting System (NCAS), the high level government endorsement, commitment, and political will are necessary. This is demonstrated in the Australian Prime Minister's statement of 20 November 1997 which says, 'in order to safeguard the future, a robust carbon accounting methodology is vital'. Such a clear policy statement about the need to establish the NCAS and avail the necessary funds for that purpose, paved the way significantly.

- **Allocation of sufficient funds to establish and run the system**

Political will alone is not sufficient if sufficient resources are not allocated to implement the programme. The Australian Government committed 12.5 million Australian dollars for acquiring the necessary data sets, training of staff, purchase of necessary materials and monitoring the system.

- **Creating or identifying a body to run**

Creating a special entity or body to oversee development and operation of the system is a critical requirement for the success of National Carbon Accounting System (NCAS). In Australia, a special entity called The Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) was established. The AGO was given the task of establishing and

implementing a consolidated package that will provide a comprehensive framework and scientific services necessary to account for Australia's emissions reduction and sink enhancement programs of an internationally credible standard.

- **Subjecting to international review**

To ensure a world's best practice and international credibility, the NCAS is constantly subjected to international peer review. Peer review has established strong international interest in the work being undertaken in Australia and provides the basis for continuing collaboration.

- **Involvement of various stakeholders**

Involvement of stakeholder is crucial for success of any programme. Generation of vast amounts of data for the Australian NCAS involves sub contracting Landsat images to private companies, while quality control and production of procedures and scripts remain the responsibility of the Department of Climate Change under which NCAS falls.

- **Development of a new system/adoption and integration of existing ones**

Various models were developed or adapted separately and then integrated to form a complete package. This allowed for step by step development depending on policy priorities and human resources available.

### ii. Experience from Brazil

The team which visited Brazil focused on exploring experiences gained by Brazilians in establishing a REDD Trust Fund, explore how the private sector is involved in the REDD projects and what incentive schemes are used and whether they can be applicable in Tanzania. The team also wanted to find out whether or not the trust fund can be established under other umbrella organizations which already exist in Tanzania. The following are the lessons learnt from Brazil.

- **Commitment of Government and Local communities**

Forest conservation and management is a crosscutting issue which requires commitment of both local communities and government.

- **Direct and indirect benefits**



Both direct and indirect benefits are essential for sustainability of forest management and subsequent reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. For example, despite the fact that some communities in the Amazon forest were receiving indirect benefits from the government through various programmes such as free food for school children, construction of roads, bridges and schools, direct benefits through setting up a minimum price for non-forest products is important for sustainable forest management.

- **Need of seed money**

Setting up a fund for REDD is a long term and complex process and requires seed money which should be provided by government institution so as to enable the government to have a strong say in its management and operations.

- **Strong National NGOs**

Strong national NGOs which have adequate experts and resources are important for sustainable forest management and hence for reduction of deforestation and forest degradation in the country. In addition, such NGOs should have a strong network for their effectiveness in their operations and collaboration.

- **Governance**

A clear governance mechanism such as that of Amazon Fund is essential to provide confidence to all parties involved. The management of the Amazon Fund involves the integration of procedures and decisions developed by its three main bodies. In addition, for the sake of transparency and confirmation of the effective application of the fund resources, an external audit system is used.

- **Baselines and reference emission levels**

Historical deforestation rates should not be used as the only valid baseline approach. Future scenarios are more appropriate for areas with low historical rates of deforestation but with clear trends for future deforestation. Reference emission levels should be flexible and adaptive to different circumstances.

### iii. Experience from Norway

The main objective of visiting Norway in relation to establishment of REDD activities in Tanzania was to learn about forest carbon monitoring, verification and reporting systems. From this study tour, the team had

learnt the following;

- **Group of Earth Observation (GEO)**

There is an existence of an organization known as Group of Earth Observation (GEO), which has a task of establishing a number of reference test-sites to demonstrate and develop approaches and methods for using current earth observation capabilities for long-term, operational forest-cover change and carbon monitoring. The initiative is led by Australia (Department of Climate Change & CSIRO), Japan (JAXA), Norway (NSC), Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nation (FAO), and Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS).

This GEO initiative will establish a number of reference test-sites to demonstrate and develop approaches and methods for using current earth observation capabilities for long-term, operational forest-cover change and carbon monitoring. It was further pointed out that, among other countries, Tanzania will be involved in establishing a test site for this initiative.

- **Monitoring of forest biomass and biomass changes at national and local level**

The team had an opportunity to learn how biomass variation at national and local level can be assessed, taking an example of the country like Tanzania. It was noted that a systematic review of previous inventories regarding vegetation cover, the number of sample plots, size and shape are some of the important aspects to be known or noted well in advance. It was strongly felt by the delegates that Norwegian Institute for Forest and Landscape would be appropriate for capacity building at the technical level (inventory technicians).

- **Remote sensing data for carbon Stock Assessment**

The Norwegian Space Centre demonstrated their capabilities in acquiring remote sensing data for application in Carbon Stock assessment, which is a very important component in the carbon market. It was also pointed out that, for acquisition of remote sensing data, LiDAR is very powerful in assessing carbon stock. Moreover, Norwegian Space Centre (NSC) indicated their willingness to collaborate with Tanzanian institutions in the carbon stock assessment, using more advanced and updated available technology.

## In-Depth studies

Five thematic research areas were developed by the National Task Force and advertised accordingly for private and public institutions to take part in developing concept notes. A total of **35** concept notes addressing different thematic areas as was identified in the call were received.

Only five institutions were shortlisted to develop full proposals. Each thematic research area was to be addressed by one institution. The institution names and the thematic areas to be addressed are presented in Table 2 below;

**Table 2: List of In-depth Studies**

S/No	REDD Thematic Research Area	Name of Institution
1	Modalities of establishing and operationalising the National REDD Trust Fund, and associated financial flow management.	FORCUNSULT - Sokoine University of Agriculture
2	Role of REDD for rural development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost benefit analysis of different land uses in the context of REDD</li> <li>• Governance issues</li> <li>• Role of REDD in reducing poverty</li> <li>• Incentives and co-benefit sharing</li> </ul>	Institute of Resource Assessment – University of Dar es Salaam
3	Development of business case for carbon trade through REDD initiative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documenting existing carbon trading in Tanzania (both under Kyoto Protocol and voluntary markets)</li> <li>• Documenting opportunities for carbon marketing including negotiations, liability and contractual issues</li> </ul>	FORCUNSULT - Sokoine University of Agriculture
4	Prepare REDD information needs, communication and REDD knowledge management.	REGALIA Media Ltd
5	Legal and institutional framework review in the context of REDD intervention	Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT)



*Participant presenting during Northern Zone consultation*

## Demonstration projects for REDD piloting

The Government of Tanzania (GoT) and Royal Norwegian Embassy (RNE) identified the need to develop demonstration projects to pilot and test the following key aspects of REDD:

- Approaches to organizing REDD work at the local level, with a focus on governance and tenure;
- Incentive schemes that provide equitable benefit sharing mechanisms, especially to local communities;
- Baseline studies and methods for estimating deforestation, carbon sequestration and emissions;
- Participatory methods for monitoring, assessing, reporting and verifying; and
- Approaches that address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.

Accordingly, the Government of Tanzania in collaboration with the Embassy of Norway welcomed concepts from not-for-profit making non-governmental organizations (NGOs) based in the United Republic of Tanzania to develop concept notes. Forty six (46) NGOs submitted their Concept notes. Following rigorous review process Nine (9) NGOs were qualified and selected. The qualified NGOs are:

- African Wildlife Foundation (AWF)
- Jane Goodhall Institute (JGI)
- MPINGO Conservation Project
- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST)
- Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- Tanzania Traditional Energy Development and Environment Organization (TaTEDO)
- CARE – Zanzibar
- Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)

### Research and Capacity Building

A comprehensive programme titled 'Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation in Tanzania' (CCIAM) focusing on research and capacity building has been developed by the national institutions (SUA, TMA and UDSM) in collaboration with the Norwegian University of Life Sciences.

The main goal of the programme is to ensure better management of natural resources and the environment through appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies

and participation in climate change initiatives.

Under the research component, the programme has three research focus areas;

- Development of appropriate climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in forestry, other land uses, ecosystems and biodiversity management
- Assessment of climate change impacts and vulnerability on ecosystem services and livelihoods under REDD initiatives
- Policy and legal framework analysis of climate change adaptation and mitigation on economic efficiency and ecological effectiveness

Under capacity building, the focus areas will be;

- Mainstreaming climate change issues in institutions curricula
- Specialised training for 50 MSc and 17 PhD students on climate Change Impacts, Mitigation and Adaptation. Students requiring specialized courses not available in the country will study those courses in Norwegian Institutions
- Modules incorporating analytical modelling in climate change
- Short courses on climate change for policy makers and trainers
- Training and dissemination workshops for various stakeholders
- Enhance special skills in modelling for technicians and scientists
- Engage 15 young and 12 senior scholars annually in exchange programmes



*Ndunduru Forest Reserve in Kilolo district*

## Participation in Cop 15

Among the roles of the National REDD Task Force are to coordinate preparation for the CoP 15 meeting in Copenhagen that was held in December 2009. This coordination was specifically geared at showcasing lessons learnt with regard to REDD initiatives in Tanzania. Accordingly, a Consulting Company called KILIMANYIKA was earmarked for this task based on its experience in environmental and development activities.

KILIMANYIKA thus supported Tanzania by assisting the Tanzania National REDD Task Force at UNFCCC CoP 15 in showcasing its plans and achievements in the development and implementation of its national REDD Strategy.

The showcase comprised of presentations on some of the key initiatives related to National REDD Readiness. The REDD Task Force members decided that presentations should be given on Participatory Forest

Management, the National Forest Monitoring and Assessment Programme (NAFORMA), Valuing the Arc and participatory monitoring, assessment, reporting and verification (MRV). An important feature of the showcase is that it was developed in a participatory way. Also, each presentation was given by a project representative from each of the initiatives or groups of organisations chosen by the REDD Taskforce to participate in the showcase.

The showcase provided the opportunity for Tanzania to demonstrate its lead in preparing for REDD after 2012, and to share its experiences with the international community. Finally, it is envisaged that depending on the outcome of the UNFCCC negotiations at Copenhagen, a press conference will be held in the beginning of the year 2010 to provide feedback and analysis on the potential implications for the development of the country's National REDD Strategy.

### *Tanzania Showcasing events at CoP 15 in Copenhagen, Denmark*





Mr. Ivar Jørgensen of Norwegian Embassy during the REDD launching



Prof. P.Z. Yanda, Director of Institute of Resource Assessment UDSM during the REDD launching

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