CCIAM

Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation Programme in Tanzania

REDD Architecture in Tanzania: Assessment of REDD Institutional Arrangements for Livelihoods and Sustainable Development, CCIAM Project

REDD+ Options for Livelihood Security and Sustainable Development

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Introduction

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) in developing countries is an innovative approach for conserving forests to reduce negative impacts of climate change. REDD is considered a significant, cheap, quick and win-win way to curb global Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) emissions.

According to Angelsen and Atmadja (2008), it is '*significant* because one-fifth of global GHG emissions come from deforestation and forest degradation; *cheap* because much of the deforestation and forest degradation is only marginally profitable, so, reducing GHG emissions from forests would be cheaper than most other mitigation measures; *quick* because large reductions in GHG emissions can be achieved with "stroke of the pen" reforms and other measures not dependent on technological innovations; and *win-win* because the potentially large financial transfers and better governance can benefit the poor in developing counties and provide other environment gains on top of the climate-related benefits'.

That is, the option creates incentives for developing countries to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, while at the same time conserving biodiversity and reducing poverty. These arguments are premised on the assumption that forests will contribute to climate change mitigation only if their value increases to a level that makes protecting forests consistent with viable development strategies.

Tanzania is one of the countries receiving support for National Programme activities to assist them get ready for implementation of REDD as a post Kyoto climate change mitigation option. As a result nine pilot projects were launched since 2009 to test different REDD Mechanisms in different areas of Tanzania. These projects are expected to provide empirical evidence on the impacts of various REDD+ options on local communities' livelihood security and sustainable development as well as biodiversity conservation.

This is a project brief of the "REDD Architecture in Tanzania: Assessment of REDD options for Livelihood Security and Sustainable Development" project aiming at sharing preliminary knowledge and field experiences about various REDD+ options in the country, thereby helping to guide the design of a more effective and equitable REDD+ options for livelihood improvement and environment sustainability.

What are the available REDD+ options in Tanzania

Tanzania is underway in developing a national REDD+ programme which is a post REDD readiness phase. The government has already made significant progress in developing national REDD+ strategy. The framework emphasizes the involvement of the local community in the design and implementation of the REDD+ strategy. There are several options to achieve REDD+ in the country which if well operationalised could play a significant role in increasing carbon sinks and reduce emissions from productive activities and improve livelihoods. Some of these options which the country could offer in the international REDD+" architecture include: Afforestation and reforestation activities, protection of existing forests, and use of efficient alternative energy sources and efficient utilisation of biomass as well intensification of agriculture – livestock inclusive.

How different REDD+ options impact on livelihood security of the local communities and sustainable development

The preliminary observations from the pilot projects provide information on the impacts of various REDD+ options to local communities' livelihood security, biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management. The following subsections discuss various REDD+ options offered in the REDD+ mechanisms in Tanzania.

Afforestation and reforestation activities

In most pilot projects tree planting has formed a basis for achieving a REDD+. Initial assessments showed that this practice is likely to be successful as a pro-poor REDD activity, due to its multiple benefits that may be accrued by the communities in future. This will include supply of wood for domestic consumption and trade. The option should however involve planting of multipurpose trees for fruit, fodder and woodlots.

> "Reforestation which includes planting multipurpose trees especially with edible fruits has a higher likelihood of success as trees will provide income through fruits harvesting and, assuming continued economic viability of the fruits, there is little reason to cut the trees down"

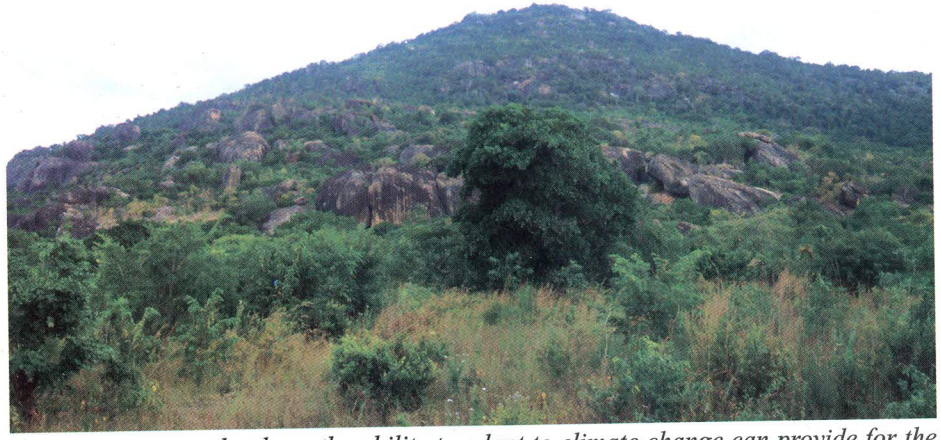
Agroforestry systems address this better where it involves integration of trees on farms and in agricultural landscape, diversifying and sustaining production for increased social, economic and environmental benefits for land users at all levels. The immediate objective should therefore be to increase food and nutritional security, fuel wood availability and household income. In this way it achieves the combined benefits of improving income from agriculture, protecting biodiversity and maintaining or increasing forest cover.

Time to do it. A tree nursery for enrichment and restoration practices in degraded landscapes in one of the REDD pilot areas

Protection of existing forest land

The forested land in Tanzania is under various management regimes. More than half of the forestland is within village or general land categories. The rest falls under various forms of protected area, including national parks, game reserves, nature reserves or village forest reserves. The achievement levels under REDD+ will depend on different land tenure, property rights and management regimes available for these forestlands. This is because user rights on forest resources depend on tenure regime governing access to the resources. Experience from Rungwe and Kondoa pilot projects have shown different levels of livelihood security due to change in management regimes of forests in these areas. For example, as the government strives to conserve biodiversity in Mt. Rungwe and Mt. Livingstone forest reserves it changed their

The importance of biodiversity and livelihood aspects within the design of REDD-plus has been recognized at many levels. Achieving these multiple benefits will require new levels of collaboration among different actors at national and international levels.



Forest ecosystems that have the ability to adapt to climate change can provide for the livelihoods of forest-dependent people and communities who are partners in safeguarding forests and supporting the mitigation of climate change.

status into 'Nature reserves' while changing Kitulo from a game reserve into a National park. This approach has deprived community rights to access resources from these lands which they used to support their livelihoods for years.

Successful REDD+ will depend on how communities benefit from any type of horizontal or vertical institutional transformation. Therefore, informing these decisions with a test of how benefit sharing could be undertaken in protected forests is important. To achieve this, local communities should be engaged as soon as possible in building structures for benefit sharing to increase confidence and avoid development of potential negative reactions to livelihood component of the present REDD+ initiatives.

Promotion and use of alternative energy sources

Enormous alternative sources of energy do exist in Tanzania that can be scaled up and broadened out to reduce pressure on forests and securing communities livelihoods. These sources include improved stoves and the use of solar power and biogas. Alternative energy sources have the potential to reduce the increase in demand for forest products and to preserve forest health and diversity. In the pilot project areas the alternative energy sources (such as manure biogas and solar energy) have been rarely used. Experience from other areas posited that the alternative sources of energy has important implications for emissions reduction, employment creation, monetary saving, and time savings thus reducing pressure on carbon sinks, and improving livelihoods.

Time for change. Sustainable production and use of biomass energy should be considered as a primary action for sustaining forests and livelihoods in the era of REDD.

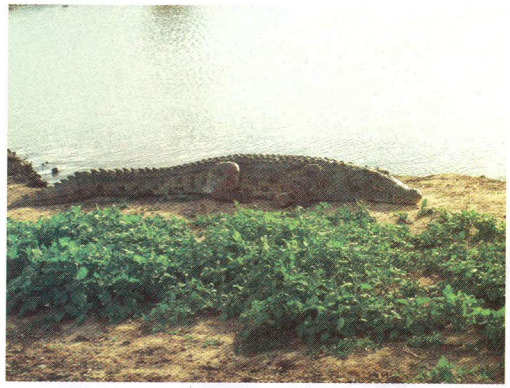
Traditional kilns where recovery is less than 20% should be avoided

How to achieve REDD+ co-benefits

Because forest ecosystems provide important environmental services, their conservation and sustainable management can result in improving livelihoods

Beekeeping can serve as a non destructive forest based activity and can indirect protect forests while sustaining livelihoods

security and sustainable development. Efforts to conserve forests under REDD+ for example should therefore have an understanding of these multiple co-benefits and seek to maximize them where feasible and practical. Preliminary assessments in pilot projects has identified the need to maximize co-benefits from areas intended for carbon and or biodiversity conservation. In addition to biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation, as discussed above, livelihood security for forest-dependent communities should be considered. These communities are important forest managers and key stakeholders in REDD+ implementation. How they are included in REDD+ development and how they are going to benefit from potential revenues (or not) will be key factors influencing the success of REDD+.



Dry forests may relatively contain less carbon but are vital for biodiversity conservation and ecosystems resilience

Further assessment showed that increasing pressure on available land resources from expanding agriculture, conservation under REDD, and climate change impacts are likely to lead to increasing opportunity costs over time. The relatively low opportunity costs of subsistence agriculture in forested regions could perhaps be met or overcome by potential REDD+ payments, therefore providing sufficient local incentives for reducing deforestation and degradation.

The need to address land tenure issues for REDD+

Land tenure is characterized by bundles of rights, rules, and institutions that define individual or community access to land. Critical rights include rights of access, rights of withdrawal of resources, rights of management, rights of exclusion, rights of alienation (to sell property), and authority to sanction. The lack of secure tenure for local populations is recognized as a principal driver of deforestation in many developing countries. Furthermore, in many cases, tenure is customarily or even legally secured through converting forest to agricultural land, which provides perverse incentives for deforestation. As a result, local communities often have few incentives to enforce forest resource use rules when their own rights are unprotected. Clarification and increased security of rights is

Who gets to decide what? Planning community forest management in Chanikanguo Village Masasi district Mtwara

therefore widely seen as the first step toward REDD+ readiness. To this effect, most REDD+ piloting considers land use planning as an important tool in ensuring best use of limited resources on the lands while ensuring effective delivering of co-benefits.

However, to ensure a *win-win* situation in this initiative there must be a political will and ability to put the plan into effect. Community involvement is equally critical to avoid the approach being considered as just 'farm planning' on a different scale. It should also be noted that most communities are not used to restricted land uses especially pastoralists. Therefore land use plans must consider ecological connectivity to avoid resource use conflicts. This means therefore that land-use plans must be conducted by involving wider ecosystem coverage rather than the current practice where is being conducted in isolation by involving selected villages which apart from escalating conflicts may as well be a good reason for leakage.

Localizing internationally based rights of tribal peoples and forest dependent communities

The role of communities in the sustainable management of Tanzanian forests has been recognized by the Forestry Policy of 1998 and the Forest Act No. 14 of 2002. Both documents identify the communities as 'local'. For example, the Forest Policy statement (39) says 'local communities' will be encouraged to participate in forestry activities. Clearly defined forest land tenure and tree tenure rights will be instituted for local communities including both men and women. The Forest Act provides a description of the local communities as people residing in the vicinity of the forest and their relationship to the forest, including their practices and customs regulating and governing their use of the resources of the forest.

According to the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Convention 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP), indigenous peoples have the right to the territories they depend upon for their livelihoods. They also have the right as peoples to decide their own development strategies within these areas. In Tanzania, there are concerns amongst social anthropologists that indigenous people do exist in Tanzania. However, they are not mentioned in the constitution, therefore 'unconstitutional'. At the same time, Tanzania is a signatory of the Indigenous Peoples Rights of the United Nations (UN). There is need to ensure that implementation of future REDD+ in the country considers all regulations and conditions that safeguard minority groups.

It is, therefore, important that this group of people (as well as other minority groups) is declared to either exist or not exist in Tanzania. This is because there is no internationally accepted definition of indigenous people. Declaring or defining these groups upon a country context may serve to minimize controversy by drawing the bounds in a clear fashion, thus fitting the relevant rights to undeniable claimants for successful REDD+ in Tanzania because human rights-based approach will be required, providing overarching frameworks for national laws and regulations.

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