

Consultations to enhance inclusion of indigenous and tribal peoples in REDD+ include more than 50 villages in Suriname

In Suriname, WISE REDD+ supported a series of consultations in collaboration with VIDS (Associations of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname) & VSG (Association of Saramaka Authorities) with the objective to optimize the inclusion and participation of indigenous and tribal peoples in REDD+ readiness. The consultations, which were interactive and participant-driven, took approximately six months, and included site visits to more than 50 villages. The consultations involved two phases: the first, a series of meetings with representatives of several villages; the second, through *krutus* (tribal councils) in the villages. The design of the second phase was based on the finding that consultations with traditional authorities and providing direct access to information for communities was critical to incorporating recommendations into decision-making. Feedback from participants has indicated that they are satisfied with the consultation process, particularly with the inclusion of indigenous and Maroon organizations, the use of appropriate languages and culturally appropriate practices, and the incorporation of participants' guidance. Following this consultation process, an informative workshop on REDD+ and stakeholder engagement laid the groundwork for government engagement in this project. WISE REDD+ has been critical in supporting the R-PP PC14 resolution, which entails a consultation process to engage tribal leaders in forming a steering committee to build the relationships between indigenous peoples and government agencies for REDD+.



As part of the consultation process, a joint workshop for indigenous village leaders and Maroon tribal leaders followed two days of separate meetings with the leaders in October.

Vanuatu Government signs Forest Carbon Partnership Facility grant agreement for \$3.6 million USD

During the World Bank's visit this week, the Government of Vanuatu signed the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) grant agreement for \$3.6 million USD, launching the REDD+ Readiness Preparation Phase in Vanuatu. Activities conducted under WISE REDD+ helped to unlock the FCPF funding. During the World Bank's November visit, WISE REDD+ implementing partner Live & Learn Environmental Education (LLEE) was appointed as a trusted advisor to the Government and the World Bank mission, facilitating preparation for signing of the agreement.

The Vanuatu REDD+ program will run from 2015 to 2019 and will have two phases: the Readiness Preparation Phase and Implementation Phase. The Readiness Phase will run for 18 months, from May 2015 to October 2016. The approved funding will cover the three components of the Readiness Plan: institutional strengthening for REDD+ management at the national and decentralized level, strengthening of stakeholder engagement processes at the provincial level, and the development of a REDD+ strategy for Vanuatu.

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To begin the Readiness Phase, the Ministry of Climate Change and Natural Disasters, together with the Department of Forestry, conducted a two-day inception workshop this week in Port Vila with relevant national stakeholders. Participants who attended the workshop were representatives from government, non-governmental organizations, private sectors, the Vanuatu Christian Council and the Malvatumauri Council of Chiefs.



The workshop will be followed by series of meetings with government, non-government stakeholders and private sectors for the Implementation of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) as part of the World Bank's Vanuatu visit this week.

UNPFII Side Event at UN Headquarters

On April 21, 2015, CI co-sponsored a side event with IUCN and Fondo Indigena at the 14th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues entitled *Indigenous Peoples' Traditional Knowledge Contributions for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and for Policymakers*. During this event, Kanyinke Sena, member of CI's Indigenous Advisory Group from Kenya, presented an overview on a series of policy briefs synthesizing the six analytical studies commissioned by the Kenya National REDD+ Coordination Office. The six policy briefs are:



Kanyinke Sena at the UNPFII

- Forest Governance, REDD+ and Sustainable Development in Kenya
- Corruption Risk Assessment for REDD+ in Kenya
- Engaging Indigenous Peoples in Kenya's National REDD+ Strategy
- Carbon Rights and Benefit- Sharing for REDD+ in Kenya
- Charcoal and REDD+ in Kenya
- The Underlying Causes and Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Kenya

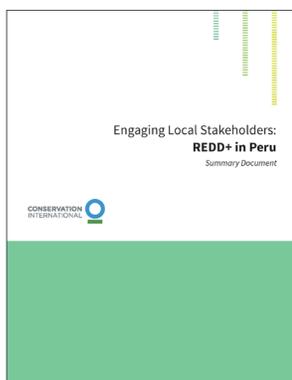
Final regional SESA engagement consultation held in Kenya

During this performance period, the WISE REDD+ Kenya team conducted the fifth and final regional workshop to identify issues of concern and appropriate platforms to engage stakeholders in SESA and in the REDD+ process generally, in the Northern Counties. This region is mainly occupied by pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities. The workshop was also used to sensitize and create awareness among stakeholders on climate change and the REDD+ process. The Northern Counties is one of the regions in the country where piloting of REDD+ initiatives has not been extensive, and understanding of the concept of REDD+ is generally limited.

The workshop was held in Isiolo, a central location for the Northern Counties on November 25-26, 2014. Representatives from the government—including different departments of the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)—representatives of vulnerable groups (women, youth and people living with disability), indigenous peoples of pastoralist origin (Samburu, Turkana, Boran), different natural resource user groups, including agro-pastoralists, community forest associations, conservancy members, gum and resins associations, private sector and civil society organizations, participated in the regional workshop. The national validation workshop will be held in June.

Engaging Local Stakeholders: REDD+ in Peru

WISE REDD+ supported the preparation and dissemination of *Engaging Local Stakeholders: REDD+ in Peru* as part of CI's materials highlighting Peru's progress in REDD+ leading up to COP 20, which is based on the original study, *Una Aproximación a la Participación Plena y Efectiva en las Iniciativas REDD+ en el Perú*. The document presents a summary of REDD+ stakeholder engagement in Peru and assesses three levels of decision-making: local, regional (sub-national) and national. It includes a literature review and consultations with experts. Data for the study was collected through interviews, workshops and working groups to capture the full spectrum of stakeholders, as well as the land use areas where early REDD+ initiatives are emerging in Peru.



Supporting capacity building to develop a country safeguards approach in Peru

In March 2015, MINAM convened a safeguards capacity building workshop with the support of CI-Peru. This workshop was focused on strengthening the capacity of stakeholders prioritized by MINAM, including representatives from the regions of Madre de Dios, Ucayali, Loreto, and San Martin; representatives of public institutions, such as the National Forest Authority, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion, Prime Minister's Office; representatives of indigenous peoples, including AIDSESP; and regional indigenous federations of San Martin (CODEPISAM) and Madre de Dios (FENAMAD); and representatives of civil society organizations, including the National Farmer Federation (one of the highland agricultural community organizations). Additionally, Helvetas has provided technical support for CORPIAA's meetings in Atalaya to strengthen capacity on REDD+ issues.



The March safeguards workshop was part of a series of activities identified by MINAM for building Peru's Safeguard Information System.

WISE REDD+ supports preparation of R-Package in Costa Rica

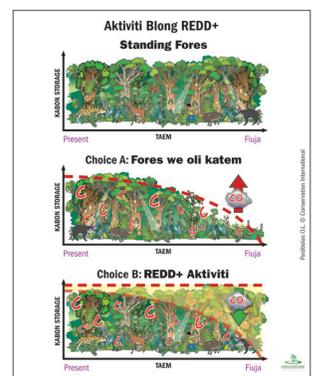
A meeting of representatives of indigenous peoples from 19 out of Costa Rica's 24 territories was organized to provide an update on the REDD+ strategy and collect feedback on the Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF). During the same meeting, at the request of the Costa Rica REDD+ team, CI proposed a methodology to conduct the Interested Parties Self-Assessment on REDD+ engagement, which is required as part of the FCPF requirements in the R-Package preparation. CI was asked to conduct this process as a third party, to ensure the transparency of the self-assessment. Additional meetings on the involvement of other relevant stakeholders are expected to be facilitated by CI. Costa Rica is one of three countries to have completed its ESMF.

Partnering with academic institutions to strengthen quality of participation in REDD+ in Peru

CI-Peru has also been meeting with the Human Rights Institute of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (IDEHPUCP) to identify synergies between projects that can help strengthen governance for indigenous peoples' organizations. During these meetings, both CI and IDEHPUCP agreed to work together to support governance issues for CODEPISAM. CI-Peru will support this work through this project, particularly regarding capacity building processes, and IDEHPUCP will support governance issues related to participation, to build a methodology that will measure quality of participation. Based on these discussions and agreements, CI-Peru and IDEHPUCP met with CODEPISAM in March to propose methods for coordination between the three organizations. To clarify next steps, the three organizations signed a series of agreements, including the disposition of CODEPISAM to support the work that will be done by a stakeholder mapping consultant.

Continuing capacity building in Vanuatu

CI's *Climate Change and the Role of Forests* Training of Trainers toolkit has been translated into Bislama and have been endorsed by the Vanuatu National Advisory Board (NAB) for Climate Change Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for use nationally. These resources will be applied to increase awareness of the importance of sustainable forest management and REDD+ among relevant stakeholders. To advance the capacity building and stakeholder engagement plan, two national workshops were completed: a Training of Trainers Workshop, utilizing the NAB-endorsed materials, in November 2014 and the Key Messaging Workshop, in March 2015 by LLEE, as well as a Technical Committee Training conducted by LLEE on the mechanisms of the National REDD+ Program and its implications for Vanuatu. The Technical Committee serves an important role in the coordination of the Vanuatu FCPF grant, as it is the core group that will lead the REDD+ program for the country. In order to strengthen their capacity, Technical Committee members participated in a training in Pele, which provided information about the mechanism of the National REDD+ Program and what it would look like in Vanuatu. Participants worked in teams made up of representatives from each of the four large islands of Vanuatu to identify strategic options to address the drivers of forest degradation; these options were then analyzed by the other teams in a theoretical SESA analysis. Strategic options included: agroforestry systems, incentivized beef and coconut plantations along forest boundaries, improved monitoring and management of extraction rates and levels, introducing a green levy policy, and eco-tourism promotion.



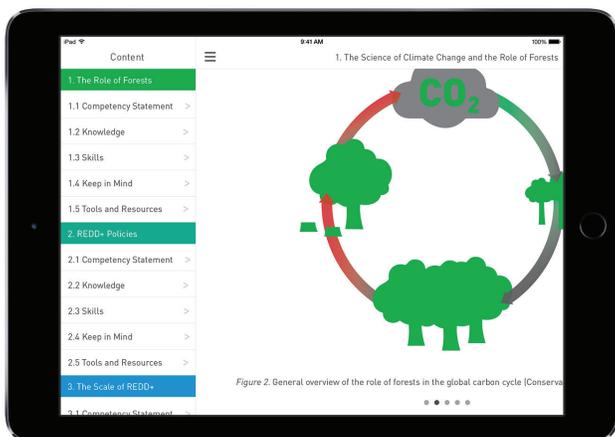
NAB-endorsed materials

New iPad app puts REDD+ at users' fingertips

In March 2015, The Alliance for Global REDD+ Capacity (AGRC) announced an app-based version of its publication *The Knowledge and Skills Needed to Engage in REDD+: A Competencies Framework*, referred to as the “Cliff Notes for REDD+” by Ecosystem Marketplace. The app format allows for frequent updates, enabling the content to keep pace with evolving REDD+ policy and financing. It also makes navigation simple, permitting users to interact with each topic.

The app features a multi-language setting in English and Spanish and provides comprehensive information for designing and implementing REDD+ activities, helping users to understand key concepts, policy benchmarks, skills, tools and resources for ten specific REDD+ themes. The app also provides guidance on designing REDD+ capacity building programs for a variety of stakeholders, with case studies on existing REDD+ capacity building programs and links to web-based resources.

The original publication was created with support from the Forest Carbon Markets and Communities (FCMC) Program of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The materials were developed by technical experts from Conservation International (CI), Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests, and reviewed by a multidisciplinary group of subject matter experts from governments, USAID, FCMC, NGOs and AGRC members. The app was funded by Conservation International through the support of an anonymous private donor and is contributing to the implementation of WISE REDD+ training activities. The app is available for download in the [App Store](#).



Quick Facts: October 2014-March 2015

During the period of October 1, 2014-March 31, 2015 of the WISE REDD+ Project, funded activities and cost share activities included:

- A total of eight training workshops in five countries with a total of 286 people trained, 37% of whom were women.
- A total of 31 meetings in five countries relevant to the project or related to REDD+ stakeholder engagement from which of the 932 total participants, 32% of whom were women.
- In Costa Rica, WISE REDD+ supported the participation of indigenous representatives from 19 territories to provide feedback on the ESMF.
- In Kenya, a total of 23 institutions participated in regional workshops, where sensitization on climate change and REDD+ was conducted.
- In Peru, eight institutions representing government, civil society and indigenous federations were trained on REDD+ safeguards.
- In Suriname, a total of 15 government agencies and 50 villages participated in awareness-raising and coordination meetings that were fundamental to incorporate umbrella organizations, local traditional authorities and government institutions for initiating the establishment of the Project Steering Committee.
- In Vanuatu, 25 institutions and organizations participated in climate change awareness and undertook the institutional capacity assessment survey.
- A total of 12 products, tools, documents and information materials were developed and disseminated to enhance stakeholder engagement in REDD+ processes.

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