Tanzania experience in developing practical REDD+ benefit Sharing pilot initiatives

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Overview of Pilot projects in TZ

❑ Stakeholders in Tanzania are working on REDD through national programme development, awareness raising, advocacy and pilot project implementation.

❑ As such 9 REDD pilot projects are being supported by the Royal Norwegian Government, and are being implemented by civil society organizations and their partners since 2009

❑These projects cover many regions of Tanzania, and have diverse aims and approaches.

❑Some are focused primarily on REDD readiness activities, such as establishing permanent monitoring plots and carbon baselines, and training government staff and community members in carbon monitoring, reporting, assessment and verification (MARV).
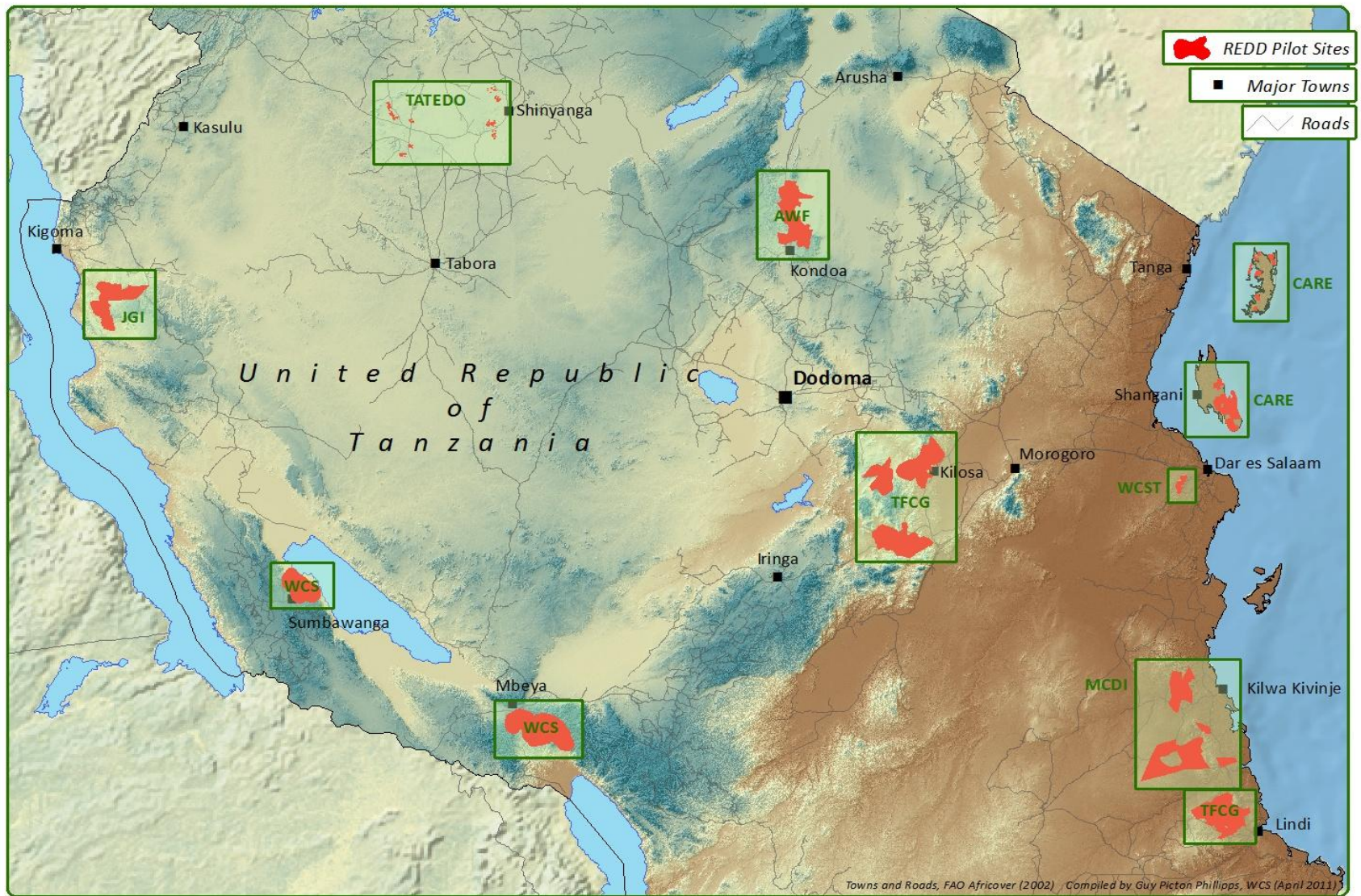
Overview cont'd

❑ Others are facilitating performance-based payments to forest adjacent community members.

❑ Some are working in community owned forests, while others are in joint forest management areas.

❑ Several are helping communities design benefit sharing mechanisms for anticipated REDD revenues and have tested these mechanisms and made trial payments to communities.

Location of Pilot Projects in Tanzania

Map Copyright Wildlife Conservation Society, 2011

PROJECT: Making REDD Work for Communities and Forest Conservation in Tanzania

Project Goal: To reduce GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in Tanzania in ways that provide direct and equitable incentives to rural communities to conserve and manage forests sustainably.

Purpose: To demonstrate, at local, national and international levels, a pro-poor approach to reducing deforestation and forest degradation by generating equitable financial incentives for communities that are sustainably managing or conserving Tanzanian forests at community level.

TFCG MJUMITA REDD Pilot Project

- The project aims to pilot a mechanism whereby REDD finance can bring about additional reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by channelling incentives as directly as possible to communities with forests on their land.

- In the absence of a compliance market for REDD or a fund-based mechanism, the project aims to assist communities to access funds from the voluntary market. However it is our intention that the model could also be used in other areas to channel different types of REDD finance to communities.

Project strategy to bringing impact

Stage 1: Site selection based on forest area, deforestation rates, stakeholder interest and biodiversity criteria;

Stage 2: Free, prior and informed consent with participating communities;

Stage 3: Participatory identification, and implementation of strategies to reduce deforestation including participatory forest management, land use planning, improved agriculture and other livelihood activities; Including Social Impact Assessment

Stage 4: Generate emission reductions; verify emission reductions according to VCS and CCB standards; and channel revenues back to the communities initially using project funds.

Stage 5: Monitoring and communicating impacts, lessons, challenges and opportunities at various levels , to various stakeholders.

Land use planning

Learning about soil erosion control techniques in conservation agriculture

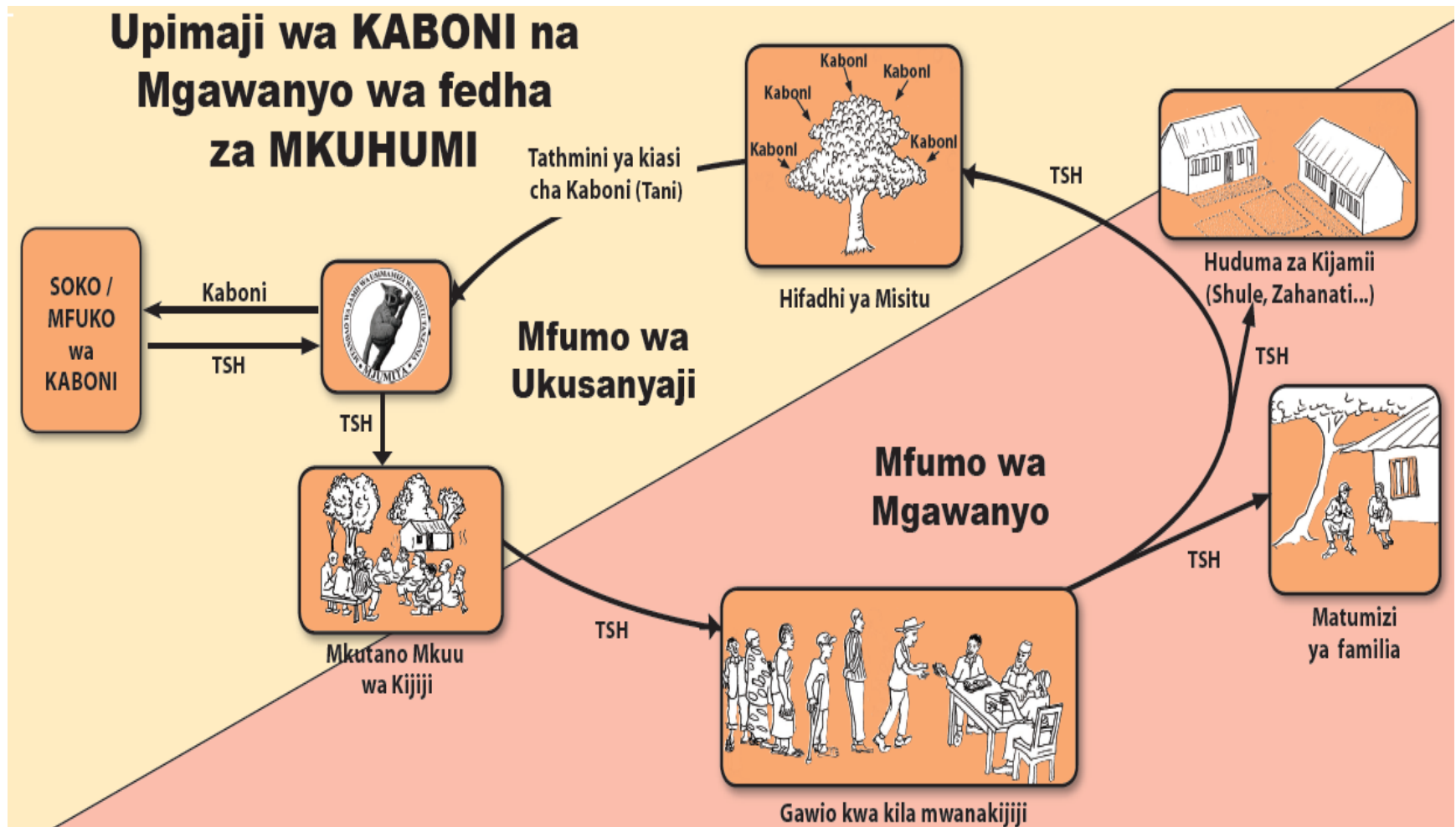Reaching consensus on village boundaries

Marking village forest reserve boundaries

REDD Revenue Benefit Sharing Model

Designed a simple guideline for REDD revenue distribution system to be used at village level with the following flow

Requirements of the guideline

- *The guideline requires the village through a village council to institute village carbon enterprise through establishment of village by-laws for REDD. The by-laws should stipulate the following:-*
  - *Establishment of the special committee to coordinate specific village REDD business*
  - *Establish a village assembly on REDD*
  - *Define the membership of village carbon enterprise*
  - *Define and guide the REDD revenue distribution options*
  - *Provide for the implementation of the options approved by the village assembly on REDD (individual dividends and development projects)*
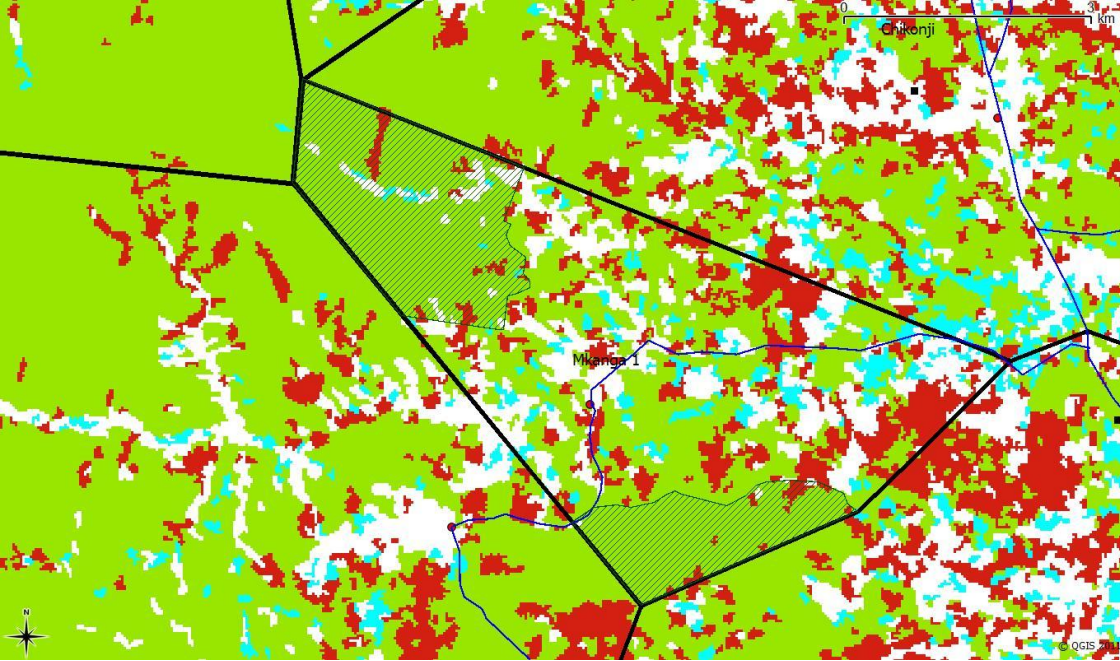
Testing of the Payment Model

Important Criteria/conditions to fulfill by the village

- village REDD revenue distribution by-laws developed and approved at village level.

- Completion of the Village Land Use Plan and CBFM process at village level

- Completion of carbon assessment according NAFORMA carbon assessment protocol.

- Completion of estimates of potential carbon revenues according to the historical deforestation rate, carbon enhancement, potential leakage factor and current prices of carbon credits in the voluntary market.

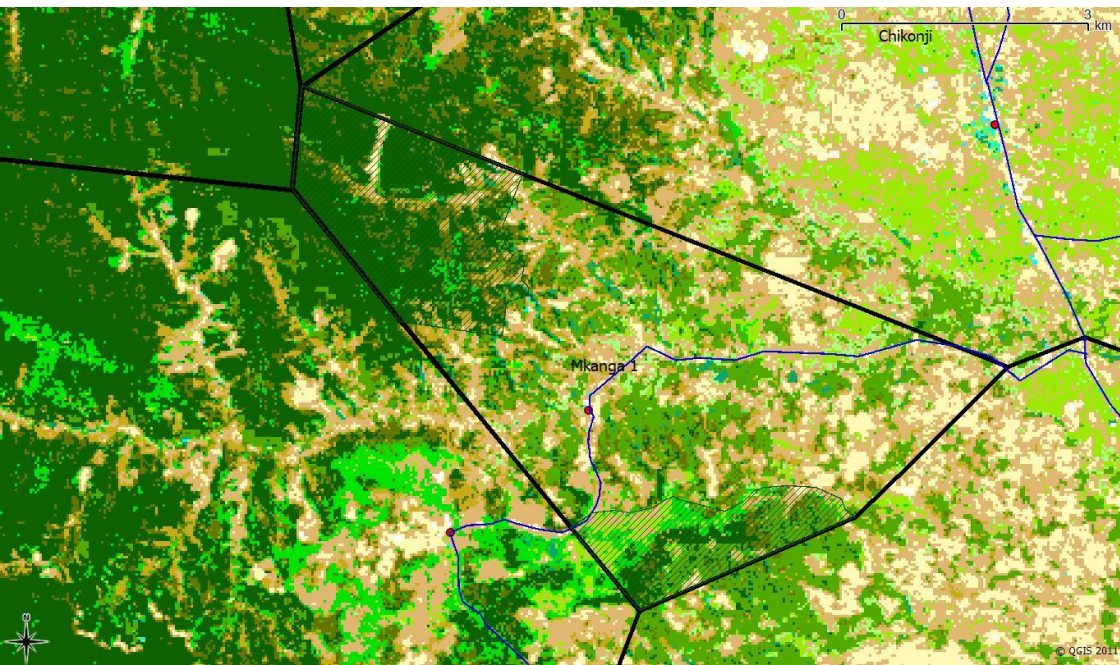- Absence of any conflict within and between communities

Basis for Calculations of REDD Payments to villagers

- The project calculated the amount to be paid to each village (for Lindi) based on the following criteria:-
  - The proportional of the area of the village forest reserve (with more than 10 years old) and the village forest area left outside the VFR boundaries;
  - Historical deforestation rate and potential avoided deforestation level;
  - Potential area likely to be subjected for leakage within and outside the village land.
  - Estimated amount of tones CO_2/Ha;
  - Estimated price of CO_2/t.
  - Total amount to be paid to the village

Mkanga 1 Village Forest Reserve in Lindi

Only 45 % of remaining forest is included in the Village Forest Reserve. This is the least accessible but highest carbon forest.

REDD payments

Trial payments to communities in Kilosa and Lindi District

Upto Feb 2012

- A total of TZS 73,234,540/= Million
- 4,492 community members (1205 men, 1272 women and 2015 children and dependents) as part of trial payment for REDD revenues
- 5 villages (2 in Kilosa and 3 in Lindi).
- Individuals could get between TSH 10000 to 39,000
- Women collected their children's share

The Actual REDD Trial Payment

In some villages trial payment were used for individual payment only while others contributed to community development projects

Participation: villagers in Lindi participate in carbon assessments.

Accountability: building the capacity of community networks on governance and advocacy

Transparency: Villagers in Kilosa constructing their land registry and village offices.

REDD, governance and community livelihoods

Lessons learned/challenges

Multiple strategies: REDD requires multiple strategies to achieve more sustainable community livelihoods if reductions in deforestation are to be achieved and these strategies need to be identified and planned by the communities which requires investment in awareness raising, participatory planning and social impact assessment.;

Safeguards: REDD needs clear social and environmental standards if it is to be effective, equitable and participatory way and that much can be learnt from the application of voluntary market standards such as VCS and CCB. In particular, informed participation of communities is critical to ensuring an effective and equitable model.

Lessons/Challenges Cont'd

- **MARV for strategies:** MRV needs to be closely linked with implementation of strategies to address deforestation.

    – For example, sharing information on potential REDD revenues is important for communities to make informed decisions on land use.

    – Similarly spatial information on the current and projected distribution of deforestation is important to link with land use planning.

    – Involving communities in carbon assessment work builds capacity and knowledge at community level about carbon accounting and other basic principles of REDD.

    – This helps to reinforce the effectiveness of REDD payments as an incentive for reducing deforestation.

Lessons learned challenges cont'd

Reliable, adequate and accessible finance is needed and should reach those who bear the opportunity cost of REDD as well as those implementing the strategies to reduce deforestation;

Payments for reducing forest degradation are not yet accessible Although degradation is a significant source of emissions in Tanzania, communities can not access REDD funds from the voluntary market for this has no VCS approved method.

Individual payments can act as an incentive to reduce deforestation however at current prices if they are to work effectively they need to be set alongside a package of other strategies to reduce deforestation.

Lessons learned/challenges

Participation, accountability and transparency in the planning, implementation and monitoring of REDD at community and national level are critical for it to function as an effective and equitable incentive mechanism;

Improvements in village level governance in the context of REDD can bring benefits to other aspects of community life.

Conclusion

- We highly believe that a community oriented model of REDD can reduce emissions and reduce poverty. We are also realistic that there are many barriers that need to be overcome in order to achieve this.

- Some are technical and relate to the issues being discussed in many REDD related events, but many are political and economic. And more effort is needed to overcome the political and economic barriers if REDD is to bring impact in global efforts to mitigate the impact of climate change.

Asanteni sana!   Obrigada!

For more information, please visit:
www.tfcg.org/makingReddWork.html