Understanding the Relationship between Biodiversity, Carbon, Forest and People...

1. Social and economic considerations.

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Outline

1. Reviewing social and economic impacts of forest loss and degradation
2. Lessons learnt from related initiatives
3. Recurring key factors affecting the social and economic impacts of forest management practices
4. Four high level conclusions
5. The landscape approach

Reviewing social and economic impacts of forest loss and degradation

- MEA identified a number of ways in which ecosystems provide goods and services to people
- Conservative estimates suggest that at least 14% of humanity depends directly on forests (Source: FPP, 2012)

The loss and degradation of forest ecosystems therefore has tremendous negative impacts on welfare of millions of people

Lessons from related initiatives

1. Agricultural intensification
2. Protected areas
3. Sustainable use of forests
4. Forest restoration, reforestation & afforestation

Zooming in...

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<th>Management strategy</th>
<th>Impacts across different stakeholders</th>
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| Forest destruction  | Possibility of increased income from
|                     | sales, reduced access, reduced costs, |
|                     | increased opportunity for illegal |
|                    | logging, local labour benefits, loss |
|                     | of alternative land use opportunities.|
| Conservation of ES  | Conservation of ES additional income |
|                     | from sales, increased opportunity for |
|                     | direct payments, increased access to |
|                     | new businesses, job effect, improved |
|                     | income, increased access to livelihood |
|                     | opportunities, increased property |
|                     | rights. |
Recurring key factors affecting the social and economic impacts of forest management practices

1. Governance – multiple scales
2. Rules and institutions – impact behaviour and incentives
3. Tenure and property rights – tenure security and type of property regime (eg: co-management)

Four High Level Conclusions

1. Synergies Possible, But Should Not Be Taken For Granted
   - REDD+ can benefit local communities, including the most vulnerable
     - > flows of ecosystem services
     - leveraging new sources of finance
   - BUT, these opportunities can easily be lost
     - If the vulnerable are excluded or high barriers to entry
     - If social costs are high

2. Looking Beyond ‘Safeguards’ ...

   Integrated social and environmental objectives, with full institutional support.

   Social objectives: Secondary. Social safeguards developed to help mitigate inequitable outcomes.

   Social objectives: Secondary. Inadequate safeguards to prevent inequitable distribution of costs and benefits.

3. Remember What We’ve Done Before
   - Previous interventions show that ‘win-win-win’ is difficult
     - Skewed distribution of C/B
     - Lack of participatory, transparent and accountable governance
   - Unless REDD+ learns from this experience, risk of social trade-offs remains high
     - Challenge asymmetries of power and protect the interests of the most vulnerable
     - Create inclusive structures for distribution of authority and downward accountability

4. Trade-offs Will Remain
   - Carbon, biodiversity and social/economic objectives will not always coincide
   - Decision makers have to make choices:
     i. Acknowledge social/economic costs, but do nothing as environmental objectives are paramount
     ii. Compensate losses financially, but recognise that social costs may remain high
     iii. Compensate AND invest in secure alternative livelihoods to offset some social costs
     iv. Accept that the social/economic costs are so important that they over-ride environmental objectives ... walk away?
The Landscape approach

- Helps to capture interdependencies and feedback loops
- Can better reconcile different demands, needs and strategies
- Can provide for different stakeholders

In a REDD+ context, can accommodate a range of land uses and interests

Thank you for listening!

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