



Delivering Development Gains Through Partnerships.

Insights for REDD+

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Setting the Stage for Partnerships

- 500 million people directly depend on forest resources for their livelihoods
- 50 million people live within forest massifs
- Decrease in area of forest owned by governments and increase in area of forest owned by or designated for the use of local communities & indigenous peoples



Investment Opportunities to Link Local Partners and External Parties





Climate Change, Partnerships and Benefit Sharing Arrangements

More opportunities in the context of REDD+, afforestation/reforestation, and forest landscape restoration

Link climate change objectives to poverty alleviation and broader sustainable development agenda

Local partner: community, an association, individuals or a group of landholders

Outside partner: private entity, government agency, NGO or CSO.



Focus of the research

1. What factors influence stable and lasting partnerships
2. When rights are unclear how do we identify legitimate beneficiaries
3. What are ways for transferring benefits to these beneficiaries



General Findings

- The process of reaching agreement with a local partner is as important to the success of a partnership as the content or legal form of the agreement itself
- Effective and lasting collaborative arrangements tend to be characterized by a number of factors



Important Factors

- Common Expectations
- Communication
- Fully bargained
- Incentives
- Legally recognized
- Mutual respect
- Mutual understanding
- Past history of conflict is thoroughly addressed
- Practical
- Self determination
- Trust
- Verifiable obligations



“Universal” Factors

- Common Expectations
- **Communication**
- Fully bargained
- Incentives
- Legally recognized
- **Mutual respect**
- Mutual understanding
- Past history of conflict is thoroughly addressed
- **Practical**
- Self determination
- **Trust**
- Verifiable obligations



Context Matters

Where community relies heavily on the natural resource

- bargaining
- clear understanding of each other's interests and motives—an understanding not only of what the other side wants, but of why they want it

Where communities did not rely directly on natural resources

- level of disclosure and mutual understanding proved relatively less significant

Where community livelihoods are less dependent on forests

- incentives tend to become more important



Factors Inputs

Practicality

Carefully assess the following aspects of proposed actions:

- Legal, technical, financial, and material needs and constraints
- Risks
- Environmental and social impacts

Outputs

- Realistic overall project plan
- Training, technology transfer, credit, and other assistance integrated into plans
- Unwanted external impacts minimized or mitigated

Outcomes

- Reduced risk of unmet expectations and resulting conflicts



Good Contracts

- Structure and content should be adapted to suit the purpose of the arrangement.
 - In benefit-sharing arrangements - emphasis communication and dispute resolution,
 - Profit-sharing contracts - contingencies, loss prevention, and how risks are divided between the partners.
- Establish formal communication, resolving grievances, sharing risks, structuring of milestones, transparency, and other issues of general interest
- Where standardized agreements are necessary, contract template should be developed based on consultation and discussions with potential partners and key technical advisors.



Good Contracts

Good forest partnership contracts had a number of distinguishing attributes:

- clear,
- understandable,
- complete,
- address issues such as practicality, verifiability, and incentives,
- legally valid and provide means to resolve disputes that do not require those involved to go to court,
- where there is a history of disagreements or disputes, the issues involved are fully taken into account by the contract.



Benefit Sharing Arrangements

- Benefit sharing should be
 - open & verifiable
 - serve legitimate beneficiaries
 - look beyond compensation, towards promoting broader social and economic development.
- Benefit sharing arrangements could include:
 - Cash payments
 - Combinations of cash payments with technical assistance or services
 - Provision of alternative benefits (market vouchers, productive goods, access to new land, extension services, credit, employment, clarification/ acknowledgement of local partners' ownership rights)



Remaining Activities

- Legitimate beneficiaries
 - Who could participate
 - What can we learn from CBNRM experiences
- Mechanisms for transferring benefits
 - What systems are in place
 - How are they working
 - What are transaction costs, capacity requirements, and needed institutional arrangements
- Case studies

THANK YOU

