

Who will benefit? Social and institutional challenges of implementing REDD+ in Tanzania

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REDD+ in Tanzania: broad picture

- REDD+ Strategy being developed (draft)
- Participatory Forest Management (PFM) supposed to be used as a vehicle for REDD+ (JFM and CBFM)
 - About 13% of forest so far under PFM
 - In JFM, benefit sharing not yet agreed upon
- Poverty reduction

Challenges related to resource tenure

- Most forests (57%) are found on a category called 'general land' (vs. reserved land and village land)
- General land is often used by someone in practice, people conceive such area as village and/or private land
- Unsecure tenure of land and trees (and carbon) in such areas -> contributes to forest loss
- institutional reform processes on-going to clarify land tenure and improve security, but slow progress
- how such areas and the unreserved forests on village land will be addressed under REDD+?
 - Will these land become reserves or village land?
 - Who will be paid for carbon?
 - Possible risk of displacement if reserves will be extended, even if PFM will be introduced

Representation challenges

- REDD+ involves working with local stakeholders, including communities and local government bodies, e.g. forest monitoring, conservation, benefit-sharing and transfer
- How to find representative local institutions?
- In Tanzania, village leadership sometimes biased in their decision making
 - conflicts over forest use, conservation and benefit sharing within and btw communities and groups are not uncommon
 - Varying levels of trust towards village leaders
 - Village forest/NR committees have sometimes challenged the position of the leaders

Representation challenges

- research on PFM indicates that poor people are not equally represented in village organisations and decision-making on resource use
- Women have less voice in decision-making
- benefit-sharing (and training opportunities) have been biased towards more well-off
- yet there is some variation between sites and contexts

Capacity and knowledge issues

- Concepts such as PFM, REDD+ not well known by all stakeholders at the local level
- Legal literacy (land, forest laws) and understanding of rights and responsibilities still weak in many areas
- Negotiation positions not equal
- Resources and knowhow at the local level to manage forests sustainably also needed (and can be build through REDD+ schemes)

Key points

- Land and forest tenure (distribution of tenure rights, clarity and security) is a key institutional challenge for socially sustainable REDD+
 - who can and will be paid, and/or benefit otherwise from REDD+ schemes
 - how does REDD+ influence land and forest tenure?
 - risks and opportunities for citizens and communities

Key points

- Which organizations and groups are relied on in decision-making about REDD+ and its implementation (technical, financial transfer, benefit-sharing) and whom do they represent and are accountable to
- Information & capacity gaps
 - Creating awareness and training on concepts, rights & responsibilities, procedures
 - allocation of adequate resources to local level