

PARTNER EVENT
WHAT HAS REDD+ DONE FOR US?
“No Regrets” Benefits of REDD+ Readiness for the Forest Sector

Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) meeting
3-8 November 2013; Rotorua, New Zealand

DRAFT CONCEPT AND PROGRAM

Growing awareness of climate change around the world has renewed attention on the forest sector. This, in turn, has led to increased investment by governments and CSOs in industrialised countries in efforts to address problems and inefficiencies in forest management and governance in tropical countries. The focus of much of this investment has been on REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, plus conservation, sustainable forest management, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks), which has emerged as a key discussion track in negotiations for a new international agreement on anthropogenic climate change, under the auspices of the UNFCCC. A REDD+ mechanism, proposed as a mechanism under a future climate change agreement, would provide positive incentives (financed by industrialised countries) to developing countries, based on verified performance in any of the activities described in the definition of REDD+.

Since December 2007, when the discussions on REDD+ began in earnest, most countries in the Asia-Pacific region have engaged in efforts to become ready for a future mechanism. These efforts are known collectively as ‘REDD+ Readiness’. In addition to preparing countries for a potential international REDD+ mechanism at some point in the future, many Readiness activities result in tangible, long-term sustainable benefits for the forest sector as a whole. The investment and attention that REDD+ has brought to the forest sector will have a significant impact on policy and practice, which merits wider attention. This event will examine, critically, what practical ‘no regrets’ benefits we may expect from REDD+ Readiness in the coming years.

1. REDD+ Readiness: a primer (FAO/UN-REDD, 15 mins)
2. Technical capacity: Advances in National Forest Monitoring Systems (PNGFA, 30 mins)
3. Strategic planning: Demonstration activities; multi-sector planning at national and provincial scales (UNEP, 30 mins)
4. Regional REDD+ policy development in the Pacific (SPC, 30 mins)
5. Rights based approaches to forest and land tenure (GIZ, 30 mins)
6. Moderated panel discussion: ‘No regrets’ benefits of REDD+ Readiness (90 mins)

Collaborating partners: FAO/UN-REDD