



optimizing conservation benefits from forest carbon

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Delivering Multiple Benefits from Forest Carbon Markets to Address
Climate Change, Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Alleviation*



Forest carbon investments mitigate climate change, improve livelihoods and conserve biodiversity

- § Deforestation and land use change produce roughly 20% of all GHG emissions
- § Forest carbon investments provide ecological, economic, and social returns to indigenous people and local communities
- § Protecting and restoring forests provides habitat for threatened species and ecosystem services for people

Two main questions

- § How can forest carbon activities help us achieve conservation at scale?
- § How can we optimize the benefits of forest carbon activities and markets for conservation?



This is a critical moment for conservation

- § REDD could be formally adopted into a post-Kyoto framework by Dec 2009
- § Carbon finance (REDD + A/R) could

How can we optimize the conservation benefits of forest carbon investments?

- § Locate activities in areas of high priority for biodiversity and ecosystem services
- § Use native and diverse species to restore forests
- § Manage threats to biodiversity (invasive species, fires, unsustainable harvesting, etc.)
- § Design and locate forest carbon activities to help human communities and biodiversity adapt to climate change impacts

Rigorous market standards are needed to ensure carbon, community and biodiversity benefits

- § Experience shows that carbon investors seek multiple benefits
- § CCB and VCS provide highest standards in the voluntary market
- § Similar quality standards needed for REDD + A/R in the regulated market
- § Voluntary market will likely continue for unregulated entities and those who want to go beyond compliance



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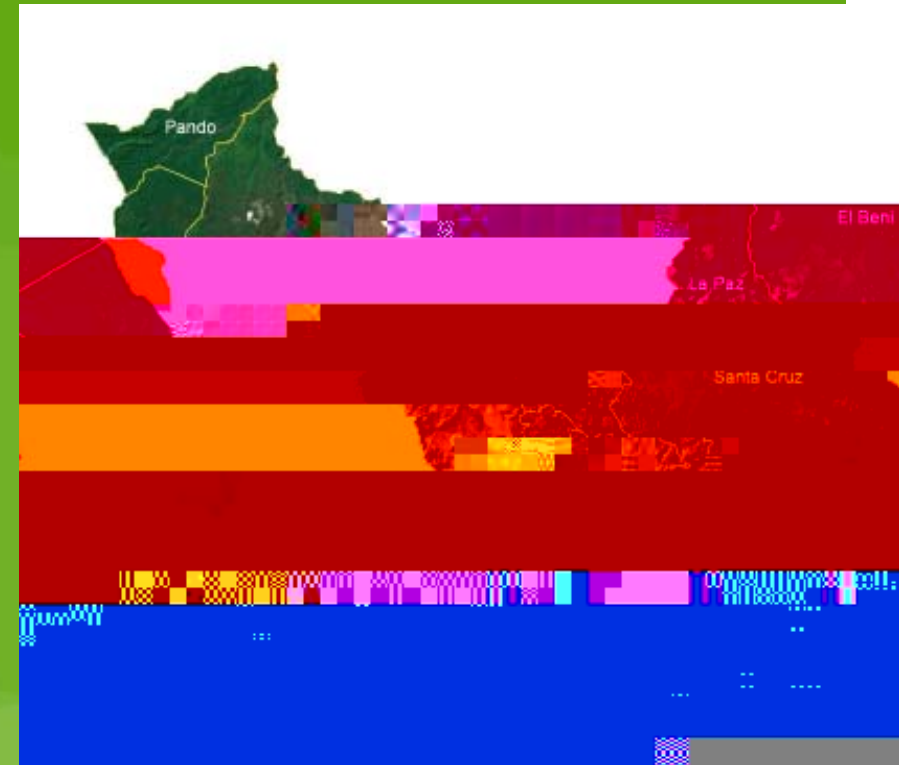
Policy and market issues

- § REDD should provide incentives to conserve the largest area of forest worldwide
- § HFLD countries need incentives to conserve remaining forests and prevent future forest loss
- § Financial flows (market and non-market) must be sufficient to slow deforestation quickly at significant scale
- § Regulatory market must embrace both REDD and A/R
- § Issues of land tenure and carbon ownership must be resolved to ensure equitable benefit flows and effective implementation



Noel Kempff Mercado (Bolivia) Case

- § Expansion of Noel Kempff Mercado National Park by 831,689 hectares, almost doubling its previous size
- § Indemnified timber concessions, increased monitoring of park activities
- § Supports indigenous communities to achieve legal status as "Communities of Native Peoples" and to obtain official land title
- § Provides alternative, environmentally sustainable economic opportunities for the local population (e.g. community forestry program)
- § Avoided 1,034,107 tons CO₂ emissions



Key roles of the conservation community

- § Sharing our decades of experience to help governments and other partners reduce deforestation and forest degradation
- § Apply our conservation toolkit (protected areas, incentive agreements, corridors, PES, etc.) to REDD + A/R
- § Lend our technical expertise to help create effective forest carbon markets and to design, implement and monitor activities in the field
- § Increase public awareness of the importance of forests in regulating climate, conserving

Bottom line

- š The conservation community has an historic opportunity to work with governments and local communities to help tackle the climate change



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