

# **RECOFTC**

## **The Center for People and Forests**

### **Bangkok, Thailand**

*Combined safeguards and sub-regional capacity building  
workshop on REDD-plus, Singapore, 15-18 March 2011*

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**People, forest and climate change programme  
Capacity Building and Technical Services (CBTS)**

# What is RECOFTC?

- Independent not-for-profit international organization
- Strategically positioned between organizations that implement activities in the field...
- And research organizations that generate empirically-based knowledge



# Our vision

- “Local communities in the Asia-Pacific region are actively involved in the equitable and ecologically sustainable management of forest landscapes”



# Programmatic approach

- Local people hold the key for better and healthier forest management



# Solutions ‘for people and forests’

- **Four thematic programmes**
  - People, Forest and Climate Change
  - Expanding Community Forestry
  - Market Access
  - Conflict management
- **Three guiding principles**
  - Clear and stronger rights
  - Good governance
  - Fair share of benefits



# Programme elements

**Training  
&  
Capacity  
Building**

**Action  
Research**

**Strengthen  
Regional  
Networks**



**Advocacy  
of  
Key  
Messages**

**Advisory  
Services**



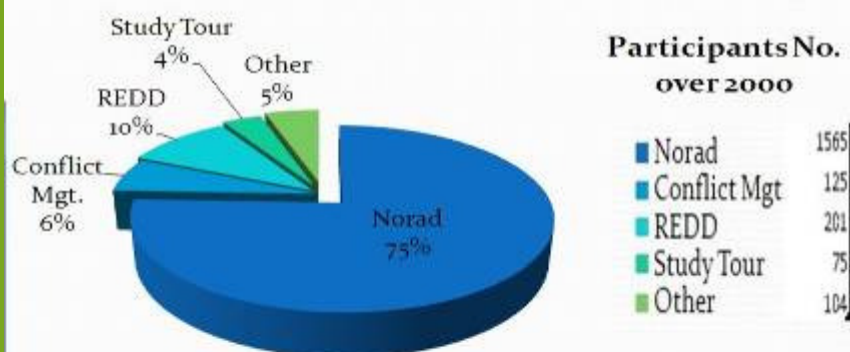
# Capacity building

- Enhance capacity of forestry sector stakeholders at all levels
- Working with partner organizations and local people
- Developing accessible, flexible, dynamic capacity building tools
- Practical needs
- Local language
- Simplifying complex ideas



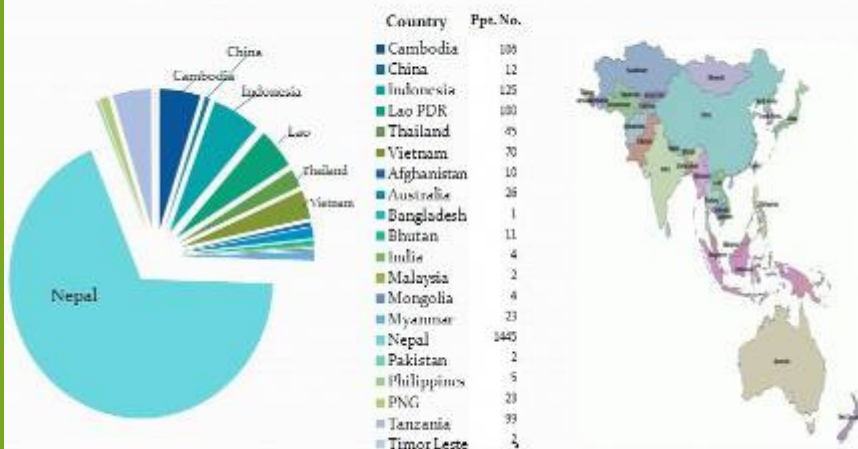
# Training and capacity building activities (2009-10)

## Participants & Topics



- 64 trainings delivered
- Over 2000 participants involved (over 800 females)
- 20 countries covered

## 20 countries covered



## Grassroots capacity building for REDD+

- Pilot trainings in 5 countries
- National programs in 4 countries – Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos and Nepal
  - Training of trainers
  - Awareness raising
  - Material development
  - Engaging local media
- Local language delivery of training programmes
- ToT Manual developed in Nepali, Laotian and Bahasa Indonesia languages



# Action research

- Back up theories with practical evidence
- Local-level mitigation and adaptation
- Demonstrate, analyze and synthesize tools
- Forest restoration, data generation, incentives, alternative livelihoods



- **25+ analytical outputs (2009-10)**

- ISSUES PAPER
- 
- Conflict over forests  
and land in Asia**
- Impacts, causes, and management
- Yuhk Yuen, Lisa Kelly, and Thomas Bruns
- 



## Strengthening regional networks

- Bridge between global and national networks
- Harness enhanced interest in forest sector
- Facilitate constructive dialogue



# REDD-net Asia-Pacific

- REDD+ through the civil society lens
  - Supports Southern civil societies in promoting the interests of local people in REDD+ dealings
- Knowledge sharing platform
  - Sharing of knowledge, analysis, and tools to foster a better understanding of how REDD+ initiatives can address local needs
- Regional and global bulletins: Key themes
  - Equity in REDD+
  - Trust in REDD+
  - Carbon Rights
  - Benefit Sharing
  - Gender
  - Adaptation
  - Conflict
  - Opportunity costs



**REDD-net** Networking for equity in forest climate policy

ISSUE 01 NOVEMBER 2009

**REDD-NET ASIA-PACIFIC, BULLETIN #1: INTRODUCING EQUITY IN REDD**

Welcome to the first REDD-Net Asia-Pacific Bulletin! Every three months, these Bulletins draw on country-level experience to share civil society perspectives on the challenges, opportunities, and possible approaches for pro-poor REDD.

As governments begin to formulate their national REDD programs, questions are emerging about the role of local people in design and implementation, and the socio-economic implications for the rural poor.

This edition introduces three key issues of particular concern to civil society worldwide: Participation, Benefit Sharing, and Conflict.

**Equity in REDD in Asia-Pacific: Initial Observations**

So far, initial consultations in REDD processes have been conducted at the national level, in dialogues between government, international organisations and donors. Local communities and other subnational stakeholders have had little representation, while the quality of any participation suffers from a limited link about REDD. This situation is impedes constructive national dialogue across region.

In most Asia-Pacific countries, it is not unclear what REDD benefits will be or whom they will flow. Though REDD has been viewed by governments as national as a potential poverty alleviation tool, and how REDD benefits are to reach the dependent communities is unknown. It is recognised as an important issue by stakeholders, especially civil society.

For more information please visit: [www.redd-net.org](http://www.redd-net.org)

**REDD-Net Bulletin Asia-Pacific** Issue 02 - October 2010

Networking for equity in forest climate policy **REDD-net**

**The role of trust in REDD+**

Trust cannot be sustained without systems to ensure accountability and redress.  
- Marcos Calchauer, Forest Peoples Programme

As negotiations on the shape of REDD+ continue at national and global levels, REDD-Net's network of civil society organisations has identified the issue of trust as a high priority for further examination. In this issue we explore the importance of trust in REDD+, why the success of REDD+ depends on trust, and how trust may need to come with its own set of warnings.



# REDD Learning Network

- RECOFTC leads the Network in eight countries as part of our work under the RAFT program
- Key stakeholders are informed on latest REDD+ issues
- Contributes to the development of national REDD+ scheme
  - reduce poverty
  - strengthen the rights of local people
- Decoding REDD Workshop Series



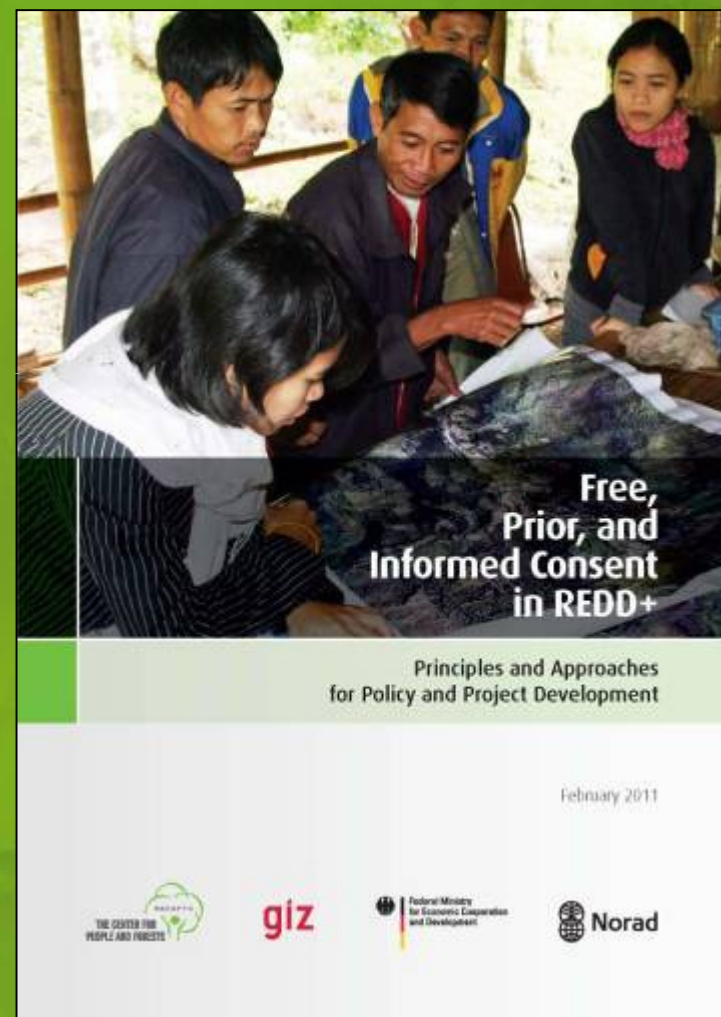
# REDD Learning Network

- **Engaging media - Development of REDD+ Media Pack**
  - Media brief on an overview of REDD+
  - REDD decoding publications
  - Carbon, conflict and communities
- **Press Conference at the UN Climate Change Talks in Tianjin, China**
  - Over 20 Chinese and international journalists
- **Media Training Workshop**
  - 12 journalists from South and East Asian countries, including 8 RAFT countries



# Advisory services

- Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in REDD+
- UN-REDD - Verification of FPIC process
  - FPIC evaluation and verification toolkit developed with Asia-Pacific IG and FPIC experts – for UN-REDD global program
  - Evaluation of FPIC processes using toolkit – for UN-REDD country programs
  - Vietnam completed, Indonesia and Cambodia upcoming



# Advisory services

- RECOFTC has contributed to FSC's forest carbon working group
- FSC has generated a considerable amount of experience within the forest sector on the application of social and environmental safeguards



# Way forward.... future research focus

- How social safeguards are defined and applied under different socio-economic and cultural settings?
- Role of indigenous knowledge
  - Identify significant opportunities, constraints, and risks for adaptation and mitigation
- What are risks and opportunities - will REDD+ escalate conflict in forestry sector?
- How to ensure equitable access to and benefit sharing from carbon trade
- What is the cost of REDD+



# Way forward...future policy focus

- Develop policies on safeguards, including guidance on roles and responsibilities of various actors and stakeholders in ensuring safeguards
- Review and learn from existing policies on safeguard - FPIC in Philippines, FSC certification system
- Create conducive policy environment for facilitating good governance and stronger and clear rights to local communities
- International mechanism to avoid dilution or misinterpretation of safeguards by participating countries

## Conclusion

- CC strategies must harness the skills and knowledge of local people in order to ensure that forests become an effective part of the solution
- Important role of CF in mitigation and adaptation
  - CF offers a basket of robust social safeguards
  - Helps building resilience and social and natural capital for local communities
- CF Contributes to biodiversity conservation through participatory and sustainable forest management practices by local communities and indigenous people
  - Social safeguards themselves are biodiversity conservation related

# Thank You!

