Social and Environmental Considerations of REDD

REDD Training Course

Contents

Could REDD be win-win-win?

Potential Social Benefits and Risks

Potential Environmental Benefits and Risks

Work groups

Could REDD be win-win-win?

- *Climate* benefit
  -Cut up to 20% of global emissions
- *Biodiversity* benefit
  -Prevent loss of richest habitat for biodiversity
- *Social* benefit
  -Revenues & more for local people

Potential Social Benefits

- Economic benefits
- Long-term revenues for local people
- Job creation
- Capacity building
- Potential for complementary activities
  - sustainable forest management
  - ecotourism
- Maintain traditional livelihoods/cultural values associated with forests

Potential Social Benefits (cont.)

- Improved provision of other ecosystem services
  - Water quality/regulation
  - Soil conservation
  - Reduced disease risk
  - Reduced fire risk
  - Maintain populations of pollinators

Potential Social Risks

- Loss of control of forests to government / elite
- Evictions/expropriations
- Unequal/abusive contracts
- Reduced access to land for cultivation
- Potential social conflicts due to rearrangement of power/wealth
- Increase in food and other commodity prices
- Corruption, lack of accountability, transparency

Maximizing Benefits and Reducing Risk

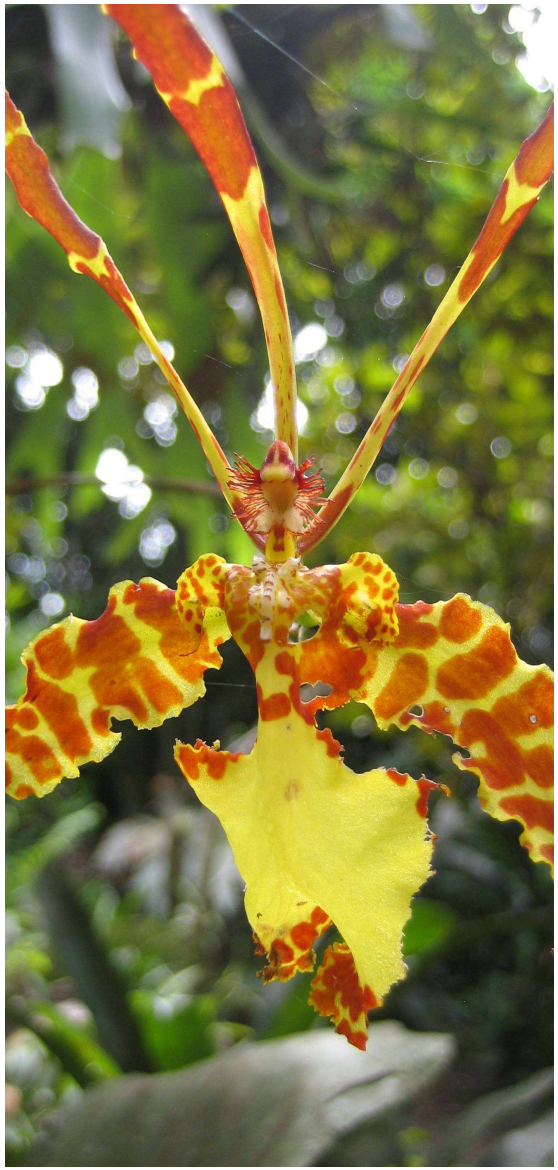
- Include participation of forest-dependent people in design of REDD mechanism
- Mechanism must include safeguards
  - respect customary and traditional tenure and use rights
  - require free, prior, and informed consent
- Could include ‘pro-poor’ provisions
- Develop market for REDD projects with exceptional social benefits?

Potential Environmental Benefits

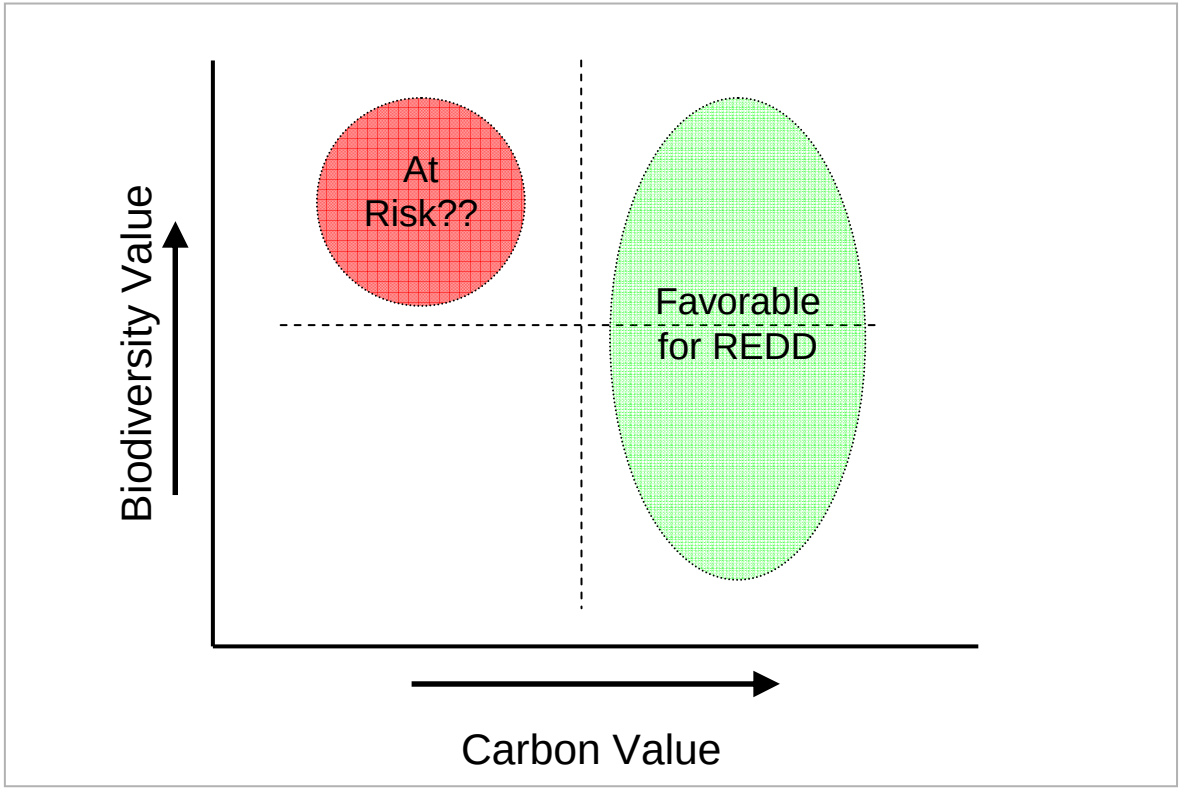
- Biodiversity Conservation

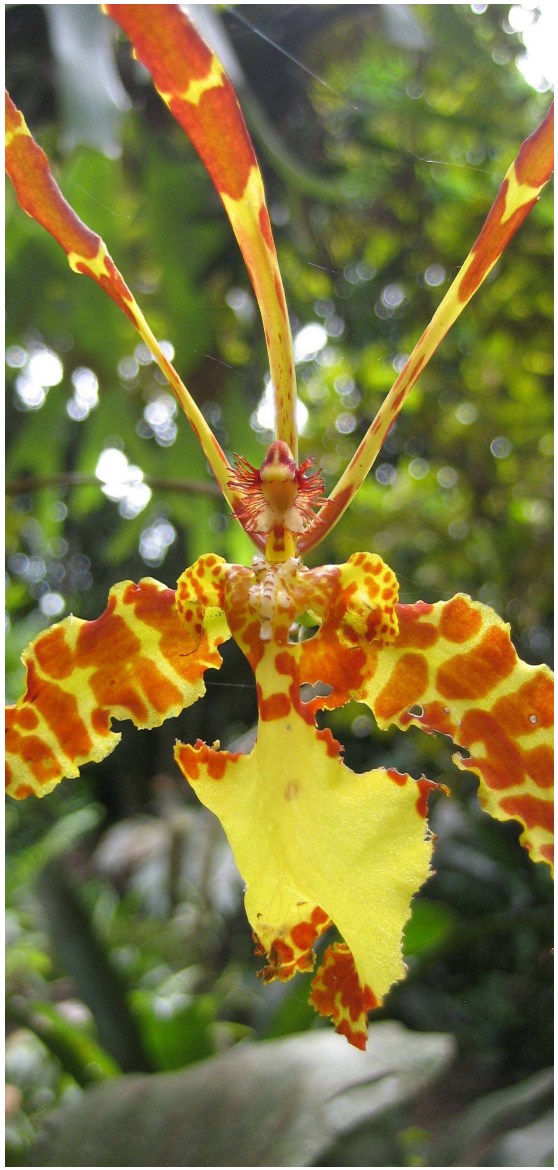
- Maintenance of other ecosystem services
  - Rainfall regulation
  - Water quality/regulation
  - Soil conservation
  - Reduced disease risk
  - Reduced fire risk
  - Maintain populations of pollinators
  - cultural values

- Allow for complementary activities
  e.g. tourism, timber, others

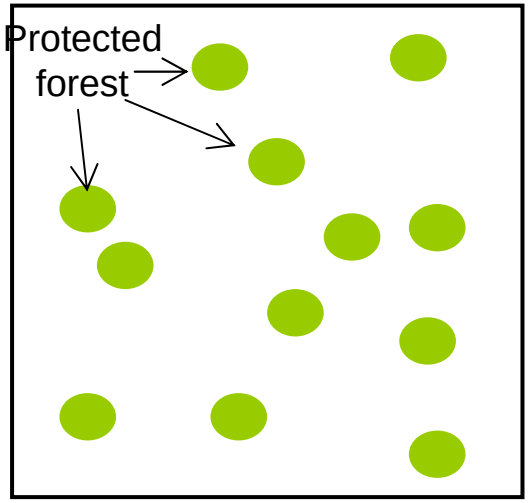


Environmental Risks: low carbon/high biodiversity areas





Environmental Risks: maintaining ecosystem function

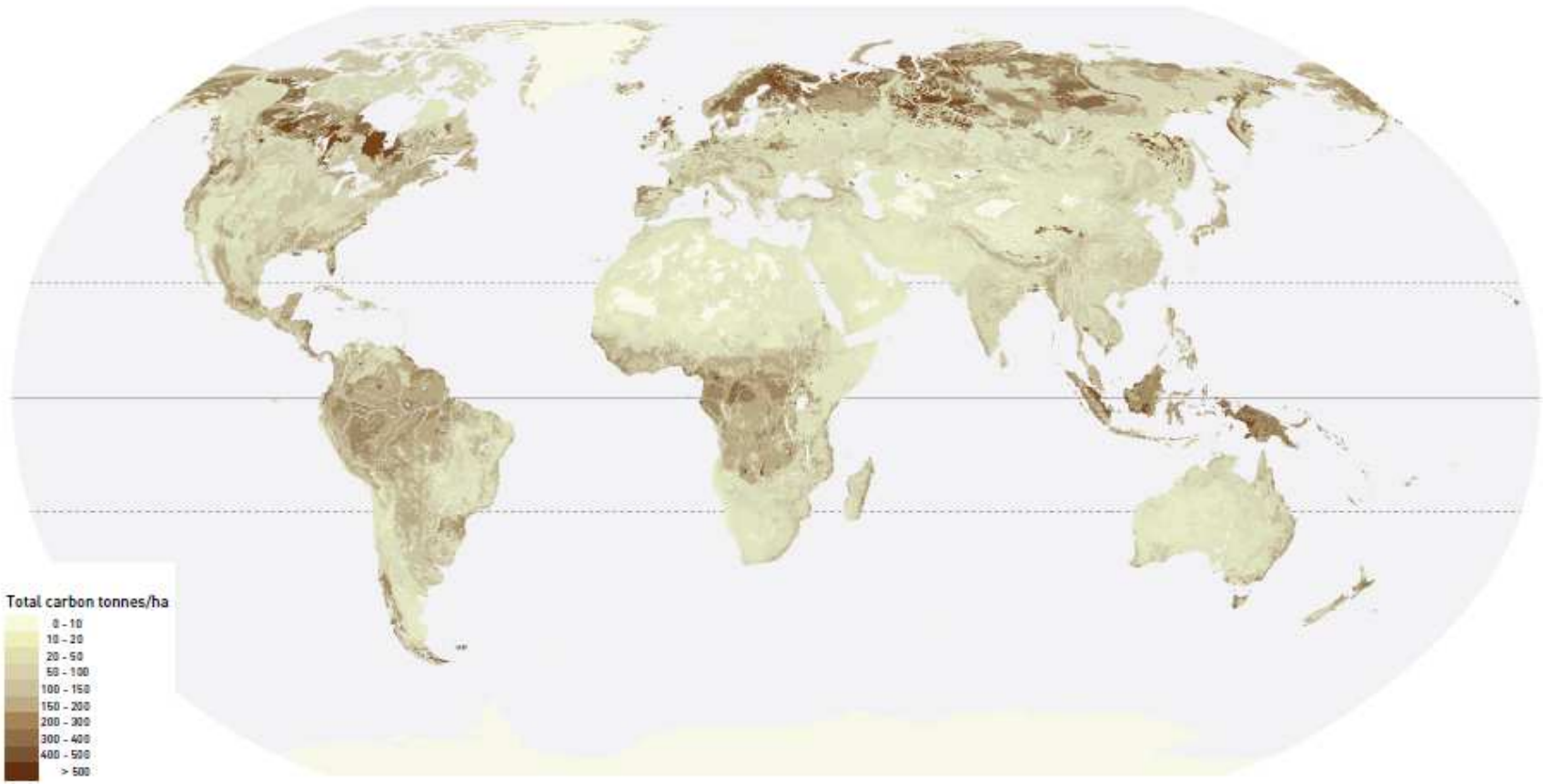


Bad for biodiversity?
Small forest remnants
with low connectivity

Good for biodiversity?

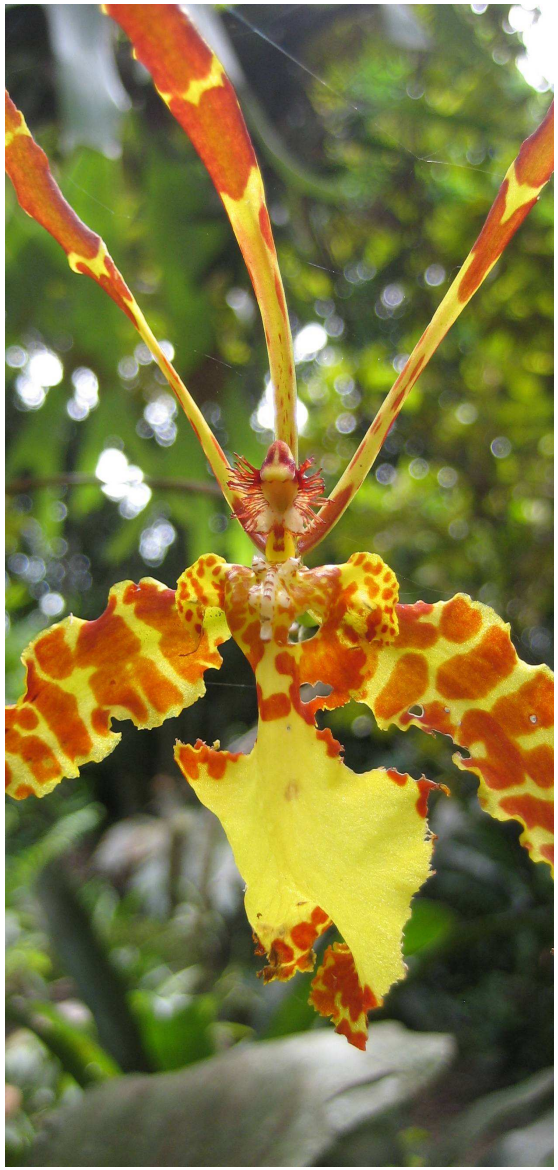
Maintains viable plant &
animal populations

Environmental Risks: Leakage



Carbon storage in terrestrial ecosystems.

Source: UNEP WCMC Carbon and Biodiversity Demonstration Atlas



Other environmental risks?

- Conversion to plantations
- Degradation

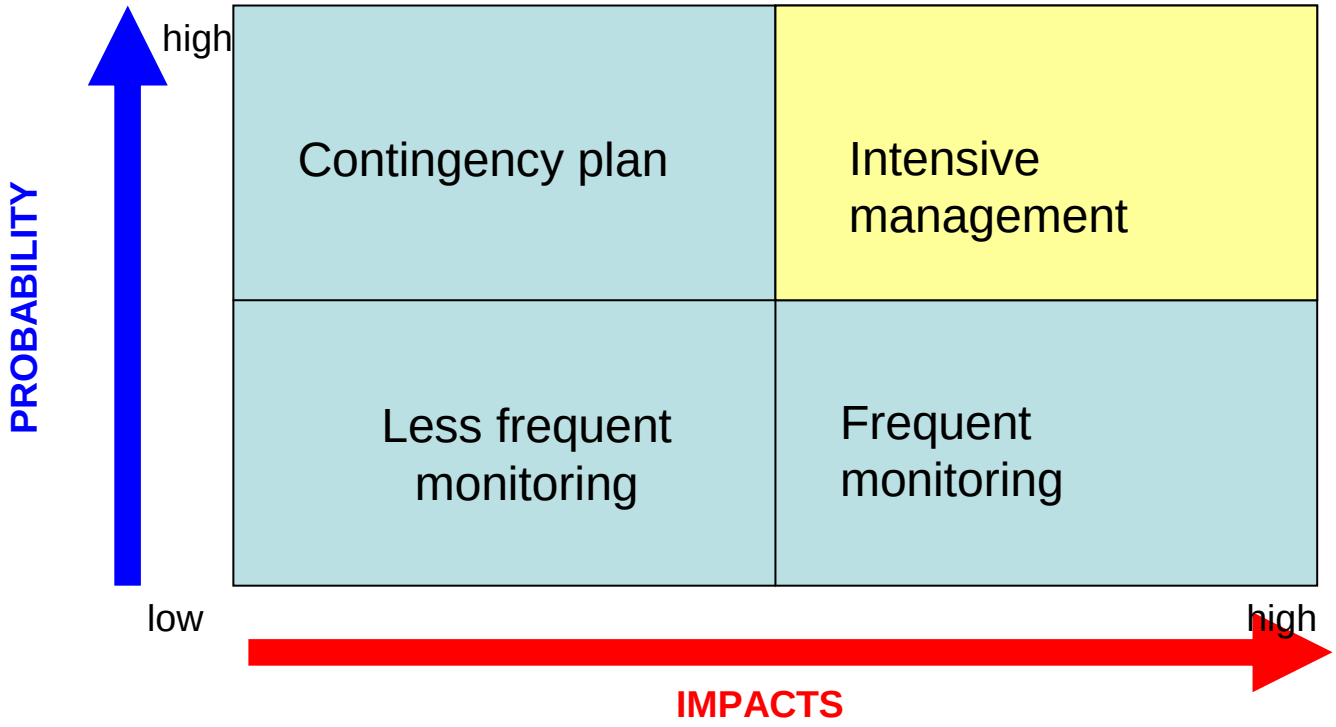
Maximizing Benefits & Reducing Risk

- Scheme must reduce risk of international leakage
- Policies to reduce land conversion in low carbon/high biodiversity areas
- Need for monitoring of land conversion in all habitats
- Include degradation
- Include safeguards against conversion to plantations
- Price premium for REDD in exceptional biodiversity areas?

Group Work – Social Aspects

1) What groups could benefit from REDD? What benefits will they obtain?

2) What groups are most at risk from REDD? What are these risks (use the matrix)? How can the risks be mitigated?



Group Work - Environmental aspects

1) What are the zones of high rates of deforestation and degradation in your country?

2) Do these zones have a REDD value – do they have high carbon value and can the presures be controlled?

3) Are these zones also priorities for biodiversity?

4) Are there any risks of displacement of pressures to sites of lower value for carbon that are important for biodiversity?

Group Work - Environmental aspects

Sites/regions with a high rate of deforestation or degradation	REDD potential: emissions avoidable (many/few)	Biodiversity conservation priority (high/low)	Risks of displacement of pressures to sites of lower carbon value but with biodiversity importance ?

Thank you!

REDD Training Course