Role of REDD+ for Nationally Determined Contributions and ways to incorporate into the National Inventory Report

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REDD+ in the Paris Agreement

• Article 5:
  ✓ Conserve
  ✓ Enhance

  ➢ Sinks (i.e. net CO₂ uptake by growing forests)
  ➢ Reservoirs (i.e. C pools stocks)
REDD+ in the Paris Agreement

Within a mitigation contribution this means that sinks and reservoirs should be used for:

- Reducing GHG emissions into the atmosphere by:
  - Halting deforestation
  - Halting disturbances
  - Reducing harvest losses
  - Extending lifetime of HWP
REDD+ in the Paris Agreement

Within a mitigation contribution this means that sinks and reservoirs should be used for:

- Removing GHG from the atmosphere by:
  - Halting deforestation
  - Increasing forest net productivity by
    - Halting disturbances
    - Avoid overexploitation (i.e. across each year C stocks gains exceed losses)
    - Extending tree cover
What the atmosphere sees from REDD+ (alternative to BAU)

• Halting deforestation:
  ✓ An avoided source (smaller C stocks decrease in a non-forest land NGHGI category)
  ✓ An additional sink (larger C stocks increase in Forest land NGHGI category)

• Halting disturbances:
  ✓ An avoided source (lower GHG emissions in Forest land NGHGI category)
  ✓ An additional sink if stand-replacing disturbances are halted (larger C stocks increase in Forest land NGHGI category)

• Reducing harvesting losses/Avoiding overexploitation:
  ✓ An avoided source (smaller C stocks decrease in Forest land NGHGI category)
  ✓ An additional sink if harvest losses were larger than net-increment (larger C stocks increase in Forest land NGHGI category)
What the atmosphere sees from REDD+ (alternative to BAU)

• Extending lifetime of HWP
  ✓ An avoided source (smaller C stocks decrease in HWP NGHGI category)

• Halting disturbances:
  ✓ An avoided source (lower GHG emissions in Forest land NGHGI category)
  ✓ An additional sink if stand-replacing disturbances are halted (larger C stocks increase in Forest land NGHGI category)

• Reducing harvesting losses:
  ✓ An avoided source (smaller C stocks decrease in Forest land NGHGI category)
  ✓ An additional sink if harvest losses were larger than net-increment (larger C stocks increase in Forest land NGHGI category)
GHG fluxes reported in the NIR NGHGI

• Accordingly to what the atmosphere “sees”, NGHGI reports time series of GHG emissions and removals estimated following the IPCC good practice and IPCC NGHGI categories.

• REDD+ activities will impact (all C pools including HWP) the following NGHGI categories:
  • Forest land \([FL-FL, L-FL]\)
  • Forest land converted to any other land use category \([FL-CL, FL-GL, FL-WL, FL-SL, FL-OL]\)
  • Biomass burning, N\(_2\)O emissions from managed land

• Within the NGHGI
  • The mere presence of C stocks won’t be quantified, unless it determines a trend across the historical time series [i.e. decreasing emissions]
  • A unit of CO\(_2\) removal always offset a unit of CO\(_2\)eq emission [i.e. full fungibility and full equivalence]
REDD+ in NDCs

• REDD+ has been included in 55 of 197 NDCs submitted by April 2018:
  
  • 98% of African countries
  • 81% of Asian countries
  • 66% of American countries

Source “Transforming REDD+: Lessons and new directions” Angelssen et al 2018
Role of REDD+ in NDCs

• REDD+:

  • Either included together with other sectors/activities in the main (economy-wide) contribution
    (*this implies that REDD+ results, if any, offset emissions from other activities/sectors*)

  • Or added as a separate specific contribution, either quantified or not
REDD+ as an additional Contribution

• Included:

  • Either with the same reference point, level, baseline, base year or starting point

  • Or with alternative specific reference point, level, baseline, base year or starting point
REDD+ results

In all cases, If REDD+ is successful:

✓ Net emission reported in the NGHGI for Forest land and/or in deforested land has/have a decreasing trend across the time series, if the reference point, level, baseline, base year or starting point is historical

✓ Net emission reported in the NGHGI for Forest land and/or in deforested land across the target period is lower than in the reference point, level, baseline, base year or starting point
Issues: 1.
Should REDD+ activities be stratified within the NGHGI categories?

REDD+ activities likely occur on the same unit of land.

*E.g. sustainably managing a forest land unit means also reducing emissions from degradation, avoiding deforestation, conserving and possibly enhancing the C stocks.*

This means that a unit of land cannot be stratified under a single REDD+ activity, unless a single activity only is implemented within the country or activities are implemented at sub-national level in different areas of the country.

However, REDD+ projects that occur in different areas of the country can be reported as subdivisions of the main land categories, so allowing for a clear identification of all GHG emissions and removals associated with that project/activity
Issues: 2.
What if forest land is within the NDC target, but country does not include REDD+ activities in the NDC?

Any REDD+ results would not be counted within the NDC progress,

Although all GHG emissions and all CO$_2$ removals originating from land subject to REDD+ activities will be reported within the NGHGI, and therefore REDD+ results will indirectly contribute to the achievement of the contribution.
Issues: 3.
What if REDD+ activities are included in the NDC for adaptation only?

Although REDD+ results would not be counted within the NDC progress, all GHG emissions and all CO$_2$ removals originating from land subject to REDD+ activities will be reported within the NGHGI.

Consequently, REDD+ results will indirectly contribute to the achievement of the mitigation contribution.
REDD+ in the Paris Agreement

Thanks

Questions/Comments