REDD+: Is it sufficient for Forest Solution?

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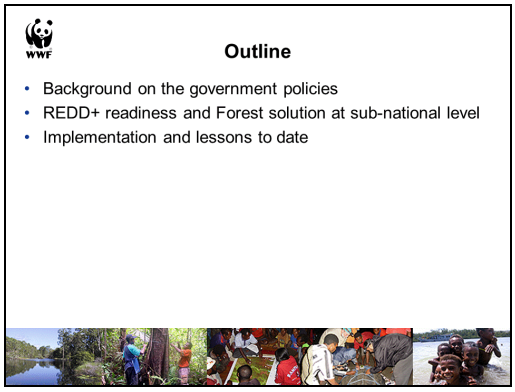
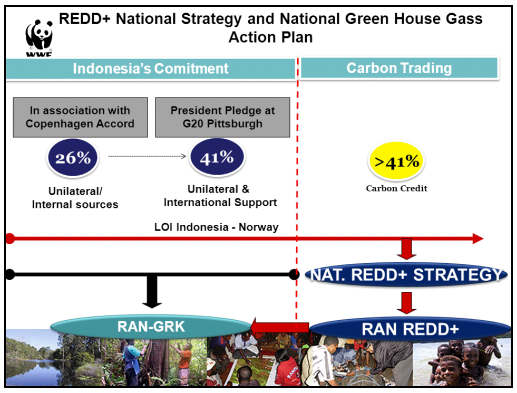
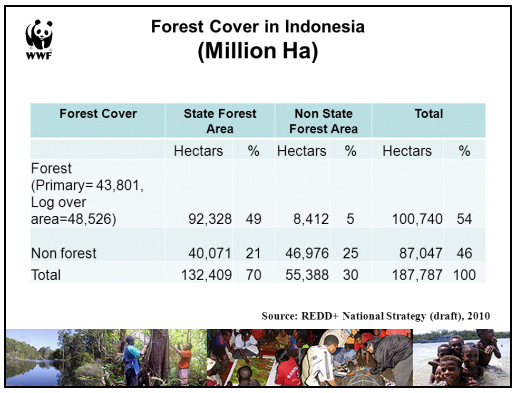
The presentations before already talked a lot about the national mechanism, MRV and the work that has been done. My presentation is more about the lessons learned that we have now so far from the field in Indonesia.



The presentation will be split into three categories. One is the background, and other is what we are doing in the field, and then the lessons learned we have to date.

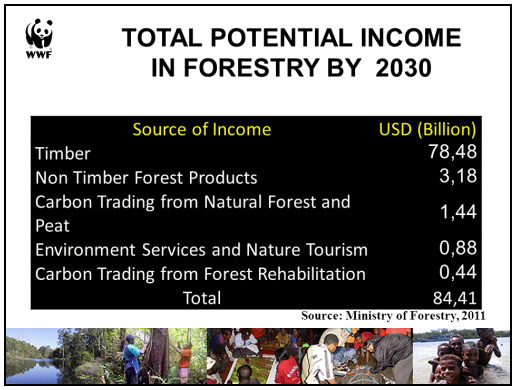




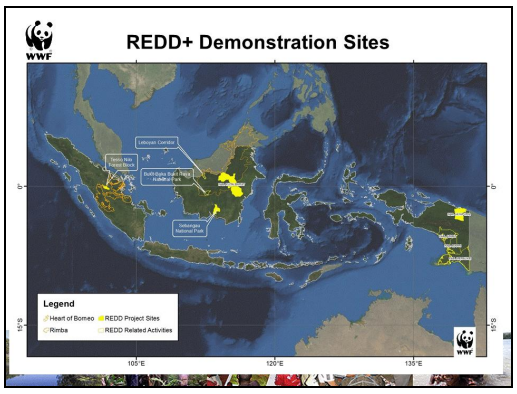
The President of Indonesia pledged to reduce Indonesia green house gas emissions by 26% of emissions internally. And by international support and cooperation, it could be reach 41%. Meanwhile, the government has set up and would like to maintain the economic growth at the 7%.

We would like to mention that we have state and non-state forests. Non-state forests still cover by the forests about 8 million 40,000 hectares. That actually is our first target to be converted because there is a legality for conversions on that forest.

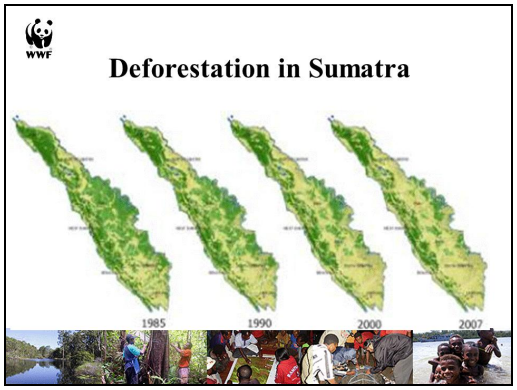
[156] World Wildlife Fund: http://www.worldwildlife.org/

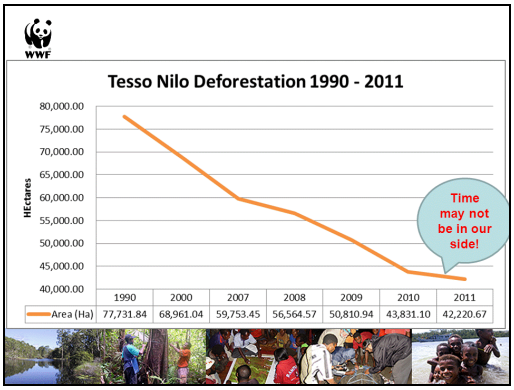


When we look at the projections of the government in terms of the forestry sectors, we still can see much of the source of the income expected from the forest sector is still from timber and the forest plantations. It indicates to us that the challenges to protect the emission from the forests are still in place based on the current projections of the income from the forestry sectors.



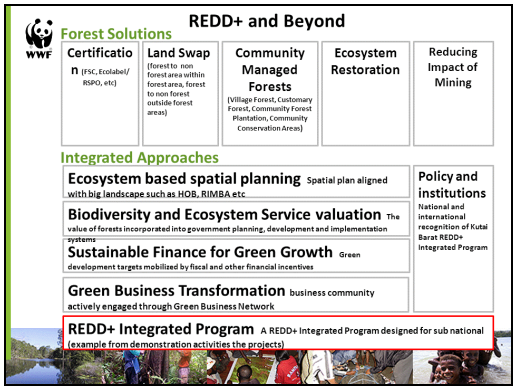
We have four sites of REDD demonstration activities in Indonesia. One is in Central Sumatra, actually within the Sebangau national park. We choose the project site actually based on our conservation priority areas. We would like to see REDD could be an additional benefit to support our conservation priority areas. We would not go for the REDD only for carbon. There is a balance need for us in terms of reducing emissions and improving our management system to protect our priority conservations area. The two projects in Sumatra and in Central Kalimantan are within the national park. Two other projects in East Kalimantan and in Papua that is at the district level of the administrations. We choose this project also based on the local politic dynamics, socio-economic differences and the ethnicity.





At least from our experience, when we see in Sumatra there is high rate of deforestation from 1985 to 2007. Kalimantan is in the middle, and then the Papua, we still have about 78% of our forest remain.

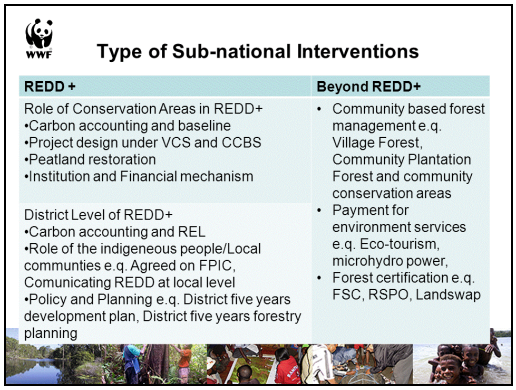
In Sumatra, for example, the most zooming things in Tesso Nilo National Park, we have 83,000 hectares of the national park. But we still face by the deforestation rate at the alarming rate. We only have about 45,000, 43,000 hectares out of 83,000 hectares of the national park, so almost 50% of the park has already gone. I think that is the significance of the REDD in trying to stopping deforestation not only outside the protected areas but also inside the protected areas. We think also we need to have parallel work between stopping deforestation and designing the REDD+ project whether it is at the national level and at the sub-national level especially in Sumatra where deforestation already taken place at alarming rate.



This is the scheme of our program in WWF Indonesia. We see that our REDD is only one component of our programs for forest solutions. One of the components that needs to be approached is the spatial planning. Spatial planning is very crucial for Indonesia because it maintains the permanence of the REDD itself, especially, for the planned deforestations. If we are talking about the environmental service, we know that the forest have very much values, not only carbon; carbon is one of the value of the forests itself. Looking at the holistic value of the forests is very important for us.

Also, influencing the government policy at the sub-national level, in the district level in this case is also very important. When the economic planning still not friendly with the environment that will

cause the deforestation or emissions in this case. Also, the transformation of the business attitudes is also one of the things that needs to be looked at in terms of the sustainability practice of the logging concessions, and also the oil palm companies in this case, and also about the mining concession as the three main drivers of the deforestation, and then, of course, the REDD. We would like to have our lesson from the field that contributed to the framework of the national REDD. We actually at WWF Indonesia work at the two levels. Generate lessons learned in the field in terms of the readiness, and then working with the policy within the government at the national level.



This is what we consider as the REDD main activities and also beyond the REDD activities. We can divide it because our locations are four sites. The four location can be divided into two characteristics. One within the conservation area and the other is outside conservation area. But beyond that, we also work beyond the REDD on the ground, such as promoting the community plantation forests and community conservation areas. We also work in the ecotourism, micro hydro power, forest certification, RSPO[157] and also the land swap. Land swap actually is used to change the possibility of the land that are still forest, but already legalized under the confession to the land that already severely degraded.

One of the challenges of Indonesia, I think because Indonesia is new in terms of democracy, we have so many political parties (30-40 political parties); each party has own interest. When there is

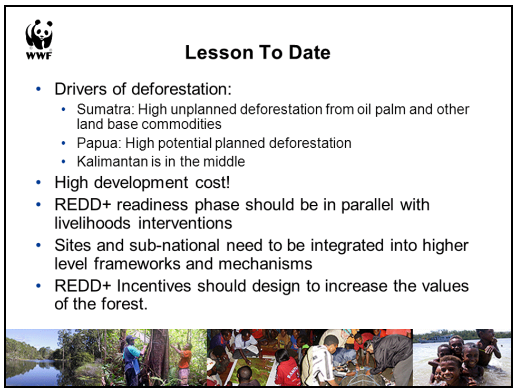
[157] Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil: http://www.rspo.org/

election, whether it is a general elections or local elections or village elections, it causes exploitations to the resources. How to make political parties or democracy in terms of the elections is more effective and efficient, I think that is also a challenge for us in Indonesia in order to be more resource to use effectively because all election will need money for that and the much portion of the money is taken from the exploiting natural resources, including the forest resources.

The land use dynamic in the field is very important. It is not only in terms of the legality, but also in terms of the real land use dynamics, including the communities land. There is various land use dynamic differences in Sumatra, Kalimantan and Papua. This costs much the implementation of the REDD itself. For example, just at a glance, we can see that shifting cultivation is a source of the emissions, but when we see the shift in the system itself, the practice of system itself, because they need lot of land actually, the emissions is relatively low on that, if we have the historical baseline.

The tenurial issues is also and emerging issue in the forest sector. Though our basic law on agrarian recognizes the tenurial community of the lands, but the detailed regulations on forestry, on the mining and also agriculture, it is not recognized properly the community tenure over the land, including forest land, at least in practical, it is least accounted into the legality. It is not only for REDD implementation, REDD should account this before the implementation of REDD. Develop a mechanism for conflict resolution between the community claim over the tenurial and the legality that hold by the companies is very important. I think that is one of the aspect that needs to be accounted. WWF exercise this on the ground among difference types of the communities.

When we have a simulation in the field, the gender differences also have different perceptions on the managing of the land use. We think that it is to be taken into consideration as well. Especially, I think it will be relevant for the benefit sharing mechanism that we develop at the local level.



Lessons to date; we have differences about the rate of the deforestation. Sumatra, high rate deforestation; Kalimantan in the middle, we still have about 60% of forest remain; but in Papua, we still have about 78% forest remaining. In terms of REL[158] at the national level, it really needs to take into consideration. It can cause the Papua that have a lot of forest. Based on the discussion today, incentive and disincentive, the Papuan people will be upset with us because they protect the forest, but incentive will be brought to the other areas, Sumatra for example that have a high deforestation and degradations.

We think that within the year that we experience the project that the cost for designing the project, to develop the project is high actually. We do not know how much carbon pattern that can be considered as a right price. Whether it is $10 per ton or $5 per ton, but the cost could be more than that for the design of the project in the field, and to make the stakeholder agree on the design of the project. The other actually because of the value of the land is increased for the oil palm and for the other purpose. Perhaps the opportunity costs to implement REDD will be high. Because of the time, we already have COP13[159] 2007, and now we are 2012, it is already 5 years for only to design mechanism and arrangement at the national and sub national level. The carbon brokers in the field at that beginning already promoting REDD in terms of money. It is now in the field that stakeholders have lowest confidence of the community and also local government, whether REDD really going to happen than just spending time designing, workshop and consultation without real on the ground exercises. I think there is a need to balance between designing and implementing on stopping deforestation itself. Otherwise, we can have a good design, but the forest almost gone. Especially, that will be the case in Sumatra whereby we only have forests less about 28%.

Of course, the sites or the landscapes to develop the REDD need to be compatible to the national

[158] Reference Emission Level

[159] Conference of Parties

design and also international agreement within the negotiation of the UNFCCC; so learning from that, it needs to be the integrations of the methodology, whether it is a carbon measurement, baseline, REL or also about the safeguard. Now, the Indonesia is beginning develop the sectors in terms of social and the biodiversity. There need to be integrations, and learning to each other from the field, and from the design, and also from the international negotiation agreement as well. That needs to be combined.

When we are talking about REDD, it is not only talking about the compensation to the forest. Do not let REDD just do one mechanism on forests protection and sustainable use, because before, historically, forests have other values such as religious connections, social connections and also other environmental services that is already spoken by the earlier presenters. We would like to see that REDD could be added value to the sustainable forest management or protection of the forest within the conversation area or protected forest.