

REDD+ and Adaptation to Climate Change in East Africa

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The agriculture/forest frontier in Uganda. Better coordination of agricultural and REDD+ policies will be necessary to ensure that REDD+ contributes to increasing the adaptive capacity of key sectors for development such as agriculture, energy and water resource management.

DISCLAIMER

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INTRODUCTION

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) is an international mechanism to mitigate climate change by supporting policy implementation at the national level, with an aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to deforestation and forest degradation. Furthermore, REDD+ goes "beyond deforestation and forest degradation, and includes the role of conservation, sustainable management [...] and enhancement of forest carbon stocks" (UNFCCC 2011).

KEY POINTS

- In East Africa, REDD+ has the potential to be synergistic to national adaptation strategies. However if uncoordinated, implementing REDD+ policies may affect the adaptive capacities of individuals, communities ecosystems and nations, that could increase vulnerability in key sectors like agriculture, energy and water resource management.
- REDD+ has the potential to address key drivers of global climate change, whilst simultaneously implementing local-scale programmes to address the effects of climate change. However, it is important to stress that climate change is unpredictable and that coping strategies (adaptation) must be both encompassing and flexible, to deal with a wide range of cross-sectoral implications.
- Equally, REDD+ must be flexible, and not disregard the importance of adaptive capacities of forest-dependent and rural communities. A key challenge for REDD+ implementation will be to minimise, if not eliminate conflicts with adaptation, and to work with existing national adaptation strategies in order to be a mutually reinforcing tool.

Although a formal international mechanism for REDD+ is yet to be fully defined, REDD+ processes and initiatives are gaining popularity internationally and are a subject of discussion in most climate change fora. REDD+ is gaining momentum in East Africa, with Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania all participating in the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, Tanzania having a UN-REDD country programme and bilateral support from the Royal Kingdom of Norway and number of REDD+ pilot projects established in the region.

Adaptation to climate change can be defined as the "adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities" (IPCC, 2001). Because of the effects of climate change, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya all have Adaptation Strategies. Tanzania and Uganda, which are classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), have National Adaptation Programme of Actions (NAPAs), both formulated in 2007, receiving financial support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Kenya has a National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS - 2010), which addresses similar aspects to of the NAPAs.

Agriculture is the major economic activity in the region and is heavily rainfall dependent, and therefore vulnerable to climate change. At the same time, deforestation rates across the region have remained high due to a combination of factors such as "population increase, urban demand for charcoal, over grazing, uncontrolled timber harvesting and policy failures" (Kanabait, 2001, pp. 7). The emergence of REDD+ provides an opportunity to improve forest cover in East Africa, supporting national conservation activities, sustainable forest management and reforestation or afforestation schemes. REDD+ activities may also provide additional benefits such as protecting watersheds which many people directly and indirectly depend upon for agriculture, water for domestic use, production and energy, assisting the alleviation of vulnerability and increasing national adaptive capacities.

Hence, the potential exists for REDD+ strategies and national adaptation strategies to mutually reinforce each other, with the added possibility to be jointly considered as an adaptation tool. However, a clear and concise coordination between REDD+ and national adaptation strategies is essential, as there is the potential for each of them to hinder one another.

The aim of this REDD+ and adaptation article is to consider the role of REDD+ in increasing or limiting adaptive capacity across East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda), and assess how design and implementation of REDD+ may both positively and negatively influence this capacity within the sectors of agriculture, forestry and water.

KENYA'S STATE OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, WATER

Presented by the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources, based on outcomes of nationwide stakeholder-consultations, and drawn from various ministerial sectoral climate change response activities, Kenya's NCCRS was formulated in 2010, with a vision of "a prosperous and climate change resilient Kenya" (Government of Kenya, 2010, pp. 5).

Kenya is experiencing a general rise in temperatures, reduced levels of rainfall in conjunction with a higher frequency and more intense rainfall along the coast, and over northern parts of the country (Government of Kenya, 2010). Such variations in temperature and rainfall have severe impacts upon the development of key national sectors. Key contributing sectors include agriculture, forestry and water resources, all of which are incredibly climate sensitive as they are rain fed, and therefore dependent on rainfall.

Within Kenya, the demand for energy is a key driver of deforestation and land degradation; 78% of all energy consumed is derived from biomass (Kenyan Ministry of Education, 2002, as cited in Government of Kenya, 2010). In addition, illegal encroachment, settlements, logging and livestock grazing all negatively impact national forest cover (Kariuki, 2006 & Government of Kenya, 2010). Alongside these pressures, the forestry sector in Kenya is already experiencing negative climate change related impacts; all ASALs, the eastern provinces of Machakos and Kitui and the coastal province of Taita Taveta show evidence of affected forest growth, composition and regeneration rates, contributing to enhanced rates of desertification, deforestation and a decline in forest resources (Government of Kenya, 2010).

Projected temperature rises, and increased periods of drought will lead to a higher frequency of forest fires and extend the ranges of pests and pathogens. In addition, changes in temperature will lead to a vegetation shift in higher elevations, resulting in the possible extinction of certain tree species such as *Metia volkensii*, *Terminalia spinosa* and *Delonix elata* (Government of Kenya, 2010).

Kenya is a water scarce country (Government of Kenya, 2010); resources are unevenly distributed in both time and space, to only five drainage basins: Lake Victoria, Rift Valley, Athi River, Tana River and Ewaso Ng'iro. Reduced precipitation will worsen the national

TABLE 1: PROPOSED POTENTIAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES FOR THE FORESTRY, WATER RESOURCE AND AGRICULTURAL SECTORS IN KENYA

Forestry interventions	Water resource interventions	Agriculture interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensified and sustained afforestation, reforestation programmes Encourage agroforestry Promote alternative livelihood systems Promote alternative energy sources, conservation and efficiency Develop and improve fire control Enhance forest conservation and management Pursue an innovative funding mechanism for forestry development (PES) Promote the sustainable management of industrial forest plantations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed protection Water catchment protection and conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial and technical support to farmers for drought-resistant crops can be re-introduced Promote agro-forestry (trees on farms) to address soil/land degradation. Research and development for crops that can deal with projected climate variability.

Source: Government of Kenya, 2010.

situation; reports already show the occurrence of 12 serious droughts over the past 50 years, resulting in severe reduced water volumes, and cases of dry river basins (National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA - Kenya, 2006).

An increase frequency of erratic precipitation events (floods and droughts) will lead to loss of agricultural production. These events have already been observed across the country, but will intensify if not addressed. Climate change, coupled with improper land use (including deforestation) has resulted in successive failed harvests, leading to reduced famine cycles from 20 years (64-84) to yearly (2007, 2008, 2009) (Government of Kenya, 2010).

To address climate change related impacts, the NCCRS proposes multiple adaptation interventions for the forestry, water resources and agricultural sectors, summarised in Table 1.

TANZANIA'S STATE OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, WATER

In line with Tanzania's National Development Visions, 2025, Tanzania's NAPA focuses on both short term and long term strategic actions, with a vision to "identify immediate and urgent climate change adaptation actions that are robust enough to lead long-term sustainable development in a changing climate" (United Republic of Tanzania, 2007:pp.2). Based on a process of sectoral and community-level stakeholder consultations and literature reviews, key objectives include:

- To protect life and livelihoods of the people, infrastructure, biodiversity and environment
- To assist communities to improve and sustain human and technological capacity for environmentally friendly exploitation of natural resources in a more sustainable way in a changing climate
- To create a long-term sustainable livelihood and development activities at both community and national level

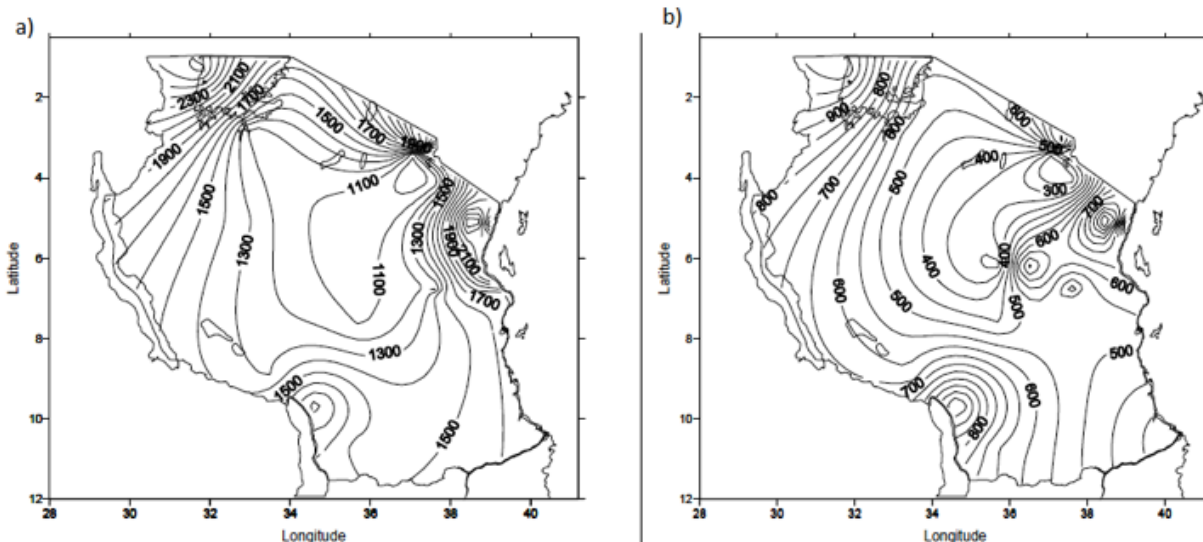
Climate change predictions for Tanzania show a national mean annual temperature increase of 2-4°C, by 2100, and regional precipitation increases and decreases (Figure 1) (Tanzania Meteorological Agency, 2005, as cited in United Republic of Tanzania, 2007). Such changes will aggravate challenges for Tanzania's economic production, impacting the key rain-fed sectors: forestry, water resources and agriculture, and increasing community vulnerability (Agrawal et al., 2003 & United Republic of Tanzania, 2007).

Although Tanzania is a forest-rich country (35% forest cover), deforestation from agriculture, settlements, overgrazing, wildfires and over-exploitation of wood resources is a major threat. In addition, vegetation change due to temperature increase is expected to result in a 61.4% decline of subtropical dry forests, a 64.3% decline of subtropical moist forests and the complete disappearance of subtropical thorn woodland (United Republic of Tanzania, 2007). Furthermore, bush and forest fires are expected to increase, reducing and altering existing vegetation cover in area such as Kilimanjaro.

Predictions suggest regional disparity in precipitation. In the North, and North East, annual river flow will decrease by 6-9%, elsewhere, on the Rufiji and Pangani river systems, an increased annual flow of 5-11% could damage major hydropower stations, agricultural systems and human settlements. Fresh water availability is predicted to decrease by half (1990-2025) (Sharma et al. 1996); water stress will become an increasing problem, as 62% of the Tanzanian population rely on traditional water resources (United Republic of Tanzania, 2007).

Tanzania has 7 agro-ecological zones; research suggests that a temperature increase of 2-4°C would not only alter their distribution, but reduce growing seasons and crop production. In addition, predictions expect a decrease in area of rangelands, of which 60% is already unusable due to tsetse fly infestation, which is likely to exacerbate conflicts between farmers and pastoralists (United Republic of Tanzania, 2007). The agricultural sector in Tanzania (including livestock) employs of 80% of the population, and accounts for 56% of the national GDP, and 60% of export revenue. The prospect of reduced production within agriculture will not only affect the sector, but will have dire implications upon the entire population by increasing food insecurity.

FIGURE 1: A) MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION LEVELS IN TANZANIA, B) MINIMUM PRECIPITATION LEVELS IN TANZANIA



Source: Tanzania Meteorological Agency, 2005, as cited in United Republic of Tanzania, 2007.

TABLE 2: EXISTING AND PROPOSED ADAPTATION STRATEGIES FOR THE FORESTRY, WATER RESOURCE AND AGRICULTURE SECTORS IN TANZANIA

	Forestry interventions	Water resource interventions	Agriculture interventions
Existing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative forest management in various districts • Ensured ecosystem stability through conservation of forest biodiversity, water catchment and soil fertility. For example, the Soil Erosion Control and Agroforestry Project (SECAP) Usambara, Eastern Arc conservation project • National wide tree planting campaign • Participatory forest management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of hydropower water catchments • Integrated water resource management • Protection of water Catchments • Rainwater Harvesting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero grazing • Small scale irrigation • Research & Development on drought tolerant seed varieties • Agriculture extension activities • Diversification of agriculture: growing different types of crops on different land units • Promotion of water harvesting techniques
Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest fire prevention plans and programmes • Strengthen community based forest management practices • Afforestation and reforestation and regeneration programmes, using adaptive and fast-growing species. • Promotion of alternative, appropriate and efficient sources of energy for both domestic and industrial use • Enhance participatory forest management through benefit sharing from forest resources • Ex-situ conservation of important plant genetic resources • Promotion of use of non-timber forest products • Promotion of lesser unknown timber species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop community based mini-hydropower • Develop alternative water storage programs and water harvesting technologies for communities • Strengthen integrated water resources management • Promotion of Community based catchments conservation and management programs • Promote new water serving technologies in irrigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero grazing • Alternative farming systems • Promote indigenous knowledge • Change planting dates in some agro ecological zones • Reduce reliance on maize as staple food by growing short-season and drought tolerant crops such as sorghum and millet • Shift crop farming to more appropriate agro ecological zones • Sustainable water management to boost food crop production

Source: United Republic of Tanzania, 2007.

To address the effects of climate change, Tanzania's NAPA outlines existing, and potential adaptation interventions for the forestry, water resources and agricultural sectors, summarised in Table 2.

UGANDA'S STATE OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, WATER

Guided by Uganda's need to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and internal development objective set out in the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (Government of Uganda, 2004), the NAPA was prepared using a participatory approach, drawing from the views and coping mechanisms of vulnerable communities.

Uganda's NAPA considers forestry, agriculture and water resources as key intervention areas based on their dependency on rain-fed systems that are increasingly erratic and unpredictable.

Uganda's agricultural system is subsistent and rain-fed, thus vulnerable to climate variability. It is the largest economic sector in the country, contributing 42% to GDP, over 90% of export incomes and employs of 80% of the population (IIED, 2005). Erratic rainfall predictions and an increase in rainfall can lead to waterlogged fields, washing away crops and

failed harvests. In addition, the marginal poor tend to settle on flood lands, increasing community vulnerability further. Temperature increases will lead to a shift in agro-ecological systems, impacting the production of climate-sensitive crops such as coffee.

Prolonged drought will reduce agricultural production, increasing community and national vulnerability by resulting in higher food prices, lower domestic revenues and lower exports incomes (Government of Uganda 2007).

In addition to deforestation and forest degradation, pressures from encroachment, over-exploitation of fuelwood (95% of Uganda's energy needs are derived from fuelwood sources), agricultural expansion and overgrazing further complicate the effects of climate change. For example, bush fires to prepare agricultural land and for regeneration of livestock feeds (grass) impede environmental services and increase risks to loss of soil productivity (Government of Uganda, 2007; Kayanja and Byarugaba, 2001 & Hamilton, 1984).

Furthermore, Uganda has abundant water resources that are unevenly distributed, leading to semi-arid areas experiencing water stress. The cattle corridor, running through the centre of the country, is a fragile, rain-dependent ecosystem. Climate change will exacerbate water scarcity, specifically in semi-arid regions. Hydrological power systems will additionally be affected due to reduced rainfall, indirectly affecting the forestry sector through an increased dependency on fuelwood.

TABLE 3: PROPOSED ADAPTATION STRATEGIES FOR THE FORESTRY, WATER RESOURCE AND AGRICULTURE

SECTORS IN UGANDA

Project	Activities related to Forestry	Activities related to Water Resources	Activities related to Agriculture
Community tree growing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and promote growing suitable high value trees • Promote best practice land use management • Develop seedling production systems • Enhance and promote alternative and efficient energy sources 		
Land degradation management		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote land use best practices (for water conservation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote agricultural best practices (for land conservation)
Community water and sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant multipurpose trees for domestic and commercial use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase and improve protected water sources 	
Water for production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop water reserves inside protected areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote best practices for water production and management 	
Drought adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote multipurpose trees for domestic and commercial use 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and promote drought tolerant and early maturing varieties of crops • Promote pasture production, harvesting and storage
Indigenous knowledge and natural resources management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document, validate and promote climate related indigenous knowledge for natural resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document, validate and promote climate related indigenous knowledge for natural resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document, validate and promote climate related indigenous knowledge for natural resources

Government of Uganda, 2007.

Uganda's NAPA outlines several projects to address climate change related impacts. Potential activities related forestry, water resources and agricultural sectors, are summarised in Table 3.

LINKING REDD+ WITH NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

The linkage between forests and adaptation are two-fold: Adaptation is needed to maintain forest functioning and forests play a role in adaptation of forest-dependent communities and broader society (Locatelli, B et al., (2011).

Forests are vulnerable to climate change and implementing forest adaptation measures can reduce the negative impacts (Locatelli, B et al., 2008 as quoted by Locatelli, B et al., 2011). In East Africa, the heavy dependence on nature for livelihoods and in key economic activities for example rain-fed agriculture, fuel wood energy from forests and sustenance of water levels for generation of hydro-electricity from the dams, means that adaptation of forests should be part of the strategy of maintaining key sectoral functions in the long run, and REDD+ could prove useful in doing this.

Second, forests play a role in adaptation of communities and broader society (forests for people's adaptation'). In this regard forest ecosystems contribute to adaptation by providing local

ecosystem services that reduce societies' vulnerability to climate change (Vignola, R et al, 2009 as quoted by Locatelli, B et al., (2011). It is increasingly recognised that well managed ecosystems can help societies to adapt to current climate hazards and to future climate change by providing a wide range of ecosystem services. For example, the recent floods and landslides on Mount Elgon in Eastern Uganda that have resulted in resettlement of communities, loss of lives and property could be minimised by conserving forests to reduce such vulnerability in future.

Linking REDD+ and Adaptation in Kenya (focus on agriculture, forestry & water)

Within the NCCRS, adaptation strategies focus considerably upon forestry supported activities: agriculture, energy and water. High deforestation levels and opportunities for enhancing carbon stocks and sustainable forest management in Kenya offers REDD+ the chance to feed into NCCRS objectives using afforestation, reforestation and sustainable forest management as key focal areas for climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

The country's R-PP has been taken up by the Office of the Prime Minister to harmonise environment and climate change policies, and management arrangements for R-PP implementation have been designed within the context of Kenya's NCCRS.

R-PP strategies which link with NCCRS strategies for Agriculture, Water and Forestry are summarised in Table 4.

TABLE 4: REDD+ R-PP STRATEGIES FOR AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY WHICH LINK IN WITH NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES OUTLINED IN THE NCCRS AND NAPAS FOR KENYA, TANZANIA AND UGANDA

Agriculture	Water	Forestry
Kenya		
Support the implementation of Taungya plantation systems, and commercial agroforestry	Promote sustainable forest management for key water catchment areas	Support forest fire management, focussing on preparedness, early warning systems and fire-fighting capacity
Implement grazing land management		Support the promotion of alternative energy sources, conservation and efficiency
Provide financial support for famers		Promote sustainable forest management
		Support NCCRS objectives to increase forested areas by 4.1 million hectares
Tanzania		
Support agricultural innovations, e.g. best agronomic practice, alternative high-yield crops and self-sustaining agro-ecosystems	Conservation and protection of catchment forests	Strengthen fire-fighting capacity
Support the enhancement of human resource capacity for climate change mitigation, e.g. REDD+ related farmer field schools		Support forestry research, including afforestation, reforestation activities
		Support research and promotion of alternative energy sources, conservation and efficiency
		Invest in non-forestry sector employment to reduce forest dependency
Uganda		
Promote intensification to minimise land area	Sustainable management and conservation of forest estates (including forested water catchment areas)	Promote alternative, affordable, clean and efficient fuel sources
Increase trees on farmland, promote agroforestry		Sustainable management and conservation of forest estates

Linking REDD+ and Adaptation in Tanzania (focus on agriculture, forestry & water)

The UNFCCC, of which Tanzania is a party, recognises that pro-REDD+ forestry activities can be used as an adaptation tool (United Republic of Tanzania, 2010). Tanzania's REDD+ proposal highlights that reduced deforestation and forest degradation "may play a significant role in climate change mitigation and adaptation" (pp. 44). In addition, reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation is included as a mitigation strategy under Tanzania's Environmental Management Act, 2005.

Tanzania's proposes strategic options of intervention to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Key divers identified include agricultural expansion (specifically for bio-fuel production), fuel production and fire. Strategies which link in with those outlined in the NAPA are summarised in Table 4.

Linking REDD+ and Adaptation in Uganda (focus on agriculture, forestry & water)

Uganda's REDD+ readiness proposal focuses very little on the potential of using REDD+ as an adaptation tool, rather it concentrates on the role of REDD+ to reduce emissions as a climate change mitigation strategy. Uganda's National Adaptation Strategy is not once mentioned in the REDD+ R-PP.

Although there is little representation or note of adaptation within the R-PP, the proposal identifies objectives, which include addressing direct and underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Uganda, and the sustainable management and conservation of forests. Table 4 summarises proposed REDD+ strategies which overlap with those outlined in the NAPA in relation to Agriculture, Water and Forestry. In comparison to Kenya and Tanzania, there is a substantial lack of overlap between NAPA and REDD+ strategies in Uganda.

Discussion and Implications

Under the UNFCCC, LDCs (like Uganda and Tanzania) are required to produce NAPAs in which they assess their vulnerability to climate change and define adaptation priority projects with the explicit objective of reducing societal vulnerability (Pramova, E et. al, 2010 as quoted by Locatelli, B et al., 2011). By taking an 'Ecosystem-based Approach' to adaption - where adaptation policies and measures take into account the role of ecosystem services in reducing the vulnerability of society to climate change, in a multisectoral and multi sectoral approach (CIFOR REDD+ Database as quoted by Locatelli, B et al., 2011), the inclusion of forests into adaptation policies as well as adaptation in forest management is taken into account

(Locatelli, B et al., 2011). In East Africa, this 'Ecosystem-based Approach' could enhance sustainable management of forests that are threatened by drivers of deforestation and degradation (for example, agricultural expansion, fuelwood extraction) conserved for the ecosystem services they provide in addition to the other products they provide. In this regard, REDD+ could be useful to 'forests for people's adaptation' as well as 'adaptation of forests'.

Hence, as climate and weather variability increases, vulnerability, droughts and floods will increase, leading to reduced growing seasons and food insecurity, and encroachment on fragile ecosystems like river banks and forest reserves. Taking the 'Ecosystem-based Approach' to adaption provides an opportunity for REDD+ and national strategies for adaptation to co-exist and address these challenges.

Locally REDD+ implementation could be a source of income generating activities, ranging from tree growing to agro-related activities (bee-keeping, fruit growing and economic agroforestry practices). The regeneration of forests, or reforestation/afforestation of areas will also have an indirect impact by increasing adaptive capacity in vulnerable areas like mountain slopes, Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALs) of Kenya, and fragile ecosystems like natural forests and wetlands. In turn, this could have positive impacts on a regional (East African) scale. For example, re-vegetated slopes of degraded catchment forest areas like the Mau complex can reduce the likelihood of landslides, migration to search for water during the dry spells, and reduction in conflicts arising from such movements. Additionally, the conservation of water-catchment ecosystems (rivers, lakes and wetlands) can safeguard this key source of water for production (agriculture) and domestic use, on which the majority of the rural poor across East Africa depend (de Wit and Stankiewicz, 2006)

Although REDD+ can contribute to adaptation objectives, there are areas of implementation, which may have negative implications. For example, the potential 'trap' to implement

REDD+ activities without taking full account of community needs and concerns, now and in the future may result in badly designed REDD+ programmes that reduce adaptive capacity at the community level (Graham 2011) It is therefore essential that adaptation and REDD+ strategies are harmonised to minimise negative outcomes of REDD+ implementation.

In effect, if the NAPAs (for Uganda and Tanzania) and the NCCRS (for Kenya); and REDD+ strategies fail to synchronise activities, conflict is likely to occur, increasing the prospect of negative impacts on community livelihoods. For example, uncoordinated REDD+ policies and programmes may restrict forest-dependent communities' access to livelihood resources, reducing their adaptive capacity (Freudenthal et al., 2011; Graham 2011).

CONCLUSION

In East Africa, REDD+ has the potential to be synergistic to national adaptation strategies. However if uncoordinated, implementing REDD+ policies may affect the adaptive capacities of individuals, communities ecosystems and nations, that could increase vulnerability in key sectors like agriculture, energy and water resource management.

REDD+ has the ability to potentially address key drivers of global climate change, whilst simultaneously implementing local-scale programmes to address the effects of climate change. However, it is important to stress that climate change is unpredictable and that coping strategies must be both encompassing and flexible, to deal with a wide range of cross-sectoral implications.

Equally, REDD+ must be flexible, and not disregard the importance of adaptation capacities of forest-dependent and rural communities. A key challenge for REDD+ implementation will be to minimise, if not eliminate conflicts with adaptation, and to work with existing national adaptation strategies in order to be mutually reinforcing tool.

ABOUT REDD-NET

REDD-net is an international knowledge forum for southern civil society organizations through which they can access information about efforts to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, share their own experiences and help to build pro-poor REDD projects and policies. REDD-net is a partnership between the Overseas Development Institute, Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests and Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development. REDD-net is funded by Norad.



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