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VOLUNTARY CARBON STANDARDS AND PROJECTS ADDRESSING KEY ISSUES OF REDD+

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RAINFOREST ALLIANCE

The Rainforest Alliance works to conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable livelihoods by transforming land- use practices, business practices and consumer behavior

60 Countries

35,000 Members



Founding FSC member and world's largest certifier

Hosts of the Sustainable Agricultural Network Secretariat



AUDITING EXPERIENCE

- Founded in 1986
- Over two decades experience in forest auditing
- Four years auditing to carbon/climate standards
- Accredited auditor to voluntary carbon market standards



IPlan Vivo
(Carbon management and rural livelihoods)



**CLIMATE
ACTION
RESERVE**



Chicago Climate Exchange



STRONG DEMAND IN ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Validations Awarded



Including 4 in Asia Pacific Region

Audits Underway



Including 5 in Asia Pacific Region

CHALLENGES

- Pre-compliance market for REDD+, voluntary standards addressing tough questions
- ? Can terrestrial carbon projects deliver **permanent credits** fungible with those derived from projects such as renewable energy or GHG capture?
- ? Can **leakage** be identified, quantified and/or mitigated?
- ? Do robust **methodologies** for baseline development and monitoring exist?

PERMANENCE

- **Systems of setting aside buffers, based on the risk profile of the project have been developed (10-50%)**



Specific Tool for determining project type specific risk



Legal contract stating that if a reversal in emissions reductions or sequestration occurs over 100 years credits issued must be repaid.

- **Projects providing extra assurance:**
 - Penablanca, Phillipines – Certificate of Stewardships
 - Tropical Mix, Panama – Legal commitment by landowner
- **Not Forgetting Certification**



ACTIVITY SHIFTING LEAKAGE

Activity Shifting

A → **B**

- Focus on long term sustainable livelihood development at landscape scale

e.g. Sofala Project, Mozambique

- Systematic identification and tracing of leakage agents

e.g. Tropical Mix Project, Panama

- Positive leakage never counted

e.g. Fire management

MARKET LEAKAGE

Market Leakage



- Standards have default values to apply e.g. VCS = 20-70%
- National timber market modeling e.g. Noel Kempf Project Bolivia

Leakage management starts at project design:
sustainable livelihoods and sustainable wood products supply

Main challenge remains in leakage attribution

METHODOLOGY

Written by standards

or

Open to developers



Focus on VCS Double Approval Process:

11 meths in process, 1 approved
Market assurance or robustness
Public comment
Making REDD+ a reality

Lessons learnt:

Patience required
Developers should share findings
Increased auditor – developer dialogue

Getting easier from here

SUMMARY

- Standards and projects beginning to address big questions, teaching valuable lessons
- Projects that approach things at a landscape scale with focus on sustainable livelihoods run into least problems

