



Guiding Principles for Delivering Coastal Wetland Carbon Projects

Tuesday 9 December 2014
13:00 - 16:00
Indonesia Pavilion



Summary

Coastal wetland ecosystems play a significant role in sequestering and storing carbon in biomass and soils. But these ecosystems are under tremendous pressure - many of them are already degraded due to unsustainable logging and aquaculture developments.

Even though restoring coastal wetland ecosystems will store some carbon, the lost stocks may never be fully replaced. Nevertheless, many of the ecosystem services could possibly be used to engage wider stakeholders to participate. Focusing on the dual objectives of climate change mitigation and adaptation (including to sea level rise) could be a powerful tool for interventions.

Brief case studies will be used to illustrate the key considerations when planning a carbon project on coastal wetlands. Fundamental is the need to link environmental and societal climate change adaptation to underpin successful mitigation activities. Some countries face challenges but examples of good practice can be shared across the globe.

Relevance to UNFCCC climate negotiations and sustainable development in Indonesia

The UNFCCC has recognized the importance of high-carbon reservoirs, including peatlands, mangroves and other biomes. A workshop on “Technical and scientific aspects of ecosystems with high-carbon reservoirs” was organized and a report was published (FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.1).

This is in line with the 2013 IPCC Wetlands Supplement (requested by UNFCCC), which provides methodological guidance for GHG inventories. Chapter 4 on “Coastal wetlands” would serve Parties to report activities in mangrove forests, which cover around 138,000 km², salt marshes of around 300,000 km², and seagrass meadows of around 400,000 km².

All of them store carbon in the biomass, both below and above ground, and current losses of mangroves, tidal marshes and sea grasses due to human coastal activities are resulting in losses of biomass and carbon. Their mitigation potential may be synergized with their adaptive capacity which would enable society at large to adapt to changes in the climate and sea level.

We will discuss and explore the following key questions

1. What are some of the options for finding synergies between mitigation and adaptation objectives?
2. How might policy and project interventions be refined to improve effectiveness?
3. How could best practices be documented and shared for wider stakeholders/practitioners with the aim of encouraging sustainable practices?

Presentation and Discussion

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Moderator

Daniel Murdiyarso
Principal Scientist, CIFOR

Rapporteur

Kristell Hergoualc'h
Scientist, CIFOR

Speakers

Steve Crooks
Climate Change Program Manager, ESA
Principles and lessons learned from wetlands and carbon project

Tim Christophersen
Senior Programme Officer, Forests and Climate Change, UNEP
From principles to practice: Achieving coastal mitigation and adaptation outcomes through demonstration projects and upscaling

Moritz von Unger
Silvestrum
Emerging opportunities for coastal wetland carbon projects development

Heru Prasetyo
Head, National REDD+ Agency, Indonesia
Coastal blue carbon in Indonesia

Launches of three new reports

9 December 14:45 - 15:00 Indonesian Pavilion	CIFOR and UNEP release practical guide to wetland projects Join us to learn more about this practical manual on interventions for improved coastal wetland conditions for climate change mitigation and adaptation	
Coffee break 15:00 - 15:30		
9 December 15:30 - 16:00 Indonesian Pavilion	New UNEP publications on assessing and monitoring the multiple benefits of mangroves <ul style="list-style-type: none">Monitoring the restoration of mangrove ecosystems from spaceCarbon pools and multiple benefits of mangroves in Central Africa: Assessment for REDD+	

Background reading

2013 Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands. www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/wetlands/

Report on the workshop on technical and scientific aspects of ecosystems with high-carbon reservoirs not covered by other agenda items under the Convention. http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/6911.php?prif=600007824

Lewis III RR and Brown B. 2014. Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation: A Field Manual for Practitioners. www.mangroverestoration.com/pdfs/Final%20PDF%20-%20Whole%20EMR%20Manual.pdf

Donato DC, Kauffman JB, Murdiyarso D, Kurnianto S, Stidham M, and Kanninen M. 2011. Mangroves among the most carbon-rich forests in the tropics. *Nature Geoscience* 4:293–7.

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