Opportunities and prospects of forest based CDM and REDD+ projects for sustainable development in Africa

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Problem statement 1/2

• Whilst, the **global objective of carbon trading** is to **mitigate climate change**, there are **development based opportunities** that emerges from the implementation of the offset carbon projects that need to be analysed on how they aid sustainable development.

• There are limited number of carbon offset projects under REDD+ and CDM from Africa.

28-30 Oct. 2015, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
Problem statement 2/2

• Where, they exist, little is known about them. This has therefore continued to hinder Africa, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa where various types of forests such as woodlands, rain forests and mountains forests among others to develop REDD+ and CDM offset projects for sustainable development.

• This study addresses existing opportunities and future prospects expected from forest based CDM and REDD+ offset projects for sustainable development and mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
Methods

• Desk review was conducted to identify forest based CDM and REDD+ offset projects in Africa.

• The forest carbon portal database and other open sources were extensively reviewed.

• The prospects from forest based CDM offset projects were based on trend analysis of registered, requesting registration and pending approval from CDM Board.

• The desk review was validated with a focused group discussion in 12 countries 28-30 Oct. 2015, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Swaziland</td>
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</table>

What are the economic benefits associated with carbon project in your country for sustainable development?

What problems/challenges face carbon benefit sharing in your country?

How should such problems be mitigated? What lessons do you draw from carbon benefit sharing in your country in relation to low carbon for sustainable growth?

What lessons have you learnt from carbon trading and marketing processes?

What are reasons for Africa having contributed about 2% of registered CDM offset projects and a limited number of REDD+ projects?
Key Findings

- REDD+ offset projects and emission reductions
- UN-REDD currently supports 26 partner countries including Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, Zambia, Benin, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, South Sudan, the Republic of the Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.
- Significant amount of emissions reductions from REDD+
- Limited no. of forest based CDM projects

Reasons:
- Lack of updated forest inventory
- Inadequate technical and institutional capacity
- Unfavourable forest policies
- Inadequate political commitment & political instability
- Stringent application of AR as per KP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Ex-tante estimate GHG emission reduction (tCO_{2}e)</th>
<th>Total land area under project activity</th>
<th>Crediting period (years)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<td>Mozambique</td>
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</table>

Legend:
- 16.4% Afforestation
- 6.0% Mangroves
- 1.5% Agro forestry
- 82.1% Reforestaion

28-30 Oct. 2015, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
Key Findings: Opportunities & Propospects

• Economic opportunities for low carbon for sustainable development
• employment creation
• enhanced infrastructure and
• increased investment
• enhanced green economy and

Social opportunities for sustainable growth
✓ Provision of school bursaries;
✓ construction of classrooms;
✓ new schools and teacher’s incentives;
✓ development of health facilities,
✓ enhanced eco-tourism;
✓ formation of community groups on environmental issues
✓ development of human resources and institutional capacity

Biodiversity and ecological conservation

enhances sustainable forest management for improved livelihood and economic growth. restoration of degraded lands and use of appropriate biodiversity and increases carbon stock as well as improves provision of ecosystem services.
Conclusions/Recommendations

• Forest conservation, sustainable use and enhancement of carbon stocks in context of CC has a great potential to enhance sustainable development;

• **Recommendations:**
  
  • *developing and strengthening institutional frameworks and policy instruments to effectively regulate and support the development of carbon projects in Africa that will tap into climate change finances;*
  
  • create carbon trade sector like the recent launch of African carbon market to provide employment and economic diversification;
  
  • increase access to innovative research and technology to foster public-private sector participation in carbon investment and trading;
  
  • *enhance regional integration and empowering regional institutions to build capacity and to share experiences on development and implementation of carbon projects to tap the global market;*
  
  • strengthen and regulate carbon trading to stabilize the carbon prices to avoid unpredictable price fluctuations;
  
  • *African governments in collaboration with development partners invest on forest resource assessment and land use changes so as to generate needed activity data to reduce transactional costs for any carbon project;*
  
  • African government through focal points develop and fund awareness programmes to inject interest on development of offset projects.