Challenges & opportunities of international policies for tropical forest restoration

### Outline

- Current & new opportunities for restoration in the tropics
  - \* What we got out of Durban
- Opportunities for restoration
  in REDD+
- Challenges for restoration in REDD+
- Proposed solutions



A young boy prepares to plant a cacao seedling in Belize

## Current incentives for restoration

#### Community forestry

- Bolivia, India, Mexico, Nepal, Philippines
- PES programs
  - Costa Rica, Mexico, Honduras
- ✤ Is this ideal?



# REDD+ as a new opportunity

- Reducing emissions from deforestation
- Reducing emissions from forest degradation
- Conservation of carbon stocks
- Sustainable management of forests
- Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

# REDD+ as a new opportunity

IPCC land use categories

- Forests becoming non-forests
  - Deforestation
- Non-forests becoming forests
  - Enhancement
- Forests remaining forests
  - Degradation
  - Conservation
  - \* Management
  - Enhancement



D. Morton et al 2010

# REDD+ as a new opportunity

#### Outside UNFCCC

- World Bank
- ✤ UN-REDD
- Bilateral agreements
- California
- Within the UNFCCC
  - Quickly moving forward



### **REDD+** Requirements

#### Environmental safeguards

- Conserve natural forests
- Promote biodiversity
- No conversion to plantations
- Avoid leakage & reversals

#### Social safeguards

- Respect rights
- Include stakeholders
- Transparent governance structures

Advance unedited version

Draft decision [-/CP.16]

#### Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on longterm Cooperative Action under the Convention

#### The Conference of the Parties

Recalling its decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan), and decision 1/CP.15,

Seeking to secure progress in a balanced manner, in the understanding that, through this decision, not all aspects of the work of the Ad Nec Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention are concluded, and that nothing in this decision shall projudge prospects for, or the content of, a legally-binding outcome in the future,

Reaffirwing the commitment to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action, now, up to and beyond 2012, in order to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention,

Recalling the principles, provisions and commitments set forth in the Convention, in particular its Articles 3 and 4,

Recognizing that climate change represents an urgent and potentially investible threat to human societies and the planet, and thus requires to be urgently addressed by all Parties,

.(f)/weing the legitimate needs of developing country Parties for the achievement of sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty, so as to be able to deal with climate charge,

Nonce resolution 10/4 of the United Nations Human Rights Council on 'human rights and elimate change', which recognizes that the adverse effects of elimate change have a range of direct and indirect implications for the effective enjoyment of human rights and that the effects of elimate change will be fit most acutely by those segments of the population that are already vulnerable owing to geography, gender, age, indigenous or minority status and disability.

#### I. A shared vision for long-term cooperative action

2. Further affirms that:

GE.10-70914

### REDD+ Durban

- Safeguards
- ✤ Finance
- Reference levels
- Next on the agenda:
  - Drivers
  - Monitoring & MRV
  - More on safeguards
- ✤ Agriculture





# REDD+ & restoration: an ethical opportunity

High forest cover (At least 75%) States/Union territories Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunach Pradesh, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya

#### Moderate forest cover (Between 25% and 75%)

States/Union territories Goa, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Assam, Orissa, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh

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#### Low forest cover (Less than 25%)

#### States/Union territories

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry, Gujarat, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab

# REDD+ & restoration: a political opportunity

http://20twentytwo.blogspot.com/2008/08/forest-cover-snapshot.html



## REDD+ & restoration: an environmental opportunity

http://energy-ecology.blogspot.com & Scottish Center for Carbon Storage

#### UK Forestry Commission 2007





### **Protective Plantation Forests**



MODIS data comparing deforestation and re-growth in the Amazon arc of deforestation from 2001-2008.



MODIS data comparing deforestation and re-growth in the Amazon arc of deforestation from 2001-2008.



- What are REDD+ activities?
  - Where are different practices most appropriate?
- Addressing drivers is necessary for REDD+
  - This means producing agricultural products without causing emissions



- Restoration trade-offs:
  Restoring land to forests
  Using degraded land for production
  Combination of the two
- We can't ask one hectare to do it all



### ✤ Leakage

- Does land sparing work?
- Effects of increasing productivity
- Biophysical limitations
  - What is sustainable management?
  - Variability





### ✤ Finance

- Sources & levels
- Valuation will only be for carbon
- Implementation costs still unclear
  - Brazil Case Study
- Governance
- Political challenges
  - Development & economies
  - New approaches



## Proposed solutions

- Addressing drivers is necessary for REDD+
  - Net zero deforestation
  - Sustainable production



 Scientific work (especially mMRV) needs to go beyond carbon



### About UCS

### UCS REDD+ Advocacy

- \* Bali 2007
- \* Durban 2011

#### ✤ UCS REDD+ Research

- \* Root of the Problem
- \* Points of Reference
- \* The Plus Side



### About UCS

- UCS Scientist & Expert Engagement
  - Webinars
  - New reports
  - Getting involved



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