



The Role of Commodity Roundtables & Avoided Forest Conversion in Subnational REDD+¹
Agriculture, Food Security & Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Accounting
September 7- 9, 2011
University of San Diego, California, USA

Halting deforestation driven by agriculture is a cornerstone of reducing GHG emissions from tropical forest countries. With demand for food estimated to increase 70% by 2050, ensuring food security while protecting carbon-rich ecosystems is a key global challenge. This technical workshop will bring together experts from commodity roundtables, financial institutions, the commercial sector, state/province REDD+ leaders, GHG accounting and land use change, NGOs, governments, and food security to explore the following inter-locking topics:

Agricultural Roundtables and REDD+: we will evaluate the status of standards for land conversion prevention within the major commodity roundtables (e.g. RSB, RSPO, RTRS, etc.) and consider how these standards can complement emerging REDD+ and GHG accounting in states and provinces.

Land-Sparing: the workshop will explore conditions under which agricultural intensification may lead to a decrease in deforestation (land-sparing). If production on existing land could meet food demand through increased yields, pressure to clear forest could be reduced but evidence of land-sparing is mixed; increasing yields also increases profits which can finance expansion. We will discuss policies, practices and mechanisms that can facilitate and promote land-sparing.

Food Security and Reduced GHG Emissions: many of the best strategies for reducing agricultural emissions for each ton of food may also contribute to food security. The Agricultural Synergies Project was formed to develop specific technical guidance for scientifically robust ways of boosting food security while reducing GHG emissions. Examples of synergies will be discussed.

Logistics and further details overleaf

¹ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation, conservation of existing carbon stocks and enhancement of carbon stocks.

Date/Time: 1pm, Wednesday September 7 until 2pm on Friday September 9, 2011

Venue: Institute of the Americas, University of San Diego, San Diego, California, USA

Hotel: La Jolla Shores Hotel, 8110 Camino Del Oro La Jolla, California (special rates available when registering your attendance)

Format: Presentations, panels and breakout groups.

Speakers include:

Barbara Bramble, National Wildlife Federation

Holly Gibbs, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Tim Killeen, Conservation International

John-O Niles, Tropical Forest Group/UC San Diego

Michael Obersteiner, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

Tim Searchinger, Princeton University

Roberto Smeraldi, Amigos da Terra-Amazônia Brasileira

Program includes welcome reception, informal lunch discussions and dinner on the beach!

Attendance: registration is free but space is limited; please register your interest in attending as soon as possible to guarantee a place. Contact Nathalie Walker, National Wildlife Federation (walkern@nwf.org), (+1) 202-552-9773

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