



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Back to work after the summer holidays, a busy portfolio of projects calls for our attention. While there continues to be demand for CDM programme of activities, there is a growing interest in more ambitious climate strategies. Countries seek to prioritize mitigation actions and develop systems that measure climate benefits at the policy level. After the June climate talks in Bonn, we observe a growing interest in evaluating the role of coastal ecosystems (“blue carbon”) in the context of international climate policy. In the meanwhile, investors have also received the first REDD+ credits issued under the Verified Carbon Standard, which continues to make progress in developing guidelines for the nesting of project baselines within jurisdictional reference levels. Finally, we are engaged in a suite of projects evaluating options and testing business models on how climate finance can be harnessed for the benefit of smallholder farmers.

We welcome your views and comments on any of these issues, as well as on the projects and publications presented in this newsletter.

Charlotte Streck and Adriaan Korthuis

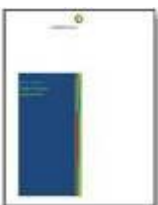
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Agriculture and Climate Change: A Scoping Report



The report is the result of a project facilitated by the Meridian Institute which began in August 2010. It is intended to provide context and analysis for addressing agriculture in international climate negotiations, discussing issues such as agricultural production and food security; early action opportunities; trade; finance; technology transfer and capacity building; and performance and benefits measurement. [Read more...](#)

Blue Carbon Policy Options Assessment



Mangroves, salt marshes, and sea grasses store significant amounts of carbon and have great greenhouse gas mitigation potential. To date these ecosystems – known as “blue carbon” - have largely fallen outside of international and national climate change mitigation policies. This report assesses options for protecting and/or restoring blue carbon ecosystems under climate change policy and financing mechanisms. [Read more...](#)

National REDD+ Registries: An Overview of Issues and Design Options



The report provides an analysis of options for national REDD+ registries with the objectives to i) clarify the rationale, function, and operations of a national REDD+ registry; ii) identify design options for a REDD+ registry and, iii) contribute to knowledge around integration of subnational emission reduction programs within national approaches to meet the needs of REDD+ countries, investors, donors, and financiers. [Read more...](#)

In this Issue

Recent Publications
Recent Projects
Where to find us
News
Contact us

News

Lowering Emissions in Asia’s Forests (LEAF) Technical REDD+ Workshop

The workshop, held in Bangkok, Thailand between 23-25 August, 2011, had a dual purpose, serving as the kickoff event to introduce the LEAF program and as the first workshop on the technical aspects necessary to launch effective REDD+ strategies. [Click here](#) for more information.

REDD+ Workshop in Merida Mexico

Climate Focus helped to organize a training workshop in Merida Mexico for local government officials to increase local capacities for REDD+ implementation and enhance cooperation on REDD+ in the Yucatan Peninsula. [Read more...](#)

Modalities for REDD+ Reference Levels: Technical and Procedural Issues



Looking toward the 17th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP) in Durban, South Africa, the Government of Norway commissioned Meridian Institute to undertake a new options assessment effort focusing on modalities for REDD+ reference levels. This project follows on two previous Norway-sponsored activities (REDD-OAR and REDD+ IOA). [Read more...](#)

The Handbook for Programmes of Activities Africa: Practical Guidance for Successful Implementation



Climate Focus and the African Development Bank present the Handbook for Programmes of Activities in Africa. This updated version of Climate Focus' previous publication includes a new chapter that focuses on the particularities of PoA development in Africa and presents the CDM's struggle to take off across the continent.

[Read more...](#)

RECENT PROJECTS

Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (LEAF) Program



The USAID LEAF program helps its six core countries (Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand and Vietnam) identify the most economical and effective ways to manage their land and forests and works through regional partnerships to replicate successful approaches. [Read more...](#)

Biogas Programme Nicaragua



The programme aims to develop and establish a sustainable biogas sector in Nicaragua. It will promote the acquisition and construction of biodigesters at households with livestock. Use of the biogas for cooking and lighting will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by displacing non-renewable biomass and fossil fuels and reducing methane emissions from manure. [Read more...](#)

WHERE TO FIND US

Arlington, VA, USA and online – September 8
REDD Methodology Modules Workshop and Webinar

Robert O'Sullivan

Click [here](#) for more information

Institute of the Americas, University of San Diego, CA USA – September 8
The Role of Commodity Roundtable & Avoided Forest Conversion in Subnational REDD+ (Technical workshop organized by the National Wildlife Federation and the Tropical Carbon Group)

Charlotte Streck

Session on the REDD+ and agriculture in the context of the UNFCCC

San José, Costa Rica - September 27-29

Latin American Carbon Forum

Juan Pablo Castro

Programme of Activities under the CDM: Progress made and challenges ahead (Sept 28)

Brussels, Belgium - October 13 and 14

IETA Workshop: Europe's Engagement with new UN Climate Mechanisms

Moritz von Unger

NAMAs and crediting policies: Major issues surrounding NAMAs, benchmarks and policy crediting

Slow Start for the Carbon Credit Market

Donna Lee of Climate Focus discusses private sector participation in REDD in the New York Times article "A Slow Start for the Carbon Credit Market". The article is available on the [New York Times website](#).

The Cancun Climate Conference, where do we go from here?

Ernestine Meijer of Climate Focus published the article "De Cancun Klimaatconferentie, en hoe nu verder?" in the Dutch Law Journal "Tijdschrift voor Milieu en Recht". In the article, Meijer describes and analyzes the Cancun Agreements, the role of the EU in the creation of certain parts of these agreements and possible implications of the Cancun Agreements for the EU.

[Read more...](#)

The Handbook for Programmes of Activities is now Available in Spanish!

Climate Focus presenta la versión en español de su reciente publicación: Manual de Programa de Actividades: Guía Práctica para una Implementación Exitosa. El Manual provee asistencia invaluable para actores interesados en el desarrollo de Programas de Actividades (PoA). [Lea mas aqui...](#)

Contact Us

Climate Focus (Europe)

Sarphatikade 13
1017WV Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Phone: +31 20 262 1030
Fax: +31 20 330 1295

Climate Focus (USA)

1025 Connecticut Ave, NW
Suite 1102
Washington, D.C. 20036, USA
Phone: +1 202 540 2273
Fax: +1 202 540 2279

Climate Focus (China)

B26H Oriental Kenzo, No. 48
Dongzhimen Waidajie
Dongcheng District,
100027, Beijing, China
Phone: + 86 10 84 094 594
Fax: + 86 10 84 094 504

www.climatefocus.com

If you do not wish to receive our newsletters every few months, kindly notify us at info@climatefocus.com.

Please confirm your current contact information at <http://www.climatefocus.com/newsletter/signup/>.