Neoliberalization of Nature: REDD+ carbon trade causes forest use conflict

Location:
Alto Mayo Protected Forest, Peru

Mechanism:
R educing
E missions from
D eforestation &
forest
D egradation

Theory:[1,2]
Neoliberalization of nature *Castree*

Environmental Justice *Schlosberg*

REDD+ is a mechanism for climate mitigation in developing countries under UNFCCC. A reduction of forest carbon emissions translates to a plus in carbon stocks. Conservation incentives are given through a performance-based payments scheme financed on a market, fund or mixed basis.[3,4,5,6,7]

Legal Framework:

2007: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
Strengthening of indigenous rights
Principle of free prior and informed consent [6]

2010: Cancún safeguards
Increasing positive REDD+ impact
Calls for participation of local communities [8]

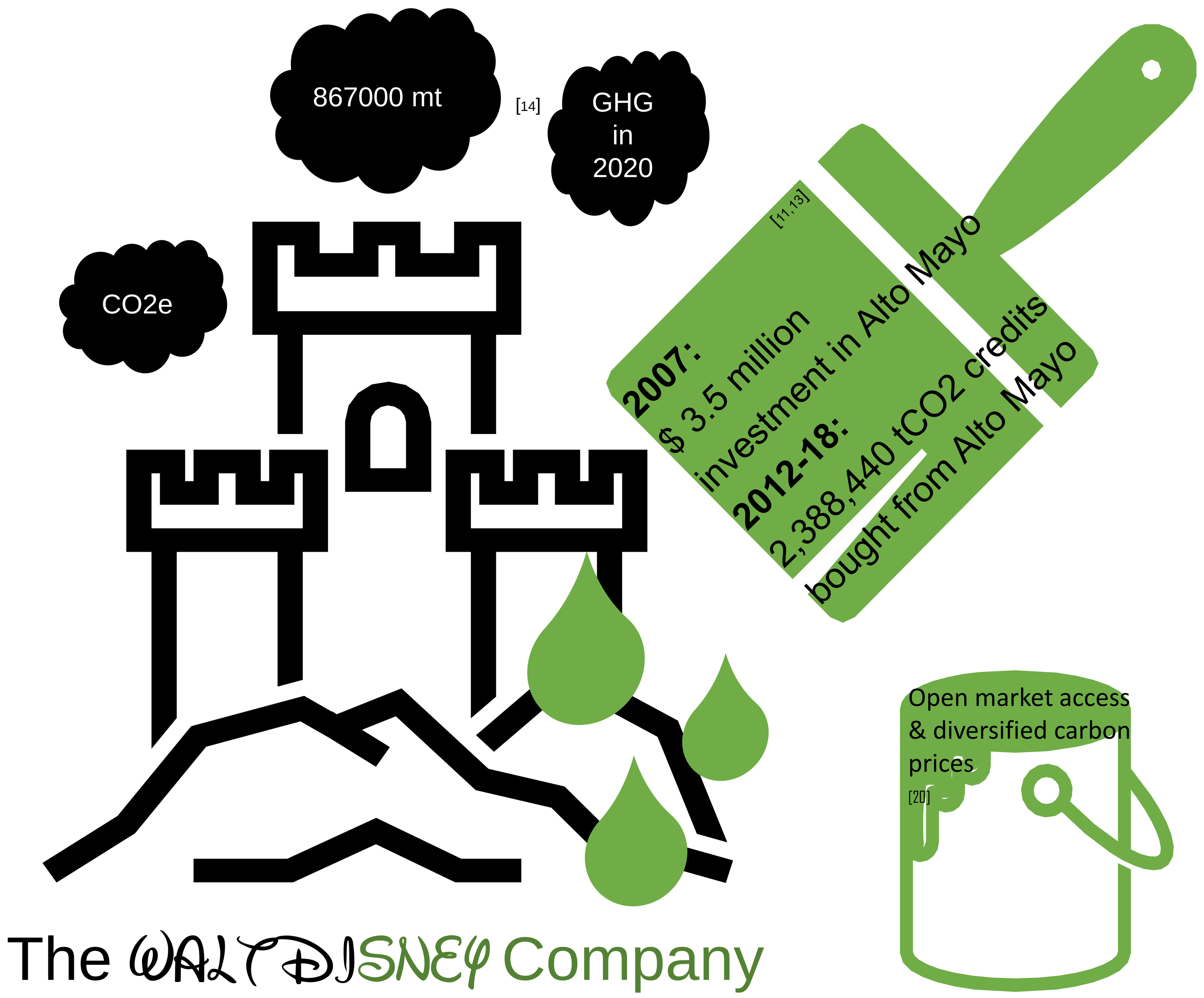
2010: Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
Enhancing of indigenous forestry [7]

2013: Warsaw Framework for REDD+
Focus on financial and methodological part of REDD+ implementation [4]

Local REDD+ project Alto Mayo:[3,5,9,10,11,12,13]

178,000 ha of cloud forest at western edge of Amazon basin	Local community: Indigenous Awajún and Andean migrants
Private & public credits & donations for: conservation agreements & participation of local community	Forest governance lacks legitimacy due to weak participation, transparency and accountability

Conflict arises because neoliberalizing practices of Corporate Social Responsibility/ Greenwashing of the major funder Walt Disney Company collide with indigenous forest use principles of environmental justice as weak REDD+ governance fails to meet goals of conservation and participation.[13,14,15]



MARKET

RIGHTS

We depend on forest resources. You offer **20 cents per hectare**! No carbon piracy & foreign capital accumulation![17,18]

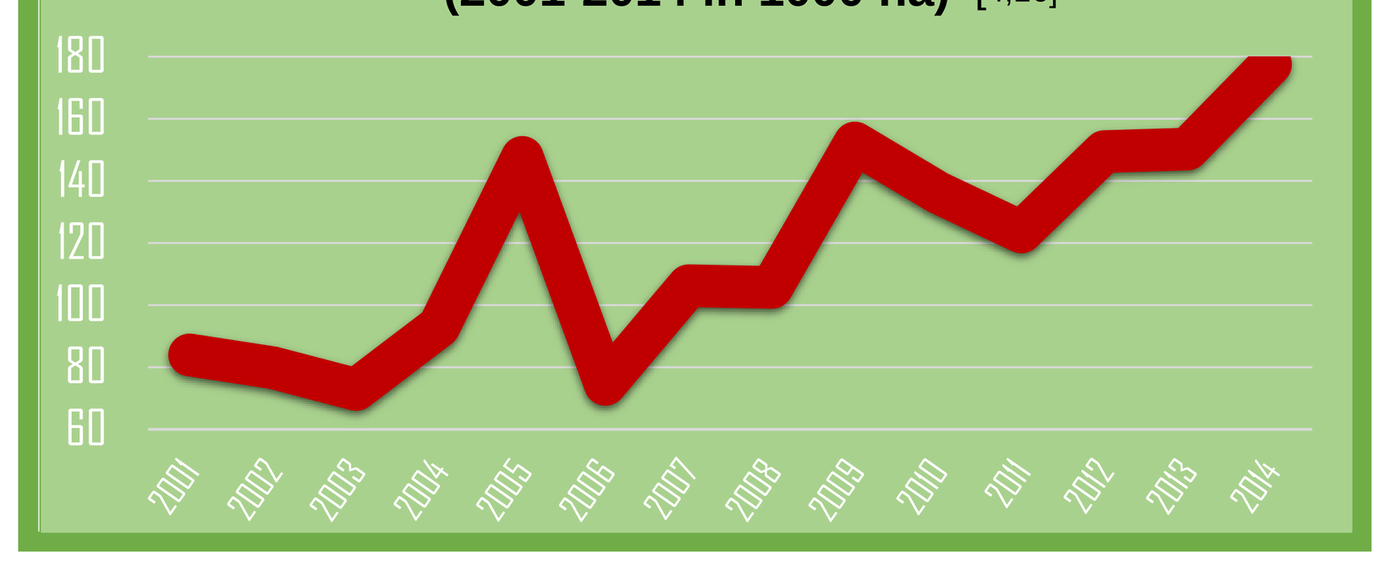
REDD+ serves but to evade **emission reduction obligations**[6]

Land grabbing violates our **land tenure rights**! No rights? No REDD![6]

Only a **verification role**? We have the right to free, prior and informed **consent**![7,8,17]

REDD+ has failed: **Rising deforestation** in Peru!

Annual gross anthropic & natural losses of forest cover in the Amazon (2001-2014 in 1000 ha) [4,16]



Solutions:

1. Reforms in **governance & institutions** for a…
2. clear assignment of **responsibilities** via integrated legal frameworks to guarantee…
3. **land titles** of local communities, social **inclusion** & benefit-sharing in the REDD+ process only possible through…
4. an **alignment of forest governance** with policies regarding extractive industry and agriculture.[6, 9, 20]

1 Castree, N. (2008) 'Neoliberalising nature: the logics of deregulation and reregulation', Environment & Planning A, 40(1), pp. 131–152. **2 Schlosberg, D. (2007)** 'Defining Environmental Justice: Theories, Movements, and Nature', Oxford University Press. **3 Espejo Ordonio, D. (2018)** 'REDD+ Overview in Peru: Understanding its Failure through a Forest Governance Assessment', Available at: https://repositorio-aberto.up.pt/bitstream/10216/116304/2/294384.pdf (Accessed: 5 March 2021). **4 Zelli, F.; Erler, D.; Frank, S.; Hein, J.-I.; Hotz, H.; Santa Cruz Melgarejo, A.-M. (2014)** 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Peru: a challenge to social inclusion and multi-level governance', German Development Insti-tute, Available at: http://lup.lub.lu.se/search/ws/files/36042006/Zelli_et_al_2014_REDD_in_Peru.pdf (Accessed: 2 March 2021). **5 Robiglio, V.; Armas, A. D.; Silva Aguad, C.; White, D. (2014)** 'Beyond REDD+ readiness: land-use governance to reduce deforestation in Peru', Climate Policy, 14(6), pp.734-747. **6 Larson, A. M.; Brockhaus, M.; Sunderlin, W. D.; Duchelle, A.; Babon, A.; Dokken, T.; Pham, T. T.; Resosudarmo, I.A.P.; Selaya, G.; Awono, A.; Huynh, T.-B. (2013)** 'Land tenure and REDD+: The good, the bad and the ugly', Global Environmental Change, 23(3), pp. 678-689. **7 Ochieng, R. M.; Arts, B.; Brockhaus, M.; Visseren-Hamakers, I. J. (2018)** 'Institutionalization of REDD+ MRV in Indonesia, Peru, and Tanzania: progress and implications', Ecology and Society, 23(2). **8 Republic of Peru (RoP) (2014)** 'Emission reductions from deforestation fronts in the Peruvian Amazon', Available at: https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/CF10%20Peru%20ER-PIN%20Presentation.pdf (Accessed: 25 February 2021). **9 Wright, T. M.; Andrade, B.; Godoy, F.; Hewson, J.; Mendoza, E.; Pinedo, J.; Tabor, K. (2018)** 'Harnessing multiple technologies to combat deforestation – A case study in the Alto Mayo Protected Forest in San Martin, Peru', PARKS, 24(2). **10 Che Piu, H. and Menton, M. (2013)** 'Contexto de REDD+ en Perú: Motores, actores e instituciones', Documentos Ocasionales, 90. **11 Gifford, L. (2018)** 'See the Carbon Through the Trees: Market-Based Climate Change Mitigation, Forest Carbon Offsets, and the Uneven Power of Carbon Accounting', Available at: https://scholar.colorado.edu/downloads/sf268520m (Accessed on 5 March 2021). **12 Chavez-Tafur, J. and Zagt, R. J. (2014)** 'Towards Productive Landscapes', Available at: http://www.etfrn.org/file.php/314/etfrn56web.pdf (Accessed on 5 March 2021).**13 Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Center for Environmental and Climate Science (CEC), Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI) (2020)** 'Project: Alto Mayo Conservation Initiative', Available at: http://www.reddprojectsdatabase.org/view/project.php?id=204 (Accessed on 25 February 2021). **14 The Walt Disney Company (2021)** '2020 Corporate Social Responsibility Report', Available at: https://thewaltdisneycompany.com/app/uploads/2021/02/2020-CSR-Report.pdf (Accessed on 25 February 2021). **15 Barkin, D. and Fuente, M. (2013)** 'Community forest management: Can the green economy contribute to environmental justice?', Natural Resources Forum, 37, pp. 200-210. **16 Ministro del Ambiente (MINAM) (2015)** 'Presentación de Perú de un Nivel de Referencia de Emisiones Forestales (NREF) para reducir las emisiones por deforestación en la Amazonía Peruana', Available at: https://redd.unfccc.int/files/ 2015_submission_frel_peru_es.pdf (Accessed on 25 February 2021). **17 Espinoza Llanos, R. and Feather, C. (2011)** 'The reality of REDD+ in Peru: Between theory and practice', Available at: https://www.forestpeoples.org/sites/fpp/files/-publication/2011/11/reality-redd-peru-between-theory-and-practice-website-english-low-res.pdf (Accessed on 22 February 2021).**18 Broekhoven, G.; Savenije, H.; von Scheliha, S. (2012)** 'Moving Forward with Forest Governance', Etern News, 53, Available at: www.bibalex.org/Search4Dev/files/419114/442089.pdf (Accessed on 5 March 2021). **19 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (2010)** 'Cancun Agreement', Available at: http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/ 2010/cop16/eng/07a01.pdf#page=26 (Accessed on 5 March 2021). **20 Vijge, M. J.; Brockhaus, M.; Di Gregorio, M.; Muharrom, E. (2016)** 'Framing national REDD+ benefits, monitoring, governance and finance: A comparative analysis of seven countries', Global Environmental Change, 39, pp. 57-68.

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