

CLIMATE FOCUS

Legal issues in blue carbon

Lessons from REDD+

Robert O'Sullivan

11 January 2012



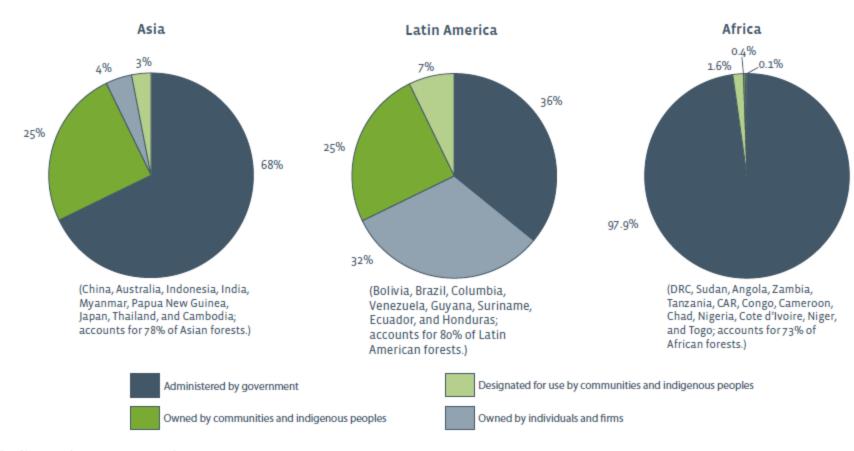




Н

Rights to REDD+ broader than tenure/title

FIGURE 1: STATUTORY FOREST TENURE DISTRIBUTION AMONG THREE REGIONS, 2008



Sources: Sunderlin et al. 2008, RRI and ITTO 2009.

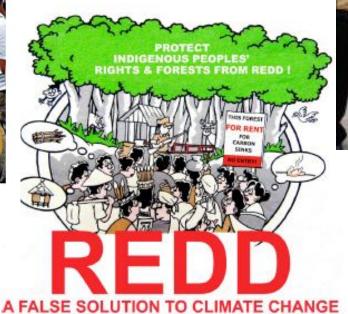
Land and tenure a potential flash point

 Fear of gov expropriation and loss of tenure has created significant opposition

to REDD+



NO to CO2lonialism!



Right holders

Public international law

- Agreement between sovereign nations
- Rights of non-state actors

Domestic law

- Need to look beyond tenure/title only
- Ownership/title to land ≠ absolute title to benefits
- Need to identify all rights holders -> include customary law, use rights, access rights etc.
- Consultation in demonstration activity design, development, implementation
- Impacts/relationship to legislative process



Other factors that affect existing rights

- Role of gov -> 2 sided coin
 - Granting concessions that can have a negative impact
 logging, aquaculture, zoning/development etc.

 Vs.
 - Domestic legislation that can have a positive impact
- Different implications/considerations depending on your focus (project v.s broader policy intervention)



Implications for blue carbon

- A number of similar issues
- Some differences?
 - Fishing rights (analogous to hunting?)?
 - Less likely to have people living in the ecosystems?



Climate Focus 1025 Connecticut Ave, NW Suite 1102 Washington, D.C. 20036 USA Phone: +1 202 540 22 73

Email:

r.osullivan@climatefocus.com