Zambia’s Lessons: Challenges and Lessons

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Outline of Presentation

i. Background to the REDD+ Readiness in Zambia

ii. Lessons learnt

iii. Background to the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscapes Programme

iv. Challenges and Lessons
ZAMBIA AT A GLANCE

SPECTACULAR WATERFALLS
COUNTRY CONTEXT

Surface Area: 752,614Km² with a population of 13 million
13 M

Forest Cover: 49.9 million ha (66% of land cover)

Vegetation Type: Miombo (Semi-evergreen forests); Baikiaea, Munga, Mopane, Kalahari woodlands (Deciduous Forests), Ripian, Swap, Parinari, Itigi, Lake basin Chipya (Evergreen forests), Termitary associated bushes (Shrub thickets), grasslands, and wooded grasslands

Plantations: 61,000 ha

Carbon Stocks (current): 2.9 billion m³ of growing stock
5.6 billion tonnes of biomass (below and above)
434 million tonnes as dead wood biomass
TOTAL: 6 billion tonnes (ILUA 2008)
About 2.8 billion tonnes of Carbon stored in forests

Towards the REDD+ Strategy
REDD+ Process and Support in Zambia

National REDD+ Strategy
Defines and guides implementation of REDD+

UN-REDD Programme
- National Strategy developed
- National Forest Monitoring System
- REL/EL completed (now consultative)
- Currently working on SIS

Biocarbon Funds
- Field level implementation of Landscape approach based on National Strategy NOT PILOTING!
- Consultative process

Forest Investment Fund
- Developing a national Investment Plan
- Consultative in nature
Zambia’s Approach to REDD+ readiness

01 Background to the REDD+ readiness process
02 Defining a strong national vision to guide REDD+ strategy
03 Bringing REDD+ strategy development into the core of REDD+ Readiness
04 Development of a REDD+ strategy roadmap
05 Connecting the dots: bringing analytical work together
06 Partnership building and coordination
07 Institutionalization of the REDD+ development process
08 Stakeholder engagement
09 Mainstreaming and support to legal and policy processes
Main Achievements

• Stakeholder consultations and capacity building in all the 10 provinces and attended by representatives from the 104 Districts

• Provincial multi-sector teams from Agriculture, Forestry, Planning and Civil Society put in place

• GIS Unit (Laboratories) established in all the 10 provinces

• Web portal established for National Forest Monitoring System (http://zmb-nfms.org/portal/)

• Land-cover Mapping and Forest Inventories conducted as a basis for FREL/FRL development

• Studies to understand current situation and gaps

• Draft National REDD+ Strategy developed
Understanding Required Support for REDD+

1. Strategy Development
   - Define National Vision
   - Develop Strategy
   - Forest Reference Emission Levels
   - Forest Monitoring System
   - Safeguards information System

2. Action & Investment
   - National Policy and legislation and improve planning
   - Functional Local level management structures
   - Alternative livelihoods and appropriate incentives
   - Investments and livelihood activities

3. Payments
   - Emission Reduction based on Strategy and local level action
   - Assessment of performance and Reporting
   - Incentives for actions

Basis for Performance Based Payments
Lessons learned during Strategy development

• REDD+ Readiness be facilitated by a single institution in order to ensure coordinated efforts

• National Strategy should be at the core of the REDD+ Readiness Process

• All the 4 REDD+ elements (Strategy, FREL/FRL, FMS, Safeguards) must be handled at the same time as it will help in sequencing of activities

• Avoid over ambitious programme it may affect delivery of REDD+

• REDD+ is not a panacea to solve all problems but those defined by the country
Lessons learned during Strategy development

• **REDD+ is an incentive based mechanism** and hence there is need to explain it well to avoid creating over expectations.

• **Devolve financial and Programme Management** to implementing institutions to facilitate **leadership** and **ownership**

• **Supporting mainstreaming** of REDD+ into key national processes

• **Need to enhance** capacity development for key stakeholders
Direction of Reference Emission Level/Emission

- REDD+ in Zambia should be nationally owned and help meet national objectives.
- Align with UNFCCC and consider other guidance, within capacity and consistent with national circumstances.
- Measuring performance should be more than just GHG emissions.
- The focus should not be to only access carbon finance.
- A global contribution can follow a nationally-focused Programme.
- Consider a hybrid approach; can be dynamic, change over time.
- Start at Sub-national level (landscape) and use national data.
- Wait and see approach, while improving data and information.
Some issues addressed by the Forests Bill 2015

• Carbon is a forest produce as well as a major forest produce (regulated);

• Empowers communities (citizens) to apply and manage forest (others have to partner with communities);

• Protected Area System expanded and includes JFM, Community Forests, Private Forests, Botanical Reserves;

• Benefit sharing covered in the Bill;

• Approved Management Plan basis for management of resources (governance, benefit sharing, partnerships)
Overall Government Direction for REDD+

- Government must have strong ownership and leadership of the programme both in terms of coordination and financing (flow of funds);

- Must use existing structures and not create new ones; NO PILOTING of programmes (design of programme based on experience)

- Capacity must be built for provincial and district structures;

- Programmes must be community based;

- Local level investment should focus on uplifting rural communities;

- Clear benefit sharing mechanism must be put in place;

- Develop local human resource
Challenges and Lessons in developing the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Programme
Program Overview

Objective
To promote reduced greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector, while simultaneously improving rural livelihoods and Biodiversity conservation and management.

Program Development Process:

- **Current Phase**
  - Identification & Design
    - Managing Entity
    - Geographical Area
    - Implementation Strategy

- **Next Phase**
  - Implementation Phase
    - Interventions are carried out on the ground

- **Final Phase**
  - Emissions Reductions Phase
    - Payments for Emissions Reductions
Main Program Goals

**Increased Carbon Stocks**
- REDD+ through avoided deforestation/forest conservation, sustainable agricultural land management resulting in improved soil carbon, and enhancement of carbon stocks through afforestation and reforestation
- Decreased deforestation through addressing meta and local level deforestation drivers
- Overall improved sustainable land management

**Biodiversity Conservation and Management**
- Nationally strategic protected areas buffered by conserved forest areas of biodiversity significance.
- Conservation management of globally significant biodiversity in the Luangwa Valley improved through carbon payments, forest conservation and enhanced institutional capacity

**Improved Livelihoods**
- Payments for ecosystem services/conservation performance
- Improved rural livelihoods derived from better land management (NTFP, tourism, game ranching, eco-charcoal and alternative energy solutions, agriculture under CA, agricultural-based incentive payments for conservation compliance)

**Institutional Strengthening & Coordination**
- Forest management plans and community conservation plans that integrate agriculture with forestry/wildlife management plans
- District Advisory Management Committees that are sub-committees of the District Development Coordination Committee to oversee chief-level efforts to comply with targets that address drivers of deforestation and overall conservation, planning efforts and efforts to incentivize
Financing Model for Program

Program Financing Lifecycle

Technical Assistance
- Technical Studies
- Extension Services
- Capacity Building
- Workshops / Trainings
- Technology Test Pilots

Program Investments
- Farming Technology
- Equipment
- Borehole Drilling Services
- Forestry Plantations
- Energy
- Tourism

Payments for Performance
- Payments for emissions reductions associated with reduced deforestation & forest degradation

Examples:
- BioCFPlus, bilateral initiatives
- Private Sector
- GRZ
- Bilaterals, GEF, IFC, potential IDA
- Reinvestment
- BioCF
- GRZ Bilaterals, GEF, IFC, potential IDA
- Reinvestment
Process for Programme Development

• Must be a consultative process and all studies must be validated by stakeholders before government considers them;

• All decisions and commitments will be based on Stakeholder consultative process before government considers them (government can not commit without stakeholders indicating the right direction)

• Source of financing for investments must be clear before start of Programme (private and public)

• Must be based on the National REDD+ Strategy
Vision on Governance: *How is it carried out?*

The Vision will govern through the institutional arrangements of the National REDD+ Strategy:

**Consultation and capacity development at National Provincial and District levels**

### Provincial Level
- **Provincial Development Coordinating Committees (PDDCs)**
  - **Role**
    - Provide provincial oversight for the Programme
    - Mechanisms to approve and fund activities
    - Overall monitoring

### District Level
- **District Development Committees (DDCs)**
  - **Planning Sub-Comitees**
  - **Role**
    - Plan and set priorities for the District
    - Provide technical support and monitoring
  - **Guidance / Coordination**
  - **Implementation Funds**
  - **District Action Plans**
  - **Funding Proposals**

### Community Level
- **Community Level**
  - **Role**
    - Plans and set priorities for the District and commitments
    - Provide technical support and monitoring

**Problem:** Currently No Investment funding is secured!
Vision in Operation

The Vision will provide guidance on how to reduce deforestation at provincial level across all 9 districts, for example:

- **What types of interventions are needed across the province?**
  - Climate-Smart Agriculture?
  - Plantation forestry?
  - Irrigation?
  - New policies?
  - Etc.

- **Where are interventions needed? What parts of the Province?**
  - Which districts?
  - GMAs vs. Non-GMAs?
  - National Forests vs. Local Forests?
  - Communal lands?

- **What Institutional/Governance Framework shall the ZIFL-P link with?**
  - National REDD+ Strategy
  - Sixth National Development Plan ??/ Others?
Current process

- Commissioned three (3) Studies to help understand required actions in the Eastern Province
  - Drivers of deforestation
  - Needs Assessment
  - Visioning

- A consultative process to develop a provincial vision is currently in progress focusing on addressing deforestation. All 9 districts will be involved!

- Development of partnerships among Public, Private, Civil Society and Communities in terms of Coordination and potential financing (Government, USAID, COMACO and Biocarbon Partners, Cotton companies etc.) through a consultative process!

- Consultation process to involve all the 9 Districts in the province and key private sector players
Challenges

• Biocarbon Funds only provides funds for Capacity development and Emission Reduction (Incentives), there is no investment financing;

• If capacity of communities is attained and there is no investment, the Programme CAN NOT deliver;

• Identification of willing partners is not easy as negotiations take long to find common ground (Public, Private, Civil Societies and communities have own objectives to achieve as well)

• Creating trust, transparency and honesty in negotiations is a challenge

• Aligning this Programme to the national process
Lessons Learnt

• It is possible to bring various stakeholders together although it is not a simple process

• Some Programmes running in the Province (Programme area) have provided different lessons to local stakeholders and it is these that are influencing the design of the Programme

• Technical understanding/design of a Programme may not always fit or directly link with reality in the field
Thank you very much for your attention