



Improving forest management in Tanzania and implications for REDD

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Background

- Environment for Development Tanzania has been working with various groups (inc TAFORI and TFCG) looking at forest management in Tanzania
- Particularly interested in joint forest management, community based forest management, and REDD (reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation)
- What lessons have been learned in Tanzania?

Managing forests and forest-based livelihoods is tricky

- Many such efforts over the years
 - Integrated conservation-development projects (ICDPs)
 - Ecotourism
 - PFM
 - Environmental service payments
- All aim to involve villagers in forest protection and to enable villagers to capture some value from the protected forests
- Though some individual success stories, typically efforts have not been successful
 - Distribution of costs and benefits problematic
 - Leakage a problem
 - Funding often insufficient

Peri-urban forests face particular problems

- Example of Kibaha
 - Proximity to Dar es Salaam means much pressure from charcoal and timber demand
- Joint forest management efforts include a buffer zone, bee keeping opportunities
- Efforts to balance needs of communities and forest conservation
- But current efforts may not create all the intended incentives

Options for improvement (1)

- Patrol strategy
 - There is no specific patrol strategy and in particular insufficient efforts to link patrol patterns with spatial patterns of illegal activity to improve deterrence effect of limited enforcement budget
 - GPS can be used to map patrols and incidences of illegal activity to make the most of limited budgets in terms of where patrols go

Options for improvement (2)

- Making the most of “local enforcement”
 - Differentiating between “insiders”, local villagers who are part of the project, and “outsiders”, those who extract from the forest but are not inside the project
 - Will locals enforce against outsiders?
 - Not if they are collecting illegally from the forests
- Options
 - Legalise some illegal activities undertaken by insiders
 - Empowers insiders who are inside the forest to inform forest managers

Options for improvement (3)

- Place bee hives strategically
- Bee hives can have multiple functions
 - Provide livelihoods for villagers
 - “Displace” labour from extractive forest activities
 - Bring local villagers into the forests
 - (villagers tell us that it is natural to collect forest products when going to and from their bee hives)
- So where bee hives are located affects:
 - Where local enforcement is most likely
 - Where more local extraction is more likely
- Forest managers can combine local enforcement, placement of bee hives, and patrols to influence patterns of degradation

Final thoughts – being realistic

- Forest management is characterised by limited budgets for forest management, high levels of poverty in forest-dependent villagers, and pressures from outside
- There is insufficient data to help forest managers do their job better, especially to undertake effective patrols
- Strategies need to be realistic about how to ensure sufficient funds to deter illegal activities while not harming forest-dependent households
- Buffer zones and differential extraction rights for insiders and outsiders are pragmatic approaches that trade off benefits to locals and more degradation in exchange for more enforcement against outsiders
- Space/distance can be manipulated

Lessons for REDD?

- REDD = Reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
- Organisations in Tanzania already understand the complexities of undertaking REDD in Tanzania
- What does REDD offer that is different from other forest management approaches that try to balance the needs of forests and people?
- Only real difference is cash?
- And lessons from earlier modalities, especially
 - Leakage and the need to take a landscape approach
 - Distributional effects of REDD (costs and benefits)
 - Measuring/monitoring