



Climate change adaptation benefits under REDD+

L. Mujuru

Bindura University. Zimbabwe





Introduction (Recap)

REDD+ is about:

- ❖ reducing GHG emissions through reversing forest loss and forest degradation, and
- ❖ by removing carbon from the atmosphere through activities focusing on conservation, management and forest expansion.
- ❖ However, other benefits do exist.





Cont.

Forests are important for both mitigation and adaption options and the implementation of REDD+ can provide joint mitigation and adaptation activities.

The benefits can either be economic, social or environmental.





Adaptation benefits of REDD+ initiatives

Economic	Social	Environmental
Energy security	Improved health	Ecosystem impact
Employment	Access to energy	Water use quality
New business opportunities	Poverty alleviation	Land use competition
Improved productivity/competitiveness	Food security	Biodiversity conservation
Technological innovations	Safety/disaster resilience	Reduced impact of urban heat island
	Gender balance	Resource/material use impact





Biodiversity conservation

- Sustainable management of forest ecosystems can reduce GHG emissions,
- the use of ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) and mitigation (EbM) entails management and rehabilitation of ecosystems for adaptation and mitigation of climate change.
- The EbA entails the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as a component of the adaptation strategy to help societies adapt to the adverse effects of climate change while
- EbM is the use of ecosystems for their carbon storage and sequestration potential to help in climate change mitigation.





Watershed management

REDD+ activities focusing on watershed management include the application of a set of actions aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources in a watershed.

The climate change mitigation initiatives in watershed areas promotes resilience of natural ecosystems by avoiding deforestation, reversing natural resource degradation, safeguarding agricultural productivity and maintaining ecosystem services.





Cont.

- Watershed conservation initiatives promoting carbon sequestration using vegetation can reduce flood risk, providing multiple ecosystem services.
- The benefits overflow by helping communities to adapt to climate change, conserving the environment and improving people's lives and livelihoods in addition to the reduction of GHG emissions.





NTFPs

- NTFPs can be used to create emission reductions as a direct tool for carbon sequestration, indirectly helping to store and sequester carbon in forest systems.
- However, NTFPs such as honey and mushrooms require healthy and functioning forest ecosystems in order to be productive.
- Timber and NTFPs have a tremendous potential to create rural employment, helping to reducing poverty and urban migration.
- Dependence on forest ecosystems, can be a strong incentive for forest conservation.





Poverty alleviation

- REDD+ can act as an opportunity for poor communities to improve livelihoods through strengthening governance and land and use rights.
- Deforestation can be reduced when smallholder farmers have alternative livelihood sources that take them away from forests or conversion of forest to agricultural land.
- ,REDD+ is an opportunity to also provide more benefits derived from carbon finance, including improving community infrastructure, health and education sector.
- ILO (2018) added that transition to a low-GHG economy is expected to cause a net creation of jobs through actions taken in the energy, transport and construction sectors.





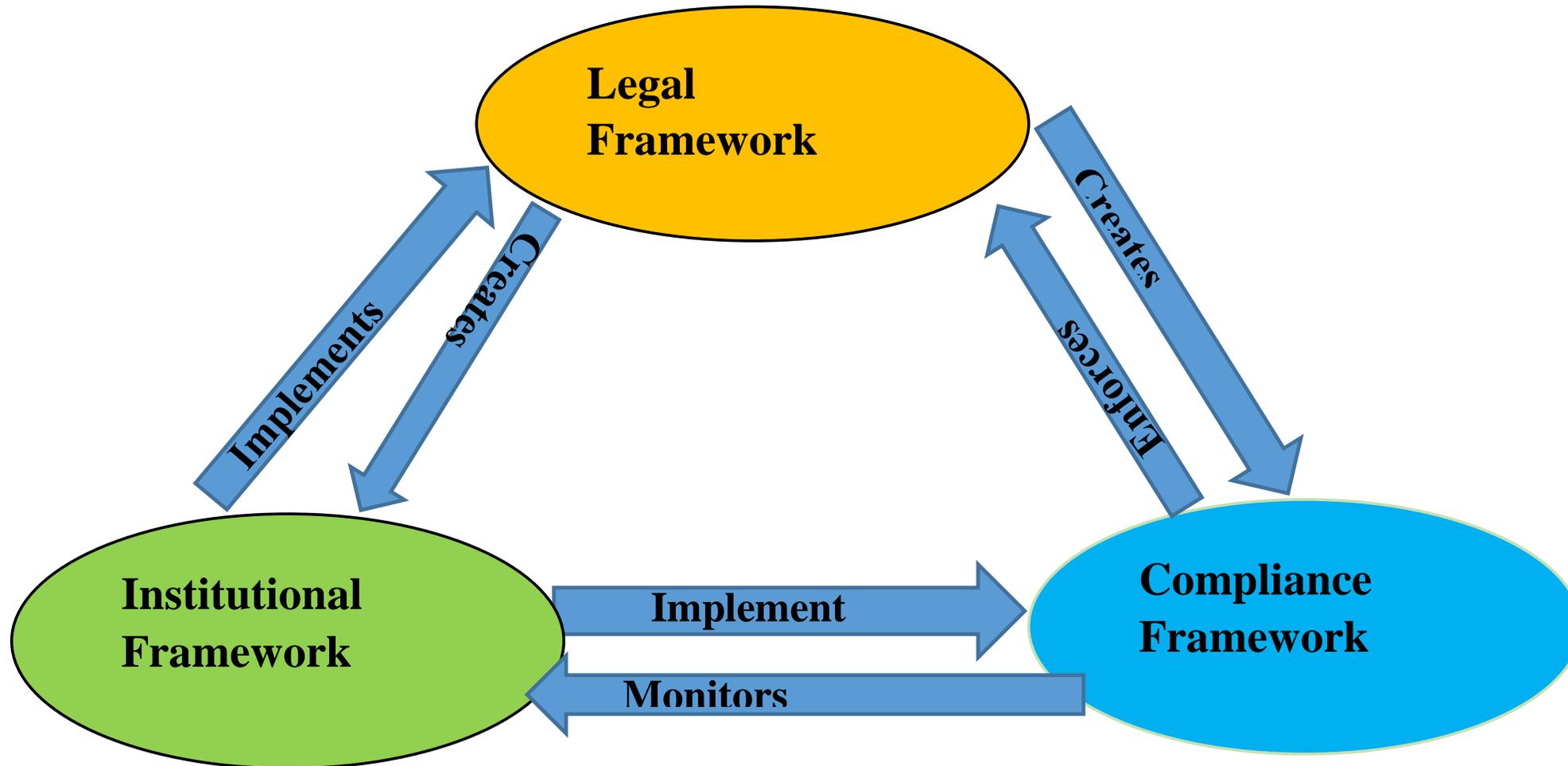
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- Carbon payments can diversify livelihoods and improve economic resilience to climate shocks, facilitating people's adaptation to climate change, enhancing incomes or health and strengthening local institutions.
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Governance





Examples

- In Zambia, the World Bank supported REDD+ initiative helped to improve sustainable land management, diversifying livelihood options for rural commodities, including climate-smart agriculture and forest-based livelihoods, and reducing deforestation.
- A community of Chiredzi District in Zimbabwe (624 people) planted five-hectare mango tree orchard integrated with cassava and vegetable production to adapt to climate change. They planted grafted mango and citrus fruits which can be both mitigation and adaptation.





Benefit sharing mechanisms

Is a system encompassing all institutional means, structures and instruments for distributing funds and other benefits from REDD+ programs.

System designates beneficiaries, why, conditions, and proportions and duration.

REDD+ benefit sharing is important for creating the necessary incentives to change behaviours and thus reduce carbon emissions.

In this regard, if there is the correct mix of incentives and deterrents, local people can benefit from climate change mitigation schemes to conserve forests and enhance forest cover.





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- Social safeguards are important for ensuring that local people are helped rather than harmed by the REDD+ process.
- Need to balance “carrots” (incentives) and “sticks” (punishments).





Summary

- Forest provide both mitigation and adaptation benefits
- Adaptation benefits from REDD+ initiatives can be economic, social and/or environmental.
- REDD+ can provide benefits of biodiversity conservation, watershed management, poverty alleviation, improved governance and facilitate the availability of NTFPs that support rural livelihoods.
- Systems of benefit sharing can be used to create the necessary incentives to change behaviours to promote forest conservation and enhancement of forest cover.
- REDD+ benefits are realised when initiatives serve the well-being of forest people as well as the forests that they depend on.





THANK YOU

