

# Local community perspectives on REDD: Observations from Indonesia and Cambodia

Arif Aliadi: Lembaga Alam Tropica Indonesia  
(LATIN)

&

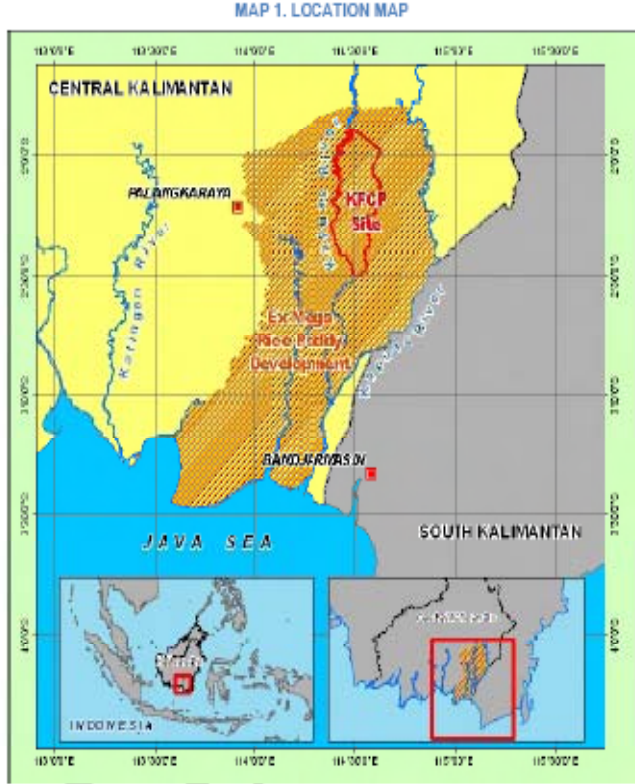
Enrique Ibarra Gené & Kimihiko Hyakumura:  
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies  
(IGES)

# Indonesia: Selected REDD projects in Aceh and Central Kalimantan

## Ulu Masen



## Kalimantan Forests and Carbon Partnership (KFCP)



# General conditions

	ACEH	CENTRAL KALIMANTAN
Topography and forest	Mountain, hill, and dominant by tropical rain forest	Plain and dominant by peat swamp forest
Threat to forest area	Logging, plantations, slash and burn, mining	Oil palm plantation, slash and burn agriculture, mining,
REDD project	There is MoU between Governor of Aceh and private actors	MoU between Government of Indonesia and Government of Australia
Zonation of 'adat' (indigenous norms) land rights	The distance to the forest area is about 1 day travel by foot from the paddy fields or agro-forestry	Distance to the forest, about 5 km from the river

# REDD goals and community rights

- Local communities agree that the goal of the projects will protect the forest in the long term, in order to reduce emissions. However, the project should also have a strong goal to recognize and protect local community rights over natural resources and improve their livelihoods. Without local support/engagement REDD project will fail.
- The projects need to have clear goals regarding the recognition and protection of local community rights and livelihoods, and breakdown into clear outcomes and outputs.

# REDD & Local understanding needs

- Local communities need to understand what can or cannot be done in REDD implementation on the field.
  - Need to understand projects' implications to their livelihoods in the present and future
  - Need to understand their rights, responsibilities, and benefits
- There is a need to implement REDD projects through 'Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC)' and develop community information centres in order to enable open and easy access.

# Project borders

- Unclear borders among villages as well as between state forest and communities' managed areas
- It is desirable that REDD projects empower local communities in strengthening indigenous norms/institutions (adat mechanisms) for resolving conflicts and use participatory mapping as a tool

# Tenure and resource use rights

- There is not enough protection for local community rights and/or adat mechanisms over the use of natural resources.
  - Overlapping claims between private company concessionaires (i.e. Oil palm plantations, mining, logging) and communities, and local community often lose, even though regulations are supposed to protect them.
- Local communities do not have enough access to information on planned extraction of natural resources to be undertaken their areas
- Local communities have weak bargaining power when dealing with investors or projects
  - Their property rights are not fully recognized
  - Local institutions are weak
  - They seldom have their own plans for natural resource management
- REDD projects need to pay increased attention to addressing resource tenure issues (for example through strengthening community planning, local institutions and policy advocacy)

# Local knowledge and REDD

- Local forest management knowledge (supporting livelihoods and often forest friendly) tends to be ignored by forestry projects promoted by third parties
  - Drives exclusion of local villages from forests
  - Tends to erode local knowledge on forest management
- REDD projects need to document, revitalize, and use local knowledge as an essential project component



# Local interests & REDD

- Communities seek:
  - Recognition of communal property rights
  - Reduction of overlapping property claims with “Land Economic Concessions”
  - Employment
    - Enrichment planting
    - Patrolling
    - Fire control
  - Revenues: 50% of carbon credits
- Implementing actors seek inclusion of local communities through the consultation process:
  - REDD explained to villagers
  - Exercises of land use planning

# Challenges

- Need to improve local understanding of REDD
- Local concerns on how to deal with illegal logging
- Need to control immigration: population has more than doubled in the last 7-8 years
- Local capacity building needs
  - Forest management planning
  - How to deal with fires
  - How to follow official procedures

# Concluding general remarks

- Information on REDD should be available in an understandable language to local communities
  - Communication is an ongoing process
- Overlapping claims over forest resources need to be addressed from the outset
- Local knowledge and local institutions need to be embedded in REDD projects (assure local ownership & tailor REDD to specific local conditions)
- Market matters
  - Reduced timber supply + intact demand = increased danger of leakage

Thank you!