

October 16–17th

Integrating mangrove forests into REDD+ workshop

Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), Oslo
Kongens gate 20



- 09:00–09:30 **Introduction: Setting the stage – overview on REDD+ mechanism governance vs project implementation, “why” blue forests, meeting goals** (NICFI)
- 09:30–10:30 **Participants goals and identification of key categories of barriers for integration into REDD+ for the meeting** (post-it notes + discussion)
- 10:30–10:45 *Coffee break*
- 10:45–11:30 **Identify key policy and/or jurisdictional barriers and potential solutions for the integration of mangroves into national REDD+ strategies** (breakout groups)
Intro talk: Lera Miles
- 11:30–12:00 **Plenary discussion from breakout groups**
- 12:00–13:15 *Lunch*
- 13:15–14:00 **Identify key economic barriers and potential solutions for the integration of mangroves into national REDD+ strategies** (breakout groups)
Intro talk: Tibor Vegh
- 14:00–14:30 **Plenary discussion from breakout groups**
- 14:30–15:00 **Identify key monitoring barriers and potential solutions for the integration of mangroves into national REDD+ strategies** (breakout groups)
Intro talk: Boone Kauffman
- Monitoring
- Preventing leakage
- 15:00–15:30 **Plenary discussion from breakout groups**
- 15:30–15:45 *Coffee break*
- 15:45–16:30 **How would “solutions” to barriers need to be adapted for different contexts – map proposed solutions and discuss potential adaptations for different contexts**
Intro talk: Gabriel Grimsditch
- Ecology
- Economy
- Governance
- Drivers of change
- 16:30–17:00 **Plenary discussion**
- Evening* *Group dinner*

09:00–10:00 **Key take homes and lessons learned from current Blue Carbon projects**

15 minute talks:

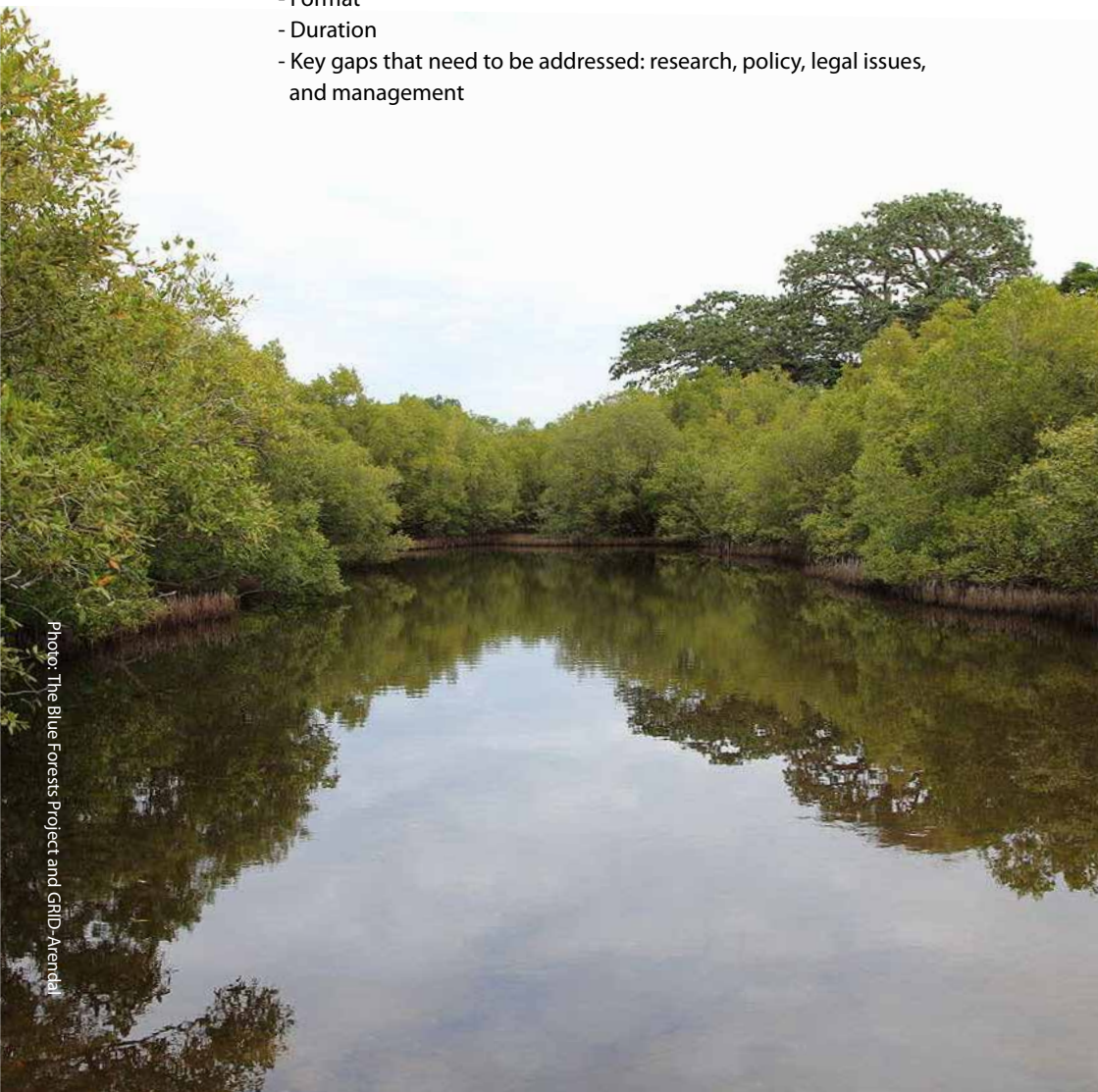
- Steen Christensen (Mangroves for the Future)
- Mark Huxham (Gazi Bay, Kenya)
- Steven Lutz (GEF Blue Forests)

10:15–10:30 **Plenary discussion**

10:30–10:45 *Coffee break*

11:00–12:30 **Designing an international workshop**

- Format
- Duration
- Key gaps that need to be addressed: research, policy, legal issues, and management





Pre-meeting Background Information

The below provides a short summary of some key issues involved in integrating mangroves into REDD+.

REDD+ and Mangrove forests

Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) aims to give developing countries a financial incentive to protect their forests and reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Ideally, REDD+ facilitates an effective and relatively low cost option for mitigating climate change. Historically, REDD+ discussions and preparations have focused primarily on terrestrial forests. However, recent studies have shown that mangrove deforestation generates emissions of 0.02-0.12Pg carbon per year, contributing up to 10% of total global deforestation emissions, despite covering only 0.7% of tropical forest area. Therefore, reversing mangrove deforestation and degradation is important for achieving reductions in forest-related emissions, and meeting REDD+ objectives. Mangrove forests are vital not only for carbon sequestration but also for a range of other ecosystem services including food production, supporting fisheries and biodiversity, as well as climate change mitigation, buffering against sea level rise and storm damage. REDD+ could present a unique opportunity to prevent further losses and restore degraded wetlands with multiple co-benefits.

Mangrove forests in REDD+ and potential constraints

Institutional arrangements

Institutional arrangements -policies, processes and systems- are used by

organizations (including governments) in order plan and manage their activities efficiently, and thus these are crucial to the successful implementation of any scheme or program. The integration of mangroves into REDD+ will require coordinated efforts and the resolution of coastal management issues and challenges.¹ Successful programs will also need to work on a platform of transparency, accountability and inclusivity.² Lack of the aforementioned aspects can not only impair institutional capacity and efficacy, but also disempower participants, and ultimately whole communities. In order to respond adaptively over time to changing conditions, institutions will need to be flexible, foster strong leadership, facilitate active connections between participant groups, and include various learning systems.^{3,4}

Stakeholder engagement and participation, safeguards and gender equality

Engaging stakeholders in decision-making processes is likely essential for integrating mangroves into REDD+, both for strengthening the links and relationships between different groups and for creating a sense of common identity.⁵ Mangrove-related activities will need to connect with local stakeholders in order to maximise participation, engage them in decision-making, and empower them both individually as well as collectively. These processes can be supported by clarifying the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholder groups and promoting local leadership.⁶ In addition, the application of safeguards can ensure that social and



environmental impacts are minimised or mitigated. These safeguards may also include addressing gender imbalances or inequality issues.²

Land tenure arrangements and rights

Land tenure and rights in developing countries are often complicated by overlapping formal and informal arrangements, so clearly defining those will be necessary for operationalizing mangroves into REDD+.⁷ Securing well-defined and functioning tenure arrangements provides the framework not only to provide an added-value to property rights, but also to strengthen governance.^{7,8} In order to reduce the

likelihood of marine resource conflicts in coastal areas, different users should be identified and user interests should be clarified.⁹

Reference levels and Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system

In order to quantify historical carbon emissions and develop different development scenarios and future emissions/removals trajectories, a historical reference level for mangroves will need to be developed. Reference levels can be coordinated alongside the development of the national “Monitoring, Reporting and Verification” (MRV) system. Monitoring and reporting of deforestation and degradation,



occurring at sub-national and local scales, is conducted using a combination of remote sensing and ground based capabilities, whereas verification is based on ground-truthing, where community participation is advised.¹⁰ A similar monitoring program will be needed for mangroves.

Costs, funds and benefits sharing

The viability of any scheme relies upon sufficient financial flows. In the short-term, these could cover costs to initiate and/or implement a project, whereas in the long-term, funds would be needed to sustain an on-going project.¹¹ Traditionally, equitable benefit distribution has been somewhat marginalised in favour of efficiency.²

Enabling broad participation and facilitating decision-making, which could be aided by legal and procedural ways, are fundamental aspects of delivering socially acceptable projects.¹²

References

1. Somorin, O. A., Visseren-Hamakers, I. J., Arts, B., Sonwa, D. J., and Tiani, A.-M. (2014). REDD+ policy strategy in Cameroon: actors, institutions and governance. *Environ. Sci. Policy* 35: 87-97.
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3. Krause, T., Collen, W., and Nicholas, K. A. (2013). Evaluating safeguards in a conservation incentive program: participation, consent, and benefit sharing in indigenous communities of the Ecuadorian Amazon. *Ecol. Soc.* 18: 1-16.
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6. Sutton, A. M., and Rudd, M. A. (2014). Deciphering contextual influences on local leadership in community-based fisheries management. *Mar. Policy* 50: 261-269.
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11. Kauffman, C. M. (2014). Financing watershed conservation: lessons from Ecuador's evolving water trust funds. *Agric. Water Manage.* 145: 39-49.
12. Pokorny, B., Scholz, I., and De Jong, W. (2013). REDD+ for the poor or the poor for REDD+? About the limitations of environmental policies in the Amazon and the potential of achieving environmental goals through pro-poor policies. *Ecol. Soc.* 18 (3).

Workshop Participants

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Photo: Rob Barnes

Accommodation

Hotel

Reservations have been made for you at the Thon Hotel Cecil. The address is Stortingsgata 8, 0161 Oslo.

Getting from Airport to Hotel

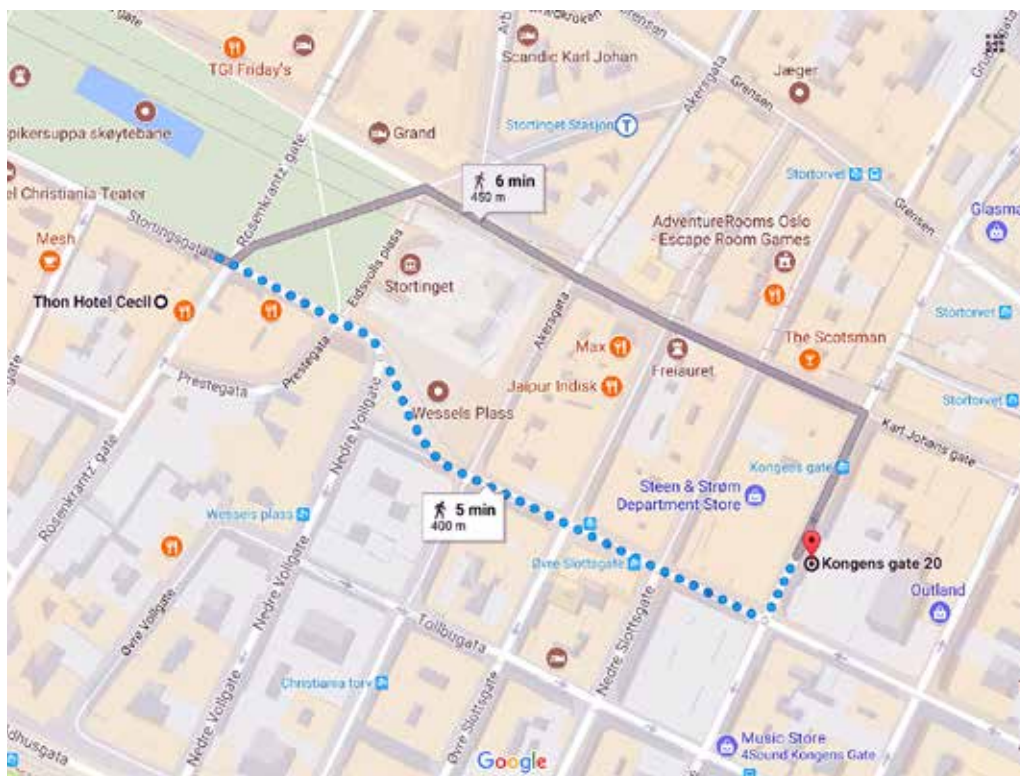
From Oslo Airport to the Thon Hotel Cecil, take the Flytoget (to your right as you exit from Baggage Claim). Flytoget signs are in orange. You can use a credit card to enter – trains leave every 10–20 minutes.

Disembark at the Nationaltheatret Station and walk down Stortingsgata to the Thon Hotel Cecil. It is a 5 minute walk.

Meeting Location

The meeting will be held at the NICFI offices in the Ministry of Climate and Environment. The address is: Kongens gate 20, 0153 Oslo.

Please bring some kind of photo ID with you (passport, resident card, driver's license etc.)



Things to do in Oslo

For those of you arriving early or having some time on Sunday, below is a short list of potential things to do.

Vigeland Sculpture Park

Ekeberg Sculpture Park (views over Oslo)

Munch Museum

Take public transportation up to Sagene and walk down the Akerselva (Aker River)

Oslo Opera

Take public transportation up to Holmenkollen (ski jump) with views over Oslo. Hiking into the forest can be done via several metro stations including: Sognsvann, Vettakollen and Holmenkollen, among others.

On Bygdøy (a 20 minute bus ride): Folk Museum, Viking Ship Museum, Fram Museum of Polar Exploration



The Monolith at Vigeland Sculpture Park. Photo: Andrew Shiva/Wikimedia Commons



This workshop is co-convened by the Norwegian Blue Forests Network (Norwegian Institute for Water Research, GRID-Arendal, and the Institute for Marine Research) and NICFI.

The goals of the workshop are:

- Identify key barriers and potential solutions for integrating mangroves into REDD+
- Identify key issues and potential participants for an international REDD+/blue carbon meeting in 2018

