

Issue 6 (July 2011)

Editors Comment

Welcome to our newsletter for the SADC REDD+ information network! In this newsletter, you will find information about current developments on climate change and REDD+ with a special focus on the SADC region.

To interact with other REDD+ experts, you can also become a member of the SADC REDD+ online discussion form here: <u>SADC REDD Information Network group</u>. For feedback, comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact us at <u>sadcredd@ymail.com</u> and visit: http://www.sadc.int/REDD/

NEWS

Information Brief on REDD+ and Dry Forests available

The German Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ) provided a summary on REDD+ and dry forests from the UNCCD Land Day. The document was compiled by Klemens Riha and Edna Treiber and is available for download from the SADC REDD+ Information Network website. For further information about the UNCCD Land Day 4, visit this link: http://www.unccd.int/publicinfo/landday/2011/menu.php#session2

DRC Presents National REDD+ Forest Monitoring System

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presented a National Forest Monitoring System that will enable DRC to track all actions related to the implementation of its national REDD+ policies and measures. The monitoring system will work as a platform to obtain information on their REDD+ results and actions. Supported by the FAO and with technical assistance from Brazil's National Space Agency (INPE), the system is part of an effort to set up an autonomous operational forest monitoring system. An initial version will be launched in Durban, South Africa during COP 17.

UNFCCC deadlines for COP17 side-events and exhibitions

Application for side-events and exhibitions during the COP17 in Durban, South Africa, will be open from 16 August to 19 August 2011. For further information about how to apply for side-events and exhibitions, refer to the UNFCCC website.

UNFCCC launches REDD+ discussion forum

Following requests by Parties, the UNFCCC is currently developing an interactive discussion forum to enable experts and stakeholders to increase understanding and technical knowledge on REDD+ methodologies. The forum is expected to go live in August 2011. For further information, click here: http://unfccc.int/methods/science/redd/items/4531.php

REDD+ Project in the Congo Basin approved

The World Bank approved a US\$13 million project from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to strengthen the capacities of the Congo Basin countries on issues related to REDD+ and forest carbon stocks measurements. The aim of the project is to support the strengthening of dialogue on REDD+ across the Congo Basin countries. The focus areas of the project are: Learning and knowledge exchange between the political and technical levels; promoting inclusive participation and representation of stakeholder groups

in policy and strategy discussions at the regional level; and building technical capacities for measurement and monitoring of carbon stocks in the Congo Basin forests.

Work Plan for the Green Climate Fund Transitional Committee

During the second meeting of the Transitional Committee of the Green Climate Fund in Tokyo, Japan, participants discussed the main objectives and agreed on a work plan for the fund. During the meeting, four work streams were covered: scope, guiding principles and cross-cutting issues; governance and institutional arrangements; operational modalities; and monitoring and evaluation. For further information and available documents, refer to the UNFCCC website.

Heinrich Böll Stiftung updates dossier on climate change negotiations

The Heinrich Böll Stiftung (HBS) has updated its dossier "Reaching Boiling Point" on climate change with a focus on the preparations for the upcoming UNFCCC COP17 in Durban, South Africa. The aim of the dossier is to provide an analysis of the major issues at stake and the context in which the negotiations will be held. To access the dossier and the articles, visit the website: http://boell.org.za/web/cop17-cop17.html

UPCOMING EVENTS

SADC Positioning Workshop, 6-7 August, Durban, South Africa

The SADC Secretariat is organizing a workshop for negotiators. The aim of the workshop is to work on a revised SADC position for COP17, reflecting recent developments and outcomes from the UNFCCC Bonn session. For further information, watch the <u>SADC REDD+ Website</u>.

African Group of Negotiators Meeting, 8-10 August, Durban, South Africa

Technical Meeting on Mitigation & MRV, August, South Africa (tbc)

Ministerial Session and Meeting of Negotiators, 5-9 September 2011, South Africa (tbc)

UNFCCC AWG Session part 3, 1-7 October 2011, Panama City, Panama

Pre-COP Ministerial Session, 23-26 November 2011, South Africa (tbc)

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