

South-South REDD: A Brazil-Mozambique initiative

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Second Progress Report to the Norwegian Government – June 2010

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Executive Summary

The multi-institutional partnership, 'South-South REDD', is administered by IIED with funding from the Norwegian Embassy as part of IIED's effort on Growing Forest Partnerships (GFP) within Mozambique. South-South REDD is a rather unique partnership platform led by the Ministry of the Environment (MICOA), the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG) with support from the Sustainable Amazonas Foundation (FAS) in Brazil.

The central focus of the project is to create the conditions under which Mozambique can embark on a national REDD initiative. Almost 70% of Mozambique (54.8 million hectares) is forest and 80% of Mozambique's population (20 million people) live in forest-dependent areas where the incidence of poverty runs at 54%. Such populations are not only highly vulnerable to climate change, but also act as custodians of the forest – the sustainable management of which matters for global climate accounting. Payments for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) could provide incentives for these populations to stem deforestation and help them develop in at the same time.

During 2010, the project has (i) adjusted its timeline and contractual ToRs in six institutions to accommodate Ministerial desires to have a draft National REDD Strategy by the end of June 2010 (ii) prepared and present two background papers, the first on baselines and monitoring reporting and verification (MRV) and the second on possible options for the scale and scope of REDD within Mozambique; (iii) organised a series of meetings of the National REDD Working Group from November onwards to discuss findings and design an agreed framework for chapters of a draft National REDD Strategy (iv) organised two national meetings, the first with a delegation of Ministers from Norway on 1 March 2010 and the second to discuss the scale and scope of the National REDD Strategy, the

Institutional and legal framework in which it might be developed (including its articulation with the R-PP process), reference levels and the options for public consultation; (v) undertaken consultations in five provinces together with MINAG / MICOA staff to explore national perceptions of the underlying causes of deforestation and appropriate responses, while also consolidating awareness and helping to build capacity in key agencies; (vi) analysed findings from the consultations and begun to draft the National REDD Strategy; (vii) developed links with other Mozambican programmes of work such as the NFP within DNTF; the Growing Forest Partnerships programme (to include GFP field sites as possible pilot projects for REDD); the WWF protected areas fund proposal and project; the World Bank and IFC mission on FCPF REDD Readiness and plans for investments in plantations. With continuing proactive technical and financial support from the Norwegian Embassy, the initiative is gradually helping to develop a framework for REDD that is nationally owned.

The national contact point on REDD (the Ministry of Environment - MICOA), the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG) and the Sustainable Amazon Foundation from Brazil (FAS) have continued to lead the initiative with project facilitation by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) with a full time person allocated to the task in Maputo. MICOA has on two occasions cancelled meetings at a national level (firstly during the visit of the Norwegian delegation on 1 March 2010, and a second national meeting scheduled in Beira on 3-4 June 2010) due to only partially understandable concerns to further approve already agreed work plans. This has been a source of some frustration for the team, but will perhaps ultimately work in favour of the project as all sides discuss how to move forward in a way that accommodates concerns and builds genuine ownership.

Through the involvement of Indufor and the FAO (through the GFP platform), Finnish Government support for a revised National Forest Programme (NFP) is also supportive of the national REDD strategy – but more needs to be done to work on the specific links between the NFP and REDD. There is now clear harmonisation between the National REDD Strategy and the development of the R-PP, but further clarification is needed over exactly who will prepare the R-PP and over what timeframe. The initial suggestion that Indufor could lead this needs further consultation.

The University Eduardo Mondlane (UEM) is bringing its research capacity to bear in spearheading the drafting of that draft strategy together with IIED. Centro Terra Viva (CTV) has continued to ensure, through its facilitation of the Growing Forest Partnerships (GFP) initiative, that broad consultation with civil society, NGO and international agencies is prioritised.

FAS has provided active input at a strategic level, but the accelerated timeframe of preparation for the draft National REDD Strategy has sidelined the field level pilot work to assess the possibility of replicating the Brazilian Bolsa Floresta payment system in Mozambique. It has been agreed in June 2010 that this now needs to become a more immediate priority.

There is now an agreed and workable timeframe to complete the drafting of a National REDD Strategy by 15 August 2010. Nevertheless, there are still some urgent additional activities that are essential to ensure that the quality of the draft strategy is adequate these include (i) financing of provincial level consultation immediately after 15 August 2010 to receive comment once the draft National REDD Strategy has been prepared (ii) the first steps in a national education and awareness raising programme on REDD in Mozambique to inform the above; (iii) some immediate technical inputs on MRV; (iv) initial design work on possible payment mechanisms beyond those contemplated with FAS and (v) some short research studies to supplement the information baseline for REDD.

Introduction - shifting timeframes

The project - South-South REDD: A Brazil-Mozambique Initiative – aims to create the conditions under which Mozambique is able to embark on the implementation of REDD initiatives.

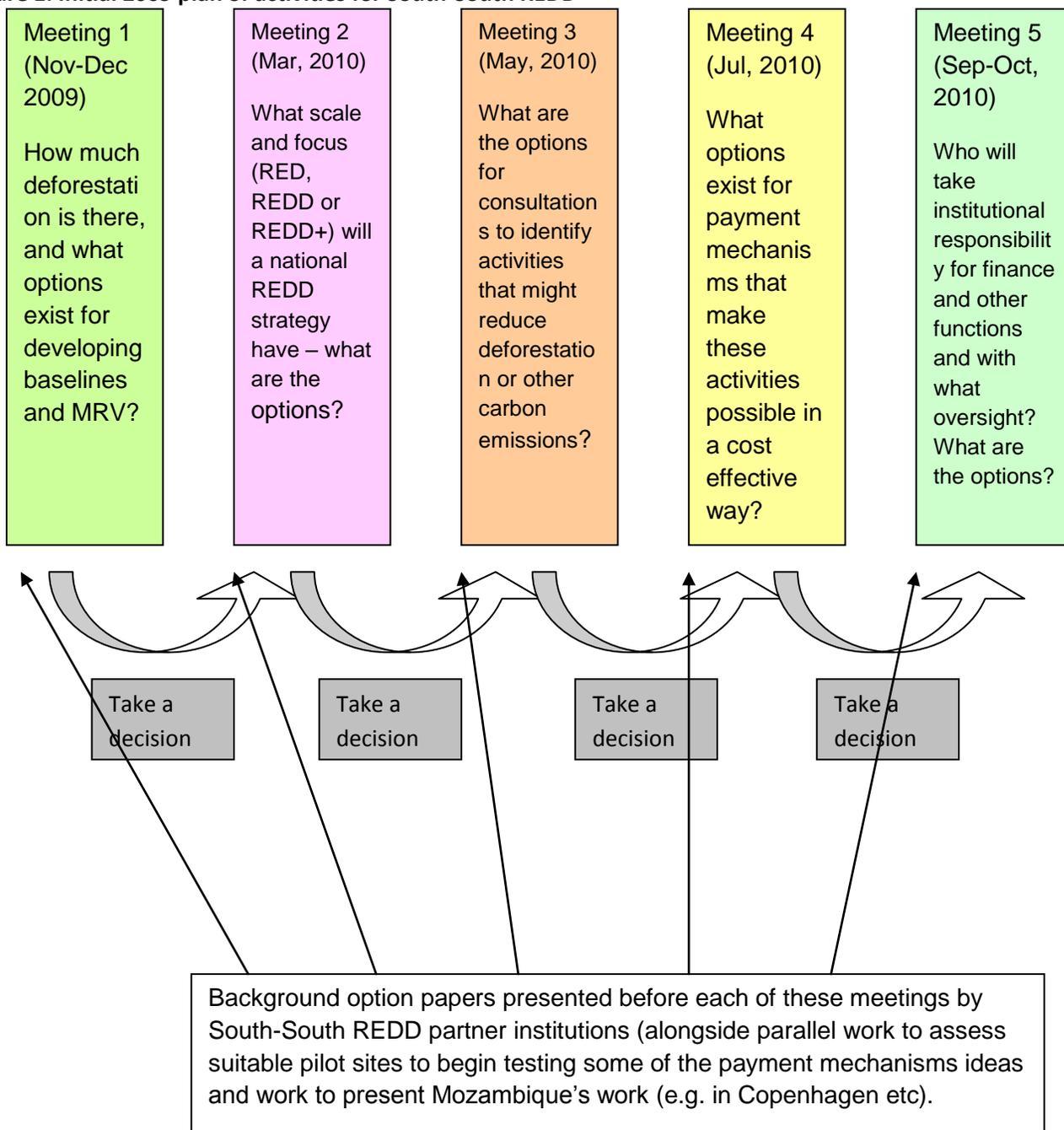
The specific objectives are:

- (i) facilitating steps towards the design of a National REDD Strategy for Mozambique through an inclusive and participatory process,
- (ii) supporting the preparation of the R-PP to the World Bank,
- (iii) strengthening technical, institutional and legal capacity within the scope of REDD,
- (iv) conducting viability studies to identify potential areas to implement zero deforestation demonstration projects, reforestation and incentives for communities to embark on sustainable forest management and natural resource management in general.

A plan of activities established in 2009 (see figure 1) led to the organization of a first national workshop 1 in November 2009 and a second national workshop 2 on 19-20 April 2010.

The National REDD Working Group met in February to review the work plan for 2010. The plan was to start with the production of background papers on inventory and reference level for deforestation and degradation, monitoring as well as the scale and scope of REDD in the country. The first two were under the responsibility of Eduardo Mondlane University, Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry while the content of the last was to be produced by IIED. The materials were prepared for the second technical meeting to be held on 1 March 2010. This was to coincide with the visit of the Norwegian Minister of Environment to Maputo. However, this meeting was then cancelled by MICOA and rescheduled as a more limited presentation of the concept and process of South-South REDD and some background on the forestry sector in Mozambique. The latter document was presented by MINAG. During the meeting, the Minister of Coordination of Environmental Affairs urged the REDD Working Group to produce the National REDD Strategy as soon as possible, preferably by June 2010, that is, within a period of four months.

Figure 1. Initial 2009 plan of activities for South-South REDD



In Parallel with the pressure to move forward the development of the National REDD Strategy, MICOA and FAS worked on an R-PP outline and allocated responsibilities to the different institutions involved in the REDD process (see below):

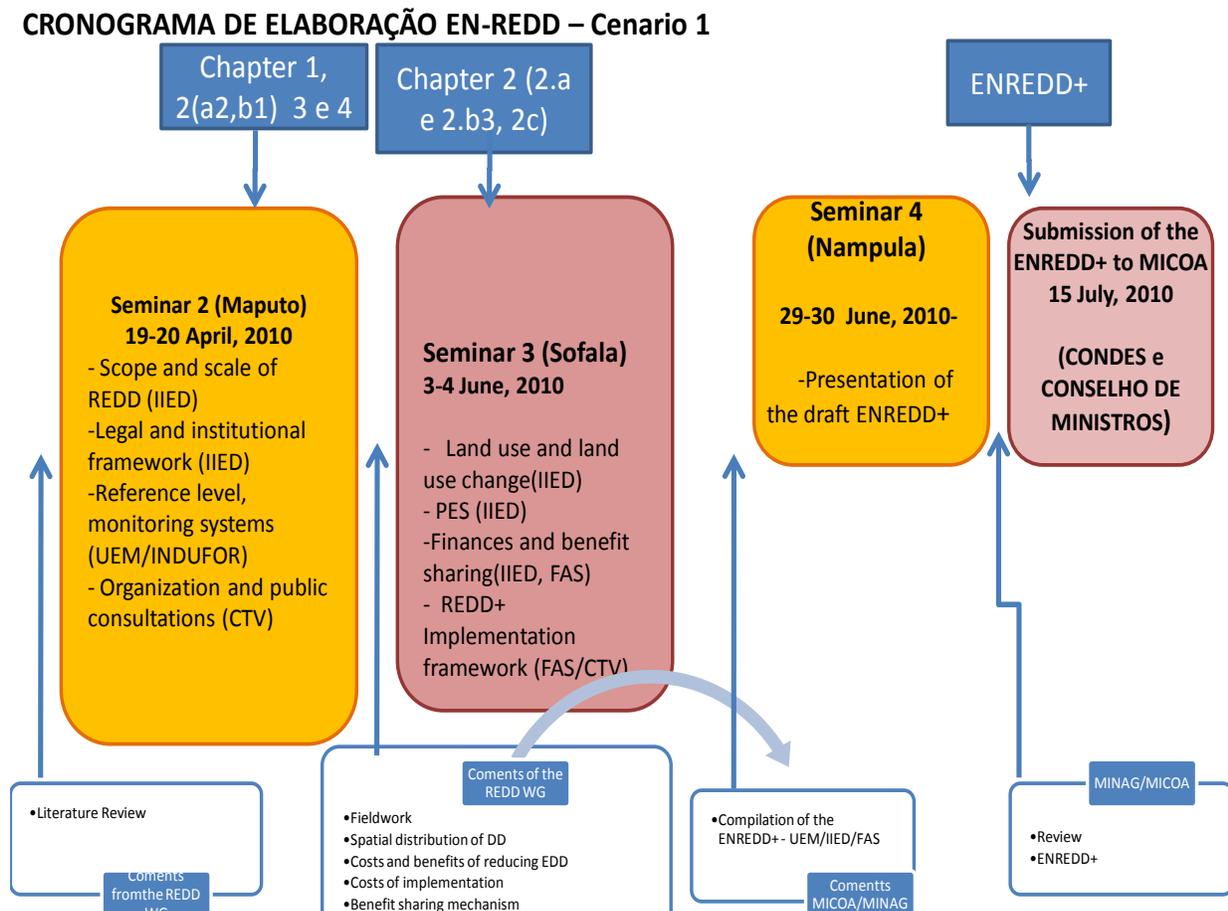
Chapter	Topic	Responsibility
0	General information on contacts	MICOA/MINAG
1	Organization and public consultations	

	Institutional arrangement	MICOA
	The REDD Working Group	FAS
	Preparation process and consultations	CTV
	Dissemination of information on REDD	CTV
	Public Consultation and Community Participation	CTV
2	Preparation of the REDD National Strategy	
2.1	Assessment of land use, policies and governance	IIED
	Assessment of causes of deforestation and forest degradation	IIED
	Identification of land use trends and governance	IIED
	Past experience on efforts to reduce deforestation and degradation and impact	IIED
	Information gaps	IIED
	How to conduct public consultations in the above topics	IIED
2.2	Options for the REDD strategy	IIED
	Institution involved in the process of development of the National REDD Strategy	
	Propose a process for developing programs and activities to address the causes of deforestation and degradation	
2.3	Evaluation of REDD options	IIED
	Link of options and causes for each land use and socio economic contexts	
	Cost Benefit analysis and opportunity cost associated with REDD	IIED
	Socioeconomic, political and institutional viability	IIED
	Sustainability and integration with extra-sectoral policies and strategies	IIED
	Synergies and conflicts between the options and the development priorities	IIED
	Options and governance issues	IIED
	Management of conflict between the options and impact of the institutions and different interest groups	IIED
	Assessment of the risk of leakage	IIED
	Implementation framework	IIED and FAS
	Environmental and Social Impacts	CTV
3	Development of a reference scenario	
	Analysis of historic data	UEM and INDUFOR
	Assessment of land use change, GHG emissions and information gaps	UEM and INDUFOR
	Analysis of the viability of the options	UEM and INDUFOR
	Capacity needs assessment for each option	UEM and INDUFOR
	Potential benefits of developing a sub-national level reference level	UEM and INDUFOR
	Consultations for the development and adoption of a reference level	UEM and INDUFOR
4	Design of a monitoring system	UEM and INDUFOR
	Emissions and removals	UEM and INDUFOR
	Measurement and verification	UEM and INDUFOR
	Evaluation of land use cover, carbon stocks and reservoirs	UEM and INDUFOR
	Rationale for the option on the IPCC base for analysis (Tier 1,...)	UEM and INDUFOR
	Assessment of the technologies and methods for MRV	
	Assessment of the role that communities, NGOs, private sector and government institutions can play in MRV	UEM and INDUFOR
	Roles and responsibilities on MRV, capacity building, funding needs and partnerships	UEM and INDUFOR
	Potential benefits of MRV: governance, monitoring of social and environmental impact,	UEM and

	independent monitoring and implementation plan	INDUFOR
5	Action Plan: responsibilities, schedule, activities and budget	MICOA and MINAG

The National REDD Working Group approach to these parallel demands was to work on the process towards and drafting of the National REDD Strategy while simultaneously conducting that process in a manner that will contribute to the content of the RPP. The 2009 plan of activities was also redesigned to respond to the urgency of producing the strategy by mid 2010 (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Revised 2010 activity plan for South-South REDD



The 2009 activity plan had included 5 workshops and these were reduced to four and refocused to allow decisions to be made on the following aspects:

National Workshop 2

- The option that Mozambique chooses for reduction of emissions from land use change and scope (RED, REDD, REDD+) and rationale as well as the scale (national and/or subnational)
- Choice of the reference level and identification of capacity needs for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

- Identify policy opportunities and gaps for REDD implementation and suggestion on the implementation framework
- Identification of options for consultation, information sharing and participation of different stakeholders including the communities in the REDD process

National Workshop 3

- Predominant causes of deforestation and degradation in the different provinces as well as mapping the areas of incidence
- Opportunity cost of the different land uses in comparison with REDD related activities
- Mechanisms for payment of carbon credits and implementation structure

National Workshop 4

- Review, critique and endorse the REDD+ Strategy for submission to CONDES (National Council for Sustainable Management) and the Council of Ministers for final approval

The National REDD Working Group in meetings in March and April 2010 acknowledged the importance of having a document that orients the government in making decisions and informed choices on development activities that cause minimum impact on land and forest resources. As such, while the development of the National REDD Strategy tries to follow as closely as possible the development of R-PP, the conclusion of the strategy in June will not mean having the R-PP ready. Further work will be needed particularly the packaging of the data and its analysis.

Prioritising consultation

Following the revised timeframe for this initial phase of the project, some crucial activities were scheduled between the seminar 2 on 19-20 April 2010 and seminar 3 (originally scheduled for 3-4 June 2010). These included consultations in five provinces that were chosen against criteria to do with the different likely drivers of deforestation: Niassa (due to reforestation activities), Nampula (many competing land uses and users), Tete (mining and livestock activities), Zambezia (the intensive harvesting of forest resources in the biggest carbon reservoir in the country) and Gaza (pressure for fuelwood harvesting to supply Maputo city). The idea was that it would be difficult to advance with a National REDD Strategy without prior consultation with key national actors in field level forestry across Mozambique's different provinces.

The schedule of consultations was as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Gaza – 27th April | Under the responsibility of MICOA/IIED |
| • Niassa – 3rd May | Under the responsibility of MICOA/UEM |
| • Nampula – 7th May | Under the responsibility of MICOA/IIED |
| • Tete – 10 and 11th May | Under the responsibility of MICOA/CTV |
| • Zambezia – 10-11 th May | Under the responsibility of MINAG/UEM |

Acting in parallel, three teams (one per region), integrating four specialties (forestry, agronomy, economics and GIS) went to the field (Niassa, Nampula, Tete, Sofala, Gaza and Maputo) to collect information on land cover, land use and threats to forests as well as assessing the opportunity cost for REDD implementation. Staff from MICOA and MINAG accompanied these field missions in order to help build their own understanding of and capacity to deal with REDD.

The fieldwork was conducted in an average of 4-5 days per province. This proved to be relatively expensive - besides the airfares, hiring vehicles for fieldwork has been a major cost. The 5 days work was the bare minimum that could be achieved, given the timeframe presented by MICOA. It is by no means sufficient for a thorough understanding of the nuances associated with the different activities and their threat to the environment. However, the National REDD Working Group had to be content with this preliminary assessment which will assist in conducting detailed studies during the REDD preparedness process.

Initial findings

The summary of issues below are from the discussions during the National Workshop 2 in Maputo undertaken on 19-20 April 2010 with participants from Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane and, the provincial consultations held in Gaza (27 April 2010), Niassa (3 May 2010), Nampula (7 May 2010) and Tete (10-11 May 2010). The consultation in Tete was also conducted at the community level to gather the views of the forest dependent people and the root causes that drive deforestation in particular. The meeting in Zambézia is yet to be undertaken. About 170 people have participated in the consultations in the provinces besides the participants of the April workshop. Overall, the structure of the meeting includes general information on the concepts, followed by discussion on issues relevant to the regional or provincial contexts. A brief summary of the issues is presented below:

- REDD+ is felt to be the right option for Mozambique to allow implementation of sustainable management of the natural forests and enhance carbon sequestration. According to most consultations (except Tete), the existing legal framework offer opportunities for REDD implementation. However, there is need to identify specific provisions and comment on how they would facilitate REDD implementation.
- The National REDD Working Group adopted the reference level of maintaining deforestation at the current 0.58 in a preliminary phase of REDD activity up to 2025, which will be achieved through improvement in agriculture production practices, implementation of environmental safeguards in development of infrastructure and plantations of up to 400 thousand ha. In all but one consultation, participants agreed with this reference level. In Nampula, there was more skepticism given the cultural issues related to the birth rate (increased population, rapid increase of number of families) and consequent competition over land uses and between users. A pilot area was selected to test the process (Naguema ein Mossuril).
- It was agreed that Mozambique should adopt a sub-national approach to REDD in the initial phase of REDD activity up to 2025 to establish the reference level and test all the processes of assessing and monitoring carbon stocks, measure the avoided leakages and establish payment systems as well as evaluate the impacts. The consultations have indicated Naguema (Mossuril) in Nampula¹ as a potential pilot area. This and other potential areas (yet to be formally suggested) possibly in Manica province² around the complex of protected areas (Forest reserves

¹ The area indicated during the consultation was contested by some participants and also members of the Consultative Council of MICOA questioned the criteria for selection of this area. The Provincial Directorate of Conservation Areas of Nampula has a technical person who can facilitate further discussions with relevant institutions to construct the rationale for this pilot area and also for selecting (an)other area(s) in the province.

² Indicated as potential pilot based on previous work done by institutions such as UEM, IIAM and the results of GFP consultations and also during the meeting of the Community Land initiative held on May 19th in Chimoio and

of Morribane, Maronga and Zomba and Tran frontier Conservation Area of Chimanimani) under threat due to agriculture and bushfires, Gaza province³ and Zambezia⁴.

- It was generally agreed that current legal instruments are conducive to implementing REDD+, but there was felt to be a policy brief commenting on the relevant provisions to inform the interested parties at all levels.
- It was agreed that there was a need to enforce the implementation of the legislation including the engagement of the community in law enforcement and integrate local governance measures to ensure adherence and compliance to the norms and rules.
- It was proposed to establish a National REDD Secretariat to assess carbon stocks, monitor land use and associated changes in carbon stocks as well as to measure the carbon removals that will be basis for claiming the payments, decide on eligible activities, build awareness about eligible activities under REDD and so on.
- Discussion of financial management issues brought diverse views. Some suggested that the funds should go through CONDES at national level and to District Consultative Councils; others indicated MICOA instead of CONDES following a system similar to that of the 20% of royalties from forests and wildlife that is being channeled to communities (which in fact is not a best practice); yet others suggested that the Ministry of Finance has better mechanisms for managing and channeling funds at all levels. The allocation of the 7 billion Meticaís for the district development was also another mechanism mentioned as a potential model. There is no conclusive recommendation on the institution, although there is agreement on the need for adopting simplified procedures and transparency and involvement of civil society in any of the decision making bodies. The next step will be for the National REDD Strategy drafting team to assess possible options and propose one option for further discussion.
- It was agreed that a key component of the National REDD Strategy should be to revitalize and strengthen community based natural resources management (CBNRM) – which is also the central thrust of Mozambique’s Growing Forest Partnerships (GFP) programme.
- It was agreed that education and capacity building at all levels using appropriate media would be key to the ultimate successful implementation of REDD.
- It was noted that the private sector had had limited engagement with these discussions to date and agreed that the National REDD Working Group should engage the private sector by targeting meetings that the associations (CTA, Forum on Forests,) organize.

further discussions with local stakeholders in particular the iTC and MICAIA. MICAIA is a Foundation supporting conservation and development initiatives in the area. These institutions will put together a concept note with the rationale and objectives. The ideas will be discussed in the Beira meeting where the decision whether should form or not the pilot area will be decided.

³ A champion should be identified to work on a concept to elect an area, given that the consultation indicated a large area under threat of deforestation. Would it be a case of considering all the districts along the pipeline, the railway, supplying firewood and poles to Maputo as part of a REDD pilot area?

⁴ The Finish project supporting the NFP in Mozambique intends to identify and implement REDD related activities in this province in coordination with INDUFOR. Again it is important to align these initiatives.

In addition to these main strategic points, data collection on land use, land use changes, land use practices and opportunities for REDD implementation has been completed and draft reports submitted. The main highlight of the preliminary findings is the discrepancies of data on land potential, use and allocation to various uses and users between and within Government institutions. The land management information system is very poor. Yet this is essential to monitoring the impact of land uses on increase or removals of emissions.

In parallel with and drawing on these findings, the Eduardo Mondlane University, Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry have producing drafts of Chapters 3 and 4 of the R-PP on reference levels and monitoring, reporting and verification respectively. These have been shared with INDUFOR for input. Chapter 2 of the R-PP can only be produced once the field work reports are finalized. Drafts have been submitted but a thorough analysis is yet to be done. Chapter 5 will be compiled based on the materials of the previous chapters.

Draft structure of Mozambique's National REDD Strategy (2/4/2010)

The National REDD Working Group presented its 2010 plan of activities at the Consultative Council of MICOA on 2 April 2010. Within that presentation there was a proposed structure for the National REDD Strategy which was subsequently approved by MICOA.

What follows is an outline of the National REDD Strategy for submission by July 2010 for approval by the government of Mozambique:

0. PREAMBLE (MICOA/MINAG)
1. INTRODUCTION (MICOA/MINAG)
 - a. Context (including timeframe)
 - b. Basic principles and foundations
2. THE ROLE OF FORESTS IN THE MITIGATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE
 - a. Environmental
 - b. Economic
 - c. Social
 - d. Opportunities to mitigate climate change through forest cover and reforestation
 - e. REDD initiatives and reforestation initiatives aiming to reduce climate change
3. THE FORESTS OF MOZAMBIQUE
 - a. Actual forest cover
 - b. Conservation areas
 - c. Forest concessions
 - d. Community forests
 - e. Reforestation
4. DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION
 - a. Changes in forest cover
 - b. Rate of deforestation

- c. Distribution and causes of deforestation
- d. Categories of deforestation
- e. Forest degradation

5. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

- a. Sectoral policies
- b. Integration of sectoral and extra-sectoral policies
 - i. Policies towards development
 - ii. Food security
 - iii. Energy and water
- c. Institutional arrangements
 - i. State
 - ii. Local communities
 - iii. Private sector
 - iv. Civil society organisations
 - v. NGOs and development cooperations
- d. International agreements

6. NATIONAL REDD STRATEGY

- a. Vision, objective and mission
- b. National and international legal frameworks
 - i. Carbon and land / natural resource rights
- c. Institutional framework
 - i. Institutional responsibilities
 - ii. Beneficiaries of the strategy
 - iii. Benefit sharing model
- d. Scope: Activities considered eligible
- e. Reference level: National baseline
 - i. Period of reference
 - ii. Scale
- f. Finance
 - i. National and Sun-national agreements
 - ii. International agreements
- g. Conflict resolution mechanisms

7. MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION SYSTEM (MRV)

- a. Institutional responsibility
- b. Requirements for establishing a monitoring system
- c. Emissions and removals
- d. Reduction of emissions at a national level
- e. Reduction of emissions at sub-national level
- f. Distribution: issues of equity
- g. Environmental impacts: MRV
- h. Economic impacts: MRV
- i. Social impacts: MRV
- j. Incentives, costs and financing of MRV
- k. Periodicity de MRV

- 8. COSTS AND BENEFITS OF EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS
 - a. Environmental, sócio-cultural and economic benefits
 - b. Other benefits: political and institutional
 - c. Costs of activities in the strategy: opportunity costs, investment costs and transaction costs

- 10. ACTION PLAN
 - a. Requirements to implement the strategy
 - b. Incentives for and costs of implementation

The consultation process and proposed structure for the National REDD Strategy were formally approved by the Consultative Council of MICOA with the following notes:

5. Proposed Structure for the National REDD Strategy (translated from CC minutes)
Decision 06/XI SOCC/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) There is need to include mining as source of deforestation in Tete. (ii) The REDD Strategy should not create dependency of the communities on the payments but rather develop alternative activities for the communities (iii) include an analysis of the role of forests to mitigate climate change globally.

A second presentation was scheduled with the Minister on 27 May 2010. The Minister had requested the team to present the objectives of the Beira meeting on 3-4 June 2010. The Minister and Vice Minister were not present at the meeting as they attended to other priority calls. The presentation comprised of the progress so far and plans for conclusion of the REDD strategy. The issues raised during the meeting were technical relating to the pilot area, the rationale for choosing the scenario on reference level of maintaining the level of deforestation at 0.58 and the use of the zoning for reforestation to guide where REDD should be implemented. The questions were clarified but approval for the 3-4 June Beira meeting was not forthcoming.

Further comments made (in the absence of the technical team) by the Minister and forwarded to orientate the team included the following:

1. Develop a national and not provincial strategy, although the implementation will be phased.
2. Consider the 'polos de desenvolvimento' and seek alternative income generating activities to reduce pressure on forests.
3. Advise on how to increase productivity based on organic farming and conservation agriculture.
4. Send the detailed consultation reports to the Minister.
5. Integrate in the strategy, the role of communities in enforcing the law and incentives.

The points raised were accepted and will be reflected in the draft National REDD Strategy. However, the question left unanswered was the date for the Beira meeting. The April plan indicated 3-4 June 2010 and the meeting for the strategy was to be on 20 and 30 June 2010. The changes compromise the implementation of the plan, hence the delivery of the strategy on time.

Recent developments at National Working Group meeting (14/6/2010)

At the National REDD Working Group meeting held in the Norwegian Embassy on 14 June 2010 there were a number of key developments:

- The South-South REDD financial transfers had been resolved – so that outstanding payments could be made to consultants (overcoming any potential further delays to data gathering).
- The Minister had agreed to the date of the National Workshop 3 in Beira from 29-30 June 2010 so that the discussion of the National REDD Strategy could occur in the key timber province of Sofala – to complement the final consultation in another key timber Province, Zambesia.
- The DNTF staff had agreed a number of activities on REDD within the National Forest Programme in coordination with the FAO-hosted NFP Facility and with support from the Government of Finland.
- It was agreed that the GFP CBNRM pilot sites could potentially be used as national pilot sites for the National REDD Strategy provided the pilots had in view a national system for REDD.
- The Government of Japan had approved US\$ 7,000,000 for equipment in support of REDD and were sending technical experts later in June to assess what equipment might be needed – especially in regard to the establishment of a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system in country.
- Mozambique had been indicated as one of a number of countries on a second list of Forest Investment Programme (FIP) priority countries. This might offer future opportunities for implementing the provisions within the National REDD Strategy.
- It was also agreed, that the following priority events were required to ensure an adequate consultation on the draft National REDD Strategy: (i) the Beira consultation now scheduled for 29-30 June; (ii) the consultation exercise in Zambesia and (iii) a new and specific consultation exercise with the private sector, organised in a debate format to try and raise awareness of the potential implications of a National REDD Strategy for industry (e.g. both agriculture and forestry).
- In a meeting with Minister Alcinda Abreu immediately following the National REDD Working Group meeting it was agreed that these necessary consultative exercises described in the bullet were justified and that an extension in the submission of the final draft National REDD Strategy could occur until 15 August 2010.
- The Minister informed the team that the aim of receiving the draft National REDD Strategy by 15 August 2010 was to ensure that there was time to submit the draft strategy to the provincial national sustainable development councils (CONDES) which had representations from civil society and industry and could act as a national consultative platform to refine the draft National REDD Strategy.

Commentary on progress so far

IIED offer the following independent thoughts in the light of progress so far:

- Leadership and strategic engagement– MICOA and MINAG need to continue being in the driving seat and coordinate the process. There is need to engage at strategic level. For example, information being solicited about the country for international fora (e.g. recent request for the Oslo meeting) need to be compiled in a timely manner. Similarly emerging opportunities for responding to funding opportunities (e.g. World Bank) need prompt response. The government staff is overwhelmed with responsibilities. Therefore, a strategy for supporting the relations with partners needs to be established. The potential cost of not doing so, is that we will have a strategy but with institutional confusion and limited funds for implementation.
- The coordinating institutions (MICOA and MINAG) need to capitalize (more) on the opportunities to discuss REDD issues such as in the upcoming National Meeting on Land and Forests to take place in the second week of June. This could be an opportunity not only to inform forest sector actors about the process but to discuss (as far as possible) the unresolved issues (e.g. institutional, views from the private sector,...). Participation and consultation should go beyond the activities specifically organized by the National REDD Working Group.
- Despite the approval of work plan in April, the recent halting of the preparation of the Beira meeting left the team (again) without proper direction and priorities from MICOA. It is hoped that this is the last interference of this sort. Any further delays will make reaching the 15 August deadline set by MICOA impossible.
- Availability of funds for implementing the plan – the change in timeframe has stretched the capacity of IIED to develop ToRs, contracts and disperse funds in time and this has also applied to the dispersement from those institutions to consultants on the ground. There have been some significant additional costs not anticipated in the original budget that the team have managed to find a way round so far – but the consultation in Zambezia still requires further financial scrutiny. There is need to improve the responsiveness from all institutions concerned to ensure timely disbursements of funds for implementation of activities.
- In order to reach a broader audience, the National REDD Working Group needs to disseminate information through a set of policy briefs that are being planned. Two are under preparation and should be shared shortly with the REDD Working Group.

Proposal for additional support

At the National REDD Working Group meeting and through email immediately after, there were a number of suggestions for essential work beyond the initial budget agreed between IIED and the Norwegian Embassy. We tried to restrict this to actions without which the drafting of the National REDD Strategy would be compromised in some way. We have not included actions which will be required to begin to implement the draft National REDD Strategy. Principal among these were the following:

1. The need to support a round of provincial level consultation immediately following the completion of the draft National REDD Strategy and based on that draft document. While there have been consultations during the drafting process, without a consultation ON THE DRAFT, there is a real risk of conflict because key actors in forestry, having not had a chance to comment on the draft document, might reasonably object to some of the content proposed. We

therefore need to ensure that comments are made and revisions made, after the draft National REDD Strategy is actually circulated.

2. The need to establish a national education and awareness raising programme within Mozambique, with initial development of some introductory texts and potentially radio scripts in order to improve awareness of REDD and its implications. Even if this occurs at a relatively basic level, it is essential to spread knowledge more widely of the existence of this National REDD Strategy and what it might mean for rural people. Without this, consultations (such as the above) are uninformed and we run the risk of adopting measures without Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC).
3. The need to develop capacity on MRV to decide on the best technical options for monitoring change against a reference level. Current estimates of deforestation occur through a decadal national inventory. This does not provide the level of detail that is required for the drafting of the National REDD Strategy both to identify hotspots of deforestation and their underlying causes and devise appropriate responses. Inviting an expert down to produce national level satellite based deforestation maps could address this deficiency while also informing the DNTF of the type of technology and capacity they would need to fully take advantage of the Government of Japan equipment offer is now a priority.
4. The South-South REDD lead agencies, MICOA / MINAG and FAS have been slow to move to field level design of possible payment mechanisms based on the Brazilian experience. Developing pilot sites (together with GFP) that actually test possible approaches to community orientated payments is now urgently required. While there is some resourcing of this in the existing project, the proposal is to build additional pilot sites and develop a framework for designing appropriate payment mechanisms that could be tested at various sites.
5. Gaps are still present in our information base. For example further research is needed to quantify charcoal production, the prospects for agricultural intensification and the economic transaction costs of different payment mechanisms design options.