INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ RIGHTS
AND REDD

Indigenous Peoples’ Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN)
Baguio City, Philippines, 09 – 11 November 2008
REDDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION (REDD)

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

- Deforestation and Forest Degradation (DD) is only a small part in the whole story of destruction of Indigenous peoples’ territories and livelihood.
- Reducing Emission (RE) is but a derivative issue of the incessant encroachment of IPs social and ecological integrity.
- Does giving money to Indigenous Community the way to prevent Deforestation and Forest Degradation?
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ IN INDONESIA
KEY CHALLENGES

Sovereignty

- Lack of Recognition and fulfillment of Rights
- Violation of Self Determination
- Indigenous Territories/Cultural Identities vs Political Territories/State’s Administration
- Marginalizes in the State’s Governance Structure – Traditional Governance System Paralyzed
- Manipulation of traditional practices by political party/bureaucracy and entrepreneur from collective deliberation to “traditional elites”
- IPs organizational networks are yet to compete with government-controlled “customary institutions”
Prosperity

Dominant Economic Paradigm
- the global market expansion has been weakening community’s social, cultural, and economic resilience
- Erosion of Identity/Spiritual values
  - Communal to Individual
  - Subsistence to capitalist mode of production
  - Multi-cropping to Monoculture
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ IN INDONESIA
KEY ISSUES

Dignity

- Violation of Rights to practice, maintain, protect & develop cultural traditions and customs
- Vanishing of traditional knowledge – biophirachy
- Traditional Law not recognized
- Violation of Rights to manifest, practice, develop and teach spiritual, religious traditions and rituals
THE CLIMATE DOES CHANGE
BUT, DOES IT CHANGE OUR BEHAVIOR?

In the Past: UNDER THE NAME OF DEVELOPMENT
Indigenous Peoples’ Territories has been looted because of its oil content, gas, coal, fertility for plantations.

Now: FOR THE REASON OF SAVING THE WORLD FROM GLOBAL WARMING

“Global warming which is a social and environmental problem has become a business endeavor which offers opportunities to gain new property rights, assets and openings for capital accumulation”

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz and Parshuram Tamang, UNPFII Report 2007
Reduce Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)

IN THE MIDST OF THE STRUGGLE OF RIGHTS
Global and National Issues

- Social Ecological failure of economic expansion;
- Rentier liberalization, privatization in non A1 countries, financial capital expansion in A countries;
- Economic Development to much rely on the exploitation of natural resources;
- National Spatial Governance that allocates peoples’ lifespaces for investment projects and economic infrastructures;
- No specific data on Indigenous Peoples – Indigenous Identity has always been questioned;
- Overlapping of Laws/Policies/Regulations (Plantation Law, Mining Law, Agrarian Law, Forestry Law, Indonesian Constitution etc);
- Conflict of Interest among Department in the Government (agriculture & Plantation, Forestry, Mining and Energy, National Agrarian Body, Environment and Conflicts between central and local govt.);
- Corruption in the Govt. Institution, from national to local level.
More than 59 million hectares of forest area has changed into critical land (Forestry Department, 2005)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Degradation (000 ha)</th>
<th>Deforestation (000 ha)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Java</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>648</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kalimantan</td>
<td>15,814</td>
<td>10,931</td>
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<td>Maluku</td>
<td>2,349</td>
<td>1,033</td>
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<td>Bali-Nusa Tenggara</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>257</td>
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<tr>
<td>Papua</td>
<td>4,539</td>
<td>3,136</td>
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<td>Sulawesi</td>
<td>4,561</td>
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<td>Sumatera</td>
<td>9,185</td>
<td>9,951</td>
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<tr>
<td>INDONESIA</td>
<td>36,960</td>
<td>27,871</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rate of land cover change (000 ha/year)</td>
<td>2,640</td>
<td>1,991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Source: FWI (Forest Watch Indonesia) analysis on the overlay of NFI maps (1996) and interpretation of the images of Landsat7 ETM+ (2003); Figures are rounded to thousands.
Criteria for the inclusion of “Customary Forest” in REDD project:

• Having the Decision Letter from the Minister of Forestry on Customary Forest Management Right (this require another policy by the Minister of Forestry);

• Having the recommendation from the local government on the implementation of REDD;

• Fulfilling the criteria and indicators for the REDD project site;

• Submitting an implementation plan for the REDD project.
REMAINING CONCERNS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDD

- How to ensure the implementation and fulfillment of the rights of IPs in the implementation of REDD?
- Who will have benefit? From who? If the community will have the benefit in what form? How will the arrangements be? Who will arrange? Who will have the authority and responsibility?
- Is there any guaranty that the community will still own the forest as well as having access to use forest products?
- How to ensure REDD won’t divided the community and create conflicts?
- Who will negotiate with the community? Government? Other party?
- How far the international talks on REDD will influence Voluntary Market? Since the voluntary market seems moving faster then the UN etc.
Other Initiative from Climate Change Mitigation ➔ Bio/Agrofuels

- Contra productive and threat to REDD. Facts, bio/agrofuel plantations (oil palm, soy and sugar cane in other countries) is one of the major caused of deforestation.

- How are this 2 initiatives will get along together? While the REDD initiative is discussed, the expansion of plantation keep destroying remaining forests – the demand from consumer still very high.

- While the expansion of oil palm plantation keep going, the previous problems are still continues (intimidation, deception, violence, kidnapping, murder, arrest, land grabbing, environmental damage etc)

- REDD vs BIO/AGROFUELS ➔ CONFLICT

- More challenges in bio/agrofuels leading countries whose also keen to have REDD funds
THE FACT

THE FUNDS PROVIDED FOR REDD ARE TOO SMALL COMPARES TO THE VALUE OF SOCIAL ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ LIFESPACE
Protection of communal rights, human rights (health, food, security, shelter), Indigenous rights (rights to lands and territories, waters, resources, self determination) are urgent matters that have to be the main focus in national and international discussions.
Initiatives and projects related to climate change should **employ right-based approach**. Therefore, all initiatives and projects related to Climate Change should **adopt the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**, as it sets out minimum standard to promote and protect Indigenous Peoples’ Rights.
All initiatives and projects related to Climate Change should encourage, provide space and facilitate indigenous peoples to develop mitigation and adaptation alternatives based on their indigenous knowledges and practices.
RECOMMENDATIONS

The international discussions have to change its focus to more crucial issues:
- **Political willingness** to cut emissions from industrial countries.
- Address the **underlying causes of deforestation**.
“THANK YOU, TERIMAKASIH”
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