

COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST RESOURCE MONITORING IN REDD+ EARLY ACTION AREAS

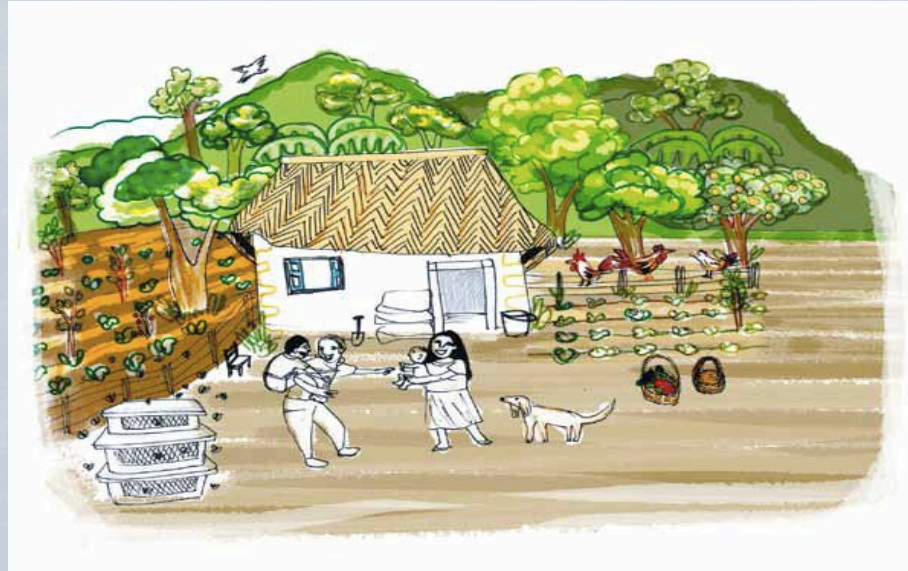
Preliminary Reflections on the Pilot
Participatory Monitoring Model in the
Coastal Watersheds of Jalisco, México

The Nature Conservancy
REDD+ Learning Exchange: Social Dimensions
Mérida, México
May 7-9, 2013

PARTICIPATORY MONITORING

A variety of terms, concepts and definitions exist:

- Locally-based Monitoring
- Collaborative Monitoring
- Ecological Community Monitoring “Citizen Science”
- Joint Monitoring
- Self Monitoring
- Event Monitoring



PARTICIPATORY MONITORING... OF WHAT?

A variety of natural resources and management objectives:

- Water quality and quantity
- Traditional hunting practices
- Timber volume harvests and regeneration rates
- Bird species, populations and seasonality
- Wildlife impacts and responses from local agriculturalists
- Local agave harvesting practices
- Carbon stocks
 - Community forests
 - Cafetales



PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY MONITORING

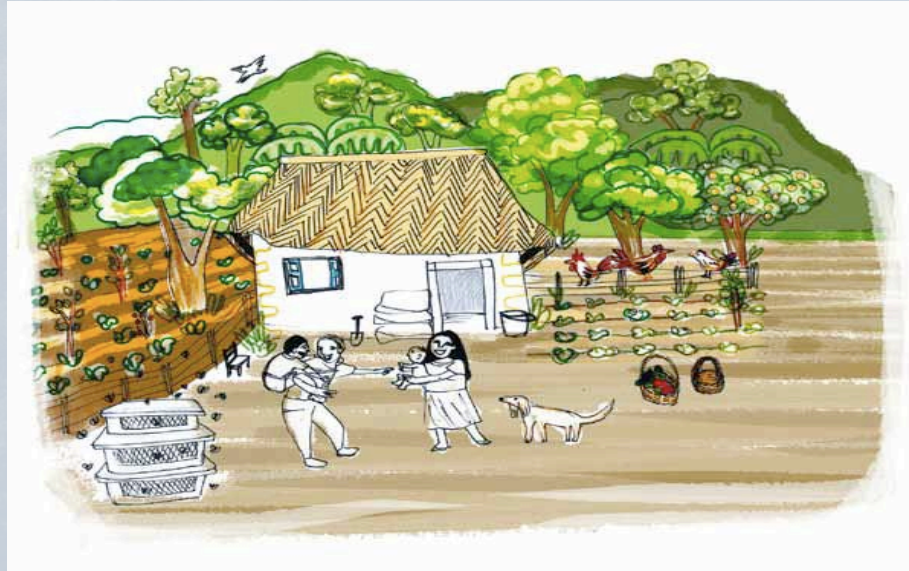
An experiential process which is carried out by the community and based on the recognition of the value and importance of local knowledge. PCM emphasizes community participation in every stage of planning, implementation, and reflection in order to strengthen the local decision making process to promote sustainable land use practices and social well-being.



PARTICIPATORY MONITORING

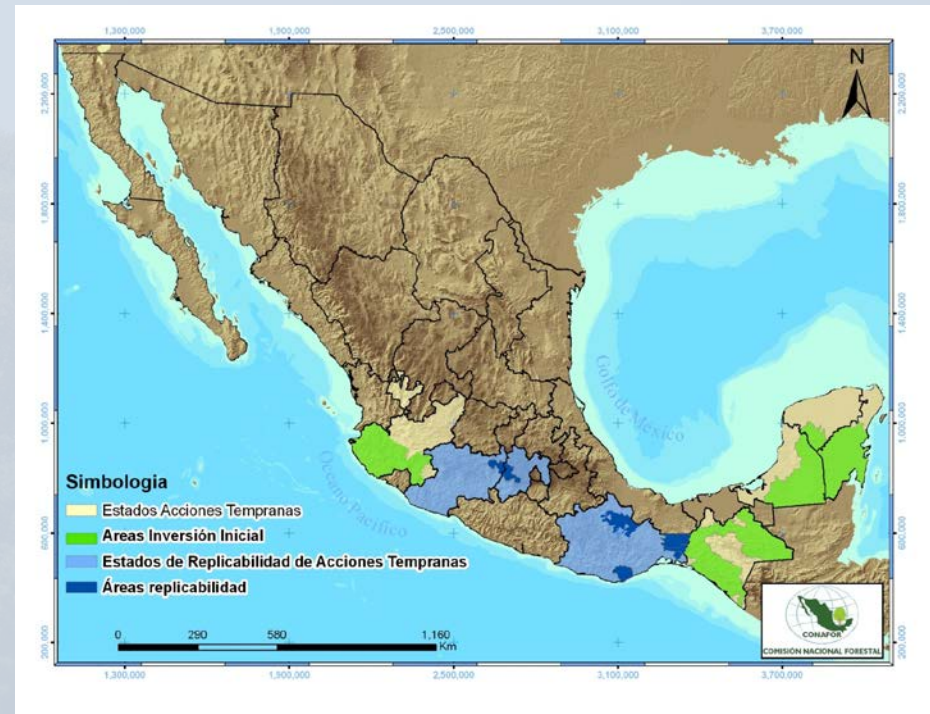
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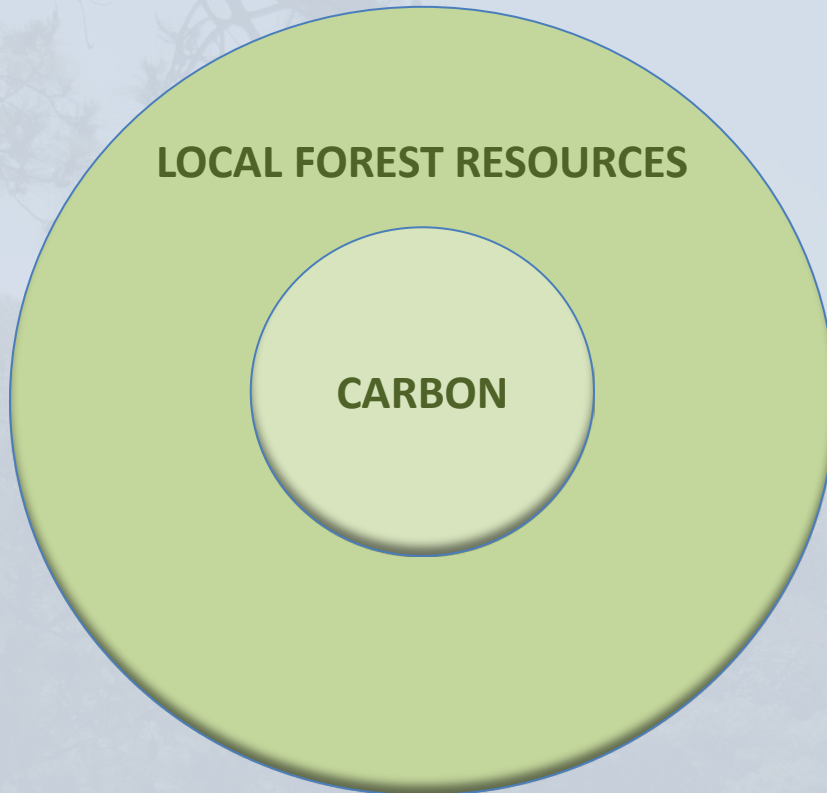


IN CONTEXT: LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN REDD+ EARLY ACTION AREAS

1. Establish and strengthen intermunicipal environment and development bodies
2. Promote public policy at the landscape level
3. Develop a REDD+ Agenda
4. Financial sustainability
5. **Contribute to national MRV**
6. Communication and social participation mechanisms



PILOT METHODOLOGY



Leaders vs. Actors

Local vs. National Priorities

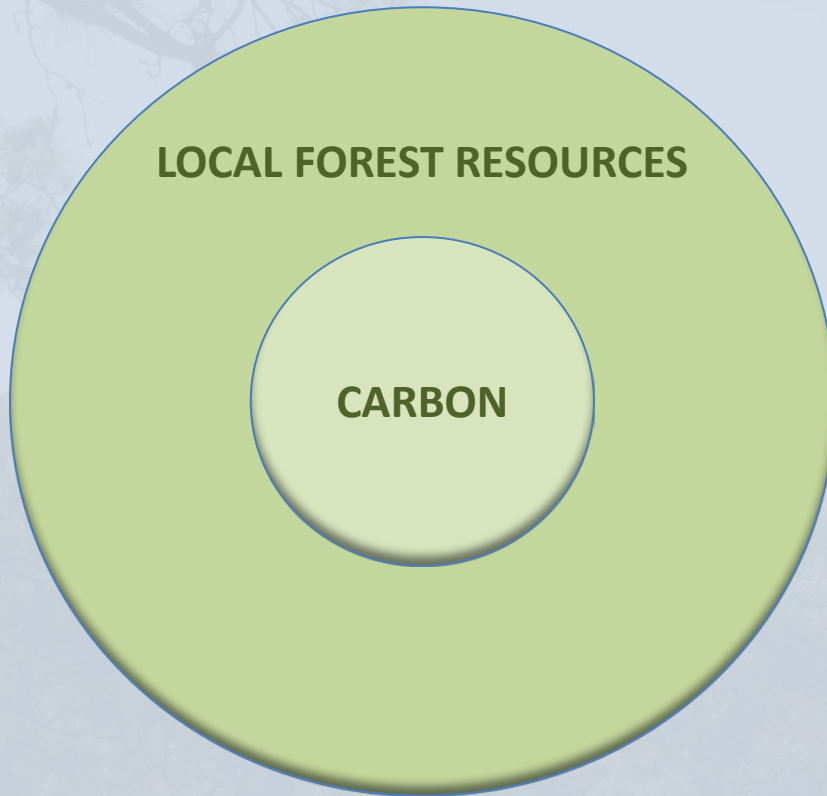
Internal vs. External Methodology

Citizen vs. Expert Knowledge

Tangible vs. Invisible Benefits

Internal vs. External Payments

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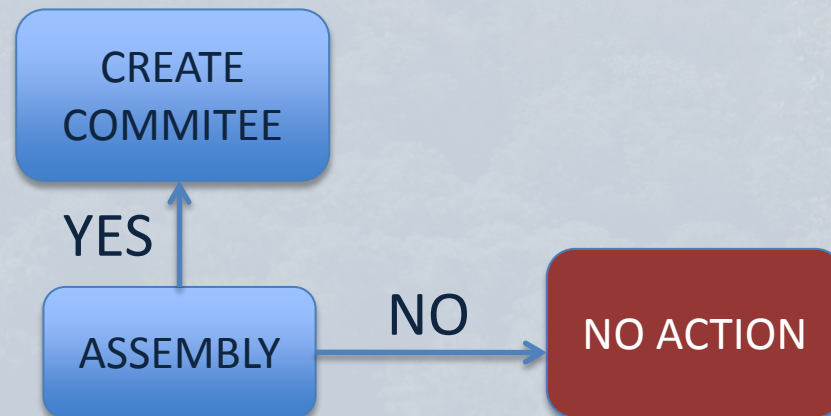
Tangible vs. Invisible Benefits

Internal vs. External Payments

How to actively engage local landowners in the development of a long-term, non-financed strategy to collect and process information for tangible community benefits that can contribute to national REDD+ reporting goals?

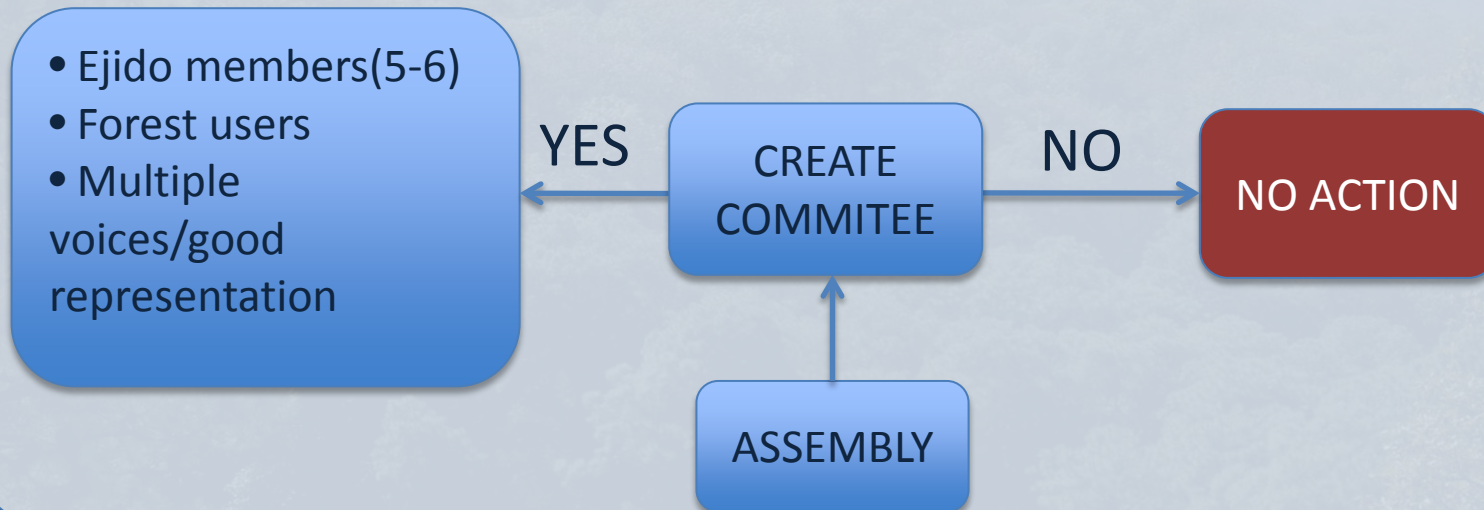
FLOW OF ACTIVITIES

FOCUS ON PROCESS



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FOCUS ON PROCESS

- Identification of local scenarios
- Based on experiences and observations
- Field visits
- Design map

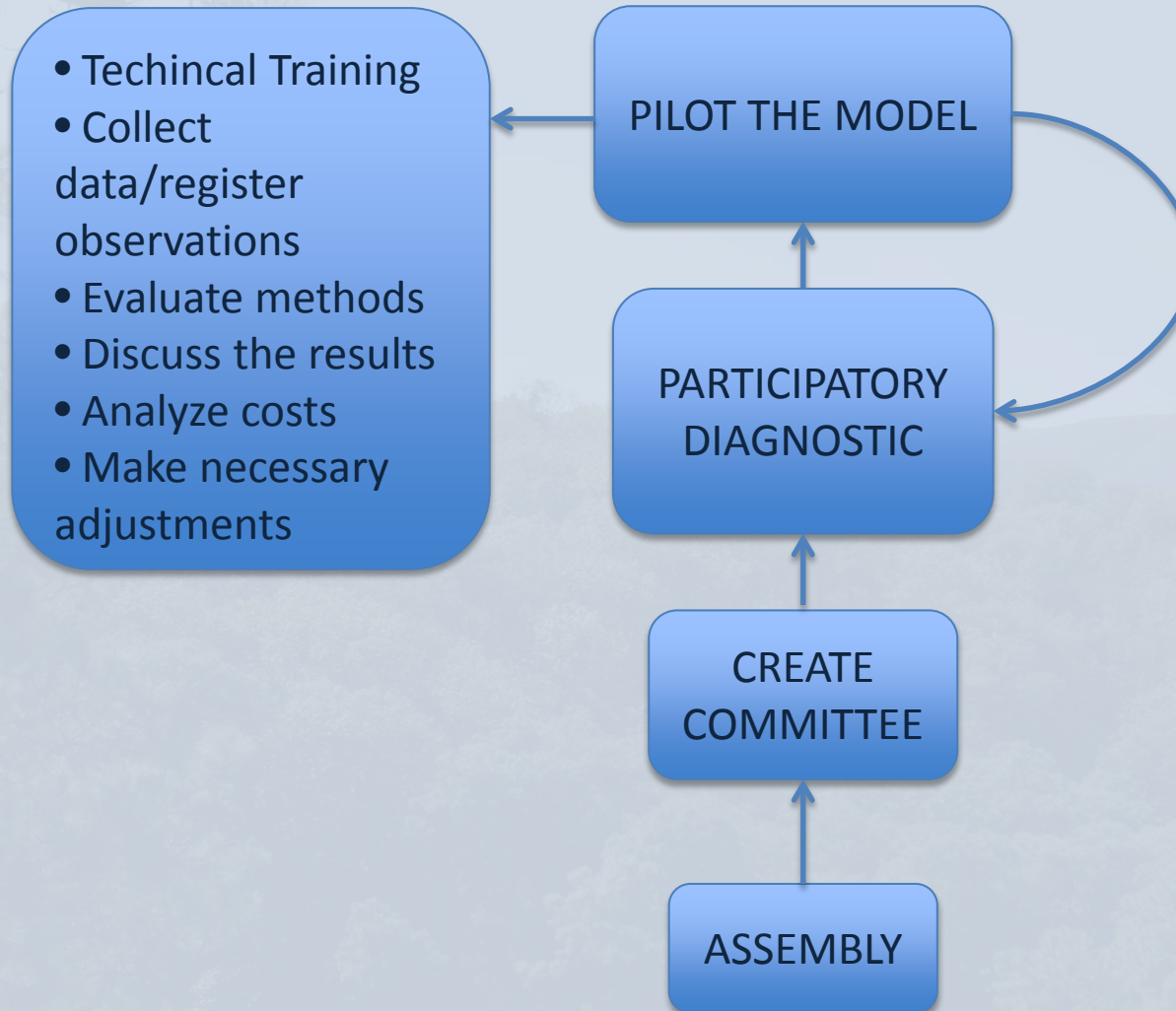
PARTICIPATORY
DIAGNOSTIC

CREATE
COMMITTEE

ASSEMBLY



FLOW OF ACTIVITIES



SELECTING CRITERIA AND INDICATORS

1. LIVING MATERIAL(BIOMASS)

- What is there? How much and where? A lot or a little?

2. ACTIVE MANAGEMENT

- Wood and extracted volume
- Impact of harvest treatments
- Existence of natural regeneration
- NTFPs (orchids, fungi, medicinal plants)
- Livestock and its impact- where? Intensity?

3. LOCAL BIODIVERSITY

- Populations of important species
- Conservation areas

SELECTING CRITERIA AND INDICATORS

4. FOREST HEALTH AND RISK

- Forest fires- where? Intensity?
- Unplanned timber removal- where? Species? Volume?
- Presence of insects and disease- kind? Where? Affected area?

5. COMMUNITY SOCIAL BENEFITS

- Government programs and local needs
- Economic benefits received per family
- Participation of local landowners in forestry/agr./grazing activities

Indicator	Field Data	Product	Analysis
Presence of Livestock	Site observation and visual checklist	Existing grazing	Type of grazing activity and its characteristics
Heads of Livestock	Number of heads	Current grazing intensity	Carrying capacity and degradation risk
Agricultural Activities	Site observation and visual checklist	Existing agricultural activities and locations	Type of activity and its characteristics
Volume of Wood Extracted	Species, DBH and height	Volume removed	Area and intensity of timber harvesting

TRANSFERABLE ELEMENTS

BEST PRACTICES

- Build upon local governance mechanisms
- Create clear objectives in line with local priorities
- Focus on clear, tangible benefits
- Establish transparent communication practices
- Promote some degree of standardization
- Encourage “community technicians”

IN ACTION

- Position community governance bodies central to process and follow local protocol
- Community-led definition of PCIs with tangible local benefits, focused on forest resources
- Monitoring committee update in community forum
- Standardize the community engagement process
- Intercommunity trainings and support for community-community learning exchanges

MRV REPORTING



“IMMEDIATE” LOCAL-LEVEL REPORTING BENEFITS

- Drivers of local deforestation and degradation
- Real-time land use change information

- Indirect carbon accounting based on land use
- Safeguard implementation



TOWARDS CARBON

PREPARATION

- Participatory Design
- Local Benefits
- Training

IMPLEMENTATION

- Refining of skills
- Communication strategy
- Institutional support

VERIFICATION

- National coordination
- Carbon methodology
- Training and reporting procedures
- Benefit distribution

THANK YOU!

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Pictures courtesy of “Guía Didáctica para la Participación Local en Programas de Servicios Ambientales”
by Adalberto Vargas Guillen, Micaela Álvarez Pérez and Irene Cuesta Mayor