

# **REDD AND RESOURCE GRABBING: IMPLICATIONS ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS**

**ARZE GLIPO**

**ASIA-PACIFIC NETWORK FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY**

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# OUTLINE

- I. **What is REDD?**
- II. **Will REDD result in resource grabbing?**
  - A. Forest policy and tenure
  - B. Land and resource grab
- III. **Case of Central Kalimantan REDD plus pilot project**
- IV. **Case of REDD pilot project in Gen. Nakar, Quezon.**
- V. **Conclusions**

# **WHAT IS REDD+?**

**REDD programme (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) was first introduced in the Bali COP meeting under the UNFCCC in 2007.**

**COP15 in Copenhagen saw the role of incentives for such initiatives through funding mechanisms from developed countries.**

**UN-REDD Programme was then established in 2008 to facilitate global REDD-plus initiatives,**

**It was further expanded to include conservation, enhancement of forest carbon stocks and sustainable management of forests in Cancun COP in 2010 – REDD PLUS**

## **REDD EMERGING AS GLOBAL CONSENSUS**

- **WORLD BANK opened “FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY”**
- **SE ASIAN COUNTRIES LIKE INDONESIA, CAMBODIA, VIETNAM, PHILIPPINES EMBARKED ON REDD READINESS (ENABLING POLICIES) WITH SUPPORT FROM DONOR GOVERNMENTS, UN-REDD, WB.**

# **INDONESIA: POLICIES ADOPTING REDD**

**The government developed a national REDD+ strategy plan in 2012 as a major reference for implementing climate change policies in the areas of forestry and land use.**

**The national strategy contains a mandate to harmonizing regulatory and institutional system related to the governance and management of forest and land use**

**Issuance of Presidential Decree No. 10/2011 on moratorium of permits for natural forest and peat land conversion for 2 years, as well as selection and implementation of activities in the province of Central Kalimantan as the pilot province of REDD+ in Indonesia**



## Components...



# ENABLING POLICIES FOR REDD+: PHILIPPINES

## Philippine National REDD + Strategy

- “a bottoms-up, multi-stakeholder approach”
- “presents a broad range of strategies and corresponding activities over a 10-year time horizon (2010-2020)”
- Approved by the DENR and endorsed to the Climate Change Commission for issuance of appropriate Order

## Executive Order 881

- CCC to coordinate existing climate change initiatives, REDD-Plus, and other similar mechanisms
- Designates DENR as the operational implementer of REDD-Plus

# **WILL REDD RESULT IN RESOURCE GRABBING?**

- **Communities have raised serious concerns on REDD and its possible impact on their long-standing claims to their land and territories.**
- **REDD by putting value on carbon stock of forests, create the opportunity for markets and thus for commodifying forests - Indonesia allows holder of an operating license for forest carbon to trade in forest carbon market**
- **This entails issues of ownership, tenure, and access to forests which to this date remain mired in conflicting claims,**

# **FOREST POLICY AND TENURE**

**In most of the countries in Asia, about 86% of the forests are owned and controlled by the state.**

**Indonesia Forestry Law - the State has full rights over the forest area (Article 12)**

**Philippines - Presidential Decree 705,- passed in 1975 called Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines – governs use, management and conservation of forest resources.**

**In the mid-70's up to the early 80's, this law provided for the issuance of Timber License Agreements (TLAs) hi**

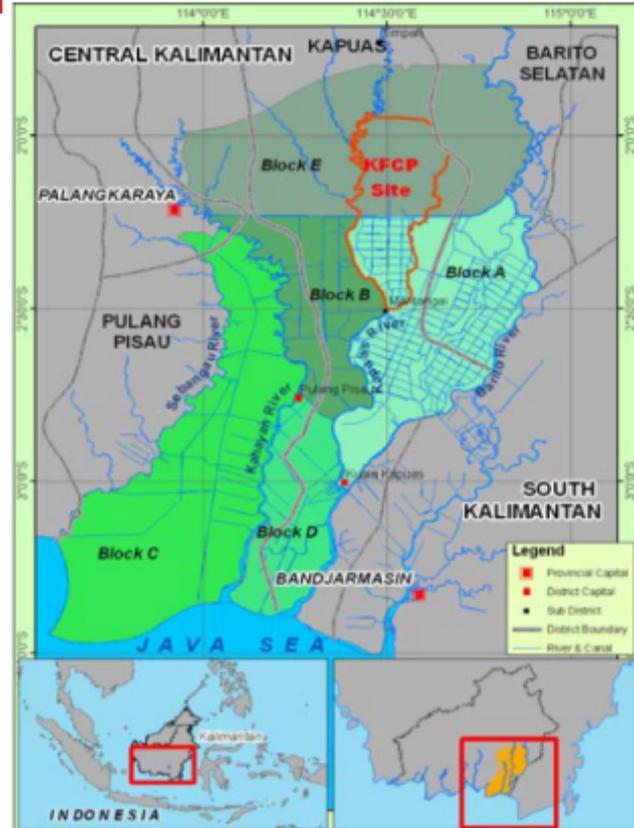
# **RESOURCE AND GREEN GRABBING**

**Land grabbing – large-scale acquisition of land**

**Green grabbing – appropriation of land for environmental ends**

**Green grabbing may not even involve physical dispossession of claimants of land, it can also mean “restructuring of rules and authority over the access to, use and management of resources, in related labour relations and in human-ecological relationships, that may have profoundly alienating effects.” (Fairhead et al 2012)**

# THE CENTRAL KALIMANTAN REDD PLUS PROJECT



# **KFCP PROJECT IN KALIMANTAN**

**The Australian government-funded Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership (KFCP) is one of the earliest large-scale REDD+ in Indonesia from 2007-2013**

**Objectives of this project is to demonstrate the practice of climate action that could deliver immediate and tangible benefits**

**Covering 120.000 hectares in 7 villages within sub district of Kapuas and Timpah, District of Kapuas, Central Kalimantan.**

**About 10,000 people where mostly indigenous peoples living in 7 villages as KFCP location. Their livelihood is heavily depending on natural resources such as rubber plantation, rattan and agriculture crops**

**Most of the area was severely damaged as in 1996 the New Order Era appointed this area as peat land mega project which covers 1.445.000 hectares or known as the million hectares rice field project**

**Hundreds of thousands hectares of forest were opened up and peat land was drained for agriculture to achieve the government's objective to produce two million tons of rice annually**

**The condition is worsened by legal and illegal logging operations, and by palm oil plantations owned by companies in the project site. Droughts and forest fire occur annually, causing high levels of greenhouse gas emissions**

**Central Kalimantan total population is 2,5 million people with 2 % growth rate per year. Most of the people living in rural areas with main income from agriculture and fishery sectors**

**According to Minister of Forest decision No.759/KPTS/Um/10/1982, total forest area of Central Kalimantan is 15.3 million hectares that has rich mineral resources. Yet, there was a huge deforestation and environment degradation due to forest fire, legal and illegal logging**

# FINDINGS

- ♦ **KFCP did not achieve its objectives;**
- **The area of peat swamp to be re-flooded achieved only 10% from its original target**
- **Peatland conversion to palm oil plantations is growing rapidly**
- **Consultations done only with village leaders, did not involve the whole community more esp women**
- **KFCP did not learn from indigenous knowledge of the local people**

# **FINDINGS**

**Information of the project was not clearly understood by most of the people due to a lot of unknown terms (emission, carbon, REDD+, climate change etc)**

**The people knows that KFCP is a project of creating jobs in their villages**

**No transparency in distribution of wages as the wages does not given directly to the people who work as laborer**

**KFCP has not responded yet to the local people's interest both verbally and written which asking for support to plant rubber**

**Lack of commitment to recognize and respect the indigenous people's rights to land affected by the project**

**Elite and men captured, only men benefited than women, as women only involved in seedling with low wages while men involved in planting and fire fighting (vill. Of Kalupang)**

**Local elites who have access to REDD+ information tend to keep the information for themselves. Besides, they keep the empowerment fund for their own interest.**

**In Mantangai Hulu vill, the community who have given their forest of 120,000 hectares to KFCP for REDD+ pilot project, expressed their resistance to its donor and the project as the project only in favor local facilitators, government and donors.**

# PHILIPPINE CASE: GENERAL NAKAR REDD + PILOT PROJECT

Location	Time Frame	Donor	Area Covered
Municipalities of Silago, Sogod, Bontoc, Tomas Oppus and Maasin City, Southern Leyte	2009 - 2013	GIZ	31,848 hectares
Municipalities of Narra and Quezon, Southern Palawan	2011 - 2013 2013 - 2015	EU Ecosystems Alliance	25,000 hectares
Municipality of General Nakar, Quezon	2010 t - 2014	EU and Team Energy Foundation (TEF)	144,000 hectares
Municipalities of Tiwi, Malinao, Tabaco City, Oas, Ligao City in Albay	2013 - 2017	GIZ	42,000 hectares
Municipalities of Borongan City and Maydolong, Eastern Samar	2013 - 2017	GIZ	67,153 hectares
Municipalities of Manay, Tarragona and Caraga, Davao Oriental	2013 - 2017	GIZ	92,301 hectares

# MUNICIPALITY OF NAKAR

The REDD+ project in mun. of Nakar

Covers 144,000 hectares.

The Agta-Dumagat indigenous peoples

Inhabit the forest, upland and coastal areas.



# **FINDINGS**

**The indigenous peoples have very limited knowledge of the REDD project. Flora and Fauna Inc and Haribon did not provide full information;**

**Only one of several organizations of indigenous peoples was chosen as project partner. This created conflict among indigenous peoples groups as many were not consulted.**

**Only the leaders or chieftains were consulted, leaving in limbo the wider membership of the 36 settlements/communities.**

**The project did not get FPIC as certified by the National Commission of the Indigenous People (NCIP) prompting the early termination of the project. The project holders endeavored to get FPIC only from one group but this was rejected by the government NCIP.**

# **FINDINGS**

**IP participants were not fully informed about how benefits will be shared with the community.**

**Technical concepts such as valuing carbon credit are beyond comprehension of IPs,**

**Recognizing, securing and realizing the ancestral domain claim of IPs remains the priority of IP communities rather than REDD**

# **EMERGING THREATS**

**The construction of the Laiban Hydropower Dam poses huge threat to the ancestral domain claim of IPs, the forests and the traditional sources of livelihoods.**

**Land acquisition of private companies, real estate developer like Green Square and other land speculators.**

**The opening of the Marikina-Infanta road in the protected area is driving deforestation as the road according to a report is being used as a “back door entry and exit of illegally harvested forest products” (GIZ, 2013a).**

**Rampant illegal logging and mining that are destroying the forests and water resources**

**Corruption and weak enforcement of environmental and forestry laws are facilitating loss of forest cover in the Sierra Madre.**

# CONCLUSIONS

**REDD projects tend to reproduce past and existing land inequalities , e.g. Indigenous people's lands recognized by customary laws now being claimed as state owned land**

**Moreover, without proper consultations and knowledge about project, local and indigenous communities are not recognized as manager of land and forest**

**The policy to open up land and forests for foreign investments, expansion of agribusiness (oil palm plantations), and energy and mining extraction as well as land speculation are threatening indigenous forests.**

# CONCLUSIONS

**REDD cannot be seen outside of its specific context, i.e. the emerging social and economic order characterized by the rapid globalization and expansion of capital, made possible by freer flow of capital, goods and services across borders and the increasing privatization of land, water and natural resources as well as the governance and policy regimes at the national and sub-national levels.**

**REDD tends to fuel land and resource conflicts as conditions that exclude indigenous peoples and communities from accessing, using and owning land remain.**

**THANK YOU**