



INDONESIA-AUSTRALIA FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP

The case for action

If the global community is to solve the challenge of climate change, we are going to need to make the most of every available opportunity. Tackling deforestation and forest degradation provides a key opportunity to tackle the challenge. Deforestation of approximately 13 million hectares per year – around the size of Java – accounts for approximately 18 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, the bulk of which come from developing countries. This is more than the world's transport emissions put together.

Addressing this issue is commonly known as reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, or REDD+. Indonesia and Australia share a strong commitment on REDD+ and are working collaboratively to support an effective outcome under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Our shared commitment is formalised through the Indonesia - Australia Forest Carbon Partnership.

Indonesia - Australia Forest Carbon Partnership

Tropical forest land in Indonesia covers more than 120 million hectares – with tens of millions of Indonesians residing in and depending on these forests for their livelihoods. Indonesia's tropical forests are some of the most biologically diverse and extensive in the world and host around 10 per cent of the world's plants and mammal species. Deforestation and degradation of these forests result in large emissions of greenhouse gas and are also a significant threat to their rich ecosystems.

Recognising this, the Prime Minister of Australia and the President of Indonesia established the Indonesia - Australia Forest Carbon Partnership on 13 June 2008. This Partnership is centred on practical cooperation on REDD+, and is providing useful lessons to support international negotiations on REDD+ under the UNFCCC. It is an important example of how developed and developing countries can work together to face the challenges of climate change.

To date, Australia has committed \$100 million to assist Indonesia build the capacity and systems required to participate in REDD+. The Partnership is operating in three key areas:

- identifying and implementing REDD+ demonstration activities;
- technical support to increase Indonesia's forest carbon measurement capacity; and
- climate change policy dialogue and capacity building support.



Photo: Courtesy David Foote, AusPIC



Activities under the Indonesia - Australia Forest Carbon Partnership

the development of Indonesia's National Carbon Accounting System. This system will support the sustainable management of Indonesia's forests by using satellite images, on-ground measurements and modelling to monitor changes in forest cover. To support this system, pioneering scientific work is also being undertaken to develop methods for measuring greenhouse gas emissions from peatland.

Policy cooperation and capacity building support

Australia is providing support for Indonesia's forest and climate policy development. This includes support for the development of Indonesia's national policy frameworks and strategies for REDD+, and for an analytical report on REDD+ in Indonesia, prepared by the multi-donor Indonesia Forest Climate Alliance.

In June 2008, the Prime Minister of Australia and the President of Indonesia agreed to develop a Roadmap for Access to International Carbon Markets, which was formalised by Ministers in November 2008. The Roadmap is a multi-phased strategy that is assisting Indonesia to develop the necessary technical, system and financial pre-requisites for participating in future international carbon markets for REDD+.