

# US Views on REDD in the UNFCCC Negotiations

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# Where We Are



- May 5<sup>th</sup> submission on key elements to be included in a Copenhagen agreement
  - notional agreed outcome
  - Addresses only a Framework Convention outcome
    - Silent on the relationship –if any – to a next step under Kyoto
  - Reflects a structural approach with content under a sub-set of issues, including REDD-plus
- Elaboration of these REDD elements to follow represents technical staff level thinking
  - NOT official US position

# Scope of REDD



- Options being discussed for scope of REDD
  - REDD, REDD+, AFOLU
- ultimate goal of comprehensive accounting of sources/sinks across land categories
  - Reflects “what the atmosphere sees”
  - Minimizes leakage, omissions, double-counting
- Recognize challenge of full terrestrial GHG accounting
  - Staged process could be applied

# Financing



- Role for market and non-market financing
- Phased approach
  1. Self-financed actions
  2. Actions eligible for capacity building, technical assistance, financial support
  3. Actions eligible for market-based approaches

# Market Finance



- Must ensure reductions are additional and that reversals are accounted for
- Development of standards, modalities and procedures can be informed by demonstration activities

# Measurement, Reporting, Verification (MRV)



- Critical to future framework
  - Non-market
    - Relationship to broader MRV for national actions
  - Market
    - higher level of MRV needed for market-based eligibility
    - will require rigorous standards to ensure results are real and permanent

# Reference Levels



- best starting point for creating reference levels is the use of historic data
- Adjusted over time
- difficult to accurately predict long-term future deforestation rates

# Economic, Environmental, Social Impacts



- *Local/Indigenous communities*
- *Biodiversity*
- *Other ecosystem services*
  
- Countries have existing commitments under other international agreements related to forests and/or other land uses and associated “co-benefits”
  - national REDD-plus actions should be consistent with those commitments
  
- broad stakeholder participation and taking into account the needs and interests of local communities will allow for effective implementation and enduring results



# **Addressing Drivers of Deforestation/Degradation**



- All Parties should find appropriate ways to reduce pressure on forests
- need to consider the dynamic links between population growth and the demands for food, fiber, and fuel that drive land use decisions
- If we fail to do so, pressures to expand the agricultural frontier, cut down forests for timber and other forest products, and other rational economic decisions, will only increase over time



**Thank you**