Item 9 Policy Work, 51<sup>st</sup> CRF (27 Nov -2 Dec 2017, Lima, Peru)

## International Conference on Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems:

Managing a Vital Resource for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement 18-21 April 2017, Bali, Indonesia

# Main outcomes and Bali Action

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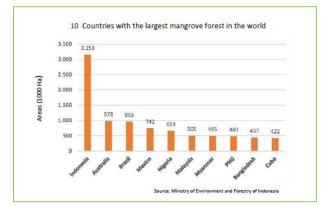


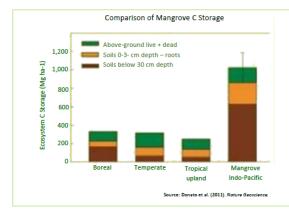




# Way Mangroves Matter?

- Mangroves are among the Earth's most productive ecosystems. When sustainably managed, mangrove ecosystems can support the livelihoods of millions of costal people; storing globally significant quantities of carbon; and reducing the vulnerability of coastal regions to storm surges.
- Mangrove ecosystems are under threat, however, with up to 50% of the world's mangroves lost in the last 40 years. At least one-quarter of surviving mangroves are degraded.









## **International Conference on Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems**

- Aim: promote the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of mangroves in the tropics to support the achievement of UN SDGs and the Paris Agreement
- **Organized by**: ITTO, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia and the International Society of Mangrove Ecosystems
- Attended by: nearly 300 from 25 countries, representing governments, regional and international development partners, civil-society organizations and private sector

#### Theme 1: Promoting the sustainable management of mangrove forests and ecosystems

- Main drivers of mangrove loss are aquaculture, agriculture (rice and oil palm cultivation in SE Asia), urbanization and industrialization; degradation due to illegal logging, over harvesting and poor management; conflicts from unclear land tenure and user rights
- Need for national mangrove strategies, policies and legal framework; zoning of mangrove land for conservation, production and conversion; integrated costal management systems; social forestry
  - Requires appropriate site-specific silvicultural systems suited to mangrove forests
    - Malaysia's Matang mangroves (40,000 ha) has been managed since 1904 with management plans for sustainable timber production and biodiversity conservation
    - FSC-certified mangroves in Indonesia's west Papua has shown sustainability under a 30-year rotation

## Theme 2:

## Addressing climate-change adaptation and mitigation

Mangrove forests are among the most carbon-rich ecosystems; allocate more carbon in soils and dead woods than above ground; the peak productivity is at around ten years of age in plantations; young trees are more resilient to CC and less vulnerable to insects and dieses

 Mangrove ecosystems can play significant roles in nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement, including measures to reduce GHG emissions and actions to adapt to CC.

 The measurement of carbon fluxes must be underpinned by science, requiring further research for credibility of reporting

 Global efforts to conserve and restore mangrove ecosystems through international financing mechanisms and initiatives such as the Blue Carbon Initiative

# Theme 3: Sustainable livelihoods for mangrove-dependent communities

Income for coastal communities for mangrove protection is critical; adequate financial incentives for alternative livelihoods

Community-based forest management can succeed when there is clarity on tenure; responsibilities of each party are well-defined

Mangroves are important for women for their livelihood and as sources of food, medicines and drinking water as sacred sites

Women need to be empowered by building their capacities, increasing their access to funding, and removing legal and policy hurdles

## Theme 4: Restoration of degraded mangrove forests and ecosystems

- Mangrove rehabilitation and conservation should be science-based and not quota- or budget-driven; success should be rated by the area restores rather than the number of seedlings planted
  - Mangrove restoration requires ecological and hydrological assessment of plantation sites and implementation of appropriate plantation techniques
    - The reversion of abandoned shrimp ponds in mangroves should be prioritized and incentives are needed; the concept of "silvo-fishery ponds has been promoted in Banten Bay, Indonesia
  - Local knowledge should be used to enhance the effectiveness of new innovative techniques for restoring mangroves areas; participation of youth and school children in restoration for education

## Theme 5: Strengthening good governance, law enforcement and monitoring systems

Managing mangrove ecosystems needs strong governance with clear objectives

- The relevant government agencies and stakeholders should work together to establish sound policies and laws
  - Law enforcement must be conducted consistently and equitably to create a deterrent effect
  - Audits should be undertaken to assess their effectiveness and make recommendations for improvements to be incorporated in management plans
- Requires integrated multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approaches

# Bali Call to Action for Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems

- 1. Prioritizing the conservation and sustainable management and use of mangrove ecosystems in national policies and laws; strengthening law enforcement to reduce the continuing loss and degradation of mangroves
- Promoting sound land-use planning, clarifying land tenure and user rights for communities to ensure the effective involvement and empowerment of local communities, including women
- 3. Promoting effective mangrove restoration through science-based decision-making and long-term management and monitoring

4. Facilitating access to international financing mechanisms as well as national public and private-sector sources to scale-up mangrove-based climate change mitigation and adaption

5. Generating and disseminating knowledge on causes of mangrove ecosystems change, reporting on the status of mangrove management worldwide, raising awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems to the UN SDGs and the Paris Agreement

# Thank you



2017 Mangrove Conference website: http://www.itto.int/mangrove2017/