REDD+ Governance in Papua New Guinea

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Introduction

- Background on REDD+
- Research Question
- Analytical Framework
- Politics of Scale Analysis of REDD+ in PNG

What is REDD+?

- 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation'
- Market based mitigation measure that pays developing countries to reduce emissions from deforestation
- Promoted as effective and cost efficient solution to climate change

History of REDD+

April-REDD+ PNG chosen **OCCES** REDD+ Salumei replaced accepted as pilot proposed pilot with to country for by project UNFCCC UNFCCC OCCD **UN-REDD** initiated 2008 2007 2009 2010 2005 Bali **OCCES** McKinsey Reports Climate established & Co draft of Talks in PNG 'carbon national cowboys' REDD+ policies

Research Question

• From a politics of scale perspective, what inequalities are produced by the current governance system of REDD+ in Papua New Guinea?

Politics of Scale

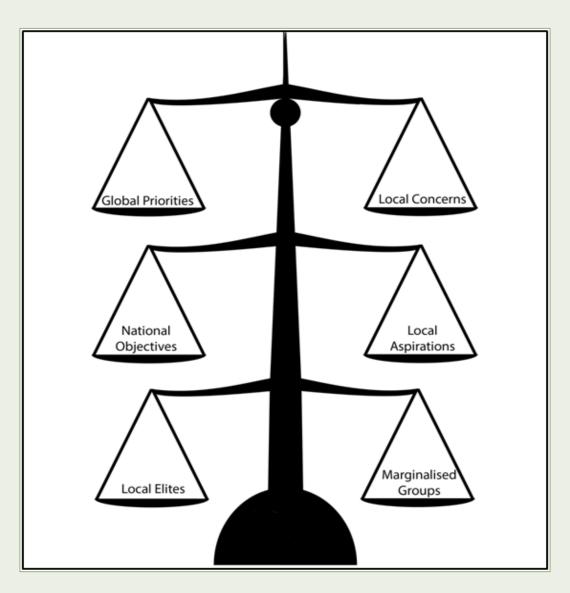
- Scale seen as socially and politically constructed
- Response to globalisation, growing networks of global governance, new transnational threats
- Challenges traditional hierarchy between the global, national and local scales



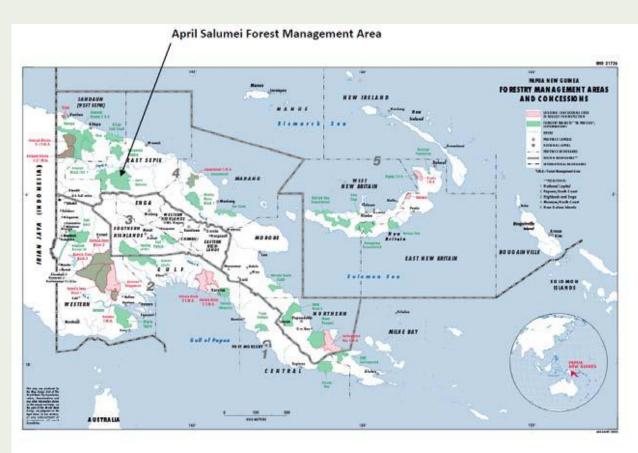
National

Local

Politics of Scale Framework



April-Salumei Case Study



- Initiated in 2009
- 521,000ha in the East Sepik Province
- FMA established in 1996 for logging
- Population of 20,000
- 163 Incorporated Land Groups

Global Priorities vs. Local Concerns

Local voices excluded from negotiations

Global Priorities

- Global emissions reductions
- Validation and certification to commodify carbon

Local Concerns

- Land and carbon tenure
- Livelihoods: subsistence agriculture, cultural practices

Global managerial priorities dominate REDD+ program

National Objectives vs. Local Aspirations

Limited opportunity for local participation in policy process

National Objectives

- Economic growth: project revenue, increased investment, reduced spending
- National conservation goals

Local Aspirations

- Burden placed on communities
- Danger of no financial or service additionality

National
agencies and
policies
govern
development
of REDD+

Local Elites vs. Marginalised Groups

Global and national governance overshadow local inequalities

Local Elites

• Current benefit distribution system susceptible to elite capture

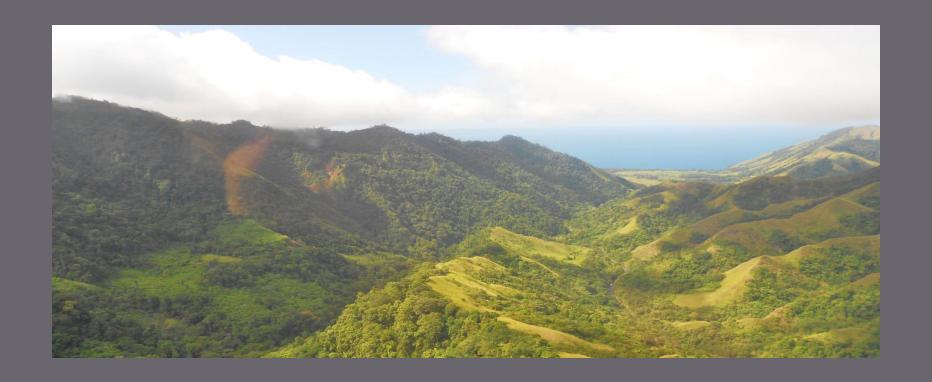
Marginalised Groups

• Uncertainties over land and carbon tenure can produce inequalities

Risk of elite capture of benefits at the local scale

Conclusion

- REDD+ presents an important development opportunity for PNG
- An integrated approach to the governance of REDD+ needs to be developed
- Global priorities, national objectives and local concerns must be balanced
- Communities should be enabled to meaningfully participate in decision making



"For the developed countries it is carbon, but for us it is life. Forest is life and so REDD should be seen from how the indigenous people and how the local communities will be affected because most of their life is dependent on that."

- Customary Landowner