



Expert Workshop on Financial and Institutional Innovation for Reducing the Risks of Private Sector Investments in Sustainable Forestry

Solsona, Spain, 21-22 April 2016

Workshop Information Note

Context

In the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) led initiative on “Financial and institutional risk mitigation and management strategies” (see attached [concept note](#)) a two-day Expert Workshop is being organized by FAO in collaboration with the Forest Sciences Center of Catalonia (CTFC)¹ and other development partners. Key stakeholders from various fields including impact finance, private banks, insurance, development banks, forest and landscape enterprises, etc. will have the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences on existing and future potential financial and institutional approaches to mitigate and manage risks to promote investments in the forest sector.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are:

- i. Presenting, benchmarking and analyzing the existing financial and institutional risk mitigation and management strategies.
- ii. Specifying (or stating, clarifying) risk categories and analyzing potential gaps with the above risk mitigation and management strategies.
- iii. Defining recommendations based on lessons learned on how to innovate for financial and institutional risk mitigation and management strategies.
- iv. Launching the process of designing policy and technical guidance on how to effectively establish risk mitigation and management strategies- including developing an outline of the publication on this subject.

The gathering of experts will also provide an opportunity to establish a community of practice for long-term knowledge and experience sharing on this topic, and to promote synergies for collaboration.

Participants

Invited experts and policy makers familiar with forestry investments including financial and institutional risk mitigation and management strategies. This includes representatives from development cooperation agencies (e.g. GIZ, AFD/FFEM, USAID), regional development banks (e.g. CAF, AsDB, AfDB), multilateral organizations (e.g. World Bank PROFOR, MIGA, FAO Forest and Farm Facility), research institutions (e.g. CIFOR, EFI), forest and landscape (e.g. TIMOs, ForestFinance, EcoPlanet Bamboo, etc.), private banks (e.g. Credit Suisse, BNP Paribas, insurance and reinsurance

¹ www.ctfc.cat



companies (e.g. Munich Re, Swiss Re), private impact funds (e.g. Arbaro Fund, Althelia Climate Fund, Moringa Fund), etc.

Expected contributions from participants

In addition to actively contributing to the discussions of the workshop under various themes, participants are also encouraged to present/share existing as well as potential financial and institutional risk mitigation/management tools and mechanisms from their experiences. In order to include their contribution/input in the workshop programme, the participants are requested to fill in the attached Participant Contribution Form. A template for presentations will be provided before the workshop.

Proposed themes

Key themes to be discussed include:

- **Sharing good practices of existing financial and institutional risk mitigation strategies:** which case studies and lessons to be shared and learned?
- **Improving risk mitigation strategies:** identifying gaps and defining innovation needs?
- **Establishing and strengthening partnerships and alliances for effective risk mitigation strategies:** opportunities and challenges?
- **Building a roadmap for an effective community of practice:** towards dissemination and implementation of identified financial and institutional risk mitigation approaches.

A precise agenda will be shared with the participants prior to the workshop.

Expected products

The workshop is expected to result in a series of products that will form the basis for further work, in particular:

- An inventory of good practices, case studies and related lessons learned;
- A list of gaps and innovation opportunities to be further assessed;
- A draft outline of a technical and policy guidance document (or guidelines) on financial and institutional risk mitigation strategies;
- A draft work plan for the community of practice on risk mitigation strategies.

Workshop venue

Forest Sciences Center of Catalonia (CTFC), Crta. de Sant Llorenç de Morunys, Km.2, 25280 Solsona, Lleida, Spain

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