

Workshop on Agriculture & Land Use (ALU) data management alternatives for promoting and monitoring sustainable agriculture and bio-carbon intensification on African landscapes

Time: 2011, March 28th 8:30 to 16:30, coffee & lunch to be provided

Venue: Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies (JHU/SAIS), Room 500
Bernstein Offit Building 1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. (Dupont Circle Area) Washington, D.C. 20036

WORKSHOP BACKGROUND: With both the UNFCCC reporting requirements and AFOLU/GHG accounting opportunities of African countries in mind, interested parties (development agencies, landscape carbon developers & ADP/remote sensing information systems providers) are seeking to rebuild, revitalize and update Agricultural and Land Use (ALU) data bases. In addition to improving agricultural productivity, more accurately accessible ALU data streamlines measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems for agricultural, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) GHG offset accreditation, registration & sale, thus, contributing towards much needed private sector revenues (from these offsets sales) at both a local and national level.

WORKSHOP RATIONALE: Unfortunately, these worthy ALU data management initiatives are being launched too independently from each other. Specifically, with USAID assistance, USEPA & USDA's Forest Service are recalibrating US Gov NASA LANDSAT archives to this end without full co-ordination, at the country level, with how FAO (cf. GTOS), UNEP (Arendal), and WMO (cf. ACMAD/AGRHYMET) affiliated partners are trying to do the same thing in some of the same countries and regions. Meanwhile, more recent, private sector, remote sensing & ALU modelling offerings (e.g. Microsoft BING) and their accompanying software (e.g. ESRI, PROGIS), are also seeking closure over the requisite spatial data infrastructure. And at the farm and natural resource conservation management level, farming and carbon storing landscape managers are receiving increasingly helpful management and precision agriculture GIS services (e.g. PROGIS) and AFOLU carbon analytics support (e.g. Terra Global Capital). These providers and ultimate users of the above cited data bases, also need to be heard as the architecture for ALU data retrieval and archiving is developed.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE: Before these timely initiatives get too far away from each other, we are hoping that representatives of each can sit in the same room for a day and share their outlook with the other parties. Recommendations for greater consultation and co-ordination should then be forthcoming from the workshop participants.

Provisional AGENDA (most participants listed below are invited but, in several cases, not formally confirmed)

8:30 AM: Introductory Coffee & Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM: Introductory Panel

MODERATOR: David Jhirad, Chairman, Energy Resources & Environment (ERE) Department, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)

Welcome: Margel Hight, Associate Director, ERE

Workshop Organization, John Lewis, Terra Global Capital, LLC

Workshop Objectives, Walter Mayer, CEO, PROGIS Software GmbH

GIS at Johns Hopkins University, Sayeed Choudhury, Associate Dean of Library Digital Programs

9:30 ALU Data Requirements,

1) the US Gov perspective

MODERATOR: Tom Wirth, USEPA & Zac Anderek, ICF

USAID objectives: Carrie Stokes, EGAT/NRM, John Furlow, EGAT/Climate Team, Eric Notman

USDA Forest Monitoring: TBD

NASA/SBIR planning: TBD

The White House: Peter Colohan OSTP, Sherry Abbott OSTP

2) the European perspective

MODERATOR: U. Sabel Koschella, GTZ

EU, Development Directory, TBD

GEO, TBD

3) the African perspective

MODERATOR: Moffat Ngugi, AFR-SD.ORG

African Union, N. Merah

African Development Bank, N. Moyo

Islamic Development Bank, Walid Abdelwahab, Sohail Malik

11:00-11:30 AM: Coffee Break

4) UN Perspectives

MODERATOR: Elly Baroudy, World Bank Bio-Carbon Fund

UNEP/Arendal: TBD

UNIDO, P. Scholtes

FAO/GFAR/GTOS, A. Maru

5) non-profit perspectives

MODERATOR: WRI, Fred Stolle

FEWS legacies: Chuck Chopac, DAI

Disaster Management: World Vision, TBD

CGIAR expert systems, TBD

US University applications: Susan Ustin, UC Davis

Jim Baker, Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI), WJ Clinton Foundation

12:30 – 13:30 PM: Lunch

13:30 - 15:00: Private Sector Perspectives and Farmer support applications

MODERATOR: Fujitsu: H. Fesenbeckh

The African BING Ortho-image project, W. Walcher, Microsoft

Rabo Bank: TBD

Integrated agro-forest-environment management: W. Mayer, PROGIS

AWHERE: John Corbett

Carbon Analytics: Terra Global Capital, TBD

15:00 -15:30 PM: Tea Break

15:30-16:30 Questions, Answers, Conclusions, Closure

MODERATOR: John Lewis, Terra Global Capital

DISCUSSANTS:

Ben Zaitchil, Dept. Of Earth & Planetary Sciences, JHU

Bill Breed, USAID/EGAT, Head, Climate Change Team

Ken Andrasko, World Bank, FCPF

EU, Dir. Dev.; TBD

JHU/SAIS/ERE