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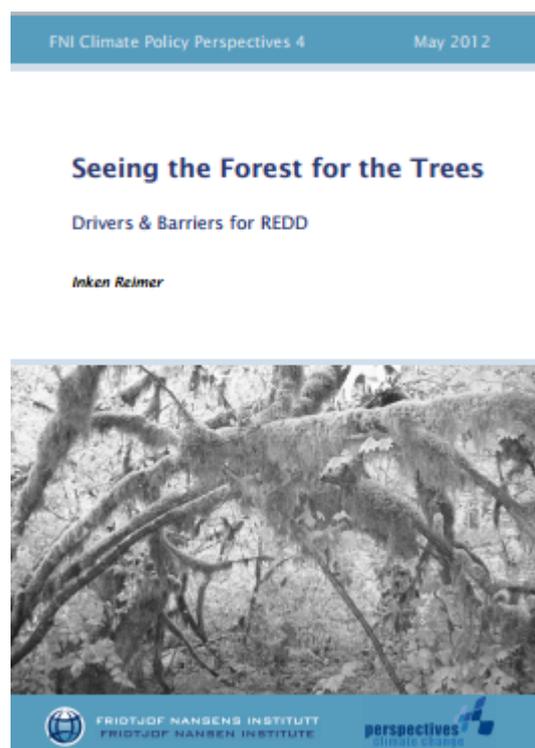
Seeing the Forest for the Trees Drivers & Barriers for REDD

Resource
May 2012

Themes

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Summary

REDD is a very complex mechanism, involving considerable potential but also numerous uncertainties. As financing for REDD is an essential prerequisite for the mechanism to survive, donor countries play an important role. Norway in particular has become a prominent actor as regards REDD.

The survival of REDD and its long-term effectiveness will depend on upscaled financing. Also alternative sources of financing, such as fossil fuel subsidies, have been suggested. Such options could be further explored by Norway, to boost incentive structures for financial commitments. The scenarios presently briefly here have envisaged various future paths for REDD. An international agreement with binding GHG emission reduction targets is needed to create demand for REDD. Ultimately, REDD cannot become credible unless it proves capable of delivering GHG emission reductions - which in turn is a challenge as such reductions occur only at the end of the long process.

The current REDD Readiness Phase is delivering mainly capacity-building activities. Concerted and coordinated efforts, amongst the donor countries in particular, are needed to start delivering emission reductions. Clear rules, environmental and social standards as well as an authority to monitor their implementation are essential to this endeavour.

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Reimer, Inken

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