

Indigenous Knowledge in Governance of REDD+ for Climate Change Mitigation in Tanzania: Opportunities and Challenges

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ABSTRACT Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) governance is a climate change mitigation measure with opportunities and challenges. A case is made for development of a hybrid environmental ethics in Tanzania, based on indigenous knowledge and other knowledge systems. There is impressive progress made in the establishment of structures at the national and district levels with build-up of a complex system that presents considerable challenges as well as opportunities. There is an opportunity to involve indigenous communities, increase financial streams and improve on existing systems. Improvements to the REDD+ framework should be robust in addressing the diverse emerging issues and the wide range of stakeholders and interest groups and must be put within the broader context of Tanzania's priorities of livelihood improvement and poverty alleviation. Proper mapping of indigenous communities, research and capacity building programmes should be undertaken.