

A Darker Shade of Green – New GJEP/GFC Video on REDD Released

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New Video Reveals Global Resistance to Forest-Carbon Projects and Documents Critical Perspectives on REDD

A Darker Shade of Green: REDD Alert and the Future of Forests

(Instructions for requesting a DVD of the new REDD video, which includes two bonus features, can be found [here](#).)

A Global Forest Coalition and Global Justice Ecology Project have produced a new video entitled A Darker Shade of Green: REDD Alert and the Future of Forests. The twenty-eight minute video, launched today, documents opposition among Indigenous Peoples, forest-dependent communities and environmental justice groups around the globe, to controversial programs that claim to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) by putting forests into the carbon market.

As policies and programs to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) are promoted around the world by corporations and governments, Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent communities are raising the alarm that these programs will have serious negative impacts – and will not mitigate climate change.

Clayton Thomas-Muller of Indigenous Environmental Network, featured in the video, declares, “We can take care of our own lands, we don’t need agencies to do this for us. As Indigenous Peoples we want rights, and we don’t want REDD.”

Nnimmo Bassey, of Nigeria, Chair of Friends of the Earth International, also featured in the video, says, “The whole idea of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation is not about stopping deforestation. It’s industry driven, it’s driven by speculators who want to grab land in Africa, in Asia, in Latin America, and who don’t really want to change the mode of economy we’re living right now.”

REDD has been hotly contested since it was first introduced into the climate mitigation package at the United Nations climate talks in 2007. Every year since, REDD has been pushed by those who wish to use the world’s forests as carbon offsets and protested by Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent communities that face potential forced relocation if their forest homelands are “protected” under the REDD scheme. A Darker Shade of Green details the ideas behind REDD and the concerns being raised against it.

Following the UN Climate Conference in Durban, South Africa last month, global REDD projects are coming under even greater scrutiny. Simone Lovera, Director of Global Forest Coalition, said, “The outcomes of the Durban Conference in the field of REDD are generally seen as a major step backwards. The already unacceptably weak and non-binding social and environmental safeguards that were adopted previously were further undermined, and the vague guidance for reporting emission reductions allows cheating and exaggerations.”

Subnational REDD programs such as the agreement between California, USA, Chiapas, Mexico, and Acre, Brazil – featured in the new video – are still set to move forward, though with carbon markets collapsing, grassroots resistance

growing, and global climate agreements in deep-freeze, legislators may be hard-pressed to provide concrete footings for the complicated agreement.

A Darker Shade of Green: REDD Alert and the Future of Forests, produced in English and Spanish, features interviews and testimonies from Mexico, Brazil, Panama, Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal, Uganda, India, and California. The DVD version of the video contains two additional bonus films on REDD: Amador Hernandez: Starved for Medical Services by Global Justice Ecology Project and REDD: A Greed for Trees by the Chiapas-based NGO Otros Mundos.Â Information on requesting this DVD can be found [here](#).

The video was made possible with support from Artists Project Earth UK, Carbon Trade Watch, Green Valley Media, Hiroshi Kanno, Isvara Foundation, Lawson Valentine Foundation, Lush Cosmetics Company,Â and New Visions Foundation.

A three-minute trailer is also available for viewing in English and Spanish by clicking [here](#)

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