

**2<sup>nd</sup> Asia REDD+ Working Group (ARWG) Meeting**  
**February 7-9, 2012**  
**Kathmandu, Nepal**

The second meeting of the ARWG seeks to build long-term partnerships between community-oriented forest carbon project developers as well as with resource persons engaged in the development of resource rights frameworks for REDD+, standards and certification systems supportive of forest dependent communities and diverse environmental services, user-friendly social and environmental service measurement methodologies, and appropriate investment platforms for community-based REDD+/PES credits. This year the meeting will be held at the Himalaya Hotel in Kathmandu, Nepal from February 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>. Our meeting Nepali partners, Rupantaran and ICIMOD, are exploring the possibility of an optional field trip to a REDD site following the meeting. The second meeting of the ARWG will attempt to build on the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting agenda and priorities. Items for discussion during the meeting will include:

- Recent Learning from Early Project Development Experiences - 10 to 12 REDD/PES initiatives will be presented by project developers from South and Southeast Asian countries.
- Financing Community REDD Project Development - The Dryad Fund – A new global REDD/PES fund is being developed to support community-based environmental service and livelihood projects. This presentation will discuss the Fund mechanism, plans for financing the Fund, participation requirements, and timeframe for its operation.
- Accessing Private Voluntary Carbon Markets – an expert presentation on buyer certification preferences, current carbon prices, markets for other environmental services, and active and potential buyers and contracting arrangements
- Regionalizing Standards, Verification, Certification, and Marketing Systems – An over-reliance on North American and European forest carbon certification and verification systems was identified by ARWG members as a constraint for small, community-based REDD/PES projects. ARWG members will discuss how to establish localized MRV and market systems in South and Southeast Asia to support the growing number of REDD projects. Discussions will include identifying regionally relevant standards and how they might vary between nations, key MRV roles and functions, potential institutional actors and technical support organizations, regional community PES branding, and the development of regional private voluntary markets.

Participants: Meeting participants will be limited to 30 to 35 individuals involved in the development of community-based REDD/PES projects drawn from civil society organizations including NGOs, CF Federations, support organizations, and certification and market specialists.

Orientation: The meeting **is** designed for an informal exchange between individuals engaged in developing community-REDD/PES projects that generate multiple environmental and socio-economic benefits. The meeting **will not** examine national REDD policies or carbon centric project methodologies and certification processes. The ARWG attempts to support the development of a close association and long term exchange between project developers who seek to discuss common challenges and find innovative solutions to community REDD/PES project development.