



Turning forests into fuel for the new ‘bio-economy?’ What really happens when forests are commodified - Voices from around the world

A video repository

<http://globalforestcoalition.org/media/gfc-videos/web-based-video-repository>

Summary

Forests, their biodiversity, and their inhabitants are under attack as never before. In addition to existing problems with respect to the commodification of forests, such as illegal logging and the clearing of forests to grow food crops for export, a variety of new policies threaten to escalate this situation dramatically.

Increasing demand for biofuels is already leading to escalating pressure for land to grow crops, including quick-growing tree plantations. In addition, the development of a new industrial strategy in numerous countries — known as the ‘bio-economy’ — will exacerbate this situation dramatically. This approach focuses on replacing fossil fuels with biomass, both as an energy source and to provide the raw materials for a new phase of industrialisation. It could also facilitate the release of genetically engineered trees with dire consequences for forests.

In addition, governments’ ‘green economy’ approach to resolving deforestation and other environmental problems is also exacerbating the commodification of forests, because it is based on the use of uncertain and complex market mechanisms, with a view to drawing private investment in, seemingly without regard for the consequences.

A key policy that impacts on forests is REDD – Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation — which is explicitly premised on increasing the value of standing trees. But as the value goes up, so does competition for those forests, leading to more and more land being grabbed from people living in or dependent upon them. Furthermore, since REDD policies mistakenly equate diverse and ancient forests with quick-growing and otherwise barren monoculture plantations, REDD still permits the destruction of forests and their replacement with plantations.

The current corporate-friendly neo-liberal approach aims to find alternatives to fossil fuels and climate change mitigation, without addressing the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation, including overconsumption. Companies in the Global North are being guaranteed a suitable policy environment in which they can continue to generate profit, even though this will be at the expense of peoples in the Global South, the very same people who have been custodians and have safeguarded these precious ecosystems for centuries.

The Global Forest Coalition (GFC) has compiled this video repository because collectively, these videos — made by numerous different organisations and communities — tell a powerful story about the way in which the same problems are being encountered and challenged across the continents. The commodification of forests is driving land grabbing, forest loss, the expansion of tree plantations, fraud, corruption, the violation of human rights and more...

From Brazil to Australia testimonies from different stakeholders show the very real cases of people and communities impacted by this dynamic. In addition, the videos show how the current approach to climate change is increasing the pressure on forests and forest peoples, and why the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change’s proposed ‘solutions’ to climate change are not real solutions.

Note: The videos collected have been gathered through different online sources available, and have been produced and directed by a wide range of groups and communities. They do not necessarily express the views and opinions of GFC.



Exporting commodities - timber and agrofuels

The Dark Side of Green

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=0zVfZbSqWms

Brazil's ethanol boom is driving a massive expansion of the country's sugar cane plantations. ETH Biofuels in Mato Grosso do Sul, for example, currently has 170,000ha but plans to expand production to close to 1,000,000ha. But this expansion comes at an extraordinarily harsh price for many: 40,000 Guarani Kaiowá Indigenous people have been expelled from their state recognised lands, and are now obliged to live in less than 1% of their original territory. Community members protest that the invasion of sugarcane and associated machinery and pesticides has ruined their lives. The environmental impacts include the polluting of water resources and destruction of the biodiversity that people depend upon. Children have been dying of malnutrition and the Guarani are forced to depend on food aid for survival. Displaced people are now camped in shacks along the sides of roads and, having lost their territories and livelihoods, provide cheap labor for the sugar cane producers. But the sugar cane cutters themselves endure appalling working conditions. Government officials may have rescued Indigenous People working in slave-like conditions, but multinational enterprises and the government continue to promote ethanol to the rest of the world as an environmentally friendly and 'clean' fuel. The Guarani are intent on claiming at least part of their land back.

*An Baccaert, Nico Muñoz & Cristiano Navarro.
FIAN Belgium. 2011.*

Jatropha Investment and Rural Land Alienation in Ghana

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8n3HOjzhBkc>

The economy of Ghana experienced a boom in the acquisition of land for jatropha production between 2005 and 2010. The seeds of *Jatropha curcus* are used as feedstock for biodiesel production, and the plant has long been known as the 'tree of light' in Ghana. Ghana's government has strongly promoted foreign investment in jatropha, anticipating win-win situations for communities, investors and the government. An extensive amount was bought by one single company, Biofuel Africa Ltd. who acquired over 45,000ha of land in the northern region. People were initially enthusiastic as they thought it might help with youth unemployment, but problems soon arose, as detailed in this video. Conflicts between land users and the jatropha company escalated as most of the areas given over to jatropha cultivation were previously cultivated. Former dwellers lost their land and were asked to relocate. Affected farmers from the Nkoranza district had not even been informed, but their crops and surrounding trees were still destroyed by bulldozers. The company eventually agreed to pay some compensation for these hardships, but some people received very little and others nothing at all. The transition to jatropha production has had devastating effects which were exacerbated because the company suddenly stopped its operations and the land was left unworked, and former workers weren't paid.

Produced by Both Ends, Horn of Africa, Africad, University of Science and Technology, 2012.

Exploitation by Afforestation: The GSFF in Mozambique

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5Nvbm8j3jA>

A huge expansion in the area of exotic monoculture tree plantations in Mozambique has impacted negatively on local communities, as biodiversity and water resources have been depleted. Foreign investors are grabbing lands for plantations. This has serious implications in a country where 80% of the people are small scale farmers who rely on their mashambas (plots) and local biodiversity for food and other resources. A visit to northern Mozambique discovered projects initiated and funded by the Lutheran Church of Sweden and Norway, through the Global Solidarity Forest Fund (GSFF), which contain tens of thousands of gum tree plantations. GSFF is also supported by a Dutch pensions fund (ABP), and runs four projects: Chikweti and Messangulo in Niassa province, and Tektona and Ntacula in Zambezia province. These have transformed fertile farmlands and indigenous forests into industrial monocultures and have compromised social and environmental stability. In the beginning people accepted the plantations because they promised jobs that would last for fifty years, but after three years very few still have jobs and many are paid under the minimum legal wage. Even worse, to try and gain employment the people report having to pay with money, chickens and goats, to even be considered.

Video by GeaSphere and ACOSADE. Isabel Jakob. 2011.

Illegal logging: African Stories

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rxi4wvN4yzU&feature=player_embedded

Illegally logged timber is still traded abundantly on the European market. In these testimonials, people from Liberia and Cameroon tell us about the impact illegal logging has on their daily lives. Companies come making false promises, but leave communities with degraded forests, polluted streams, and more. In the village of Dea, for example, timber company SIM, which exports to the EU and China, illegally harvested trees inside the forest and destroyed agricultural land. Not only has the exploitation failed to benefit them, forest-dependent peoples find they are no longer able to hunt, fish or look for honey. In Bedjone, people can no longer access the sacred Moabi tree, used for food and oil, and the authorities that are so helpful to the companies threaten the farmers. Similarly, in Gargar town in Liberia companies promised to build roads, houses, bridges, schools, and clinics, and to give people cars, but nothing ever happened. Activists in this video ask buyers to beware of illegal timber imports. The European Union can combat the trade in illegally logged timber, by laying down a strong FLEGT-Law (Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade).

Produced by Africa Interactive commissioned by Milieufensie, FoE Netherlands. 2009.

West Papua's Indigenous People Hurt by Indonesia's Resource Extraction

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/video/2012/may/17/west-papua-indigenous-people-indonesia-video>

Ancestral lands of the Mooi people of New Guinea are suffering from aggressive clearing of forests by timber and oil palm companies. Images from the Malalis Village, Solong Regency, show massive devastation, leaving local peoples without any options. They feel powerless and fear for their survival. Nickel mining has also had huge impacts on marine resources, and the migration of Indonesians to West Papua has triggered prostitution and high AIDS rates. Indigenous Papuans are reduced to a minority. In spite of a ban on foreign journalists in West Papua, there is growing international understanding about the situation. But how likely is Indonesia to back down? Will the international community confront it about an issue that has been largely forgotten by the world?

Video by Guardian UK.

James Morgan and Johnny Lagenheim. 2012.

Soy Farming and Land Grabbing in the Brazilian Amazon

<http://www.thewaterchannel.tv/en/videos/categories/viewvideo/1389/food-security/soy-farming-and-land-grab-in-the-brazilian-amazon>

Large-scale soy monoculture is expanding rapidly in Latin America. Boosted by investment from multinational corporations, it has moved well beyond the southern states and is spreading into the Amazon area, where land is much cheaper and very fertile. The development of GM soya makes this viable. In this interview, Dr. Sergio Sauer (National Rapporteur for Human Rights in Land, Territory and Food, Brazil) explains the development of this 'phenomenon' in Brazil and explains why soy monocultures are bad for local food security, and how this model boosts deforestation, exacerbates environmental degradation and promotes land grabbing by elites. A large number of cases have been reported in which agri-businesses, large farmers and government have struck dubious land deals which take land, livelihoods and food security away from the poor.

Produced by TheWaterChannel. 2012.

A Silent Forest: the Growing Threat of Genetically Engineered Trees

(Spanish and Chinese subtitles)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w437uQf_A7c

This video documentary exposes the threats posed by the introduction of genetically engineered trees (GE trees) into our environment. The film breaks down complex scientific concepts while detailing the dangerous impacts GE trees will have on human health, native forests, indigenous peoples, and wildlife. It is narrated by Dr. David Suzuki, an award winning scientist and environmentalist.

Directed and edited by Ed Schehl supported by Sierra Club, Three Americas Inc, World Rainforest Movement and Global Justice Ecology Project. 2011.

Gambella Snapshot: US Aid to Ethiopia Supports Forced Relocations for Land Grabs

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBOImmMWUGI&feature=youtu.be>

Ethiopia has a history of chronic food insecurity and poverty, but is negotiating long-term leases of its most productive agricultural lands for food and agrofuel production by foreign investors such as Indian company Karuturi Agroproducts PLC, and Saudi Arabian company Saudi Star. The government is forcibly relocating 70,000 people from the Gambella region, to make fertile land available for foreign investment in agriculture, thereby aggravating current hunger while laying the groundwork for future famine in Ethiopia. People are losing their livelihoods and are being forced to move out to areas where they cannot readily feed themselves. The video also details the quantity of land given over to foreign companies, and other relevant facts.

Oakland Institute. 2012.

Mozambique: la jatrofa se come el país

(In Portuguese with Spanish subtitles)

Mozambique: Jatropha is swallowing the country

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxxhvDLiCDs>

A video from Veterinarios Sin Fronteras's 'Stop, people live here' food sovereignty campaign. In 2007 more than five million hectares – more than the area of agricultural land in the Spanish state of Andalucía - were given over to domestic and foreign companies in Mozambique. What for? In most cases for planting jatropha, a plant used for biofuel production (in this case the 'biodiesel' found in many petrol stations). Find out more about this situation in this one minute video.

<http://www.aquivivegente.org>. 2011.

Indonesians Don't Want Palm Plantations

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRPDA-5gcXo&feature=player_embedded

Indonesia's forests are home to thousands of species including orangutans, but the world's increasing demand for palm oil is leading to their destruction. Indonesian palm oil is very cheap and is used as an ingredient for a wide range of products including margarine, soaps and detergent. After the EU decided that transport fuel should contain an increasing amount of biofuel, palm oil prices soared, making it an even more lucrative business. But local communities are losing the forest that shelters and feeds them, all that is left is oil palm. In addition, clearing the forests result in the liberation of significant amounts of greenhouse gases, from slash and burn practices and because the forest soils quickly dry out once the trees are gone. Indigenous peoples and local communities demand that their forests are protected!

Director Inge Altemeir, in collaboration with Friends of the Earth International and WALHI. FoE Indonesia. 2007.



Carbon: schemes, scams and cowboys

Not for Sale: the Fantasy of Carbon Offsetting (Indonesia)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4uvl7s5MXM&feature=plcp

This video starts with a simple explanation of the political development of carbon offsets and REDD. It then considers REDD in Indonesia in more detail. In 2007 for example, the Kalimantan Forest Carbon Partnership (KFCP) was launched, in cooperation with the governments of Indonesia and Australia, and under the control of the Australia-Indonesia Forest Carbon Partnership (AIFCP). Another 750,000ha pilot project, Ulu Masen is being developed in Aceh by the local government and Flora and Fauna International (FFI). Forests play an important role for local communities, who have mastered the strategy of forest management and stewardship over the centuries, and any new initiative should actively involve them. They should be well informed about REDD, but it is clear that few people have heard of it. District level officials also complain that they have not been invited to consultations. Participants testify that it is difficult to regard REDD as a solution to climate change as industrialised and developed countries continue to pollute, failing to solve the main causes of climate change, whilst potentially creating conflict and poverty in countries hosting REDD projects. But the Ministry of Forest and Agriculture still keeps on saying REDD is good.

Produced by Teguh Surya supported by Friends of the Earth International, WALHI-FoE Indonesia, Bingkai Indonesia. 2011.

REDD Watch: Indigenous Perspectives on the REDD Mechanism

www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8cmc4bFvug

This video collects Indigenous People's perspectives on REDD, in some of the so-called 'REDD countries' where the projects are being implemented: the Philippines, India, Vietnam, Thailand, and Indonesia. Indigenous peoples are greatly concerned about the impact that REDD will have on their traditional practices and on their territories, especially those wrongly labelled as being 'degraded' by others. Concerns are also expressed about who will actually benefit from these projects, corruption, lack of consultation, the fact that corporations establishing plantations are likely to be prioritised over indigenous peoples, and reports of 'carbon cowboys' visiting communities, aiming to 'help' them sell their REDD carbon credits. Capitalist countries and corporations are most likely to benefit from REDD while the real causes of climate change remain unaddressed. It is necessary to inform people about this mechanism, to look for viable and sustainable alternatives, and to build policies strong enough to tackle the real problem while ensuring Indigenous People's rights.

Video Project by Asia Pacific Indigenous Youth Network & Land is Life. 2011.

Exposing REDD: the False Climate Solution

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=m8tXcA9JWoQ#

This video explains the basics of REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) and its links to California's cap and trade regulations that currently include a 'placeholder' to allow sub-national REDD carbon credits to enter into its cap and trade system. A Governor's Forests and Climate Task Force is working with several states/provinces – most notably Chiapas, Mexico and Acre, Brazil – to potentially supply California with REDD credits. Some NGOs are saying the California REDD project will become a model for implementing REDD internationally. IEN and other groups in California support California's greenhouse gas reduction goals, but REDD credits should not be accepted into California's carbon trade system. REDD credits lack environmental integrity; REDD projects pose high risks to Indigenous Peoples and forest dependent communities; and REDD offsets are risky in terms of fraud, land grabs, evictions and human rights abuses. Watch the video to get the real story of REDD, the deceptive climate 'solution' being proposed in California and being implemented within the UN climate negotiations and the World Bank.

Published by Indigenous Environmental Network. 2012.

A Darker Shade of Green

www.youtube.com/watch?v=FPFPUhsWMaQ

Un Verde Mas Oscuro: REDD y El Futuro de Los Bosques (Español)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwHn4_fsKyA&feature=relmfu

This 28-minute documentary introduces the many concerns about REDD from the perspective of the people who are most impacted, featuring interviews and testimonies from Mexico, Brazil, Panama, the Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal, Uganda, India and California. There are many concerns. Who owns the trees, and who stands to benefit? What is really being bought? Will REDD projects restrict indigenous livelihoods? Various interviews with experts and Indigenous Peoples, among others, note that corporate elites pushed for REDD at the UNFCCC COP16 while civil society, Indigenous Peoples included, demonstrated against this programme, which hands forest and forest communities over to the highest bidder. The video also examines the negative impacts being felt as a result of the 2010 agreement between Chiapas, Acre and California. It also considers the implications of forests being considered as carbon sinks and as a sustainable alternative to fossil fuels, which is ramping up the expansion of monoculture tree plantations, and furthering the development of genetically engineered trees.

Produced by Global Justice Ecology Project and Global Forest Coalition. 2011.

Lives of the Forest

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODXjW2956QU&feature=player_embedded

This video presents testimonies from Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia, Nepal, India, Thailand, Japan, Bangladesh and Cambodia. It was filmed in Hungduan, in the Philippines and shows the simple ways of lives of native peoples who have protected their forests for centuries because they are the source of all that they need for their livelihoods and traditional practices. Their governance systems dictate punishments for those who cause harm to the forests, although climate change is currently a bigger and ungovernable threat. Each of the people presenting testimonies describes their own case and their shared perspectives about the REDD mechanism. They feel Indigenous Peoples are not involved in the decision-making processes and there is no way to ensure it will work for Indigenous Peoples. They ask to forget REDD and listen to their voices: our forests are not for profit, NO REDD!

www.conversationearth.org, InsightShare, Gareth Benest & APIYN, Keidy Transfiguración. 2010.

Ugandan Villagers Evicted to Make Way for Forestry Company

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/video/2011/oct/06/uganda-international-land-deals?fb=native>

This is a classic example of land grabbing: 22,000 people were evicted in the Mubende and Kiboga districts in Uganda to make way for UK-based New Forests Company (NFC) to plant trees for carbon credits and to sell timber. Investors included the World Bank and HSBC, and the project was backed by the Forest Stewardship Council. In both districts land had previously been given to the people by the government, and they were not expecting any problems. But they were violently evicted, their houses were burned down and a boy who was sick at home was killed.

Report 'Land and Power: the growing scandal surrounding the new wave of investments in land' by Oxfam. Video by Guardian UK. Simon Rawles and Noah Payne-Frank. 2011.

REDD: la Codicia por los árboles / REDD: Greed for Trees (In Spanish with English subtitles)

www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=rblbjAfSe_c

REDD was proposed a few years ago as a compensation mechanism that would help fight climate change. During the Climate Summit in Cancun, 2010 (COP16), it was consolidated and pushed strongly by the Mexican government who presented a number of REDD "early actions". In this documentary different stakeholders give their opinions about REDD, and what it represents to Chiapas. Hereby, we present some comments that the mass media hides. Does REDD contribute to a real solution to climate change? What is the relation between the Lacandon gap? What makes it such an important subject?

Produced by Otros Mundos AC/Friends of the Earth-México. 2011. Supported by Friends of the Earth International, Siemenu Foundation and Global Justice Ecology Project.

The History of REDD: A Real Solution to Deforestation?

www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MJZmzOh4Po&feature=plcp

A short, accessible, animated examination of REDD. Many people live in or depend on forests but frequently don't have secure land or access rights. But forests are increasingly under pressure, especially in the Global South, where they are being destroyed to meet demand for food, timber and agrofuels in the Global North. This destruction displaces forest-dependent peoples and contributes to climate change. In addition, issues of land rights and corruption exacerbate the problem. Instead of tackling this problem head on, by dealing with the root causes of deforestation and climate change, the UN and the World Bank propose the selling of carbon credits through the proposed REDD mechanism. But this won't address the main causes of the problems. This video looks at how these schemes fail and considers alternative 'real solutions'.

Produced by FERN with the support of the Grundtvig Learning Partnership: "Can carbon trade save forests?". 2012.

The REDD Dream: Underlying Causes of Forest Degradation & Community Voices on REDD+ - Uganda

(and other Ugandan videos)

<http://youtu.be/tvwfNuCUJ5k>

In the Kalangala islands from Lake Victoria, people's lands and livelihoods have been lost to the extensive palm oil plantations of Bidco. The communities say they were never consulted on the project and now they have no place to go. In the Mabira Forest the government is planning to make way for sugar cane plantations. Likewise, the government is planning to remove Semliki forest pigmies who have lived traditionally off the forest territory, to open the way for REDD projects. The organisation NAPE warns that care needs to be taken to strengthen community participation and strengthen governance in the face of REDD projects.

A production of NAPE with support from Global Forest Coalition. 2011.

Pirakuma yawalapiti - Xingu Peoples Spokesperson (Brazil) - about Carbon Trading

www.youtube.com/watch?v=_JSM6gaM9CA&list=PL169E4C6A62CF95F6&index=2&feature=plpp_video

Indigenous leaders in Xingu Park, Alto Xingu, are being put under pressure to enter into programmes and projects that would ultimately become REDD projects. But they do not have all the information they need and it has not been explained to them that the suggested projects would allow polluters to continue to pollute via carbon credits. A powerful and eloquent explanation of the Indigenous perspective on the destruction of forests, carbon trading and greed, this should be a 'must watch' for policy makers.

Rebecca Sommer films, 2010.

The Carbon Hunters Brazil

<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/carbon-watch/2010/05/the-carbon-hunters.html>

Reporter Mike Shapiro goes on a journey to forests in Guaraqueçaba, Brazil — one of the most threatened eco-hot spots in the world — while investigating carbon credits. He wants to find out why people are so interested in buying something — carbon — that didn't exist as a tradeable commodity a few years ago. In Brazil, he finds that three major American companies — General Motors, Chevron and American Electric Power — own the carbon in trees in areas where The Nature Conservancy acted as a broker. In principle, saving trees and soaking up carbon sounds like a good idea. But that's certainly not the case for forest dwellers in areas where these companies own land. They are no longer able to use the resources that form part of their traditional livelihoods. They have also been threatened with guns and harassed by SPVS park rangers who work closely with the 'green police' funded by the US corporations. In the Juma reserve, an offset project sponsored by the Marriot hotel and other corporate sponsors, forest dwellers receive US\$25 per month, through the Bolsa Floresta programme, but it isn't enough to feed their families and they are unable to plant crops anymore. Americans need to reduce their own emissions before putting Brazilian forests at risk.

Produced by Andres Cediel & co-produced by Daniela Broitman. 2010.

Australian Carbon Cowboy in Peru deceiving Indigenous Communities

<http://sixtyminutes.ninemsn.com.au/stories/8495029/the-carbon-cowboy>

Vaquero de Carbono Engañando Comunidades Indígenas en Perú (Español)

<http://sixtyminutes.ninemsn.com.au/stories/8518994/the-carbon-cowboy-spanish-transcript>

This video presents the case of 'carbon cowboy' David Nilsson and his company Amazon Holdings. Reporter Liam Bartlett goes to Perú to investigate how this Australian developer ended up in Perú promising poor people billions of dollars for the carbon in the trees on their lands. He has already convinced a number of tribes to sign power of attorney over to his company for up to 200 years and is claiming 50% of the profits for dealing with their carbon contracts. But the contracts he is peddling would give him almost total control over communities' natural resources — not only their carbon, but the forests as a whole and virtually everything else. A member of the Yagua tribe who couldn't read signed one of these contracts with Nilsson, handing him half of all the carbon in their forests. But the deal is an outright scam. An executive summary was obtained, showing that after 25 years, the intention is actually to log the area and replace the trees with palm oil plantations. Furthermore, the supposedly independent lawyer advising the Yagua turns out to be Nilsson's own lawyer. But another tribe in Perú, the Matsigenka, who own around 450,000 ha have resisted Nilsson's proposals, for now at least.

Producer: Stephen Rice, 60 Minutes-Australia. 2012.

Climate Controversy in PNG (Carbon Cowboys)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hc2YxR3fI6

The sums of money being discussed in relation to REDD are vast, and fraudsters are already being attracted to these carbon schemes. This video details the case of the Carbon Planet company in Australia, which encountered problems with one of its contractors in Papua New Guinea. Kirk Roberts is a powerful 'carbon cowboy' with strong connections to the PNG government, who struck multiple REDD-related deals even though the science and economic policies relating to REDD were far from certain, and no deal had been agreed in the UN. When PNG's Office of Climate Change and Carbon Trade collapsed, all the carbon deals, which it had been involved in setting up, were supposed to be off, but Roberts is still very involved in the trade. It also transpires that some of the areas promised to carbon traders have also been promised to loggers as is the case with the pristine forest in Kamula Doso, where there is an ongoing court case. Lawyers argue that until the case is resolved the PNG Forestry Authority has the rights over the trees and the land owners who have done deals with Kirk Roberts actually have nothing to trade. The Governor of the Eastern highlands province explains his growing alarm that a band of carbon cowboys, mostly from Australia, are signing landowners with deals they don't even understand, a threatens a big court case.

Carbon Trading Fraud: Criminals. Funding Green Technology Innovation Industry Keynote Speaker

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BEPuXE2ulw

Dr Patrick Dixon provides a very clear explanation of the ways in which carbon offset projects can be used for fraudulent and even criminal purposes. Large amounts of money are being invested in the name of addressing climate change, yet it can be difficult to verify whether carbon emissions are actually being reduced by any particular project, and the investments may be going to carbon capture projects that would have happened anyway. Governments are also prone to exaggerating their initial carbon emissions, in order to show sharp reductions that can benefit them financially in the carbon marketplace.

Dr Patrick Dixon, <http://www.globalchange.com> 2008.

Red Road Cancun (Rough Cut)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6k4-_Gxe8GQ&feature=player_embedded

Rough Cut. Highlighting Indigenous voices excluded from the COP16 UN Climate Conference in Cancun, Mexico.

Alan Lissner, www.youtube.com/user/AllanLissner. 2010.

Global Corruption Report: Climate Change

www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyFEFIRzFo

This video refers to Transparency International's Global Corruption Report on Climate Change (2011) which looks at the specific corruption risks posed by governments planning to spend unprecedented amounts of money on climate change, through untested channels and often in countries with weak governance. Critical elements enabling corruption include large scale constructions and contracts, the complexity of carbon markets and carbon offsetting, and conflicts of interest undermining policy decision-making. The video emphasises the need to build accountable institutions, to involve citizens including by bringing local voices into international decision making processes, and to create new ways to fight climate change based on good governance.

<http://www.transparency.org/2011>

Carbon Credits – Oxygen for Business

Part 1 www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uMeEgCkw7A&feature=plcp

Part 2

www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKGjA8fAjCo&feature=relmfu

Créditos de Carbono – Oxígeno para Negocio (En Español)

Parte 1 www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8UjyzvI0s8

Parte 2 www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xp938GR8V-4

The Procuenca project came out of an agreement between Infi-Manizales and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), and is funded with public money from the city of Manizales. In reality, however, it is an international business intent on capturing carbon by establishing plantations in endemic Andean moor ecosystems. The project has persuaded people to sow exotic tree species without additional advice; as a result several water courses have been affected. People are also worried about food security as the businesses involved are only interested in monocultures; they even call it the 'pro-timber project' locally. Concerned local community members have started tearing down pine trees, in protest.

Produced by CENSAT Agua Viva-FoE Colombia & Global Forest Coalition. 2008.



REDD: Rights and Resistance

Women and Climate Change

www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1JdAmCJF5o

Mujeres y Cambio Climático

www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBVW5SijWts&feature=related (Español)

Women are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, and to the 'false solutions' to climate change that have been prioritised in international negotiations. These false solutions allow countries in the Global North to keep on polluting, whilst exacerbating environmental and social problems elsewhere. In particular, proposed mechanisms include the further expansion of monoculture tree plantations, which hit women in rural communities especially hard, as land, fertile soils and water are becoming increasingly scarce, making it ever harder for women to feed and care for their families. The video also focuses on the substitution of fossil fuels by agrofuels produced from soy beans, sugar cane, and oil palm, which results in even higher carbon emissions. Communities in Latin America, and especially women, who depend on subsistence farming, are having to confront the widespread use of toxic agrochemicals, growing scarcity of land, lack of employment opportunities and expulsion from their land, as a direct result of agrofuels production. The video concludes that fighting against climate change is a way of fighting for the rights of women; and fighting for the rights of women is another way of fighting for climate justice.

Produced by Gender CC, Women for Climate Justice with the support of the WRM International Secretariat Directed by Flavio Pazos. 2011.

Sun on the Sundarbans

www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUTOA5fuFDo

Restrictions on access to mangrove forests in the Sundarbans, Bangladesh - one of the world's biodiversity hotspots - has affected the traditional livelihoods of forest dependent peoples. Under pressure from corrupt officials from the Forest Department, dacoits (bandits), money lenders, and more affluent boat owners, traditional forest users are pushed into exploiting the mangroves beyond sustainable limits, thus harming and affecting this rich ecosystem. Moreover, climate change hit hard in this area in 2007 and 2009, and the government banned traditional resource users' entry to the forest for six months, forcing locals to change their occupation, migrate to the cities or enter the forest illegally. Outsiders are still reportedly removing resources indiscriminately, without permits or under illegal arrangements with forest officials. But people are organising themselves and are establishing co-operatives, with the help of Unnayan Onneshan and Forest Peoples Programme. They are more aware of their rights and are starting to improve their lives and conserve the valuable Sundarbans.

Idea: Rashed Al Mahmur Titumir, Direction Mohammed Abdul Baten – Unnayan Onneshan. 2012.

Forests, Much More Than A Lot Of Trees

www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBa5DG4Ef2I&feature=autoplay&list=UUwVXG9seQ9xg-BbEK1FvGBQ&playnext=3

Bosques, mucho más que una gran cantidad de árboles (In Portuguese and French with Spanish subtitles)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNGbHYGUR-4&list=UUwVXG9seQ9xg-BbEK1FvGBQ&index=5&feature=plcp

The FAO'S definition of forests effectively states that forests are nothing more than a collection of trees, a convenient definition adopted throughout the UN and by governments and companies. This definition allows the wholesale conversion of forests to lifeless monoculture plantations of exotic tree species, which are, after all, just a collection of trees. This is not accidental, since it facilitates corporate interests in the timber and agrofuel sectors. However, it completely disregards the stark impacts that losing genuine forests has on community life around the world. This video collects testimonies from forest-dependent men and women in Brazil, Congo, and Indonesia. They describe what forests really mean to them, how they relate to the forests and the resources in the forests in order to live. They also describe the huge impact it will have on their lives if their forests are destroyed or taken away from them. Plantations can never fulfill these functions, plantations are not forests!

Directed by Flavio Pazos for World Rainforest Movement. 2011.

Se nos acabó la parte humana (In Spanish) Our Human Side Is Gone

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCE5nn6YPNo>

Environmental Indigenous leader Salatiel Mendez together with his wife and child were killed in Cauca, Colombia, a region known for its violence and constant repression of Indigenous and local communities. This video presents images of the place where he was shot and presents testimonies from people who knew him, talking about his commitment to protecting forests, which are increasingly under threat from commodification, and Mother Nature, and the way he brought equilibrium to the community in El Tablazo. Salatiel coordinated the Indigenous guard protecting the watershed of the Isabelillo river as well as coordinating efforts to protect the reserve of San Jaonda, which was set on fire. He constantly risked his life to defend nature and many other leaders are threatened. These communities are trying to construct a peaceful process of resistance; they invite dialogue and want to reduce violence and hatred.

Produced by Tejido de Comunicación, ACIN. 2012.

Una Resistencia Cantada

Announced Resistance (In Spanish)

<http://vimeo.com/28018505>

In September 2007 a journey through Colombia's South Pacific Region, the Chocó (one of the world's biodiversity hotspots) showed evidence of megaprojects destroying afro-communities' livelihoods and territories. In the first part of this video community members reject the introduction of coca crops on their lands and the subsequent militarisation and fumigation of the area by the government. The second part focuses on the sale of land for extensive monoculture palm oil plantations, which has been pushed hard by the government. Communities reject this monoculture model which leaves them without food, pollutes their water streams and jeopardises their traditional livelihoods. They also say no to the proposed deep water port which the government is planning to build without their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC): they demand sound alternatives in line with their traditions and cultures. Diversity for freedom!

Proceso de Comunidades Negras PCN - Colombia. Censat Agua Viva, FoE Colombia, supported by Ecofondo. Jesica Toloza. Edition Karen Roa. 2008.

REDD: Indigenous Peoples Not Allowed To Speak At UNFCCC-10 Dec 2008

www.youtube.com/watch?v=brsqUgbBH00&feature=related

This video shows the way in which the UNFCCC uses procedure to prevent a representative from the Indigenous Peoples' Organisations from taking the floor in Poznan during COP14 of the climate change negotiations, in 2008. The Climate Action Network is allowed to speak, and so is the International Youth Delegation, and both speak to the issue of Indigenous rights being negotiated out of the climate change agreements. But the Indigenous representative is not allowed to speak. At the same time the UNFCCC purports to support the 'importance' of listening to civil society.

News Reel filmed by Rebecca Sommer, Sommer Films, for Earth Peoples. 2008.

Climate Change from the Voice of Indigenous Peoples

www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-TFiMtP4jl&feature=related

This video contains snapshots as well as perspectives of Indigenous participants to the climate change meeting in Copenhagen COP15, including the historic climate march. Indigenous peoples reject false solutions to climate change, such as REDD and REDD+ mechanisms which violate their rights; they are the world's smallest carbon contributors suffering at the expense of the largest contributors. The Indigenous perspective is vital to global conversation.

www.nativechildrensurvival.org. 2010.