

## Identification of „Activity Hotspots“and designation of REDD+ implementation sites in an UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve

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In July 2010, the first MAB Biosphere reserve in Ethiopia was established. This milestone, beside of the medial interest (<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=34898&Cr=unesco&Cr1=>), led to various initiatives with the focus of forest protection and climate change. This project addresses the problems of deforestation and climate change. The ICI component “Forest & Community Analysis” was set-up in response to rapid deforestation in the Kafa region of southwest Ethiopia.

A methodology was implemented for using dense SPOT 5-data time-series to track human activities affecting forest carbon in the project region to support local REDD+ implementation and to link remote sensing to the tracking and verification of human activities supporting climate-friendly land use strategies. These strategies cover the establishment of “Community Plantations” to compensate the high pressure and exploitation on primary forest, furthermore the reforestation with native tree species on recently “active” sites, and support the introduction of Agroforestry on pilot farm lands. Different models based on relevant criteria were developed, to eliminate potential sites for the strategy implementation. The poster shows the main workflow of site selection and further steps to support local REDD+ implementation.