



Curriculum Vitae

Charlene Watson

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Qualifications

- 2008-2012** PhD Forest Conservation for Carbon and Communities, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
- 2006-2007** MSc Environmental Technology (Environmental Economics and Policy), Imperial College, UK
- 2001-2004** BA Biological Natural Sciences (Zoology), Cambridge University, UK

Areas of Expertise

As part of the Climate and Environment team, Charlene's work at ODI focuses on the flows, sources and instruments of climate finance at both the national and international level. Recent work has explored the components of climate finance readiness, applying this theoretical framework for understanding climate finance readiness to countries in the SADC region. Her work also focuses on the monitoring and tracking of climate finance so as to explore the effectiveness of the spend; a delicate balance between competing objectives and policies, and reliant on building an enabling environment which is often hard define, measure and evaluate.

Charlene's experience spans academia, multilateral institutions and NGOs. Her previous experience in forest conservation and reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD+) brought together a number of contemporary issues in conservation and development that also present interesting challenges for international climate change policy and finance. She specialises in REDD+ finance and integrating REDD+ within a greener economic paradigm. Past work has included environmental valuation, forest carbon accounting, and environmental cost-benefit analyses.

Country Experience

Namibia and Zambia: Key stakeholder interviews exploring climate finance readiness needs in 2012 and 2013.

Ethiopia: A total of 18-months, between 2007 and 2010, gathering data and information in the south-eastern Ethiopian Highlands including forest carbon stock accounting and household questionnaires to understand the economics of community forest management for REDD+.

Nicaragua: A 7-month period in 2005 conducting baseline biodiversity research and managing a team of researchers.

Less extensive trips to Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, and Tanzania.

Languages

- English (mother tongue)

Posts held

September 2008-Dec 2011 Independent Consultant

Short-term contracts including the IDLgroup Ltd., Kilimanyika Ltd. and invited workshop facilitation and presentations focussing on REDD, PES, conservation and natural resource management.

June 2009-July 2010 Forestry Carbon Advisor, Farm Africa/SOS-Sahel BERSM Programme.

In-house adviser for the Bale Eco-region Sustainable Management Programme in the development of a reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD) project.

June-Oct 2009 Consultant, UNDP Ethiopia

Developing a toolkit for accounting for land-use and forestry greenhouse gas emissions in the Bilan Carbone ethos.

Sept 2008- May 2009 Short Term Consultant, The World Bank

Research assistant supporting Chapter 6 of the World Bank Development Report 2010 on "Generating the funding needed for mitigation and adaptation".

Selected Reports & Publications

- Watson, C., Mourato, S., and Milner-Gulland, E.J. (2013). Uncertain emission reductions from forest conservation: REDD+ in the Bale Mountains Ecoregion, Ethiopia. *Ecology and Society*, *in press*.
- Watson, C., Brickell, E., and McFarland, W. (2013). Integrating REDD+ in a green economy transition: Challenges and opportunities. Background paper prepared for a symposium on REDD+ in a green economy. Commissioned by UN-REDD and UNEP. ODI, London.
- Forstater, M., Watson, C., and Nakhooda, S. (2013). The effectiveness of climate finance: a review of the Amazon Fund. Working Paper 372. ODI, London.
- Watson, C. (2012). Defining climate-related forest activities, finance and expenditure in national budgetary systems. ODI, London.
- Watson, C. and Nakhooda, S. (2012). Financing Readiness: Insights from the Amazon Fund and Congo Basin Forest Fund's efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation. ODI and HBF Policy Brief. ODI, London.
- Watson, C., Nakhooda, S., and Caravani, A (2012). The practical challenges of monitoring climate finance: Insights from Climate Funds Update. ODI and HBF Policy Brief. ODI, London.
- IDL Group (2011) Discussion of Effectiveness of Multilateral REDD+ Initiatives. Commissioned by the REDD+ Partnership.
- Watson, C. (2010) Rapid Guide to REDD. FARM-Africa/SOS-Sahel BERSMP. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- UNDP (2009) Forest Carbon Accounting: Overview and Principles. UNDP-UNEP CDM Capacity Development Project for Eastern & Southern Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Watson, C. and Fankhauser, S. (2009) The Clean Development Mechanism: sustainable development benefits. World Development Report 2010, World Bank Background paper.
- Watson, C. (2009) Public Good Provision through Forestry. FARM-Africa/SOS-Sahel BERSMP. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- New Carbon Finance (2009) Global Kyoto Research Note: The impact of forestry on the global carbon market. New Carbon Finance, UK.
- Nicholson, E. et al., (2009) Priority research areas for ecosystem services in a changing world. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 46: 1139-1144.