



Benefits Working Group

Low emission development strategies (LEDS) can have social, economic, and environmental impacts and benefits beyond emission reduction. These co-benefits include poverty reduction, job creation, improved health, energy access and security, green growth, and gender equality. Many of these impacts are central to developing country policymaking and can be a key factor in driving sustainable low emission pathways.

The LEDS GP Benefits Working Group develops need-based knowledge products and technical assistance and training to help identify and communicate social, economic, and environmental impacts linked to LEDS. The Working Group aims to support policymakers and practitioners in aligning climate change strategies such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), at the policy, program, and project level.



More than 600 members from Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) participate in the Benefits Working Group. The Working Group provides members with regular updates from the field of sustainable development, disseminates outreach briefs on benefits of LEDS tailored to members' needs, provides tools for impact assessment, and facilitates knowledge exchange across regions and sectors. This includes peer learning, producing case studies highlighting good practices, providing technical assistance, hosting webinars, and organizing workshops at LEDS GP meetings and other events.

Priority areas:

- **Understanding** which economic, social, and environmental benefits are linked to low emission measures and strategies and how they are linked.
- **Identifying** approaches and tools to assess development impacts and monitor their achievements.
- **Communicating** development impacts and engaging a range of stakeholders across ministries and sectors, including the private sector, investors, and civil society.
- **Creating briefs** on a range of benefits linked to LEDS.
- **Examining** approaches to align NDCs and development priorities with sustainable low emission pathways.

Technical support

In close cooperation with other Working Groups and Regional Platforms, the Benefits Working Group provides Remote Expert Assistance on LEDS (REAL) to government agencies and consultants, technical institutions, and NGOs that are working directly with country governments to plan and implement their LEDS. Members may submit multiple, successive requests, including follow-on inquiries. Find more information on the REAL service online at: www.ledsgp.org

Case study: Interactive training on development impact assessment

Request: As part of a technical assistance request from the National Council for Clean Production (CPL) in Chile on how to assess and monitor development impacts of low emission measures, the Benefits Working Group organized a training course on development impact assessment during the LEDS LAC regional meeting in Panama in September 2016. The participants used the opportunity to exchange lessons learned and to familiarize themselves with various approaches to development impact assessment.



Actions taken: In cooperation with the LEDS LAC team, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and two experts (from the United Nations Environment Program–Technical University of Denmark Partnership and United Nations Development Program), the Benefits Working Group organized an interactive training that introduced participants to approaches and tools that can be used to assess development impacts. Participants applied these tools to a case study to identify impacts qualitatively and through quantitative indicators.

Outcome: Participants and the CPL were introduced to approaches and tools to identify and integrate social, economic, and environmental impacts in low emission measures. The Benefits Working Group had the opportunity to learn more about the needs and interests of members in the region regarding benefits of LEDS.

Join us

Join the Benefits Working Group to receive regular updates and exchange information with policymakers and practitioners around the globe: benefits@ledsgp.org

For more information about the Working Group and its products, visit: <http://ledsgp.org/working-groups/benefits-assessment-of-leds>

Photo credits: p.1 (top): Scott Wallace / World Bank;
p.1 (middle and bottom): LEDS LAC; p.2: Curt Carnemark / World Bank
Editing, design and layout: Green Ink (www.greenink.co.uk)

This document is from the LEDS GP; a global program for which the United States National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) serve as the Secretariat. NREL is a national laboratory of the US Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy LLC. CDKN is a program funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) for the benefit of developing countries; with further funding from the United States Department of State for the co-management of the Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP). The views expressed and information contained in it are not necessarily those of, or endorsed by, DFID, DGIS, the US Department of State, NREL, US Department of Energy, or the entities managing the delivery of CDKN, which can accept no responsibility or liability for such views, completeness or accuracy of the information or for any reliance placed on them. This publication has been prepared for general guidance on matters of interest only, and does not constitute professional advice. You should not act upon the information contained in this publication without obtaining specific professional advice. No representation or warranty (express or implied) is given as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this publication, and, to the extent permitted by law, the entities managing the delivery of CDKN and NREL do not accept or assume any liability, responsibility or duty of care for any consequences of you or anyone else acting, or refraining to act, in reliance on the information contained in this publication or for any decision based on it.