



## Forest Carbon Partnership Facility holds Fourth Participants Committee Meeting Developing Countries Detailing Their Visions on REDD

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At the fourth meeting of the Participants Committee of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), held in Washington DC on October 27-28, 2009, the representatives of Ghana, Costa Rica, Guyana, Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal, Panama and Suriname presented the latest details of their countries' proposals for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conserving and sustainably managing forests and enhancing forest carbon stocks through activities such as forest restoration and reforestation, or 'REDD+' in short.

*"We stand ready to work with partners who share our vision of sustainable development, where our long-established and world-leading commitment to sustaining our forest can be matched by economic reward which supports our national development efforts to create a socially just and prosperous country. Guyana's participation in the FCPF is helping us fulfill our commitment."* (His Excellency Bharrat Jagdeo, President of Guyana)

These countries are among 37 developing countries participating in the FCPF Readiness Fund, which is a fund of approximately US\$110 million supported by 11 donor countries. The Readiness Fund provides technical and financial assistance to country participants for analyzing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, designing monitoring systems, defining reference scenarios of land-use change and emissions, devising REDD+ strategies, and setting up national management arrangements for REDD+.

In the words of Mr. Javier Arias, Director of the National Environmental Authority of Panama:

*"REDD is not only an important financial tool for development, but the preparation process serves as a unique opportunity to raise the awareness of high-level decision makers and develop bottom-up policies that together can lay the foundation for the further progress towards the consolidation of a low-carbon development strategy. Through this process, Panama has the opportunity to engage multiple stakeholders focused on an environmental issue like never before."*

The Readiness Preparation Proposals, in which countries describe how they plan to prepare themselves for REDD+, entail a consultation process and are developed in dialogue with different civil society groups, including forest-dependent indigenous peoples.

In developing these proposals, the member countries of the FCPF can apply for seed funds and have access to the technical support of international experts, in the form of a technical advisory panel set up specifically for this purpose, in addition to assistance from the World Bank and many other partners from UN agencies (including the UN-REDD Programme), bilateral donors and non-governmental organizations and foundations. This large community makes up the FCPF partnership, where ideas,



proposals and approaches crucial to REDD+ are reviewed and debated in a transparent and inclusive manner, and where new knowledge is generated based on practical country experience.

As expressed by Mr. Howard Bamsey, Australia's Special Envoy for Climate Change: *"Partnerships between developed and developing countries are essential to REDD and to finding a global solution to climate change. We have an unprecedented opportunity in the UNFCCC climate change negotiations to provide an economic incentive to REDD countries to conserve their forests. This opportunity must be capitalized on and there is an urgent need to move forward and support REDD countries to become REDD-ready. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility is an important part of realizing these global ambitions."*

The Parties to the UNFCCC will be discussing REDD+ in Barcelona this week and in Copenhagen in the first half of December in the context of the international climate change negotiations.

For more information on the FCPF, including the topics discussed at the recent Participants Committee meeting, please see: [www.forestcarbonpartnership.org](http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org).