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# Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Panama

for the period 1 January –  
31 December 2018

United Nations Development  
Programme

Approved by:

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UNDP

Date

30 May 2019

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UNDP Office in Panama

Date May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Transfer Agreement was signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

The report has been prepared by UNDP, based on materials prepared by the Panama FCPF Project Management Unit. It solely reflects the perspectives of UNDP as a Delivery Partner.

## Summary

Country:	Panama
Project Title:	"Consolidation of the Preparedness Phase for The Reduction of Emissions due to Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) in Panama"
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Environment
Responsible Parties:	
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	PC/14/2014/10	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	\$ 3,800,000.00 February 2016
Preparatory Grant	June 2014	Inception Phase	Launch: April 12, 2016  PMU Staffed: April 2016  First Board Meeting: 26 February 2016  Second Board Meeting: 6 December 2016  Third Board Meeting: 22 June 2017  Fourth Board Meeting: March 2018  Fifth Board Meeting: May 2018
Project Appraisal Committee	August 17, 2015	Mid-term Review	<i>September, 2017</i>
Project Signature	November 11, 2015	No-Cost Extension:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Duration of Project	4 years	New End Date:	<i>June 30, 2019</i>

## 2018 Results

### 1. Achievements

This Annual Progress Report provides an overview of the activities delivered and results achieved within the FCPF REDD+ Consolidation of the Preparedness Phase project (REDD+) in Panama for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> of January to 31 of December 2018.

Important milestones for the project during 2018.

- Presentation of the Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) at the convention in January, 2018.
- Revision of the modifications of the FREL in June of 2018.
- Revision of the comments on the draft FREL report in November, 2018.
- Public consultation on the National REDD+ Strategy
- Approval in the Official Digital Gazette on Tuesday, April 02, 2019 of the National Forestry Strategy 2050 (Estrategia Nacional Forestal 2050) of which the National REDD+ Strategy is part.
- Completion of the forest inventory and carbon inventory by technical experts from the Ministry of Environment who have been trained to take follow-up measurements of the sample units. This data supports the greenhouse gas inventory through land-use and land-cover emissions factors

#### a. Progress on how the project activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives, including those funded by others.

In June 2018, along with the SGP (Small Grants Programme), the Project started the [People's Forest Mapping program](#), as support for five communities across the country to create maps of their forests and resources that they are protecting as a tool in the long process of environmental conservation within the community. We worked with the communities of Cerro Flores, Comarca Ngäbe Buglé; Nueva Esperanza and Finca El Águila in Renacimiento, province of Bocas del Toro; Puerto Indio in the Emberá Wounaan region and Jaqué in the province of Darién. During the month of November, tours were conducted to deliver the results of the [community mapping process](#).

This year the project had an interaction with the Reporting for Results-based REDD+ Actions (RRR) project. This project aims to contribute in the assessment of progress towards the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement through improved GHG inventory (GHGI) reporting. In particular, to develop and institutionalize the capacities of tropical forest countries to prepare and report to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement on anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals from the agriculture, forestry and land use sectors (AFOLU). In this sense, this cooperation allowed to strengthen the preparation of the FREL in Panama by developing an improved template for the processing and analysis of activity data and emission factors for the GHG national inventory in the land use sector.

#### b. Important changes in the technical design or approach related to the project activities

No major changes in technical design have been put in place despite the time extension granted for the project to complete its activities and achieve outputs / outcomes, at no cost to the FCPF.

**2. In Focus:**

From 7 to 10 May 2018, the First Leadership Academy for Youth on Climate Change in Panama was held in Pedasí, with the objective of developing the climate change capacities of youth leaders to promote the establishment of the Youth Network against Climate Change in Panama. A total of 235 applications were received over a period of two weeks, of which 30 were accepted (20 women and 10 men).

The Academy was held at the Eco Venao Hostel facility in Playa Venao, Pedasí, Province of Los Santos, which has delivered approximately 140 hectares in reforestation and recovery of the ecosystems of the area.

Young leaders learned about the basic concepts of climate change and global and national actions to address this problem. They also received leadership and group organization training. The academic sessions were complemented by field trips to coastal areas impacted by coastal erosion, areas of forest recovered through reforestation, and nesting sites of turtles, where they had the opportunity to learn about how temperature rise affects the reproduction of this species.

**Table 1. Summary of progress in FCPF funded activities**

<b>Output 1: Panama Organization and Consultation</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible institution (Main/involved)</b>
Establish the platform of intersectorial participation, representative and inclusive of the key actors.	completed		UNDP / MiAmbiente
The key actors have knowledge and information to ensure a process of consultation and implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.	completed		UNDP / MiAmbiente
<b>Output 2: Preparation of the National REDD+ Strategy.</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible institution (Main/involved)</b>
The validation process of the National REDD+ Strategy is carried out.	completed	05/2018	UNDP / MiAmbiente
Launch the grievance mechanism for REDD+ Panama.	continuing	06/2019	UNDP / MiAmbiente
Establish the National REDD+ Strategy.	completed	05/2018	UNDP / MiAmbiente

Establish the legal and operational framework of REDD+ in the environmental policy of the State.	continuing	06/2019	UNDP / MiAmbiente
<b>Output 3: Development of a national reference level for forest emissions and a national forest reference level</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible institution (Main/involved)</b>
Elaborate the national forest reference emissions levels under a participatory dialogue.	completed	06/2018	UNDP / MiAmbiente
Agree to the national forest reference emissions levels and submitted for technical evaluation in the UNFCCC.	completed	01/2018	UNDP / MiAmbiente
<b>Output 4: Design of the national forest monitoring system and information system on safeguards</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible institution (Main/involved)</b>
Establish the National Forest Monitoring System	continuing	06/2019	UNDP / MiAmbiente
Design the National Safeguards System .	continuing	06/2019	UNDP / MiAmbiente

The REDD+ project, has reached 85% completion. It is expected that by the operational close in June 2019, the four components required to apply for implementation funds for the activities outlined in the National REDD+ Strategy, will have been successfully completed.

The Ministry of Environment (MiAMBIENTE) consolidated a technical team that will allow them to follow-up on and monitor these activities, and the data produced will aid in the development of the national greenhouse gas inventory, which will then support the biennial reports and the national communications for the AFOLU sector.

The progress made on each of the components of the REDD+ preparation phase in Panama are outlined below:

### **Component 1: Organization and Consultation**

The process of consultation and participation with key REDD+ stakeholders is a continuous one.

In 2017 the first survey of public knowledge about the issues of climate change, REDD+ and the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares was carried out; with measurements being taken for the second time in 2018. In total, 1,200 people were surveyed in 2017, the same as in 2018. As results indicated that the population know very little about the programs being implemented by MiAMBIENTE, an awareness-raising and training campaign on climate change and REDD+ was developed for different sectors of the population throughout 2018, using this information as a reference point.

MiAMBIENTE team, accompanied by the UNDP, began the implementation of an awareness-raising and training Campaign at the national level on the topics of climate change and REDD+. During 2018, more than 50 workshops were completed at national, regional, and local levels, which have included the participation of 1,419 people; of which, 617 were women (43%) and 802 were men (57%).

A commission (Indigenous Technical Committee) was established which submitted to Ministry of Environment a document containing the 12 points to consider in the National REDD+ Strategy which was then submitted to the indigenous authorities, who recognized that the process of developing a national REDD+ Strategy for Panama yields opportunities for the design and implementation of policies in harmony with the indigenous populations by respecting their style of government, worldview and identity. In March of 2018 the document was submitted formally to the Ministry of Environment. The 12 priorities and aspirations are:

1. Territorial legal certainty - guidance document.
2. Strengthening of indigenous congresses and councils.
3. Training of indigenous technical professionals and traditional scientists.
4. Participation plan for indigenous peoples throughout all processes.
5. Free, prior and informed consent from the indigenous peoples, using their own mechanisms.
6. Forest management: forestry activities must be endorsed by the indigenous peoples.
7. Establish permanent monitoring and evaluation of the REDD+ actions to be implemented with the indigenous peoples.
8. Respect the indigenous people's collective rights to the earth and the natural resources in the National REDD+ Strategy.
9. The development of good living/ equitable distribution of benefits
10. Environmental management/ protection of mother earth and natural resources.
11. Dedication of special attention to the issue of protection for medicinal plants.
12. Recognition and validation of Balu Wala's methodological tools for the processes of the indigenous peoples.

Its purpose is to identify interinstitutional coordination mechanisms and actions that can be taken in the short and medium term in the context of the aspirations of the indigenous peoples and REDD+ in order to incorporate their priorities and aspirations into the National REDD+ Strategy.

The 15th of May 2018, the Climate Change Unit presented the ways that the 12 priorities and aspirations of the indigenous peoples had been incorporated into the National REDD+ Strategy for Panama. At that time, there was participation from the 12 Congressional and Council Structures of the Panamanian Indigenous Peoples, made up of 7 commissioners who represent the Naso Tjerdi Council, the Emberá Nation (the Emberá-Wounaán Reservation, the Emberá-Wounaán Collective Lands, and the Emberá Collective Lands of Alto Bayano), the Ngäbe Reservation, the Bribri Territories, the Guna Nation (Madugandí Reservation, Wargandí Reservation, and the Tagargunyala Territory), the Buglé Reservation and the Wounaán Territory.

Following up on the Roadmap to Mainstreaming Gender Considerations into Panama's REDD+ Process for the 2018 period, a greater emphasis was placed on empowering women in vulnerable communities (Indigenous peoples). These trainings were carried out, highlighting the importance of strengthening women starting with the community foundation. They resulted in a total of 752 people receiving training specifically on the Role of Women in Climate Change and REDD+, 436 of whom were men and 316 of whom were women.

One achievement to highlight in 2018 is that the MiAMBIENTE officials who were trained on issues of gender, climate change and REDD+ in 2017 were able to refine their knowledge through communication workshops that allowed them to learn about techniques and methods for addressing these topics with the community. The main goal of these communication workshops was to help participants achieve autonomy and become multipliers on these topics, so that in 2019 the gender and climate change training can be performed by the regional office liaisons.

## **Component 2: National REDD+ Strategy Preparation for Panama**

The UN-REDD phase culminated with the first draft of the National REDD+ Strategy for Panama. In August of 2018 the National REDD+ Strategy for Panama was finalized and submitted to the five groups of key stakeholders: (a) indigenous peoples, (b) afro-descendant communities, (c) peasant families, (d) indigenous women, peasants and Afro-descendants, and (e) public and civil organizations and social institutions, economic sectors and academia. They had the opportunity to corroborate that the information for their region is appropriate for the second phase of REDD+ implementation as follows:

Four Regional Workshops were developed where 154 people participated, including participants from the Indigenous Technical Commission. These were

Workshop in the Western Region (Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí, Reservation): 42 participants (21 men and 21 women).

Workshop in the Central Region (Herrera, Los Santos, Veraguas, and Coclé): 48 participants (24 men and 24 women).

Workshop in the Eastern Region (Darién, Panamá Este, Reservations): 33 participants (23 men and 10 women).



Workshop in the Metropolitan Region (Panamá Metro, Norte, Oeste, and Colón): 31 participants (11 men and 20 women).

At the end of May 2018, the “National 2050 Forestry Strategy” ([Estrategia Nacional Forestal 2050](#)) was made public for consultation. This is a document that outlines the opportunities proposed by the members of the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares ([Alianza por el Millón de Hectáreas](#)); and recalls the international accords and conventions which Panama has undersigned. It is based on the vision that the Panamanian forestry sector would generate green employment, contribute to economic and socio-ecological well-being both nationally and globally through production and sale of environmental goods and services and the fight against climate change. The National REDD+ Strategy for Panama Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares, makes up an integral part of the 2050 National Forestry Strategy. Alliance by the Million Hectares Reforested is an articulating axis of the National REDD + Strategy. The Alliance for the Million Hectares [AXM], is a public-private partnership led by the Ministry of Environment with the support of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and promoted by three managers of civil society: the National Association of Reforesters and Allies of Panama [ANARAP], the National Association for the Conservation of Nature [ANCON] and the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture of Panama [CCIAP]. The AXM aims to recover forest cover in 13% of the country's surface, through four strategic actions: conservation of forest carbon stocks nationally; restore the gallery forests in the river basins of the country; restoration of vocational forest lands through the implementation of agroforestry, silvopastoral systems and fruit crops; commercial reforestation to supply the national and international market.

As part of the preparation for the National REDD+ Strategy the Ministry of Environment established a REDD+ Training Plan with gender considerations. It was designed based on the implementation of the 2017 survey of 1,200 people at a national level, with topics related to climate change, REDD+ and the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares.

In 2018, the Roadmap to Mainstreaming Gender Considerations into Panama's REDD+ Process was established through three phases for future implementation, which are: Phase 1 – Preparation to incorporate gender into the REDD+, Phase 2 – Developing capacities in REDD+ for gender equality, and Phase 3 – Managing awareness about gender equality in REDD+.

In 2018, the survey was conducted nationally for the second time with 1,200 participants. To date, 144 people have received training, 81 men (56%) and 63 women (44%). The training topics covered Climate Change, REDD+, Safeguards, Gender, Communications, Reference Levels, and the National Forest and Carbon Inventories, including the National Forest Monitoring System.

### **Component 3: Development of a National Forest Reference Level for Panama**

In January of 2018, the Forest Reference Emission Levels/Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL) ([Niveles de Referencia de Emisiones Forestales/Nivel de Referencia Forestales \(NREF/NRF\)](#)) was submitted for technical review, in accordance with decision 13/CP.19 of the UNFCCC. This document and its annexes were prepared according to the modalities and guidance established in 12/CP.17 Section II and related annexes, as well as the guidance from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of 2006 (IPCC,2006), and will be in conformity with future national GHG inventories (NGHGI) for Panama; this document is the only one of the four components that goes through a technical review by a panel of experts.

The emissions that were evaluated in the development of the historic greenhouse gas emissions levels are those coming from: forest land remaining forest land, conversions to forest land and conversions of forest land to other land uses. The FREL/FRL includes information that is being produced for the first time in the country about land use and land use change in the time period from 2006 to 2015 as well as related GHG emissions and CO<sub>2</sub> absorption. Based on this information, Panama proposes a value of -56,991,334 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year, as in its FREL/FRL for the 2016-2035 period, which coincides with the implementation period for mitigating actions in the sector and strategies like the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares. This value is estimated to be the historical yearly average for GHG Emissions and CO<sub>2</sub> absorptions from 2006 to 2015.

The value of the FREL/ FRL is negative, indicating net absorption due to significant contributions from growth of mature forests and secondary forests in the country. As part of its REDD+ implementation actions, Panama expects to reduce emissions and increase absorption in order to generate REDD+ results that can become results-based payments.

Throughout 2018 the FREL/FRL received comments from the Ministry of Environment Team, resulting in a document that is transparent, precise, consistent, exhaustive and nationally participatory.

With this technical report, Panama becomes the first country in the world to incorporate the five activities for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction in the forestry sector under the framework of the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares.

#### **Component 4: Design of a National Forest Monitoring System and National Safeguards Information System**

In 2018, measurements of the 92 plots belonging to the terrestrial monitoring system were completed, and the data was processed and added into the Silva Metricus database program. The data from these sample units correspond to 6 land use categories and make up the foundation for the activity data in the AFOLU sector as well as for calculations for the FREL.

The National Multipurpose Forest Monitoring System was conceived in a proposal created by institutional technical experts, contextualized for the reality of the country, and agreed upon by the different stakeholders in forestry information generation; strengthening the institutional, technical and scientific capacities of the country. This represents an initial effort to contribute to the cohesion of the preparations for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation, and an increase in CO<sub>2</sub> capture.

The environmental safeguards contained in the REDD+ project for Panama seek to guarantee faithful fulfilment of the environmental regulations associated with protection, care, and preservation of the forest, which are laid out in the Cancun Safeguards.

Along these lines, the Safeguards System begins with an analysis of the Panamanian legal framework (including identification of gaps) as well as an analysis of the National REDD+ Strategy for Panama, in order to develop a Safeguard Information System (SIS) that will provide follow-up, reporting, and guarantee the enforcement of the safeguards established in the framework of the convention.

With the above as a foundation, the National Safeguard Information System, just like the SESA and ESMF reports, will be submitted to the UNFCCC as a step towards results-based payments related to fulfillment of the 5 REDD+ activities.

### 3. Risks, issues and responses

Issues/risks	Mitigation measure	Proposed completion date / comments	Responsibility
<p>Difficulty in achieving engagement of key sectors needed to conclude the preparation phase and start the implementation of REDD+ in Panama</p>	<p>Keep the inter-sectoral and multi-actor participation platform active for key stakeholders and improve the mechanisms to achieve effective engagement that leads to decision making in the preparatory phase of REDD+. Include actions that lead to the generation of conventions and inter-sectoral and sectoral agreements, as part of a validation process of the ENREDD+.</p> <p>Use workshops and regional forums with technical liaisons and key actors in their territories.</p> <p>Institutionalize the REDD+ working group "National Development Plan for Indigenous people", to improve the levels of integration and streamlining of REDD+ actions.</p>	<p>December 2018</p> <p>Challenge Overcome</p> <p>The implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy has been reinforced with its inclusion in the National 2050 Forestry Strategy and in line with the reforestation initiative of the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares.</p>	<p>UNDP /</p> <p>MiAMBIENTE</p>
<p>Delays in the activation of the national forest monitoring system</p>	<p>In 2018, an expert supported MiAMBIENTE on identifying the final elements to fully operate the National Environmental Information System that will host the NFMS.</p>	<p>December 2018</p> <p>Challenge Overcome</p> <p>The monitoring system team was reinforced with the reincorporation of a technical expert</p>	<p>UNDP /</p> <p>MiAMBIENTE</p>

Issues/risks	Mitigation measure	Proposed completion date / comments	Responsibility
		trained in Italy by the FAO. This expert has proposed a hybrid methodology for activity data calculations, combining maps with Collect Earth.	
High turnover of MiAMBIENTE and project personnel	Availability of a mechanism that facilitates the periodic documentation of progress and lessons learned. Undertake a complete induction of staff members to be hired (including a presentation of results and lessons learned under the UN-REDD Programme). High-level commitment to maintain stability of project-personnel until the project ends.	June 2019  At least two project technical experts will have permanent contracts in order to ensure the continuity of the project.	UNDP /  MiAMBIENTE
Conflict among/with indigenous peoples	UNDP is monitoring issues related to land titling and concessions relating to access to natural resources. A coordination mechanism at the technical level was established with indigenous people and this was approved by the 12 structures of indigenous people in Panama through an open dialogue . A principal and an alternate member were designated to participate in the Project Board meeting. A thorough revision was made from the recommendations made by an international consultant to improve the effectiveness of the complaint mechanism in Panama. Work is currently being undertaken at the legal and political levels with the Ministry of Environment to generate the protocols to address complaints and grievances made through the 3-1-1 platforms (the grievance mechanism for REDD+ Panama) and to document and systematize Panama's position on the issue of access to land and natural resources in front of the Inter-	June 2019	UNDP /  MiAMBIENTE

Issues/risks	Mitigation measure	Proposed completion date / comments	Responsibility
	<p>American Court of Human Rights. The UNDP Country Office has also begun the process to establish a mechanism to handle institutional complaints.</p> <p>Also, the Technical Indigenous Committee (CTI, for its Spanish acronym) played an important role in supporting the National REDD+ Strategy and understanding the positive impact for their communities.</p>		
Negative influence on the perceptions of citizens and key stakeholders vis-a-vis the FCPF Project	Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of MiAMBIENTE, UNDP, and other key stakeholders. Define a mechanism to regulate and manage the discussion, differences, and potential conflicts among the National REDD+ Working Group and the position of this platform as an entry point for all those interested in sharing their points of view. Define the channels of communication and the venues for participation and consultation for decision making. Clarify how communication should flow between the indigenous traditional authorities, MiAMBIENTE, and UNDP. Ensure that the information is available to the public and is known and agreed to by key stakeholders and interested entities.	June 2019	UNDP /  MiAMBIENTE

#### 4. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management Unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project.

The project started with a task force (a forest engineer, two environmental engineers, an environmental lawyer, a GIS specialist, a technical assistant for administration, the procurement associate, and the finance associate); in April we incorporated an administrative and financial assistant, who could carry out all the operations that the project required and a more detailed control of the financial movements of the project. In June, the contracts of the forestry engineer, the environmental lawyer and the GIS specialist were successfully completed; and we incorporated an environmental specialist along with the two environmental engineers (these three contracts are expected to end in June 2019).

The thematic coordinator manages the Climate Change Project for UNDP-MiAMBIENTE, including REDD+; the Project is based in MiAMBIENTE and has support from MiAMBIENTE staff, who report to the Director of the Climate Change Office.

The project continues in the UNDP National Implementation Modality (NIM) and is following UNDP procedures. UNDP staff conduct periodic visits to the project unit to verify compliance with procedures

and the administrative and financial assistant is continuously involved in procurement and financial management trainings.

MiAMBIENTE strengthens Climate Change Department as well as Forest Management Department by training several technicians that are working in the agency. In support of the needs identified last year in regional MiAMBIENTE offices, several training sessions on satellite imaging and drone management were conducted. Technicians from several regional MiAMBIENTE offices were trained and became familiar with processes for aligning and sequencing the application of different regulations (Executive Decree 57 and Law 38 of 2000) During these trainings, 13 women (24%) and 41 men (76%) participated. Thirteen drones were purchased, which will be released to 13 regional MiAMBIENTE offices in need, allowing them to independently develop the information management and automatically feed the headquarters database. The implementation National System for Monitoring Forestry and Land Use is currently being developed by the GoP, which will contribute to effective monitoring of land-use changes over time. All landholders that are enrolled in the incentive programs would need their property to be geo-referenced and digitally integrated into the National Monitoring System, which assesses compliance and contributes towards REDD+ result-based payments to ensure financial sustainability for the national PES system.

**5. Progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?**

UNDP, as an implementing partner aligned with the Common Approach, complies with its Social and Environmental Standards (SES) in project implementation. These standards provide detailed guidance on social and environmental assessment and project management, as well as on the evaluation of specific project types and impacts. In addition, UNDP guides the actions of REDD+ in Panama, so that they may comply with UNDP's institutional implementation standards through specific review meetings and close joint work and collaboration.

The project management unit participated in a capacity building workshop in August 2018 aimed to understand multiple safeguards requirements (UNFCCC, FCPF, UNDP SES, GCF and IFC) and articulate them into a single unified roadmap. As a result, a roadmap was produced.

In December 2018, based on several analyses of social and environmental issues and safeguards, MiAMBIENTE, with the technical guidance of UNDP developed a preliminary version of the SIS that includes the following elements:

- a) A legal analysis of the safeguards.
- b) The Safeguard Information System structure and
- c) A protocol for the Implementation of the SIS

For 2019, a specialist is expected to be hired for the development of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) within the framework of the REDD+ Strategy. To this end, an online portal will be developed with the REDD+ Strategy approach.

**6. Progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the FGRM, related to this project**

MiAMBIENTE with the support of UNDP, and along with stakeholders, those of African descent, local farmers, and regional delegates is developing a diagnostic of needs, capacity building, and a work plan with a view to continuity during the implementation phase of REDD+ in Panama.

Panama has a feedback and grievance mechanism for all environmental matters and grievances, which is the 3-1-1 digital center for information requests, complaints and grievances from citizens. This mechanism will be used for REDD+ with a specific area to file REDD+ complaints. Additionally, the MiAMBIENTE mechanisms are available to submit complaints by means of written documents in the regional agencies, by email or by directly calling the Ministry.

The FCPF project has advanced in the implementation of a REDD+ coordination mechanism through promotion processes, which leads to the identification of indigenous people as one of the five differentiated groups that are considered stakeholders and strengthens the coordination of women representatives, those of African descent, local farmers and civil organizations.

## 7. In Numbers

Indicators	Year1 (2016)	Year 2 (2017)	Year 3 (2018)
Number of institutions represented in steering committee	3	3	3
Number of women represented in steering committee	3	4	3
Number of civil organizations engaged in different aspects of the project (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	10	28	20
Number of people trained on REDD+, climate change, and related topics (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	459	894 (54% Men/ 46% women)	1419 (57% Men / 43% Women)
Number of people trained on the four WF pillars (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	0	40	79  (62% Men/ 38% women)
Number of national consultation workshops held	13	33	50
Number of CSOs trained on REDD+ and climate change	0	15	20
Number of information notes produced	6	8	7
Number of people actively engaged in advising on the development of the national strategy	470  185 women  285 Men	894  (54% Men 46%/women)	697  (60% Men / 40% Women).

### Financial Delivery

The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the R-PP implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS				
OUTPUTS	Total Budget	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2018		
		Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
				(D) = B + C
<b>Component 1:</b> Organization and Consultation	883,800.00	0.00	922,920.69	922,920.69
<b>Component 2:</b> Preparation of the National Strategy REDD+	518,641.00	0.00	311,881.11	311,881.11
<b>Component 3:</b> Development of a national reference level for forest emissions and a national forest reference level	433,350.00	0.00	348,573.71	348,573.71
<b>Component 4:</b> Design of the national forest monitoring system	1,260,420.00	0.00	698,148.44	698,148.44



<b>IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS</b>				
<b>OUTPUTS</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2018</b>		
		<b>Commitments</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Total Expenditures</b>
				<b>(D) = B + C</b>
and information system on safeguards				
<b>Component 5:</b> Design of a program monitoring and evaluation framework.	703,789.00	182,525.00	968,774.63	1,151,299.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,800,000.00</b>	<b>182,525.00</b>	<b>3,250,298.58</b>	<b>3,432,823.58</b>

**8. Picture and caption**



REDD+ Presentation, agroforestry systems, climate change and gender. Awareness-raising in the indigenous community in the province of Bocas del Toro, El Junquito. 26 November, 2018.



Training in the community of Oriente, Bocas del Toro. In this photo, land conservation practice by Dr. Víctor Corro, territory worked by the indigenous community using agroforestry systems, one of the proposed activities in the National REDD+ Strategy. 27 August, 2018



Awareness-raising workshop on REDD+, gender, climate change and silvopastoral systems in the community of Costa Abajo in Colón, members of the local farming community of the Río Indio watershed, 6 March 2018



Awareness-raising with agriculture students at La Mina, province of Herrera, dealing with the topics of REDD+, climate change, recycling and gender. 9 May 2018



Meeting with representatives of the key stakeholders to establish a roadmap for their participation in REDD during 2018. 13 March 2018.



Meeting with indigenous authorities wherein the incorporation of the 12 priorities into the National REDD+ Strategy document was presented. 15 May 2018