# Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

## Panama's REDD Readiness-Plan
## Technical Advisory Panel Review

Participants Committee Meeting (FCPF PC3)
Montreux, Switzerland, June 16-18, 2009

# High Potential for REDD

- Strong environment agency (ANAM)
- Reasonable technical capacity for MRV
- Functioning protected areas
- Significant recognition of indigenous self-government & territorial rights
- Declining deforestation rates with 45% of territory still with forest.

# REDD: A New Challenge

- Forestry policies traditionally have not focused on reducing deforestation.
- They have focused on protected areas, timber production, and environmentally friendly alternatives.
- Powerful interests outside forest sector cause most deforestation in Latin America.
- Weak environmental agencies are poorly equipped to address that.

# R-Plan Strengths

- ANAM pro-active / has ownership (invested time & began discussions)
- Useful information & proposals
- Frames REDD within Panama's overall approach to natural resource management
- Strong emphasis on communication & dissemination – to educate & build support from other sectors

# Issues – 1 -

- Weak deforestation / degradation diagnosis
- REDD interventions only outlined – no clear targeting / impact strategy
- Focus on environmentally friendly business & regulation of logging and in protected areas. Not clear if that would reduce deforestation.

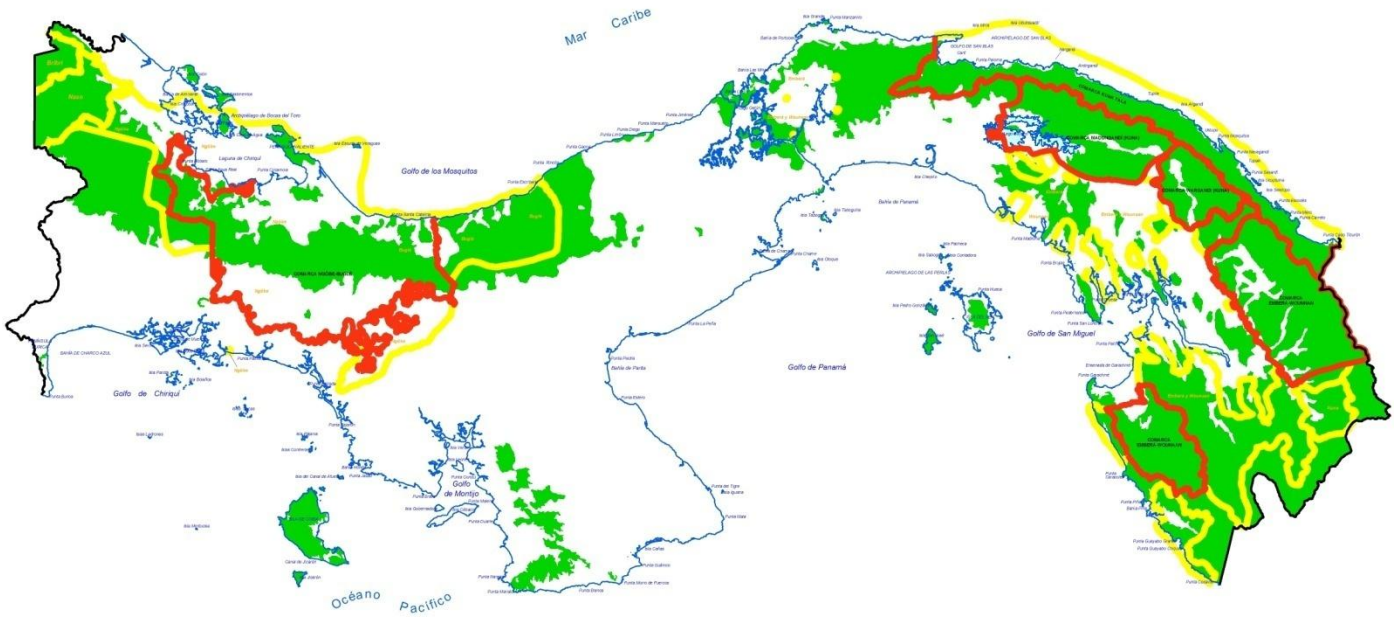
**Outstanding issues:**

- How far must go at the R-Plan stage?
- Does Panamá need new strategies if deforestation is declining?

# Issues -2-

- Indigenous Peoples (IPs) important – 34% of forest in five recognized indigenous territories (comarcas). Pending claims to more forest.
- Initial discussions held. R-Plan proposes dissemination & consultation activities.
- IPs apparently want more direct benefits that R-PLAN seems to offer.
- Elected IP authorities in CONAPIP sent letter expressing disatisfaction.

# Forests & IPs in Panama



# Recommendations -1-

- Stronger analysis of deforestation / degradation. (how much, where, causes)
- Base REDD strategy (interventions, reference scenarios & MRV) on that analysis, w/ a well articulated & targeted approach to reducing net emissions, as well as achieving co-benefits.
- Focus more on “extra-sectoral” policies that affect forests.

# Recommendations -2-

- Give IPs the attention 35-40% of forests merits.
- Ensure proposed strategy complies with Panamanian & international law related to IPs.
- Consider tenure conflicts, encroachment & pending land claims.
- Move from informing towards a dialogue between equals (each w/ rights & responsibilities).
- Maximize social co-benefits from REDD activities, particularly for IPs.

# Recommendations -3-

- Consider adopting all/part of review's 30+ specific recommendations.

Consult with in-coming Panamanian authorities to ensure continued progress under the new administration.