DRAFT - A COUNTRY NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON REDD+ READINESS AMONG UN-REDD AND FCPF MEMBER COUNTRIES

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General introduction

The global initiative to contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing carbon emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+),conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks and sustainable forest management (REDD+), developed under the UNFCCC, has the potential to contribute significantly to this quest. In a unique effort, over 70 countries have come together to collaborate in enhancing forest management for carbon sequestration and sustainable management of forested landscapes. The UN-REDD Programme and the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) have over the last 4 years supported 52 countries to take important steps towards "REDD+ Readiness" and to substantively participate in the developing REDD+ mechanism, and partake in financial arrangements to incentivize reduction of forest carbon emissions. So far, the UN-REDD Programme has approved support to national programmes in 16 countries, and the FCPF has also committed grants to 20 countries and today, those countries are in various phases of development of their national REDD+ Programmes.

The progress made by countries in their REDD+ efforts since the Cancun Agreements, and the rapid development of the UN-REDD Programme, led the UN-REDD Policy Board to request a Country Needs Assessment (CNA) in order to inform the planning of future national and global programmes. In parallel, the Participants Committee (PC) of the FCPF also requested an assessment of REDD+ country readiness needs in order to guide further support to REDD+ countries. The PC further instructed that similar existing or planned activities undertaken by other initiatives should be taken into account, including those of the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) and the UN-REDD Programme. Based on these requests and recommendations; a joint UN-REDD – FCPF country needs assessment was decided upon and undertaken. The study covered 52 countries involved in the UN-REDD Programme and FCPF.

This country needs assessment report is organized and presented in sections namely; introduction, literature review, methodology of the assessment, findings from country case studies based on in-depth assessment of six countries and the responses from other countries to whom survey instruments were distributed, and conclusions.

1.1 Process

A team of three consultants was contracted to develop a methodology for the country needs assessment. The methodology was developed in close cooperation with the Secretariats of both, the FCPF and the UN-REDD Programme, as well as a Working Group, constituted of members of the UN-REDD Policy Board, to advise and oversee the process.

Specifically, the country needs assessment process covered:

(i) A *methodology* for assessing country needs for support in the readiness process

(ii) *A desk assessment of countries' needs for support,* informed by a survey extended to all 52 UN-REDD and FCPF partner countries, complemented by a literature review.

(iii) An *in-depth CNA* in 6 selected partner countries visited by the consultants and the collection of information from countries to whom survey instruments; a response matrix and 6 overview questions, were distributed.

Literature review

The purpose of this literature review section is to cite relevant literature on global assessments that have recently been conducted to identify and describe the existing capacities and needs of countries to prepare themselves to reach REDD+ readiness. Recognizing that capacity in its broad sense is important in reaching readiness, literature on capacity assessments in the field of environment and natural resources, besides REDD+ are also reviewed. The methodologies applied in these assessments are also reviewed to enable comparisons and validation of the methodology that this assessment proposed and applied.

1.1 Financing needs for REDD+ readiness – cost estimates for REDD+

Since one of the objectives of the CNA exercise was to develop a methodology that could be used later in subsequent assessments, a review of recent assessments on the capacity of countries in various aspects of REDD+ and related areas of natural resources management was considered prudent. In this regard a few recent and noteworthy studies are briefly described.

Simula (2010) conducted a global study on REDD+ financing which investigated both financing needs and sources. The approach used was an extensive review of literature from a wide variety of sources.

The key sources of information were documents such as FCPF RPPs, UN-REDD NDPs, databases of the CDM, Voluntary REDD+ (VRD), special funds such as the Amazon and Congo Basin Funds, and a report on REDD+ financing and activities survey, that was prepared for the Intergovernmental Task Force for the May 2010 Oslo Climate and Forest Conference. Multi and bilateral donors also provided financial information for the study. His main findings were that there was a lot of variation between the financial needs of countries for any given readiness component. He concluded that the variation in national needs for financing REDD+ readiness is related to a number of variables namely; country size, prevailing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, ability to contribute to emission reductions, existing capacities and previous investments in REDD+. The variation that Simula (2010) refers to is illustrated herein (Tables 1.and 2). Table 2 shows variations between costs estimated in R-PINs and R-PPs and also from the Eliasch Report which has already been described herein. He also observed that the independent review of RPPs and NPDs had made improvements in estimates of financial needs, even though most of those estimates have been made by international consultants, sometimes working together with researchers and academics. In general he suggests that improvements can be made in the aspect of estimating financing and particularly transaction costs, that has been a missing element in the current estimates.

Before Simula (2010), Hoare et al (2008) contained in the Eliasch Review (2008)conducted a study to estimate the costs of building capacities in 25 rainforest nations to substantively participate in REDD. These 25 rainforest nations reportedly experienced 7.7 million hectares of forest loss per year between 2000 and 2005, corresponding to 60 percent of the reporting net forest loss of all countries for that period. Modeled estimates of carbon emissions of the same countries accounted for 6.5 GtCO2 in 2002, constituting 78 percent of global emissions from land use, land-use change and forests, hence their importance. The countries are in Africa (Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone), Asia (Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Vietnam) and the Americas (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela). The Eliasch Review (2008) collected information through a combination of desk studies and interviews with relevant stakeholders and experts. Also included was information on the required governance and their estimated costs, which is an important cost for any REDD programme at both national and sub-national scales. The assumptions to the study were; i) sufficient political will to guarantee success of REDD Programmes and projects, ii) implementation costs will be borne from carbon revenues and iii) that there will be sufficient international demand for credits.

To estimate costs of managing REDD governance and policy measures associated with readiness for REDD, The Eliasch Review (2008) created three categories namely; i) establishment of a REDD infrastructure: activities specific to REDD such as developing baselines, undertaking inventories, monitoring and project approval processes ii) developing a strategy for REDD: activities analysing the various drivers of deforestation and iii) identifying the approaches to be used to reduce deforestation and degradation and iv) implementation of the REDD strategy. The above four categories of intervention were then costed, drawing upon information from previous programme activities, mainly paid for by development aid, as well as some estimates made by countries themselves. The study found that the potential costs of governance interventions to allow a single country to participate in REDD ranged from $14 million to $92 million, spent over five years, which works out to a range of $340 million to $2.3 billion, for the 25 countries over five years. Expanding this to a global scale and setting the number of significantly forested countries to 40, the range is from $550 million to $3.7 billion. Information made available after 2008 could yield different results, but the methodology is interesting and could still be used to analyze current information, including the ones that this study will reveal after the analysis of the cost estimates from the response matrices from all the countries that were involved and responded to this CNA study. IIED (2008) in a study also looking at REDD financing, concluded that needs depend on national circumstances, including drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, governance structures and systems. They further concluded that the governance context of many tropical forest countries require substantial prior investments in land tenure clarification and improved law enforcement before market-based finance can become feasible.

Pagiola & Bosquet (2009) proposed a framework for assessing costs of REDD+, which is also useful for estimating needs for financing. They separated three cost categories: (a) design and implementation of the REDD+ program which are relevant for Phases 1 and 2, respectively, (b) opportunity costs reflecting the foregone benefits of alternative land use for REDD+ program, and (c) transaction costs which are associated with the performance-based payment schemes. While the latter two types of cost would

occur during Phase 3 and are discussed in detail in section 2.2, they are important in the development of safeguards where opportunity costs may matter to local communities and also for building a business case for REDD+ to convince skeptics and to demonstrate the competiveness of REDD+ as an alternative land use, with co-benefits.

Table 1: Examples of UN-REDD Country Budgets by Component and Country

Component	-USD 1000-								
	DRC	Bolivia	Indonesia	Panama	PNG	Tanzania	Zambia	Vietnam	Total
1.Organize and consult	1,612	495	1,600	2,306	1,465	1,100	2,023	1,354	11,955
2. REDD+ Strategy	1,108	2,855	2,275			1,500	192	2,417	10,346
3. Reference Level	260	300	450	800	450	600	729		3,589
4. Monitoring system	2,160	750	950	2,194	500	600	1,252		8,408
Programme Management						200		350	200
Indirect support cost	360		294		169	280	294		1,036
Grand total	5,500	4,400	5,569	5,300	2,584	4,280	4,490	4,121	35,533

Source: UN-REDD National Programme budgets

Table 2: Comparison of cost estimates of FCPF Readiness Plan Notes (R-PINs) and Readiness Project Proposals (R-PPs)

Component	R-PINs (2008)		R-PPs (2010)		Eliasch Review****
	Average	Range	Average	Range	Range
	-USD 1000-				
1.Plan and Organize**	890	520 -1,297	3,020	540 – 10,240	150 – 2,000
2. REDD+ Strategy***	841	550 – 1,240	4,860	670 – 16,000	900 – 2,500
3. Reference scenario	516	200 – 1,200	1,410	300 – 6,150	1,000 – 4,000
4. Monitoring System	1,008	250 – 1,560	4,540	248 – 30, 240	--
Total	**3,255**	**2,050 – 4,627**	**13,830**	**4,060-39,540**	**2,050 – 8,500**

* Average for small to medium countries
** R-PINs include costs of REDD Management, consultations
*** R-PINs include development of REDD Strategy, environmental and social impact assessments and design of implementation framework
**** The cost breakdowns are not the same as in R-PINs and R-PPs. Costs of REDD Strategy include here also REDD implementation framework. Plan and organize include only consultations. No cost estimates was prepared for design of monitoring system which is partly included in the costs of reference scenario

Source: Simula (2010)

The studies cited here show that the costs of REDD+ readiness are formidable and will likely require significant efforts to meet, and it seems that if some assumptions in the Eliasch Review (2008) and

others (Brokhaus et al. 2011, Chatham House (2010), such as political support for REDD+ and governance are not met, then the costs could even increase. The results from this needs assessment should therefore be viewed in the context of some of these studies.

In the survey of Latin America and the Caribbean region during this CNA exercise, it was found that the total necessary funding for the 11 countries covered was approximately 103 million US dollars, generally over 3 years. However, the allocation of funding so far for the region is about 20 million US$. Among the readiness component, monitoring system (MRV) claimed the single largest portion of country budgets; claiming an average of up 28% of the total finance needs , followed by the preparation of the REDD+ strategy (27%) and the organisation and consultation component (23%). The other components (reference level and programme management) take up the remaining 20% of the total requirements (Table 3).

There is significant variation in the use of the budgets between countries, as can be observed in Figure 3. This is probably due to the different levels of preparation for REDD readiness in each country, as well as the support that is received from other financial sources. This variation could also be explained in part by the interpretations given to some budgeted activities that cannot easily be classified into the four categories (mainly for the UN REDD countries).The total requirements vary between countries from a minimum of US$ 3.5 million in Costa Rica to a maximum of US$ 23 million in Mexico. The countries with financial requirements above US$ 10 million are Colombia and Peru. The average of the remaining countries that have financial requirements below US$ 10 million is around US$ 5.3 million source (Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs).

2.2 Institutional arrangements and organizational responses to developments in REDD+

Regarding the role and functioning of Multilateral REDD+ Initiatives, Hardcastle et al (2011) of the IDL Group assessed the achievements of four Multilateral Initiatives (MIs) (FCPF, UN-REDD, FIP, GEF) in enabling REDD+ progress, to identify possible gaps for further support. The assessment covered aspects such as the role and operations of MIs, coordination, overlaps and gaps, national ownership and transformational change, knowledge transfer to REDD+ countries and stakeholder engagement. The study relied mainly on direct interviews of representatives of stakeholder groups. Relevant to this CNA process, respondents appreciated the increasing coordination among MIs, particularly UN-REDD and FCPF, and the role played by the two to define readiness and support for processes in that regard. Examples of recommendations relevant to this CNA process, is among others; that MIs and donor governments increase support to government-donor coordination arrangements, provide clarity on funding streams and clarify the scale and sustainability of such funds. Furthermore MIs must continue to assist partners to progress rapidly and demonstrate that REDD+ will deliver substantial finances to generate much needed political buy-in in REDD+ countries and to urgently address coordination of safeguard measures. From a financing viewpoint, MIs ought to pursue a common delivery platform for interventions in REDD+ and even use joint missions. This is related also to the issues of REDD+ and forest governance which a number of authors have looked at (Brockhouse et al 2011, Chatham House (2010).

2.3 Other notable studies on REDD+ readiness and capacity assessments

The IGES Report (2010) describes in a very comprehensive way what REDD+ Readiness entails at a national scale using Indonesia and Vietnam as case studies and has a useful description on strategy building and the development of both reference and reference emission levels.

From a methodological standpoint the MDG Needs Assessment (MDG 2004) has outlined a methodological approach which lists generic interventions on REDD+, the setting of targets for each intervention, estimates of synergies across interventions, use of models to estimate resource requirements and the development of a financing strategy. In many ways, the approach has similarities with that used in this CNA in the sense that the readiness components and the relevant actions or interventions are expressed as capacities and questions asked under each if support and what kind of support is needed and later a question on financial implications is asked. Again from a capacity standpoint, this CNA was informed by the approach of UNDP (2008) which recognizes the fact that capacity exists at three levels namely, enabling environment (systemic), the organizational and the individual, all or any of which, can be used as entry points in an assessment of capacities. The capacity issues around which, assessments are made, include institutional arrangements, leadership, knowledge and accountability systems. This CNA exercise has applied the aspects of institutional arrangements, knowledge and accountability systems in designing the response matrix, which is reflected in the questions under each of the readiness components. During country visits, countries were advised to describe capacity issues at the three levels recognized in the UNDP capacity procedures. In any subsequent needs assessments this approach which has steps such as stakeholder engagement, assessment of capacity assets, formulating capacity responses, implementing capacity development and evaluating the process, is recommended particularly at the beginning of Phase II of readiness.

2.4 Readiness needs in some technical aspects of REDD+

The technical aspects of REDD+ readiness can be expressed in terms of capacities, which as implied, refers both to the availability of specific technical skills and the structures and systems that enable those skills to be productively used. This is the case in a global assessment on country capacities in MRV done by Herold et al (GOLF GOLD, 2009). The study used various sources of information, mostly reports submitted to UN bodies such as FAO and UNFCCC and also the World Bank to extract data and information on existing capacity to monitor and analyze data on changes in forest cover, and also estimate greenhouse gas emissions that are associated with such changes. In developing a framework for the assessment exercise they looked at capacities in greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, forest monitoring capacities, cooperation with other institutions and specific country characteristics. In a more elaborate framework these capacities are expressed through their sub-components and for each, the required or expected capacities are listed. Components for monitoring included (Table 3) planning and design, data collection, monitoring (many factors), accuracy assessment and verification, data treatment and reference emission levels.

Table 3: Summary of country capacities for monitoring forest area change and forest inventories for a selection

Forest Inventory	**Forest area change monitoring**					
	No forest cover map	Forest cover map (external)	Multiple forest cover maps (external)	forest cover map in-house OR multiple maps, latest before 2000	Regular forest area mapping most recent after 2000	No forest cover map
	No consistent national field inventory				Congo Ecuador Nepal	Bolivia Colombia Malaysia
	One national inventory (external)	Guyana CAR Gabon Nigeria Kenya	Zambia	Liberia	Ghana Panama	Costa Rica Brazil
	Multiple inventories (external)			DR Congo, PNG		
	One or more Inventories available (in-country), most recent before 2000		Cameroon Suriname	Madagascar	Laos	Indonesia Peru Vietnam
	Regular forest inventories (in-country), most recent after 2000					India Mexico

Source: Herold et al, 2009.

A total of 99 Annex I Countries were assessed on the following:

- Current monitoring and reporting capabilities for forest area change and carbon stocks, to quantify and report on national estimates of carbon emissions from forest change;
- Availability of data from remote sensing data sources for annual forest area change monitoring;
- Remote sensing capacity building recommendations;
- Capacity building recommendations with respect to country specific REDD requirements and opportunities and carbon stock assessments, with a focus on 30 countries;
- Recommendations for regional and global capacity building activities.

The information on the 30 countries, are provided in Table 4.

Table 4: Components and required capacities for establishing a national monitoring system for REDD.(Source: Herold et al , 2009)

Planning & Design	Need for establishing a forest monitoring system as part of a national REDD implementation plan	• Knowledge on international UNFCCC negotiations and guidance for monitoring and implementation • Knowledge of national REDD implementation strategy and objectives
	Assessment of existing national forest monitoring framework and capacities, and identification of gaps in the existing data sources	• Understanding of IPCC LULUCF estimation and reporting requirements • Synthesis of previous national and international reporting (i.e. UNFCCC national communications & FAO Forest Resources Assessment) • Expertise in estimating terrestrial carbon dynamics, related human-induced changes and monitoring approaches • Expertise to assess usefulness and reliability of existing capacities, data sources and information
	Design of forest monitoring system driven by UNFCCC reporting requirements with objectives for historical period and future monitoring	• Detailed knowledge in application of IPCC LULUCF good practice guidelines • Agreement on definitions, reference units, and monitoring variables and framework • Institutional framework specifying roles and responsibilities • Capacity development and long-term improvement planning • Cost estimation for establishing and strengthening institutional framework, capacity development and actual operations and budget planning
	Need for establishing a forest monitoring system as part of a national REDD implementation plan	• Knowledge on international UNFCCC negotiations and guidance for monitoring and implementation • Knowledge of national REDD implementation strategy and objectives
	Forest area change assessment (activity data)	• Review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information • Understanding of deforestation drivers and factors • If historical data record insufficient – use of remote sensing: • Expertise and human resources in accessing, processing, and interpretation of multi-date remote sensing imagery for forest changes • Technical resources (Hard/Software, Internet, image database) • Approaches for dealing with technical challenges (i.e. cloud cover, missing data)
	Changes in carbon stocks	• Understanding of processes influencing terrestrial carbon stocks • Consolidation and integration of existing observations and information, i.e. national forest inventory or permanent sample plots: • National coverage and carbon density stratification • Conversion to carbon stocks and change estimates • Technical expertise and resources to monitor carbon stock changes: • In-situ data collection of all the required parameters and data processing • Human resources and equipment to carry out field work (vehicles, maps of appropriate scale, GPS, measurements units)

		• National inventory/permanent sampling (sample design, plot configuration) • Detailed inventory in areas of forest change or "REDD action" • Use of remote sensing (i.e. for stratification) • Estimation at sufficient IPCC Tier level for: • Estimation of carbon stock changes due to land use change • Estimation of changes in forest areas remaining forests • o Consideration of impact on five different carbon pools
	Emissions from biomass burning	• Understanding of national fire regime and fire ecology, and related emission for different greenhouse gases • Understanding of slash and burn cultivation practice and knowledge of the areas where being practiced • Fire monitoring capabilities to estimate fire affected area and emission factors: • Use of satellite data and products for active fire and burned area • Continuous in-situ measurements (particular emission factors)
	Forest area change assessment (activity data)	• Review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information • Understanding of deforestation drivers and factors • If historical data record insufficient – use of remote sensing: • Expertise and human resources in accessing, processing, and interpretation of multi-date remote sensing imagery for forest changes • Technical resources (Hard/Software, Internet, image database) • Approaches for dealing with technical challenges (i.e. cloud cover, missing data)

Data collection & monitoring	Changes in carbon stocks	• Understanding of processes influencing terrestrial carbon stocks
		• Consolidation and integration of existing observations and information, i.e. national forest inventory or permanent sample plots:
		  ○ National coverage and carbon density stratification
		  ○ Conversion to carbon stocks and change estimates
		• Technical expertise and resources to monitor carbon stock changes:
		  ○ In-situ data collection of all the required parameters and data processing
		  ○ Human resources and equipment to carry out field work (vehicles, maps of appropriate scale, GPS, measurements units)
		  ○ National inventory/permanent sampling (sample design, plot configuration)
		  ○ Detailed inventory in areas of forest change or "REDD action"
		  ○ Use of remote sensing (i.e. for stratification)
		• Estimation at sufficient IPCC Tier level for:
		  ○ Estimation of carbon stock changes due to land use change
		  ○ Estimation of changes in forest areas remaining forests
		  ○ Consideration of impact on five different carbon pools

	Emissions from biomass burning	• understanding of national fire regime and fire ecology, and related emission for different greenhouse gases • understanding of slash and burn cultivation practice and knowledge of the areas where being practiced • fire monitoring capabilities to estimate fire affected area and

		emission factors: • use of satellite data and products for active fire and burned area • continuous in-situ measurements (particular emission factors)
	Accuracy assessment and verification	• understanding of error sources and uncertainties in the assessment process knowledge on the application of best efforts using appropriate design, accurate data collection, processing techniques, and consistent and transparent data interpretation and analysis • expertise on the application of statistical methods to quantify, report and analyze uncertainties for all relevant information (i.e. area change, change in carbon stocks etc.) using, ideally, a sample of higher quality information
	National GHG information system	• Knowledge on techniques to gather, store, and analyze forest and other data, with emphasis on carbon emissions from LULUCF • Data infrastructure, information technology (suitable hard/software) and human resources to maintain and exchange data and quality control
Data treatment	Analysis of drivers and factors of forest change	• Understanding and availability of data for Spatio-temporal processes affecting forest change, socio-economic drivers, spatial factors, forest management and land use practices, and spatial planning • Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and use of modeling tools
Reference emission levels	Establishment of reference emission level and regular updating	• Data and knowledge on deforestation and forest degradation processes, associated GHG emissions, drivers and expected future developments • Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and modeling tools • Specifications for a national REDD implementation framework
Reporting	National and international reporting	• Expertise in accounting and reporting procedures for Lulucf using the IPCC GPG • Consideration of uncertainties and procedures for independent international review

The response matrix that was developed for this CNA exercise was based largely on the design of this work and is reflected in the questions asked under each of the components and sub-components of readiness.

2. Methodology for the current assessment of country needs for REDD+ readiness

3.1 General methodological framework

After a review of recent needs assessments in REDD+, including approaches to assess systemic, institutional and individual capacities in the preceding section, this section describes a methodological framework for undertaking the Country Needs Assessment on REDD+ as described in the terms of reference provided for this purpose by the UN-REDD Programme (UN-REDD) and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank (FCPF). It focuses on the assessment of technical, institutional and financial needs of countries to complete phases I and II of REDD+, as outlined in the Cancun Agreements and as defined by the UNFCCC COP decisions. It will facilitate the alignment of the activities of UN-REDD and FCPF with the needs and priorities of their partner countries. With a view to fulfil this objective, the

proposed methodology adopted as reference the readiness components defined in the decisions of UNFCCC COP XVI and XVII, with additional elements added from the R-PP template (v. 6) and from the Support to National REDD+ Actions of UN-REDD.

3.2 Key assumptions

In its design and description, the assessment made the following assumptions:

i. All partner or participating countries in the FCPF or UN-REDD processes have access to and are familiar with the concept of REDD+ readiness, as defined or articulated under the components of readiness in the R-PP Template Version 6 and the Cancun Decisions (UNFCCC COP 16) and outcomes of COP 17 in Durban on REDD+ (SBSTA and LCA Reports).

ii. The original expressions of countries' readiness needs are contained in official documents such as Readiness Programme Proposals (RPPs) of the FCPF, UN-REDD National Programme Documents (NPDs) and National Forest Programmes (NFPs) and others.

iii. In a number of cases the needs of countries may have changed since the latest versions of the national documents were prepared and the national programmes are currently undergoing various stages of implementation.

iv. The choice of 6 countries for in-depth needs assessments out of a total of 52 countries was made on the basis that it is a reasonable initial sample for yielding useful information on the context of readiness and to complement and verify data and information from survey results and information drawn from the literature.

3.3 The components of REDD+

As already indicated the CNA methodology used in this exercise was based on the main REDD+ readiness components as identified in the UNFCCC decisions, especially the Cancun Agreements (Decision 1/CP.16) and the draft COP 17 decision on REDD+ Safeguards and reference levels. According to those decisions, countries aiming to implement REDD+ should develop a strategy or action plan, a national forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels, a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system and a system to provide information on safeguards. Furthermore, countries are requested to address, inter alia, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure, forest governance, gender considerations and a number of social and environmental safeguards. The readiness phase is defined as efforts for building capacities for development of national strategies or action plans, policies and measures and technology development and transfer that will allow the implementation of the strategy/action plan and achievement of measurable, reportable and verifiable results on REDD+.

The components of REDD+ as defined in the UNFCCC decisions are the basis for the FCPF and UN-REDD templates for national programmes and for the document; Support to National REDD+ Actions – Global Programme Framework Document. For each of the broad components defined in the UNFCCC decisions, key indicative capacity needs were distilled from operational documents of the UN-REDD and FCPF (R-

PP template (v.6), UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015, UN-REDD Support to National REDD+ Action - Global Programme Framework Document), expert knowledge, independent literature (notably Brockhaus et al., 2011; Hoare et al., 2008; Herold 2009; Davis et al., 2009) and country strategy documents that directly include REDD+. Table 5 presents a summary of the components and subcomponents and the key capacities required and proposed as basis for this countries needs assessment. Table II presents the relationship between the readiness components defined by the methodology and the UNFCCC decisions, the R-PP V.6 and the UN-REDD Support to National REDD+ Action – Global Programme Framework Document.

Table 5: REDD+ Readiness components and capacities to fulfil readiness requirements

Component	Sub component	Capacity to undertake actions toward readiness
1. National REDD+ Governance	1.1. Institutional capacity , coordination mechanism, and legal framework	a) Assessment of institutional reforms, new institutional arrangements needed for REDD+ design /implementation
		b) Effective institutions (with technical capacity, administrative authority, financial capabilities) to manage the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation for REDD+ (esp. forest and land-use sectors)
		c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve law enforcement capacities, MRV, among others
		d) Effective coordination mechanism across ministries at political, technical and administrative levels
		e) Effective coordination mechanism with civil society, indigenous peoples and productive sectors for REDD+ design and Implementation.
		f) Legal evaluation on how to integrate carbon rights, under the actual legislation, including coordination and consultation on how to assign carbon rights
	1.2.Benefit-sharing	a) Design/ test implementation of a transparent and accountable system to channel REDD+ benefits and income from REDD+
		b) Institutional framework for benefit -sharing system BSS
		c) National capacity to observe fiduciary standards for disbursement and reception of funds
		d) Identification, assessment and use of prior and early experiences, including PES and REDD+ demonstration activities to inform REDD+ strategy design/implementation
	1. 3. Consultation and participation process (IPs, Civil society, private sector and other stakeholders)	a) Formal procedures for stakeholder consultations
		b) Capacity development and information supply to facilitate the participation of IPs, forest-dependent communities and others, in the management of REDD+
		c) Capacity development and information dissemination to IPs, forest-dependent communities and others, to ensure their informed participation in the management of REDD+
		d) Formally recognized and applied mechanisms for conflict resolution under REDD+. (carbon rights, IP land tenure, others)
2. REDD+ strategy or action plan	2. 1. REDD+ strategy development and options	a) Use of experiences in natural resources management, forest, agriculture at local, regional (sub-national) and national levels to inform REDD+ strategy design /implementation.
		b) Assessment of drivers of land use change including drivers from outside the forest sector at national level and regional level.

		c) Systems to simulate and monitor impacts at national, regional and local levels for REDD+ policies,
		d): Analyses of REDD +scenarios and their possible impacts on GDP, Forest% GDP, Agriculture% GDP
		e) Costs assessment (opportunity, implementation, institutional and transaction costs) of REDD+ action at local, regional and national level to inform policy and decision making
		f) Identification or assessment of major inconsistencies or conflicts between the objectives of the REDD+ strategy and policies and programs in other sectors (e.g. transport, agriculture, energy, mining, tourism), and ways to address them
		g) Assessment of how existing laws, policies, programs and practices incentivize deforestation and forest degradation
		h) Identify specific reforms in legislation and policies that can be addressed in the short term
		i) Identification of priority areas for pilots and mechanism testing
		j) Testing of specific REDD+ strategy options
	2.2 Multiple benefits of forest and REDD+	a) Information systems on ecosystem-based multiple benefits of forests and REDD+.
		b) Identification and selection of Natural Resource (NR) Accounting methods and other NR valuation systems
		c) Identification, assessment and prioritization of environmental services per region, per ecosystem, other, for REDD pilots programs
		d) Assessment to incorporate multiple benefits of forests in areas such as land-use and spatial planning within national programs and REDD strategies
3. Social and environmental safeguards	3.1. Information on safeguards	a) Identification and understanding of key social, political economic, and environmental risks of REDD+ strategy options
		b) Frameworks to monitor and manage the risks and impacts during REDD+ strategy implementation (e.g. policies, governance, multiple benefits, participation)
		c) Assessment of key gender based risks and potential benefits, and opportunities of REDD+ strategy options, implementation framework
4. Forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels	4.1. Reference emission level / reference level	a) Data and knowledge on priority deforestation and forest degradation processes and drivers, associated GHG emissions, and methods for assessing their future developments
		b) A methodology for estimating historic emissions and to estimate emission scenarios based on expected trends on the drivers of change
		c) Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and modeling tools and a system for networking of institutions / organizations working in the area
5. Systems for national forest monitoring and information on safeguards	5.1. National monitoring framework and capacities	a) Capacity and/or compliance with national and international reporting systems (e.g. UNFCCC national communications, FAO FRA)
		b) Capacity and systems for estimating terrestrial carbon, its dynamics, related human-induced changes, leakage and monitoring approaches
	5.2 Design of monitoring system (area change, accuracy, verification	a) Agreement on definitions, monitoring goals, reference units and monitoring variables
		b) Legally defined institutional arrangements with clarified competencies and technical capabilities

	and reporting)	c) Capacity development plan to cover the priority data and information needs (e.g. cover change, carbon flows, multiple benefits, opportunity costs and environmental risks)
		d) Capacity to review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information (forest inventory, permanent sample plots, REDD+ demonstration activities)
		e) Capacity, systems and procedures to estimate carbon stocks according to chosen IPCC Tier levels and Carbon Pools and to monitor the changes
		f) System and capacity for statistical analysis and interpretation of data in a transparent manner, including the estimation of error
		g) Use of an independent system to verify data and its interpretation
		h) Institutions or platforms ensuring public accessibility to data and information for transparency and the required capacity to run and maintain it
	5.3 Designing an information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and safeguards	a) A system for monitoring how safeguards are being addressed during the implementation of REDD+ activities based on a practical methodology and tools
		b) Identification of the scope and roles for stakeholders and government agencies in the design and implementation of safeguards
		c) Identification of the capacity needed in design and implementation of safeguards
		d) Coordination of the information system for safeguards with monitoring for other needs
		e) Identification of mechanisms for establishing independent monitoring and reviews that allows the effective and appropriate participation of civil society, indigenous peoples, forest-dependent communities, and other stakeholders
6.Transition to a development framework with REDD+ (green economy)	6.1.Transition to a development framework with REDD+ (green economy)	a) Development of national roadmaps to identify what kinds of investments and strategies are needed to integrate REDD+ in development frameworks
		b) Protocols for integrated land-use planning and decision-making to allow the integration of economic, biophysical and social information, by using multi-criteria decision making tools
		c) Capacity to develop integrated visions and reach out to other sectors such as planning and finance to prioritize investment and public spending to promote more sustainable development options
		d) Strengthening policies so that they are pro-poor. Capacity to develop better indicators to guide investments; such as 'GDP of the Poor'
		e) Case studies and comparison with probable impacts of 'business as usual' investment practices and trajectories and those with green economy options in pilot districts (such as agro forestry, more efficient processing of timber, REDD+ projects, payments for environmental services)

Table 6: Comparisons of the structure of the assessment matrix with existing frameworks[1]

Elements of readiness from Cancun and Durban UNFCCC COP decisions	**R-PP (version 6)**	**Response matrix used in the assessment**	**UN-REDD Support to National REDD+ Action - Global Programme Framework Document work areas**
	1. Organize and Consult	1. National REDD+ Governance	
	1.a. National Readiness Management Arrangements	1.1. Institutional capacity , coordination mechanism, and legal framework	2. National REDD+ governance
	1.b. Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups	*(not directly related to readiness needs)*	
	1.c. Consultation and Participation Process	1. 3 Consultation and Participation process (IPs, Civil society, other stakeholders)	4. Engagement of Indigenous Peoples (IP), civil society and other stakeholders
National strategy or action plan	2. Prepare the REDD+ Strategy	2. REDD+ strategy or action plan	
	2.a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	2. REDD+ strategy or action plan	
	2.b. REDD+ Strategy Options	1.2 Benefit sharing	3. Transparent, equitable and accountable management of REDD+ funds
	2.c. REDD+ Implementation Framework	1. National REDD Governance	
	2.d. Social and Environmental Impacts during Readiness Preparation and REDD+ Implementation	2.2 Multiple Benefits of forest and REDD+	5. Ensuring multiple benefits of forests and REDD+
National forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels	3. Develop a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level	4. Forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels 4.1. Reference Emission Level / Reference Level	
	4. Design Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on	3. Social and Environmental Safeguards 3.1. System for providing Information	1. Measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and

[1] The numbering reflects how the matrix is organized. Column 4 shows how the different components relate to the UN-REDD Programme Support to National REDD+ Action - Global Programme Framework Document work areas.

	Safeguards	on safeguards	monitoring
Robust, transparent national forest monitoring system	4.a. National Forest Monitoring System	5. Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards 5.1. Assessment of existing national monitoring framework and capacities 5.2 Design of monitoring system (Area change, accuracy, verification and reporting)	
System for providing information on safeguards	4.b. Designing an Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5. Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards 5.1. Assessment of existing national monitoring framework and capacities 5.2 Design of monitoring system (Area change, accuracy, verification and reporting)	
		6.Transition to a development framework with REDD+ (green economy)	6. REDD+ as a catalyst for transformations to a green economy

The comprehensive list of required capacities aims to allow countries to reflect on all necessary steps to have a readiness component fulfilled and ensure that the needs identified by this assessment are informed by a consistent understanding of the elements of readiness.

The identified readiness components and indicative capacity needs were used to develop a response matrix and accompanying questionnaire with the objective to systematically collect and organize the countries' stated needs to reach the capacity required for readiness under each readiness component. Responses are expected to vary depending on the country specific context, and the matrix allows for responses to reflect local circumstances. Respondents will be asked to fill in the matrix as precisely as possible, one component at a time. *The ultimate purpose of the matrix will be to i) summarize the needs in a tabular format for easy reference; ii) rank the needs under each component in order of preference and urgency; iii) clearly identify who is targeted or is the beneficiary of support if and when the need is addressed; and iv) facilitate aggregations and comparisons of responses to each component across countries.* The response matrix is in Annex III.

Having defined the overarching framework that will guide the countries needs assessment, the execution of the study consisted of six main steps:

i. Administration of the matrix and questionnaire as a 'remote survey' to the UN-REDD and FCPF REDD+ countries.
ii. Semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with six partner countries of the UN-REDD Programme to enrich the assessment with a detailed context and rationale regarding the readiness process in countries at different stages of readiness and with different circumstances. The six selected countries will respect a regional balance approach, being two from each region (Latin America, Africa and Asia-Pacific).

iii. Administration of a complementary questionnaire for enabling the six countries to be visited to further express key aspects of their current status in REDD+ readiness and perspectives on their priority needs for further progress[2].
iv. A review of literature and use of expert knowledge to develop the core products to guide the assessment; a matrix and questionnaire to facilitate data collection.
v. A literature review to compile background data for the assessment, complementing the information collected from the survey and country visits.
vi. Analysis of collected data which will entail the collation of data and information, interpretation and grouping of needs, and the formulation of recommendations derived from the stated needs.

Since one of the objectives of this exercise is to develop a framework for future needs assessments, this assessment exercise was also to test the approach and methodology and provide insights on how to refine it for future applications.

3.4 The CNA data collection process

3.4.1 Remote Survey of Country Needs for REDD+ readiness

A survey was conducted, by mailing survey instruments consisting, a response matrix reflecting readiness components, a set of six overview questions and an accompanying 'user guide' to country focal points in all 52 countries. The results are presented in narrative and tabular formats in the next section. In describing country needs, information that has been published in country documents such as RPPs, NPDs and other reports were taken into account.

3.4.2 In-depth CNA

For the in-depth country needs assessments, the work was coordinated with the country governments and the teams from the UN-REDD Programme and FCPF. The assessment also benefitted from inputs from key country actors, including government officials, REDD+ technical committees, if existing, and from other stakeholders. The matrix and questionnaire were used as tools to guide the discussions. The visits to the six countries were used to enrich country responses with case studies representing countries at different stages toward readiness and various socio-economic and political settings. The data and information collected during the semi-structured expert interviews were analyzed, interpreted and compared with data collected from documentation such as REDD+ action plans (R-PP/NPD), official statistics and other literature, prior to the study.

The key rationale for the in-country visits was that i) it enabled stakeholders who may not be privy to the filling of matrices, to speak directly with the consultants; ii) facilitated direct and detailed follow-up questions that were necessary to reveal and articulate the context of needs in ways that a remote questionnaire or response matrix could not and iii) offered stakeholders an opportunity to speak freely and frankly to an independent person on REDD+ related matters that are important for them.

[2] The questionnaire is in Annex II

3.4.3 Justification for the proposed approach

As already stated herein, this assessment used a combination of literature surveys and questionnaires for direct country responses. This approach borrowed from earlier assessments but most of which relied on review of literature and a sample of expert opinions on country needs. Of these, examples such as the report by Herold (2009) and Simula (2010) addressed capacity for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and Analysis of REDD+ Financing Needs and Overlaps, respectively. Herold (2009) relied on reports submitted to UN bodies such as FAO and UNFCCC and also the World Bank to extract data and information on existing capacity to monitor and analyze data on changes in forest cover, and also estimate greenhouse gas emissions that are associated with such changes. Simula (2010) also relied heavily on literature, particularly on documents such as FCPF RPPs, UN-REDD NDPs, databases of the CDM, Amazon and Congo Basin Funds, and a REDD+ financing and activities survey report, that was prepared for the Intergovernmental Task Force for the May 2010 Oslo Climate and Forest Conference. In this CNA study, both existing literature and questionnaires were administered to in-country respondents, and the opinions of regional experts were also obtained. The approach was meant to enrich and add to the knowledge and information that already exists and reveal more interesting insights into how the identified needs could be addressed. Clearly, the context of the needs, and the desired mechanisms to address them, are aspects that are not easy to glean from the current published literature. This is the proposed value-added of the approach proposed in this document.

4. Findings from desk assessments and country studies

4.1 Desk assessment of UN-REDD / FCPF COUNTRIES

4.1.1 Latin America

Introduction

The global surface area of forests, including planted forests, is an estimated 4000 million hectares, covering 31% of the world's land surface area. Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), is home to 22% of the world's forests, with an area of approximately 860 million hectares (FAO, 2009). In South America, the greatest concentration of tropical forests are found in the Amazon Basin (97%), which contains a huge diversity of species, habitats and ecosystems and is home to a great number of people (Cordero, 2011). The rate of deforestation in the region is one of the highest in the world and reaches an annual average of 0.48%. Of the 418 million hectares of natural forest lost at worldwide level in the 30 years up until 2001, 190 million hectares were lost in Latin America (FAO, 2001).

The region has maintained economic stability with steady growth over the past five years. Led by Brazil, LAC had an economic growth of 6% on average over the past five years despite the fall in GDP resulting from the crisis of 2009.Throughout the discussion processes under the UNFCCC, the countries of this region have supported the incorporation of a forest protection mechanism, ever since the CDM discussion which resulted in inclusion of afforestation and reforestation only while forest conservation was not approved as an eligible activity under the mechanism. During discussions on the REDD+, these

countries have actively participated as well as piloted conservation and REDD initiatives in the region, and contributing to the international discussions.

Of the 44 forest countries in LAC, 45% take part of one of the REDD programmes and facilities. However, the progress of implementation of REDD strategies has been slower in LAC than in other regions. This could be partly due to the fact that several countries, especially in South America in the last 5 years, have been reconstructing their political and economic development visions (Bolivia, Ecuador, Argentina, Nicaragua), as changes in the national constitutions have gone ahead, affecting the political positions of these countries with regard to climate change. Radical changes in governments have also occurred in Panama and Guatemala; a principal cause of delays in the processes. Another key factor is staff turnover, considering that REDD is still a new issue and requires the development of additional capacities for its different aspects.

REDD+ Contexts in LAC region

Of the 44 countries in Latin American and the Caribbean, 16 are partners of the UN REDD, FCPF and/or Forest Investment Programmes (FIP). The FCPF has signed agreements with 5 of these countries; Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guyana and Nicaragua, to provide Formulation Grants of US$ 200,000 for the preparation of their REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposals (R-PPs). Of these 5 countries, Colombia and Costa Rica have already received almost the full Grant amount.

Within UN REDD, four of the partner countries; Bolivia, Ecuador, Panama and Paraguay, have had their National Programme (NPs) approved and are receiving direct financial support. In Latin America, the countries that are currently in the implementation phase of the strategy are Panama and Paraguay. Within the FIP, Brazil, Mexico and Peru are considered pilot countries, of which Mexico has had its Investment Plan (IPs) approved and Peru has obtained the approval of its Preparation Grant Request for their Investment Plan.

The rest of the countries are in the phase of presentation and/or assessment of their R-PPs, NPDs or IPs.

Table 7: Situation of the countries in LAC

	Nº	Argentina	Bolivia	Chile	Colombia	Costa Rica	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Guyana	Honduras	México	Nicaragua	Panama	Paraguay	Peru	Surinam
FCPF																	
Countries selected	15	■	■	■	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Participation agreement signed	15	■	■	■	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
R-PP Informal Presentation	8	■			■				■	■		■	■			■	■

R-PP assessed by the PC	7																
R-PP Formulation Grant ($200M) signed	5																
3.4 to 3.6 M$ grants signed	0																
UN-REDD Programme																	
Participant countries	14																
Observer countries	10																
Members countries	4																
PN Signed	4																
PN in implementation	2																
FIP																	
Pilot Country																	

Source: FCPF Dashboard, revised November 2011 and UN-REDD Partner Countries "at a glance". Updated January 2012

With regard to UN REDD, there are 14 partners countries, of which 10 are observers and 4 have prepared and signed their NPDs. By April 2012, the Inception Workshop had been carried out in two countries (Panama and Paraguay) and these countries are now in the implementation phase.

Financial aspects of REDD+ in the region

The approved budgets in LAC under FCPF, FIP and UNREDD are outlined in table 8

Table 8: Approved sum and Agreement signed in LAC

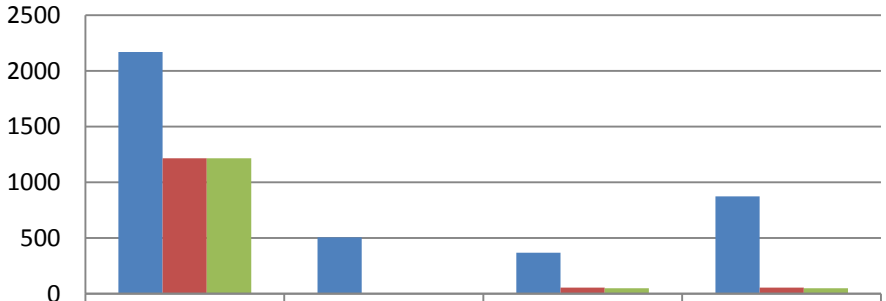
Country	Approved sum (US$)	Agreement signed
Bolivia	4,708,000	National Program Document
Colombia	200,000	Formulation Grant
Costa Rica	200,000	Formulation Grant
Ecuador	4,000,000	National Program Document
El Salvador	200,000	Formulation Grant
Guyana	200,000	Formulation Grant

México	40 - 60,000,000	Investment Plan
Nicaragua	200,000	Formulation Grant
Panama	5,300,000	National Program Document
Paraguay	4,720,000	National Program Document
Peru	250,000	Formulation Grant
Total	**39,978,000 - 79,978,000**	

Source: Readiness Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs)

The funding approved to date under FCPF, UN-REDD Programme and FIP in LAC is approximately 20 million US$, this amount includes the Formulation Grants for RPP design and development approved to date. With regard to the sums that have been paid out under UN REDD, Panama has made the most progress in terms of disbursed in comparison with the other two countries. Paraguay and Panama have both formally initiated the implementation of their NP activities, starting in the early months of 2012 with their inception workshops.

Figure 1. Financial Information in thousands of US$ to December 2011



	Amount Transferred	Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
Panama	2169	506	367	873
Bolivia	1216		54	54
Paraguay	1216		48	48

Source: UN REDD National Programme 2011 Annual Report (Bolivia, Paraguay and Panama)

In Figure1, the Definitions of financial categories are:

- Amount transferred: transfer from the MDTF to the Country programme
- Commitments: Includes all amount committed[3] to date
- Disbursement: Amount paid to a vendor or entity for goods received, work completed, and/or services rendered (does not include un-liquidated obligations)

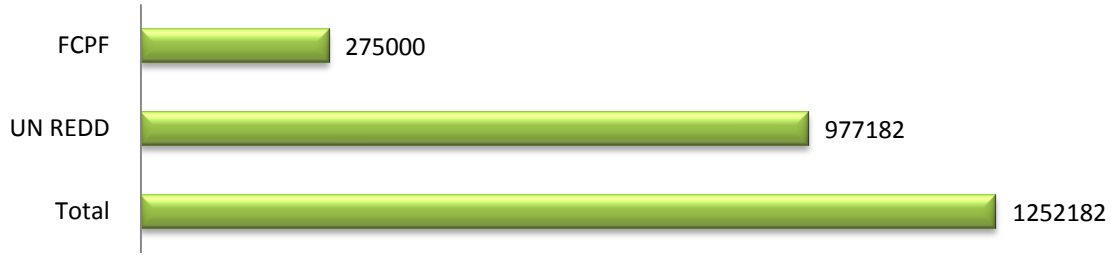
[3]Commitment is the amount for which legally binding contracts have been signed, including multi-year commitments which may be disbursed in future years.

- Expenditures: Total of commitments plus disbursements

In accordance with the country Reports the cumulative expenditures up to December 31st 2011ha been used mainly for recruiting the staff to manage the program, capacity building activities[4], Forest Information Systems and institutional framework design.

Considering the two main sources of multilateral finance for REDD preparation in LAC, from 2009 to December 2011, the funds paid out total US$ 1,252,182, as shown in the following figure:

Figure 2. UN REDD and FCPF funds paid out in LAC up until December 2011 (US$)



Source: Preparation Proposals (R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs)

Analysis of FCPF R-PPs and UN-REDD NPDs

Budgets have been organised on the basis of 4 main components: (1) Organisation and consultation, (2) REDD+ Strategy, (3) Reference Level and (4) Monitoring System. In some countries, mainly those that work under the FCPF, an additional component related to Programme Management has been considered. These components, considered in this first phase of desk assessment, are the same as those considered in later phases.

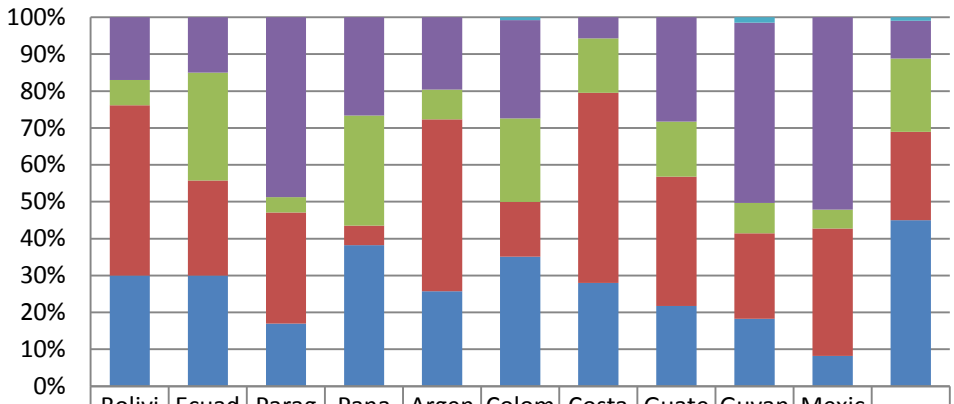
Financing requirements in FCPF R-PPs and UN- REDD NPD

The *total necessary finance for the 11 countries considered was approximately 103 million US dollars*, generally for a period of 2 or 3 years. The *allocation of funding so far for the region is about 20 million US$*. In general, the MRV component has the single largest within national REDD+ budgets; with an average share of 28%, compared to; 27% for REDD+ strategy, 23% for organisation and consultation and the rest sharing the remaining 20%.There is however a significant variation in the use of the budgets between countries, as can be observed in Figure 6. This is probably due to the different levels of preparation for REDD of each country, as well as the support that is received from other financial sources. This variation could also be explained in part by the interpretations given to some budgeted activities that cannot easily be classified into the four categories (mainly for the UN REDD countries).The total requirements vary between countries from a minimum of US$ 3.5 million in Costa Rica to a

[4]The areas for capacity building were REDD+, costs and multiple benefits, Indigenous people and other actors, Reference level and MRV.

maximum of US$ 23 million in Mexico. The countries with finance requirements above US$ 10 million are Colombia and Peru. The average of the remaining countries that have finance requirements below US$ 10 million is around US$ 5.3 million source (Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs).

Figure 3. Structure of NPs and RPPs budget requeriments by component and country in LAC (in thousands US$)



	Bolivia	Ecuador	Paraguay	Panama	Argentina	Colombia	Costa Rica	Guatemala	Guyana	Mexico	Perú
Program Management						140			85		116
Monitoring system	750	527	2149	1414	1875	4930	248	2887	2850	12000	1294
Reference level	300	1030	187	1580	765	4177	642	1520	480	1175	2512
REDD+ Strategy	2030	907	1327	278	4450	2735	2240	3581	1355	7940	3027
Organize and consult	1320	1054	748	2028	2456	6490	1219	2216	1065	1900	5687

Source: Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs)

Table 10: Summary of R-PP and NPD budgets requirements by component (in thousands US$)

Component	Min	Max	Average	Total
Organize and consult	748	6490	25,75%	26183
REDD+ Strategy	278	7940	29,37%	29870
Reference Level	187	4177	14,13%	14368
Monitoring System	248	12000	30,41%	30924
Program management	85	140	0,34%	341

Source: Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs)

The requirements budgeted for the Organisation and Consultation component vary between US$ 0.7 million and US$ 6.5 million (Ecuador and Costa Rica respectively). On average, 26% of the total amount is assigned to this component. With regard to the preparation of the REDD+ strategy, the costs reported vary between US$ 0.2 million in the case of Panama to US$ 7.9 million for Mexico. The average assigned to this component is 29% of the total requirement. Within the monitoring system component, there is again significant variation, from a minimum of US$ 0.2 million in Costa Rica to a maximum amount of US$ 12 million in Mexico. This can be explained given that in Costa Rica the monitoring system has

already been set up and is in operation within the FONAFIFO, whereas in Mexico the great area and diversity of territories justify the requirements established.

Finally, the countries that require the highest levels of investment according to their RPPs and NPDs are Mexico with US$ 23 million (probably due to the size of the country), Guatemala with US$ 20 million and Colombia with US$ 18 million. In the remaining countries, the cost requirements identified are between 3.5 and 12 million dollars.

It is evident that there is wide variation in the needs of the different countries, which bear relation to the specific characteristics of each country, such as the size of the country, the main drivers of deforestation and degradation and their relative importance, existing local capacities, other finance sources, previous investments, etc. As a result, it is difficult to assess the needs of all the countries through the same approach nevertheless countries with similar size and same stage of REDD+ readiness could share some similar needs. This analysis will therefore only help to give an estimate of the situation of the countries with regard to preparation for REDD+. The in-depth analyses developed on Ecuador and Colombia can provide better understanding of the actual and potential needs of these countries that can be extrapolated in some extent to the rest of the region.

Identified Needs and Challenges

On the basis of the general review of progress made on the issue of REDD in Latin America, it is evident that in countries in the implementation phase of their National Programmes, greater progress has been made on technical activities than on activities related to social and political issues. While UNDP requires certain local conditions to be in place in order to be able to start its work, the fact that its work tends to include sensitive issues, covering political, social and governance aspects, this can slow progress. In addition, it is also important to remember that REDD is a relatively new issue and is therefore complex for the majority of Latin American countries. The lack of specialised capacities for dealing with REDD is therefore still a significant gap, especially in the National Programme implementation phase. In fact, the review has highlighted the lack of human resources for coordinating National Programmes; the national focal points identified for REDD implementation in some cases do not have sufficient staff or the staff time assigned to these issues is not sufficient to cover the needs of the process.

Socio-political situations may also hinder institutional coordination and coordination with other key stakeholders, delaying the process of consultation and institutional coordination. It is therefore necessary to focus greater support on creating and/or strengthening local structures for designing and implementing REDD, as well as providing support for strengthening coordination processes that are required for structuring REDD. In the initial stages additional technical support from UNREDD and FCPF staff can help to move country programmes faster than is currently the case.

The countries which participated in the CNA are México, Argentina, Costa Rica, Honduras, Ecuador and Colombia, of which the last two were subjected to in-depth assessments. The countries can be placed in three groups or clusters a) high progress in readiness (Costa Rica and Mexico) b) medium progress (Ecuador and Colombia) and c) low progress (Argentina and Honduras).

4.1.2 Africa and Asia-Pacific

Africa

The forests of Africa are distributed in sub-Saharan Africa and occur in broad eco-regions termed (i) tropical moist (rain) forests, (ii) woodlands and savannas and (iii) sahel. The woodlands and savannas are further subdivided into bio-geographical zones or domains; namely the Zambezian, Sudanian, and semi-arid woodlands. The classification of forested or wooded ecoregions in sub-Saharan Africa cited here is largely based on the *floristic regions* recognized and described by White (1983). Mean annual rainfall in ecoregions in sub-Saharan Africa range from 100 – 400 mm per year in the Sahel to over 1600 mm per year in the tropical moist forests, with the dry forests and woodlands receiving between 400 mm to 1600 mm per year. Tropical moist forests occur at low altitudes under rainfall regimes of over 1600 mm per year. These forests cover an extensive area that is centered around West and Central Africa, and occur in 14 countries in the West African sub-region and Central African sub-regions (Table 1). At higher altitudes of above 900 m, low land moist forests give way to Afromontane broadleaf forests that have a discontinuous distribution from West Africa and the Sudan in the north through, east in the *Albertine Rift* and *Eastern Arc Mountains* in Tanzania, to southern Africa where they are confined to highlands.

In West Africa Sudanian woodlands include the Guinea dry forests in the south and the *Isoberlinia* woodlands in the north that stretch from the Atlantic coast in Guinea across the middle regions of West and Central Africa in six countries. In southern Africa the Zambezian woodlands correspond predominantly to the *Brachystegia–Julbernardia* (miombo) woodlands within which are embedded other woodland formations, such as mopane, acacia and undifferentiated woodlands. In East Africa the semi-arid woodlands correspond to the *Acacia–Commiphora* floristic region while those in southern Africa correspond to *Acacia–Combtretum* formations. The Sahel occupies a narrow band that extends from the Atlantic coast to the Red Sea with vegetation that is dominated by grasses and other herbs with scattered shrubby woody plants, especially *Acacia* and *Commiphora* species.

In much of the continent, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are mainly agricultural expansion, wood energy harvesting, overgrazing and more recently mining including oil and gas. Africa contains 14% to the global population and contributes roughly that proportion to global soil and biomass carbon stocks. By contrast, the continent emits only 3% of global fossil fuel carbon, and 5.3% of the global greenhouse gases from all non-land use sectors. Africa's legacy of historic carbon emissions from deforestation, too, amounts to merely 10% of the global total (Houghtton 2003, Williams et al, 2007). However because of widespread biomass fires and other land uses, emissions of carbon and other Greenhouse Gases (GHG) as a fraction of the global total are over-proportionally high at about 35%. Land-use emissions also dominate the continents own GHG emissions. Compared to Africa's share of people and land area, the continent's GHG fluxes from deforestation and its pyrogenic emissions of trace gases, aerosols and black carbon from forests and savannahs add to the continent's own and to global emissions (Williams et al, 2007). Investments in conserving and managing Africa's forests sustainably, adequately managing fires, and tackling proximate and underlying causes in adjacent sectors, particularly agriculture, energy and infrastructure, promise to contribute pre-eminently to curbing Global Climate Change.

In Africa, 19 countries are partners of the UN-REDD Programme, FCPF and/or Forest Investment Programmes (FIP). The FCPF has signed agreements with 6 of these countries; Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Liberia and Mozambique to provide Formulation Grants of US$ 200,000 for the preparation of their REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposals (R-PPs). Ghana, DRC and the Republic of Congo have further received Preparation grants to enhance their readiness. Under UN-REDD; DRC, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Zambia have received funding for their National Programmes.

Table 11: Distribution of Ecoregions in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2000.

Ecoregion	**Phytoregion**[1]	**Extent**	
		Total land area (km^2)[1]	**Geographical and political area**
Tropical moist (rain) forests	Guineo-Congolian	2800000	Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo, Gabon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.
Sudanian woodlands	Guinea-Congolia/Sudanian transition and Sudanian zones	4896000	Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo.
Zambezian woodlands	Zambezian	4475000	Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania and Burundi
Semi-arid woodlands of southern Africa	Kalahari-Highveld	1223000	Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland.
Semi-arid woodlands of East Africa	Somali-Masai	1873000	Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti.
Sahel	Sahel	12467000	Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Bukina Faso, Niger, Chad, Sudan.

[1] Based on White (1983).

Table 11: Participation of countries in UN-REDD Programme and FCPF – progress overview

	Nº	Benin	Cameroon	CAR	Côte dÍvoire	DR Congo	Equatorial	Ethiopia	Gabon	Ghana	Kenya	Liberia	Madagascar	Mozambique	Nigeria	Republic of	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Zambia
FCPF																				
Countries selected	15		■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		■			■	
R-PP Informal Presentation	7			■				■		■		■	■	■					■	
R-PP assessed by the PC	9			■		■		■		■	■	■		■		■			■	
R-PP Formulation Grant ($200M) signed	9		■			■		■	■	■	■	■		■		■				
3.4 to 3.6 M$ grants signed	3					■				■						■				
UN-REDD																				
Partner country	15	■	■	■	■	■		■	■	■	■				■	■	■	■	■	■
PN Signed	5					■									■	■			■	■
PN in implementation	3					■													■	■
FIP																				
Pilot Country	2					■			■											

Source: FCPF Dashboard, revised November 2011 and UN-REDD Programme partner countries "at a glance" Updated March 2012

The approved budgets in Africa under FCPF and UN-REDD Programme are:

Table 12: Approved sum and Agreement signed in Africa under FCPF and UN-REDD Programme

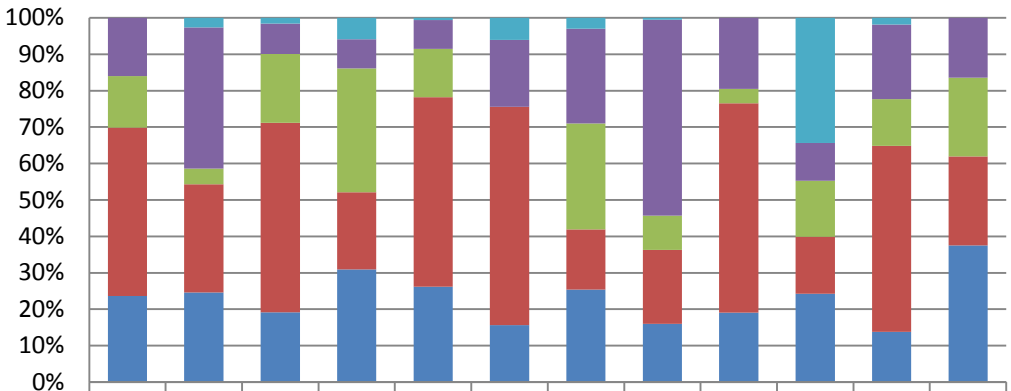
Country	Approved sum (US$)	Agreement signed
Cameroon	200,000	Formulation Grant
DR Congo	10,783,200	National Program Document + Preparation Grant
Ethiopia	200,000	Formulation Grant
Gabon	200,000	Formulation Grant
Ghana	3,600,000	Preparation Grant
Kenya	200,000	Formulation Grant
Liberia	200,000	Formulation Grant
Mozambique	200,000	Formulation Grant
Nigeria	4,000,000	National Program Document
Republic of Congo	7,400,000	National Program Document + Preparation Grant
Tanzania	4,280,000	National Program Document
Zambia	4,490,000	National Program Document
Total	35,753,200	

Source: Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs)

Africa

Financing requirements in FCPF R-PPs and UN-REDD NPD

Figure 4. Structure of FCPF R-PP and UN REDD NPD budget requeriments by component and country in Africa (in thousands US$)



	CAR	DR Congo	Ethiopia	Ghana	Kenya	Liberia	Madagascar	Mozambique	Republic of Congo	Tanzania	Uganda	Zambia
Program Management	0	598	230	430	60	280	165	100		3470	97	
Monitoring system	1067	8810	1170	590	820	845	1445.89	9700	3398	1049	1060	692
Reference level	945	980	2670	2490	1366	0	1615	1697.5	690	1555	665	907
REDD+ Strategy	3080	6749	7345	1557	5358	2765	920.36	3661	9984	1575	2643	1023
Organize and consult	1577	5580	2700	2267	2697	720	1408.1	2882	3321	2451.5	716	1575

Table 13: Summary of R-PP and NDP budgets requirements by component

Component	Min	Max	Average	Total
Organize and consult	716	5580	22,10%	27894
REDD+ Strategy	1023	9984	36,97%	46661
Reference Level	0	2670	12,34%	15580
Monitoring system	590	9700	24,28%	30646
Program manangement	60	3470	4,30%	5430

Asia –Pacific

Southeast Asia's forests cover 214 million hectares and constitute 29 percent of the Asia-Pacific region's total forest area (FAO 2010).Forests covered 49 percent of the land area in the sub-region in 2010, with national forest cover ranging from 26 % in the Philippines to 68 % in Lao PDR. Several countries also have significant areas of other wooded land.[2] The overall rate of forest cover change is reported to have fallen from -1.0 % per annum in the 1990s to -0.3 % up until 2005 subsequent to which the rate of change again increased to -0.5 % per annum Between 1990 and 2010, SE Asia lost just under 33 million hectares and if unchecked projected reductions in forest area between 2010 and 2020 could be equivalent 8.72 giga tonnes of CO_2 emissions, which is almost 85% of total emissions from the EU Transport infra-structure have provided access to markets for many isolated populations and have also increased opportunities for investment and trade. Other drivers are attributed to logging, commercial agriculture, mining and shifting cultivation. High rates of deforestation have been recorded in Sumatra,

Malaysia and Indonesian Borneo, West Papua and Myanmar. Smaller scale forest loss in Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Cambodia and remaining mountain forests in the Philippines. In the Mekong region the production of rubber, cashew nuts, coconut and sugar cane has been a major cause of forest conversion while in coastal areas shrimp ponds and agriculture have resulted in the loss of mangroves. At the sub-regional level, two of the most important crops in terms of forest conversion are rubber and oil-palm.

On a larger scale, rates of deforestation and forest degradation in Southeast Asia were estimated to be around double those in tropical Africa or Latin America (Mayaux *et al*. 2005). As such, forests of SE Asia have demanded attention and focus with regard to global climate change abatement efforts. As forest resources become scarcer in the regions, forest production has opened new frontiers in the sub-region including in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea (PNG).

Table 14: Area of forest and other wooded land in SE Asia (excluding S Pacific) in 2010 and the rate of change in forests

	Forest area 2010 (000 ha)	Forest cover (%)	Annual change in forest area (%)			Area of other wooded land 2010 (000 ha)
			1990-2000	2000-2010	2005-2010	
Cambodia	10,094	57	-1.1	-1.5	-1.2	133
Indonesia	94,432	52	-.1.7	-0.3	-0.7	21,003
Lao PDR	15,751	68	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	4,834
Malaysia	20,456	62	-0.4	-0.7	-0.4	0
Myanmar	31,773	48	-1.2	0.9	0.9	20,133
Philippines	7,665	26	0.8	0.8	0.7	10,128
Thailand	18,972	37	-.0.3	-0.1	0.1	0
Viet Nam	13,797	42	2.3	2.2	1.1	1,124
SE Asia	214,064		-1.0	-0.3	-0.5	57,385

Source: FAO (2010)

REDD+ Contexts in the Asia-Pacific region

In the Asia-Pacific region, 16 countries are partners of the UN REDD, FCPF and/or Forest Investment Programmes (FIP). The FCPF has signed agreements with five of these countries; Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vanuatu to provide Formulation Grants of US$ 200,000 for the preparation of

their REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposals (R-PPs). Indonesia and Nepal have further received Preparation grants to enhance their readiness. Under UN-REDD; Cambodia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Viet Nam have received funding for their National Programmes.

Table 15: Participation of countries in UN-REDD Programme and FCPF – Progress Overview

	Nº	Bangladesh	Bhutan	Cambodia	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Mongolia	Myanmar	Nepal	Pakistan	Papua New Guinea	Philippines	Solomon Islands	Sri Lanka	Thailand	Vanuatu	Viet Nam
FCPF																	
Countries selected	8			■	■	■			■					■	■	■	■
R-PP Informal Presentation	1																■
R-PP assessed by the PC	5			■	■	■			■								■
R-PP Formulation Grant ($200M) signed	5				■	■			■						■	■	
3.4 to 3.6 M$ grants signed	2				■				■								
UN-REDD Programme																	
Partner countries	14	■	■	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■
PN Signed	7			■	■						■	■	■	■			■
PN in implementation	6			■	■						■	■	■				■
FIP																	
Pilot Country	2				■	■											

Source: FCPF Dashboard, revised November 2011 and UN-REDD Partner Countries "at a glance" Updated March 2012

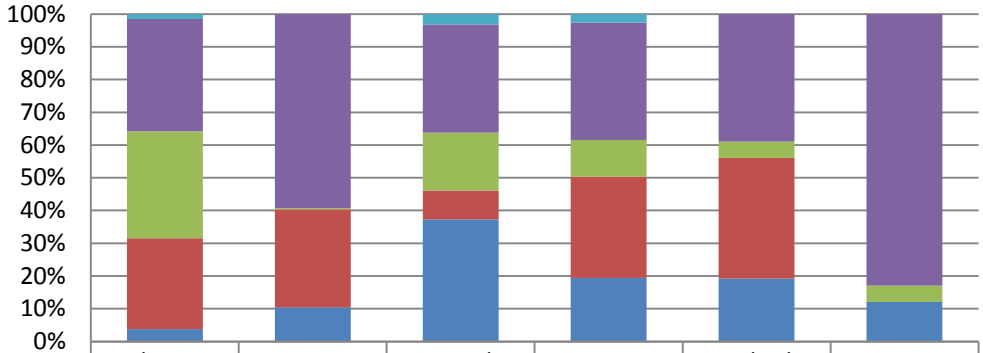
The approved budgets in Africa under FCPF and UN-REDD Programme are:

Table 16: Approved sum and Agreement signed in Asia-Pacific under FCPF and UN-REDD Programme

Country	Approved sum (US$)	Agreement signed
Cambodia	3,001,350	National Program Document
Indonesia	9,244,250	National Program Document + Preparation Grant
Lao PDR	200,000	Formulation Grant
Nepal	3,400,000	Preparation Grant
Papua New Guinea	6,388,884	National Program Document
Philippines	500,000	National Program Document
Solomon Islands	550,000	National Program Document
Sri Lanka	4,000,000	National Program Document
Thailand	200,000	Formulation Grant
Vanuatu	200,000	Formulation Grant
Viet Nam	4,384,756	National Program Document
Total	32,069,240	

Source: Preparation Proposals(R-PPs) and National Programme Documents (NPDs)

Figure 5. Structure of FCPF R-PP and UN-REDD NPD budget requeriments by component and country in Asia and Oceania (in thousands US$)



	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Nepal	Vietnam	Cambodia	PNG
Program Management	285	0	241	230	0	0
Monitoring system	6475	13945	2530	3210	4240	4950
Reference level	6153	85	1355	1000	550	300
REDD+ Strategy	5238	7039	672	2763	4020	0
Organize and consult	713	2448	2857	1736	2095	721

Table 17: Summary of R-PP and NDP budgets requirements by component

Component	Min	Max	Average	Total
Organize and consult	713	2857	13,93%	10569
REDD+ Strategy	0	7039	26,01%	19732
Reference Level	6153	85	12,45%	9443
Monitoring system	2530	13945	46,60%	35350
Program management	0	285	1,00%	756

4.2 Reports on in-depth country assessments

4.2.1 Democratic Republic of Congo

Background

By virtue of its large share of forest cover, which is critical for REDD+ at the national, regional and global levels, the REDD+ Programme of the DRC commands a high status in both local and global dialogue on forests and climate change. Largely because of this, it has received the largest flow of funds of any of the REDD countries in Africa, and is a member of both UN-REDD and the FCPF processes. Prior to these two processes, it has also been a leading country in the Congo Basin Forest Initiative; the COMIFAC, which produced the 'Yaounde Declaration' which was made by the Presidents of countries in the basin. Currently the DRC REDD+ Process is still in Phase I Readiness but which should end by December 2012. In the current project document a 12 million US dollar budget has been elaborated for the beginning of Phase II n 2013, and so far US$ 10 million has been secured, leaving a gap of US$ 2 million. Despite the 2 million dollar shortfall, by the end of 2012, the DRC aims to have attained key annual targets it had set for the REDD+ Programme, namely:

1. A full REDD+ Strategy Document
2. A four-year action plan
3. Reference Levels
4. MRV System that is compliant with Phase II
5. Key Reforms and Institutional Arrangements for the Implementation of REDD+

Some of the targets would not have been reached by the end of 2012 and will continue in 2013. These include *MRV system and structure*, *capacity building*, *decentralization of REDD+* into the provinces and the *strengthening of provincial structures*, *tenure reforms* and *benefit sharing models*.

Progress on REDD+ Readiness

In summary the DRC has accomplished the following:

- It has functional national policy coordination and national technical steering structures
- It has attracted furthers investments through the FIP which will make contributions to its REDD+
- The programme enlisted the support of three internationally reputable institutions to help set its reference levels and reference emission levels and hope to get its work done by the end of

2012. In addition a National Forest Inventory is underway and led by FAO which is coupled with the establishment of an MRV System.

- It has created a total of 16 technical working groups which will support planning, implementation and monitoring of the REDD+ programme
- A REDD+ Strategy is in process and should be in place by the end of 2012
- Proposals for decentralizing REDD+ into the provinces is in place
- Has prepared 5 major national bankable REDD projects that will effectively be the launch of Phase II

Potentially Transformative Factors in the context of REDD+ in the DRC

The issues mentioned herein came out of discussions with the REDD+ advisor and members of the national REDD+ team. They feel that these are issues that could help change the way REDD+ is publicly perceived and can help it become a fully accepted and nationally implemented programme.

- Reaching *a minimum threshold of investment levels*- Given the size of the DRC and for REDD+ to compete against the many natural resources in the country, REDD+ needs to attract investments to the tune of an estimated USD 400-500 million to build sufficient momentum
- Demonstrating *a strong business case*, to engage in REDD+
- Increasing the *interest and commitment among policy makers and the community of practitioners* on REDD+
- Direct *investments into the field* – e.g. in PES Schemes, large-scale pilot programmes

Key Challenges

- The sheer size of the country means that support that can show impact has to be huge
- DRC needs to adopt existing technologies and experiences from elsewhere to address its forest management challenges
- Needs more south-south collaboration as is the case of the 'Terra Congo' Forest Monitoring System which has been supported through support from Brasil
- Access to credit facilities to invest in sustainable agriculture is urgently required to boost food security, production efficiency and reduce the rate and extent of conversion of forest lands to cultivation fields.
- The provincial administrative support and technical services are still weak and need build capacity to manage REDD+ and other issues to do with land and the environment.

Priority needs of the DRC REDD+ Programme

Key needs of the DRC REDD+ Programme on the path to REDD+ Readiness

The KEY needs of the DRC on REDD+ are listed and discussed but should be considered bearing in mind both readiness as understood and defined internationally and also by what the DRC plans to achieve. As stated earlier, the main targets of the DRC as it moves forward to Phase II of readiness are as follows:

- By December 2012, DRC has an exemplary REDD+ national strategy, fully endorsed by all country's stakeholders and ready to be implemented
- By December 2013, each province is mobilized and has its own REDD+ strategy integrated with the national level
- DRC has technical and human capacities to implement REDD+ national strategy at national and local levels

Based on the country visit and discussions with stakeholders, the key aspects of readiness where further support is required are:

i. Land tenure: The DRC has statutory laws on tenure are often interpreted differently in its many provinces, mainly because existing traditional or customary laws governing land allocation and use are also different within the same country. Drawing up uniform legislation that would govern carbon rights, for example, can be confounded by the differences among customary laws. As such DRC could be supported to benefit from experiences in other parts of Africa and elsewhere, particularly where natural resources management (NRM) models based on both individual and communal tenure have been tested.

ii. Having accomplished a number of national level processes on REDD+, one of the remaining key challenges for the DRC is to decentralize the implementation of REDD+ Programmes, which implies working in the provinces and setting up practical REDD+ Projects. Support in this process is crucial given the size of the country and provincial administrations that are far from the capital and have endured years of civil strife.

iii. While to manage provincial REDD+ programmes using decentralized structures is amply justified, its success is contingent upon institutional and individual capacities. As such strengthening the capacity of the Provincial Administrations to support REDD+ Programmes and to draw up provincial or regional plans is another important issue.

iv. Building of cross-sector collaborative structures to minimize conflict, include REDD+ into Regional Plans and oversee their implementation. The AfDB is funding an initiative to develop regional plans but more resources are required to make an impact at the national level.

v. Re-defining the functions of the National Steering Committee and keep their members informed on REDD+ related information to maintain high level dialogue in political circles.

vi. Running the technical working groups to maintain momentum as the country advances into Phase II is also crucial and will be needed to inform both national policy but to also support work in the provinces.

vii. Once sufficient local capacity is built, the DRC wishes to reach a minimum funding threshold of US$ 500 million to create a national impact.

Table 18: Responses from the DRC in-depth assessment, prioritized by urgency

	National REDD+ Governance
	Institutional capacity , coordination mechanism, and legal framework
Very urgent	a) Assessment of Institutional reforms and new institutional arrangements needed for REDD+ design /implementation.
	b) Effective Institutions with technical capacity and administrative authority to manage the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation for REDD+ (esp. forest and land use sectors)
	c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve law enforcement capacities, MRV, among others.
Moderately urgent	f) Legal evaluation on how to integrate carbon rights, under the actual legislation, including coordination and consultation on how to assign carbon rights
	Social and Environmental Safeguards
Very urgent	b) Frameworks to monitor and manage the risks and impacts during REDD+ strategy implementation (e.g. policies, governance, multiple benefits, participation)
	a)Identification and understanding of key social, political, economic and environmental risks of REDD+ strategy options
	c) Assessment of key gender based risks and potential benefits, and opportunities of REDD+ strategy options, implementation
	Forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels
	Reference emission level / reference level
Very urgent	a) Data and knowledge on priority deforestation and forest degradation processes and drivers, associated GHG emissions, and methods for assessing their future developments.
	b) A methodology for estimating historic emissions and to estimate emission scenarios based on expected trends on the drivers of change
	c) Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and modeling tools.
	National Forest Monitoring System and Information on Safeguards
	National Monitoring Frameworks and Capacities
Very urgent	a)Capacity and/or compliance with national and international reporting systems (e.g. UNFCCC national communications, FAO FRA)
	b) Capacity and systems for estimating terrestrial carbon, its dynamics, related human-induced changes, leakage, reversals and monitoring approaches
	Design a monitoring systems
Very urgent	b) Legally defined institutional arrangements with clarified competencies and technical capabilities.
	c) Capacity development plan to cover the priority data and information needs (e.g. cover change, carbon flows, multiple benefits, opportunity costs and environmental risks).
	e) ACapacity, systems and procedures to estimate carbon stocks according to chosen IPCC Tier levels and Carbon Pools and to monitor the changes.
	a) Agreement on definitions, monitoring goals, reference units and monitoring variables
	d) Capacity to review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information (forest inventory, permanent sample plots, REDD+ demonstration activities).
	f) System and capacity for statistical analysis and interpretation of data in a transparent manner, including the estimation of error.
Moderately urgent	g) Use of an Independent System to verify data and its interpretation.
	h) Institutions or platforms ensuring public accessibility to data and information for transparency and the required capacity to run and maintain it.
	Design an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts and safeguards

Very urgent	b) Identification of the scope and roles for stakeholders and government agencies in the design and implementation of safeguards.
	c) Identification of the capacity needed in design and implementation of safeguards.
	a) A system for monitoring how safeguards are being addressed during the implementation of REDD+ activities based on a practical methodology and tools.
	e) Identification of mechanisms for establishing independent monitoring and reviews that allows the effective and appropriate participation of civil society, indigenous peoples , forest dependent communities, and other stakeholders.
Moderately urgent	d) Coordination of the information system for safeguards with monitoring for other needs.
	Transition towards a framework for Development with REDD
Moderately urgent	e) Case studies and comparison with probable impacts of 'business as usual' investment practices and trajectories and those with green economy options in pilot districts (such as agro forestry, more efficient processing of timber, REDD+ projects, payments for environmental services).
	d) Strengthening policies so that they are pro-poor. Capacity to develop better indicators to guide investments; such as 'GDP of the Poor'.

4.2.2 Tanzania

General Introduction

Mainland Tanzania has a total forest area of 35 million hectares, covering 40% of the total land area, according to an estimate done in 2005[5,6]. About 90% of forests are expansive dry Miombo woodlands, the rest are mangrove, montane and small patches of coastal forests and plantations of softwoods and hardwoods. Of further interest in terms of the management of land under REDD+, is that 57% of all forests are on open access land and only 43% of the forested land is designated as forest reserves (FRs) and national parks (protected). For biodiversity and watershed protection, the montane forests which are generally referred to as the Eastern Arch Mountains are important areas of endemism and valuable water catchment areas. In general, the forests are recognized for their provision of a range of benefits, including supporting and regulating ecosystem services, and wood as well as non-wood forest products (NWFPs) extracted by local villages and households. The combined value of forest goods and services has been estimated as $ 2.2 billion, which is equivalent to 20% of Gross Domestic Product (2006 prices)[2]. Wood products include: firewood, charcoal, round wood and sawn wood. The most important use of wood in Tanzania is for fuel. About 95% of the country's energy supply is met by fuel wood. The NWFPs consist of game meat, medicinal plants, fodder, latex, beverages, dyes, fibers, gums, resins, oils, beeswax and honey, tannins and toxins.

Between 2000 and 2005, high rates of deforestation led to a loss of 412,000 ha of forest per year[1]. Deforestation and degradation are taking place in both protected and unprotected forests, but more so in the latter due to inadequate resources to implement active sustainable forest management (SFM)[2]. Tanzania recognizes the potential dangers as climate change may aggravate impacts of the high rates of

[5] FAO 2006. Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005. FAO Forestry Paper 147, FAO, Rome, Italy. 320pp.

[6] URT 2009. Final Draft National Forest Policy. FBD, MNRT, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. 40pp.

deforestation, even though at the moment little is known about climate change's effect on forests and how this may impact on the livelihoods of the communities. The country is hence motivated to engage in REDD+ as one potential solution. Evaluation of the impacts of climate change on forests and forest ecosystems and livelihoods is an urgent area of study. Currently, the country has recognized drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and their complex interactions. Major direct drivers are: settlement and agricultural expansion, overgrazing, firewood and charcoal production, uncontrolled fires, timber extraction, development of infrastructure and industry, refugees and most recently the introduction of large scale agriculture for bio-fuel production. These direct causes are indirectly driven by market and policy failures, rapid population growth and rural poverty, and problems in the national economy.

Progress on REDD+ Readiness

The following are highlights of what the Tanzania REDD+ programme has achieved:

- It has prepared a draft REDD+ strategy which was under discussion during the country visit. The strategy which is still under discussion and review has articulated 10 result areas, their respective strategic objectives and the relevant activities necessary to meet their respective objectives.

- To meet its basic data requirements which will also be the basis of its MRV system, a three year National Forest Resources Monitoring and Assessment (NAFORMA) Project is underway, with support by Finland and executed by FAO.

- *REDD+ Pilots*: A total number of 9 REDD+ relevant pilot projects are being implemented in Tanzania and are providing lessons learnt that a national REDD+ Programme will use.

- It has a functional national steering structure chaired by the Office of the Vice-President and has set up thematic working groups, such as the one on drivers of deforestation and others, report to

- At the same time, an Independent Carbon Monitoring Centre (CMC) to be housed at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) will need to have access and some level of control over data. The modalities to transfer information from NAFORMA and the FAO supported MRV framework has to be worked out to enable CMC to be effective.

Tanzania's response to the readiness matrix and the overview questions from the Country Needs Assessment

Main achievements:

- *National Coordination and Governance:* There is a Governance and Coordination Structure in place. In particular a National Task Force on REDD+ was revamped and made more representative since in the beginning, it was mainly comprised of two government departments,

TFS and the Department of Natural Resources. Chaired by the Director of Environment under the Office of the Vice President, the Task Force is now more representative of the sectors that are relevant to addressing the drivers of deforestation. New Members include among others; ministries of Energy, Agriculture and Gender.

- *Safeguards:* The country has recently set up a national process to address safeguards associated with REDD+ Programmes
- A capacity building process is starting in Tanzania but mainly in the technical cadres in government; much less among communities and supporting NGO network involved in the Community Based and Joint Forest Management Programme.
- *Scaling up from Pilots*: While Tanzania has a total of 9 pilot REDD+ Projects, they still remain pilots and there is need to document and publicize lessons learnt and above all to scale up best practices and use them to inform the strategy and national policies Currently there is also a process to extend NAFORMA to cover Zanzibar, which from a climate change perspective is important since it is an island that, together with the coastal strip could be affected by climate related changes in sea-levels and extreme weather events.

Key needs toward reaching REDD Readiness

In general, Tanzania Forest Service feels that there is a general need to develop the tools, technical and financial means to achieve REDD+ at various levels. For example:

- *Managing for carbon sequestration and benefit sharing:* Need for capacity building and a system of transparent and equitable distribution of benefits along the carbon production chain
- *Legal framework:* Tanzania feels that it still needs to have a strengthened legal framework that is enforceable both at the national and regional levels to deal with illegal trade in forest products which is associated with "carbon leakage"
- *Sustainable Financing Mechanisms for REDD+.* Securing sustainable financing for REDD+ projects is an area that Tanzania views as critical and plan to pursue in their phase II of readiness. In this regard, an overall dialogue on Climate Change Financing Mechanisms in Tanzania has been initiated under the Vice President's Office.
- Tanzania also prefers delivery of support through *technical experts* that work with *national counterparts* over well defined periods.
- It would like to see donors channel some of their funds through line ministries in order to build capacity for compliance with fiduciary standards imposed by bilateral and multi-lateral donors
- Tanzania also sees great value in the development of *systems and structures at the regional levels* to deal with *illegal trade* in wood and non-wood products from forests. This also requires capacity building and networking among countries
- To support REDD+ on the whole, Tanzania would like support to build capacity at several levels namely, both government and CBOs working with communities in participatory forest management, training in and testing of safeguards under REDD+

Table 19: Responses from the Tanzania in-depth assessment, prioritized by urgency

	National REDD+ Governance
	Institutional capacity , coordination mechanism, and legal framework
Very urgent	a) Assessment of Institutional reforms and new institutional arrangements needed for REDD+ design /implementation.
	b) Effective Institutions with technical capacity and administrative authority to manage the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation for REDD+ (esp. forest and land use sectors)
	c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve law enforcement capacities, MRV, among others.
Moderately urgent	f) Legal evaluation on how to integrate carbon rights, under the actual legislation, including coordination and consultation on how to assign carbon rights
	e) Effective coordination mechanisms with, civil society, indigenous peoples and productive sectors for REDD+ design and Implementation.
Not urgent	d) Effective coordination mechanism across ministries at political, technical and administrative levels
	Benefit-sharing
Very urgent	d) Identification, assessment and use of prior experiences, including PES and REDD+ demonstration activities to inform REDD+ strategy design/implementation
	b) Institutional Framework for benefit sharing system BSS
	c) National capacity to observe fiduciary standards for disbursement and reception of funds.
Moderately urgent	a) Design/ Test Implementation of a transparent and accountable system to channel REDD+ benefits and income from REDD+
	Consultation and participation process (IPs, Civil society, private sector and other stakeholders)
Very urgent	b) Capacity development and information dissemination to IPs, forest dependent communities and others, to ensure their informed participation in the management of REDD+
	c) Formally recognized and applied mechanisms for conflict resolution under REDD+. (carbon rights, IP land tenure, others)
Other	a) Formal procedures for stakeholder consultations
	REDD+ strategy or action plan
	REDD+ strategy development and options
Very urgent	e) Cost assessments (opportunity, implementation, institutional and transaction costs) of REDD+ action at local, regional and national levels
	b) Assessment of drivers of land use change, including drivers from outside the forest sector at national and regional levels.
	c) Systems to simulate and monitor impacts at national regional and local levels for REDD+ policies.
	g) Assessment of how existing laws, policies, programs and practices incentivize deforestation and forest degradation.
	i) Identification of priority areas for pilots and testing of REDD+ strategy options.
Moderately urgent	d) Analyses of REDD +scenarios and their possible impact on GDP, Forest% GDP, Agriculture% GDP.
	f) Identification, or assessment of major inconsistencies or conflicts between the objectives of the REDD+ strategy and policies and programs
	Multiple Benefits of REDD+
Very urgent	d) Assessment to incorporate multiple benefits of forests in areas such as land use and spatial planning within national programs and REDD strategies.
	a) Information systems on ecosystem based multiple benefits of forests, REDD+ and socials benefits.

	c) Identification, assessment and prioritization of environmental services per region, ecosystems and others for REDD pilot projects.
	b) Identification and selection of Natural Resource (NR) accounting methods and other NR valuation systems.
	Social and Environmental Safeguards
Very urgent	b) Frameworks to monitor and manage the risks and impacts during REDD+ strategy implementation (e.g. policies, governance, multiple benefits, participation)
	a)Identification and understanding of key social, political, economic and environmental risks of REDD+ strategy options
Moderately urgent	c) Assessment of key gender based risks and potential benefits, and opportunities of REDD+ strategy options and their implementation
	Reference Emission Levels
Very urgent	a)Data and knowledge on priority deforestation and forest degradation processes and drivers, associated GHG emissions, and methods for assessing their future developments.
	b) A methodology for estimating historic emissions and to estimate emission scenarios based on expected trends on the drivers of change
	c) Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and modeling tools.
	National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguard
Very urgent	b) Capacity and systems for estimating terrestrial carbon, its dynamics, related human-induced changes, leakage, reversals and monitoring approaches
Moderately urgent	a)Capacity and/or compliance with national and international reporting systems (e.g. UNFCCC national communications, FAO FRA)
Very urgent	f) System and capacity for statistical analysis and interpretation of data in a transparent manner, including the estimation of error.
Moderately urgent	b) Legally defined institutional arrangements with clarified competencies and technical capabilities.
	c) Capacity development plan to cover the priority data and information needs (e.g. cover change, carbon flows, multiple benefits, opportunity costs and environmental risks).
	e) Capacity, systems and procedures to estimate carbon stocks according to chosen IPCC Tier levels and Carbon Pools and to monitor the changes.
	d) Capacity to review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information (forest inventory, permanent sample plots, REDD+ demonstration activities).
	g) Use of an Independent System to verify data and its interpretation.
	h) Institutions or platforms ensuring public accessibility to data and information for transparency and the required capacity to run and maintain it.
Not urgent	a) Agreement on definitions, monitoring goals, reference units and monitoring variables
	Design an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards
Very urgent	c) Identification of the capacity needed in design and implementation of safeguards.
Moderately urgent	b) Identification of the scope and roles for stakeholders and government agencies in the design and implementation of safeguards.
	a) A system for monitoring how safeguards are being addressed during the implementation of REDD+ activities based on a practical methodology and tools.
	d) Coordination of the information system for safeguards with monitoring for other needs.
	e) Identification of mechanisms for establishing independent monitoring and reviews that allows the effective and appropriate participation of civil society, indigenous peoples , forest dependent communities, and other stakeholders.
	Transition towards a framework for Development with REDD+
Very urgent	b) Protocols for integrated land use planning and decision-making to allow the integration of economic, biophysical and social information, by using multi-criteria decision making tools.

	a) Development of national roadmaps to identify what kinds of investments and strategies are needed to integrate REDD+ in development frameworks.
	c) Capacity to develop integrated visions and reach out to other sectors such as planning and finance to prioritize investment and public spending to promote more sustainable development options.
	e) Case studies and comparison with probable impacts of 'business as usual' investment practices and trajectories and those with green economy options in pilot districts (such as agro forestry, more efficient processing of timber, REDD+ projects, payments for environmental services).
	d) Strengthening policies so that they are pro-poor. Capacity to develop better indicators to guide investments; such as 'GDP of the Poor'.

4.2.3 Cambodia

Background to REDD+ and REDD+ related initiatives

Cambodia's forest cover is today estimated at about 55% of its land surface, and in an ambitious attempt to achieve one of its stated MDG Goals, it aims to increase this cover to 60% by 2030 which would be a formidable feat in itself, given the competition between forestry and other forms of land use. Among the countries with the highest rate of deforestation, Cambodia today ranks 9th, suggesting a degree of challenge that it must prepare itself to counteract. In recognition of the long term role that local communities can offer to sustainably manage forest lands both as stewards and beneficiaries, there are today 450 Community Forests which cover a combined total area of just under 500,000 ha. The intention is to increase this to 2 million hectares, which again would be a major achievement if realized and if effective structures are developed and resources mobilized to manage them.

Despite the challenges facing forestry and existing forest cover, there are positive signals, such as a stated national policy to increase its forest cover, engagement of local communities to manage forests and a relatively high forest cover with above global average carbon densities.

Bilateral partners in REDD+

So far, interest and support for Cambodia's REDD+ Programme has not only come from multi-lateral sources, but also from bi-laterals and international NGOs. In terms of ongoing direct support to REDD+, the Government of Japan offers significant financial and technical support through its aid agency JICA. Its current focus is the ongoing work on forest inventory and monitoring, collaborating with FAO under the UN-REDD Framework. A number of NGOs such as PACT, WCS and FFI work on pilot sites in which local communities and local NGO's participate to manage designated forest areas.

Significant funding for REDD+ from a new bilateral source has been offered through a competitive bidding process by USAID in the first quarter of this year and it is hoped that the successful bidder will launch operations by the last quarter of 2012. Being a US$ 20 million dollar offer over a 4 year period, it will be the single largest funding for REDD+ and bring great strength to the National REDD+ Programme to ensure that it addresses its most critical needs, to which this report could be a major input. A summary of the project objectives provided herein suggest opportunities for synergies with the

envisaged national REDD+ Programme. The main objectives, to be pursued in two focal landscapes, Prey Lang Forest and the Eastern Plains, are.

- Enhance effectiveness of government and key natural resource managers at national and sub-national levels to sustainably management forests and conserve biodiversity
- To improve constructive dialogue on forest management and economic development at the national and sub-national levels
- Increase equitable economic benefits from the sustainable management of forests

The results expected from the pursuit of the above objectives are:

- policy planning and institutional frameworks at the sub-national, inter- provincial and/or local levels designed and/or implemented to support improved and equitable forest land management;
- national and /or subnational REDD+ strategies informed by sub-national REDD+ demonstration activities;
- at least 1.5 million tons of greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions reduced or sequestered per year;
- at least half a million hectares of forest lands and biologically significant areas under improved management;
- at least a 50% increase in stakeholder participation rate, especially of under-represented groups, for effective participation in constructive stakeholder dialogues and forums (existing or new) on forest management issues; and
- incomes derived from activities related to, or compatible with sustainable and equitable forest management increased by at least 50% for target.

In addition, the Asian Development Bank, which funds agricultural development and infra-structure is funding a Natural Resources Programme which is mitigating habitat and ecosystem fragmentation by creating biological or connectivity corridors between protected areas and forests, drawing from its Climate Change Fund. The work covers Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The ADB is also keen to provide funding for REDD+ readiness but focused on field sites, in which it could support MRV and benefit sharing. It also has the advantage of working in three countries so it can facilitate information and technology sharing between and among countries. In essence, the ADB supports conservation as part of an economic development agenda, which in many ways, is consistent with REDD+

At a more strategic level in the region, the ADB is also interested in a viable carbon market; an issue that the countries in ASEAN could actively pursue, with the aim of providing REDD+ with a 'market competitiveness' among competing land uses.

Progress on REDD+ and other related initiatives

In March 2011, Cambodia's proposal to UN-REDD was approved for funding and disbursements were made in the same year to initiate and prepare a REDD+ Readiness Roadmap late in the same year. It also submitted a Readiness Preparation Proposal to FCPF in May 2011, which is to be revised and re-submitted in 2012.

Thus, the formal process of developing systems and structures for achieving REDD+ readiness in Cambodia is still in its incipient stages.

There seems to be sufficient donor interest to support its national REED+ programme as indicated by the programme run by JICA, the Asian Development Bank, International NGOs running pilot projects and the upcoming support by USAID.

There is ongoing work under JICA on land cover mapping and forest inventory which will feed into its proposed MRV system.

Cambodia's Key Needs

Based on discussions with a broad range of various stakeholders in REDD+; bilateral and multilateral donors, international and local NGOs and the UN Country Office, the key areas in which support is needed in Cambodia have been identified. In this regard we need to register what the country would like to accomplish on REDD+ by the end 2012. These are

- The formal establishment of a National REDD+ Task Force
- Capacity building of government staff to improve their technical understanding of REDD+ and be able to lead its national and international agenda
- Since the Cambodia REDD+ Programme is still in its early stages, there is a need for donor agencies to increase their own capacities to offer substantive technical support to its REDD+ Programme
- A comprehensive process to develop a national REDD+ strategy for consideration by the country and its technical cooperation partners, as already contained in the 2011 REDD+ Roadmap is urgently needed to rejuvenate momentum on Cambodia's REDD+ Programme
- In the technical aspects of REDD+ readiness, Cambodia needs capacity in land use and land use change modeling and the estimation of reference level
- Creating mechanisms for the better coordination of key government agencies that are directly responsible for REDD+ and / or whose policies and decisions have effects on Cambodia's current REDD+ agenda is of both immediate and strategic importance
- Capitalize on a recent speech by the Prime Minister on REDD+ which gave policy direction on where the country ought to go on REDD+ and Sustainable Forest Management
- Support to strengthen a Stakeholder Forum on REDD+ which will be formed as soon the national REDD+ Task Force is operational.
- Commission strategic analyses of the sectors important for REDD+ in Cambodia and distill from these clear messages or implications on the country's REDD+ and SFM agenda

Summary of Needs

Based on the above targets that it ought to achieve over the next 12 months the key needs in REDD+ can be expressed under various topics that are well known in the process of preparing for REDD+ Readiness.

- Addressing the key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Cambodia
- Proposing feasible Institutional Coordination Mechanisms or arrangements for the development and implementation of the REDD+ Programme.
- Building technical capacity on REDD+ within the Government Agencies both at the national and sub-national levels
- Identifying and using a national forum to foster cross-sector collaboration and steer the REDD+ agenda in a manner consistent with national REDD+ Policy
- Linking Cambodia's REDD+ Initiatives to International Financing Mechanisms

For **local NGOs** in particular some of the key needs are listed here.

- There is no funding for the NGO Forum to keep substantively engaged in REDD+ matters, and they have had to fund their own participation in REDD+ and have not received support from neither UN-REDD nor FCPF. For example Cambodia has a network of NGOs and NGO groups, to which funding could be allocated to them to build capacity of CSOs and increase the level of understanding and participation of IPs
- UN-REDD and FCPF should clarify the mechanisms for channeling funds to civil society
- If funding were available, the NGO Forum could disseminate simple REDD+ messages in popular format to reach a broader stakeholder audience
- The forum could benefit from funds in order to undertake policy research on tenure issues in Cambodia

At the moment, setting up national coordination arrangements, particularly a National Task Force Secretariat is fairly urgent. This should be backed by deliberate mechanisms to get the government agencies charged with the management of REDD+ to work together and be guided by a results based and time bound framework. One way to get the responsible agencies to 'pull their weight' could be the use of a clear results based framework with implementing agencies having reporting obligations to a higher authority to account for their delivery promises. A high level forum endorsed by the Office of the PM acting as a policy making body and providing a forum for accounting seems crucial to Cambodia.

Table 20: Responses from the Cambodia in-depth assessment, prioritized by urgency

	National REDD+ Governance
	Institutional capacity , coordination mechanism, and legal framework
Very urgent	a) Assessment of Institutional reforms and new institutional arrangements needed for REDD+ design /implementation.
	b) Effective Institutions with technical capacity and administrative authority to manage the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation for REDD+ (esp. forest and land use sectors)
	c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve law enforcement capacities, MRV, among others.
	f) Legal evaluation on how to integrate carbon rights, under the actual legislation, including coordination and consultation on how to assign carbon rights
Moderately	d) Effective coordination mechanism across ministries at political, technical and administrative

urgent	levels
	e) Effective coordination mechanisms with, civil society, indigenous peoples and productive sectors for REDD+ design and Implementation.
	Benefit-sharing
Moderately urgent	a) Design/ Test Implementation of a transparent and accountable system to channel REDD+ benefits and income from REDD+
Very urgent	d) Identification, assessment and use of prior experiences, including PES and REDD+ demonstration activities to inform REDD+ strategy design/implementation
Moderately urgent	b) Institutional Framework for benefit sharing system BSS
	c) National capacity to observe fiduciary standards for disbursement and reception of funds.
	Consultation and participation process (IPs, Civil society, private sector and other stakeholders)
Very urgent	a) Formal procedures for stakeholder consultations
	b) Capacity development and information dissemination to IPs, forest dependent communities and others, to ensure their informed participation in the management of REDD+
	c) Formally recognized and applied mechanisms for conflict resolution under REDD+. (carbon rights, IP land tenure, others)
	REDD+ strategy or action plan
	REDD+ strategy development and options
Very urgent	e) Cost assessments (opportunity, implementation, institutional and transaction costs) of REDD+ action at local, regional and national levels
Moderately urgent	b) Assessment of drivers of land use change, including drivers from outside the forest sector at national and regional levels.
	c) Systems to simulate and monitor impacts at national regional and local levels for REDD+ policies.
	d) Analyses of REDD +scenarios and their possible impact on GDP, Forest% GDP, Agriculture% GDP.
Moderately urgent	g) Assessment of how existing laws, policies, programs and practices incentivize deforestation and forest degradation.
	h) Identify specific reforms in legislation and policies that can be addressed in the short term.
	i) Identification of priority areas for pilots and testing of REDD+ strategy options.
	j) Testing of specific REDD+ Strategy Options.
Not urgent	f) Identification, or assessment of major inconsistencies or conflicts between the objectives of the REDD+ strategy and policies and programs
	Multiple Benefits of REDD+
Very urgent	d) Assessment to incorporate multiple benefits of forests in areas such as land use and spatial planning within national programs and REDD strategies.
Moderately urgent	a) Information systems on ecosystem based multiple benefits of forests, REDD+ and socials benefits.
	c) Identification, assessment and prioritization of environmental services per region, ecosystem and others for REDD pilot
Not urgent	b) Identification and selection of Natural Resource (NR) accounting methods and other NR valuation systems.
	Social and Environmental Safeguards
Very urgent	b) Frameworks to monitor and manage the risks and impacts during REDD+ strategy implementation (e.g. policies, governance, multiple benefits, participation)

Moderately urgent	a)Identification and understanding of key social, political, economic and environmental risks of REDD+ strategy options
	c) Assessment of key gender based risks and potential benefits, and opportunities of REDD+ strategy options, implementation
	Reference Emission Levels
Very urgent	a)Data and knowledge on priority deforestation and forest degradation processes and drivers, associated GHG emissions, and methods for assessing their future developments.
	b) A methodology for estimating historic emissions and to estimate emission scenarios based on expected trends on the drivers of change
	c) Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and modeling tools.
	National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards
Very urgent	a)Capacity and/or compliance with national and international reporting systems (e.g. UNFCCC national communications, FAO FRA)
	b) Capacity and systems for estimating terrestrial carbon, its dynamics, related human-induced changes, leakage, reversals and monitoring approaches
	b) Legally defined institutional arrangements with clarified competencies and technical capabilities.
	c) Capacity development plan to cover the priority data and information needs (e.g. cover change, carbon flows, multiple benefits, opportunity costs and environmental risks).
	e) ACapacity, systems and procedures to estimate carbon stocks according to chosen IPCC Tier levels and Carbon Pools and to monitor the changes.
	a) Agreement on definitions, monitoring goals, reference units and monitoring variables
	d) Capacity to review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information (forest inventory, permanent sample plots, REDD+ demonstration activities).
Moderately urgent	f) System and capacity for statistical analysis and interpretation of data in a transparent manner, including the estimation of error.
	g) Use of an Independent System to verify data and its interpretation.
	h) Institutions or platforms ensuring public accessibility to data and information for transparency and the required capacity to run and maintain it.
	Design an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts and safeguards
Very urgent	b) Identification of the scope and roles for stakeholders and government agencies in the design and implementation of safeguards.
	c) Identification of the capacity needed in design and implementation of safeguards.
Moderately urgent	a) A system for monitoring how safeguards are being addressed during the implementation of REDD+ activities based on a practical methodology and tools.
	d) Coordination of the information system for safeguards with monitoring for other needs.
	e) Identification of mechanisms for establishing independent monitoring and reviews that allows the effective and appropriate participation of civil society, indigenous peoples , forest dependent communities, and other stakeholders.
	Transition towards a framework for Development with REDD+
Very urgent	b) Protocols for integrated land use planning and decision-making to allow the integration of economic, biophysical and social information, by using multi-criteria decision making tools.
Moderately urgent	a) Development of national roadmaps to identify what kinds of investments and strategies are needed to integrate REDD+ in development frameworks.
	c) Capacity to develop integrated visions and reach out to other sectors such as planning and finance to prioritize investment and public spending to promote more sustainable development options.

	e) Case studies and comparison with probable impacts of 'business as usual' investment practices and trajectories and those with green economy options in pilot districts (such as agro forestry, more efficient processing of timber, REDD+ projects, payments for environmental services).
Not urgent	d) Strengthening policies so that they are pro-poor. Capacity to develop better indicators to guide investments; such as 'GDP of the Poor'.

4.2.4 Papua New Guinea

Introduction

As a country with a proportionately high forest cover and a member of the rainforest coalition, PNG has a natural place in the global REDD+ process. Its participation in REDD+ originates from a political statement by its former Prime Minister on the need for the international community, particularly Annex I countries to compensate tropical countries with high forest cover, to manage their forests within the context of emission reductions through carbon sequestration and the enhancement of carbon stocks. This directly led to the creation of a Climate Change Office, but which was managed remotely and much of its policies and operations were according some local observers, managed by a limited number of players. Today REDD+ is coordinated at the national level by the Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) which is the successor to the recently disbanded Office of Climate Change. The OCCD hosts the REDD+ Secretariat that supports technical working groups that have been formed so far. The technical working report to a Policy Executive Board (PEB) which enjoys a cross-sectoral membership, bringing together Government Ministries, Departments, Academia, Industry and representatives of NGOs. The first meeting of the PEB was held in the last week of May 2012 and coincided with the CNA Mission. The PEB reports to the National Council of Climate Change (NCCC) which is the highest Governing Body under which REDD and other Environmental Bodies report to.

The main drivers of deforestation are agricultural expansion (mainly large-scale commercial agriculture), mining, shifting cultivation and potentially, oil and gas exploration.

Progress on REDD+ and other related initiatives

Within the context of readiness, the most active parts of the most active according to the National Focal Point the technical working groups on MRV, REDD+ Mitigation Mechanisms and to some degree the one on deforestation drivers.

The working group on MRV is receiving significant support from Japan through JICA that is developing a *forest cover base map* which is crucial to sustainable forest management and will be used in management planning and the demarcation of boundaries already alluded to. Furthermore, technical advisers provided by JICA are working with PNG counterparts to develop *allometric models* to estimate biomass and carbon stocks; both above and below ground. In addition it will develop a national database for future forest monitoring and will do the critical work to set *the reference levels (RL) and reference emission levels (REL)* for the national REDD+ Programme. This work will be augmented by a *National Forest Inventory Project* which is to be funded by the EU and implemented by FAO; a process

that is expected to start in earnest in the last quarter of 2012. The support that JICA gives to several countries in Africa and Asia in practical forest inventory and mapping and through its supply of equipment and training is quite impressive and crucial to the success of the REDD+ process, both regionally and globally.

Existing CDM Projects

In PNG the Palm Oil industry has initiated clean development mechanism (CDM) projects, all based on *methane capture* from palm oil waste and by May 2012 there were seven pending formal registration and ten others in the pipeline for registration ready status.

Challenges for REDD+

Given the early enthusiasm for REDD when the idea was first sold to PNG politicians and the public, people now wonder whether REDD will be financially feasible.

Communicating the virtues and larger benefits of REDD+ to a largely unenlightened rural populace remains a daunting challenge and even more so because 88% of forested land are under traditional authorities. It seems that a massive public education on the global aspects of forest management alongside development and other economic activities is much needed in PNG. It is a unique dilemma or if you will, a paradox, in the sense that conventional development discourse suggests that tenure rights to communities often encourages 'firmer stewardship' over land and its natural resources.

Even in pilot projects which have been initiated, people decry the *long transitional period* before any tangible benefits are realized. This tends to weaken the appeal for REDD and renders it vulnerable to intense competition from other land uses, most of which degrade and eventually lead to conversion of forest land. This calls for the REDD Fraternity to seriously consider some form of interim payments as projects make progress; which recalls the Burkina Faso RPP which has broached the same concept.

In addition PNG has not legislated benefit sharing and has not even officially endorsed FPIC principles.

A number feel that PNG, given its forest cover and the potential to enhance carbon stocks in both degraded, secondary forests and farmed landscapes, should vigorously pursue a goal to move away from its current disposition; '*carbon aid*', to a more desirable one of '*carbon trade'.*

There are some who also feel that there ought to be a REDD+ Policy for PNG to guide a national approach to PNGs REDD Programme and also to individual REDD+ Projects. While the specifics of such a policy were not directly spelt out, the implications that could be derived from ensuing statements suggested the tenets of such a policy. Such a policy would re-affirm political commitment to REDD+, provide for a *stable forest estate with much stricter procedures for any excisions and conversion to other uses, strengthen the* National Forest Authority to vet any land use changes

Donor support to PNG's REDD+ Programme

From 2008 when PNG officially began its early preparations for REDD readiness and increased its visibility in the international dialogue on forests and the environment, it has also attracted the support of multi and bilateral donors. Bilaterally Australia, Japan and the EU are the key technical cooperation partners in the sectors of environment and natural resources.

Australia, through AUSAID, supports PNG bilaterally through a number of funding streams including the *Australia – PNG Forest Carbon Partnership* among many others, and also through several regional (South Pacific) projects, that involve the other island states, such as Fiji and Samoa. With a formidable annual budget of over AUD 20 million the support covers a wide range of themes, of which Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation is a major one and more recently it supports work on MRV. In the provinces, it supports Community Based REDD+ Pilot Projects, which are executed by the World Conservation Society (WCS) and a number livelihood programmes, also through (WCS) and Conservation International (CI). The REDD+ Pilot Projects, are testing *safeguard tools*, the *FPIC process* and *benefit sharing*; with a view to inform national processes, particularly MRV. Within its programme portfolio, it also provides capacity building grants, which includes formal academic scholarships. Australia is also keen to see greater linkages between PGN institutions and the Sustainability Centre in Canberra, whose work is relevant to REDD+. With respect to specific government institutions, it has supported the Office of Climate Change and Development by way of technical advisors but which has been reduced. However, it is willing to support a stronger presence of OCCD in the provinces. Another development of potential significance in the south Pacific is the Australian Carbon Trading Scheme which is expected to be operational by 2015 and to which the countries in the South Pacific and even further north in South East Asia could participate. The possibility of such a carbon trading scheme serving the wider region, is an issue that should be discussed at higher levels with Australia.

The Government of Japan through JICA, as already described above, is another important donor, which seems to have found a 'niche' in forest inventory, mapping and GIS and has the advantage of being in a number of REDD+ countries both in Africa and South Asia. It is therefore in a good position to share lessons from its many participating countries and use that experience to help build a competent forest monitoring team in PNG.

The European Union (EU) has been supporting the government in the forest sector for several years and has maintained a 'competitive grants' facility for non-governmental organisations. Its interest is still in Climate Change and Sustainable Forest Management and is the donor behind a first National Forest Inventory Project which will be executed by FAO in conjunction with the government. The inventory project will cost 6 million Euros over three years and is a key element of the country's REDD readiness process. In addition its support the south Pacific region through an 8 million Euro grant to the University of Fiji on Climate Change Adaptation. In recognition of PNG's status as a timber exporter, the EU would encourage PNG to participate in its Forest Law Enforcement and Trade (FLEGT) initiative.

Donor, Industry and NGO concerns on the REDD+ Process

Collectively the donors and NGOs would like to see a clarification of roles between OCCD and the Forestry Authority (PNG FA) with respect to environmental governance in general and REDD+ in particular and would support the two agencies to show 'strong leadership' in environmental management by working visibly and more closely together.

They see increased capacity both in OCCD and PNG-FA to more effectively serve both the provinces and the central government as a critical thing in the future success for REDD+. Alongside the OCCD and PNG FA, capacity in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock is an issue and its active participation in the REDD+ process, which is now minimal must increase, given the importance of agriculture as driver.

The NGOs are quite concerned with the fact that customary land rights which claims an estimated 87% of land in PNG, while a good thing, is also prohibiting a comprehensive land use plan; a situation were support is required to work with land owners.

The apparent ease with which forest land is being acquired for conversion to large scale commercial agriculture is also sending mixed signals on the commitment of PNG to manage REDD+ Linked to this is the growing pressure for mineral exploration licences without environmental and social safeguards. To mitigate the risks associated with large scale conversion of forest lands to other uses, particularly those associated with large scale commercial agriculture there is an urgent need for the government to reconsider the current issuance of *forest clearance authority*, and to consider replacing it with a sort of *environmental bond* that would guarantee funding the rehabilitation of areas degraded by forest clearance.

In view of the above and like all other stakeholders interviewed in the needs assessments, donors would like to see a functional national coordination structure for REDD+ and a relevant legal framework for the same.

Key Needs of the PNG REDD+ Programme

Based on the discussions with a broad range of stakeholders starting with UNDP, other donors, the government, industry and non-governmental organisations, the key needs were identified and a few recommendations emerged on how the REDD+ Process in PNG could be further supported. They are briefly described herein.

1. To improve sector coordination to achieve the objectives of a national REDD+ Programme, the Office of Climate Change and Development should develop a Policy Framework which should articulate the roles of other sectors and agencies and ensure that the Department of Agriculture and Livestock are fully involved in the design and implementation of the envisaged National REDD+ Strategy

2. Since the government has control over only 10% of the total land area, the issue of land tenure as it affects forest resource governance should be rev-visited. Critically, the government should engage the majority land owners to agree to national land use strategy and plans. Linked to land tenure is, also the '*carbon rights'* which has not been clarified.

3. A REDD+ Strategy is urgently needed alongside a policy framework that should be developed by OCCD, Forestry Authority and Agriculture & Livestock. The envisaged REDD+ Strategy should take into consideration that coordination with the agricultural sector should be one of its most important activities, since PNG has 14 Agricultural Commodity Boards, with its own policies and legal mandates and have no obligations to consult the OCCD or PNG FA on matters regarding land use changes which have a direct bearing on forested lands and REDD+.

4. Work on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation bearing in mind that mining waste could be affecting 3 million hectares nationwide and another 5.2 million hectares is reportedly planned for conversion to large scale commercial agriculture through the SABL process of land acquisition. Strategically, the government should be persuaded to reconsider the current SABL process and allow PNG FA to review its policies and legislation.

5. The numerical capacity of both OCCD and PNG FA to manage REDD+ and Forestry in general needs to be increased, particularly in the provinces where their services are needed. Linked to this is the strategic need for local NGOs to be supported to develop and become implementation partners of the central government and donors in the provinces.

Table 21: Responses from the Papua New Guinea in-depth assessment, prioritized by urgency

	National REDD+ Governance
	Institutional capacity , coordination mechanism, and legal framework
Very urgent	a) Assessment of Institutional reforms and new institutional arrangements needed for REDD+ design /implementation.
Moderately urgent	b) Effective Institutions with technical capacity and administrative authority to manage the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation for REDD+ (esp. forest and land use sectors)
	c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve law enforcement capacities, MRV, among others.
	Benefit sharing
Moderately urgent	a) Design/ Test Implementation of a transparent and accountable system to channel REDD+ benefits and income from REDD+
	d) Identification, assessment and use of prior experiences, including PES and REDD+ demonstration activities to inform REDD+ strategy design/implementation
	Consultation and participation process (Indigenous peoples, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders)
Moderately urgent	a) Formal procedures for stakeholder consultations
	b) Capacity development and information dissemination to IPs, forest dependent communities and others, to ensure their informed participation in the management of REDD+
	c) Formally recognized and applied mechanisms for conflict resolution under REDD+. (carbon rights, IP land tenure, others)
	REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan
	Development of REDD+ strategy and options
Very urgent	f) Identification, or assessment of major inconsistencies or conflicts between the objectives of the REDD+ strategy and policies and programs in other sectors (e.g. transport, agriculture, energy, mining, tourism), and ways to address them.

	g) Assessment of how existing laws, policies, programs and practices incentivize deforestation and forest degradation.
	h) Identify specific reforms in legislation and policies that can be addressed in the short term.
	j) Testing of specific REDD+ Strategy Options.
Moderately urgent	c) Systems to simulate and monitor impacts at national regional and local levels for REDD+ policies.
	d) Analyses of REDD +scenarios and their possible impact on GDP, Forest% GDP, Agriculture% GDP.
	e) Cost assessments (opportunity, implementation, institutional and transaction costs) of REDD+ action at local, regional and National Level to inform Policy and decision making.
	a)Use of experiences in natural resources management, forestry, agriculture at local, regional and national levels to inform REDD+ strategy design /implementation.
	Multiple benefits of forest and REDD+
Very urgent	a) Information systems on ecosystem based multiple benefits of forests, REDD+ and socials benefits.
	d) Assessment to incorporate multiple benefits of forests in areas such as land use and spatial planning within national programs and REDD strategies.
Moderately urgent	b) Identification and selection of Natural Resource (NR) accounting methods and other NR valuation systems.
	c) Identification, assessment and prioritization of environmental services per region, ecosystem and others for REDD pilot programs.
	Social and Environmental Safeguards
	Information on safeguards
Very urgent	a)Identification and understanding of key social, political, economic and environmental risks of REDD+ strategy options.
Moderately urgent	b) Frameworks to monitor and manage the risks and impacts during REDD+ strategy implementation (e.g. policies, governance, multiple benefits, participation)
	c) Assessment of key gender based risks and potential benefits, and opportunities of REDD+ strategy options, implementation framework
	Reference Emission Levels
	Reference emission levels and/ or reference level
Very urgent	a) Data and knowledge on priority deforestation and forest degradation processes and drivers, associated GHG emissions, and methods for assessing their future developments.
Moderately urgent	b) A methodology for estimating historic emissions and to estimate emission scenarios based on expected trends on the drivers of change
	c) Expertise in spatial and temporal analysis and modeling tools.
	National Forest Monitoring System and Information on Safeguards
	National monitoring frameworks and capacities
Very urgent	a) Capacity and/or compliance with national and international reporting systems (e.g. UNFCCC national communications, FAO FRA)
	b) Capacity and systems for estimating terrestrial carbon, its dynamics, related human-induced changes, leakage, reversals and monitoring approaches
	Design of a monitoring system (change of area, precision, verification and reporting)
Very urgent	b) Legally defined institutional arrangements with clarified competencies and technical capabilities.
	c) Capacity development plan to cover the priority data and information needs (e.g. cover change, carbon flows, multiple benefits, opportunity costs and environmental risks).
	a) Agreement on definitions, monitoring goals, reference units and monitoring variables
	d) Capacity to review, consolidate and integrate the existing data and information (forest

	inventory, permanent sample plots, REDD+ demonstration activities).
	e) Capacity, systems and procedures to estimate carbon stocks according to chosen IPCC Tier levels and Carbon Pools and to monitor the changes.
	f) System and capacity for statistical analysis and interpretation of data in a transparent manner, including the estimation of error.
	g) Use of an Independent System to verify data and its interpretation.
	h) Institutions or platforms ensuring public accessibility to data and information for transparency and the required capacity to run and maintain it.
	Design of an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards
Very urgent	a) A system for monitoring how safeguards are being addressed during the implementation of REDD+ activities based on a practical methodology and tools.
	b) Identification of the scope and roles for stakeholders and government agencies in the design and implementation of safeguards.
	c) Identification of the capacity needed in design and implementation of safeguards.
	d) Coordination of the information system for safeguards with monitoring for other needs.
	e) Identification of mechanisms for establishing independent monitoring and reviews that allows the effective and appropriate participation of civil society, indigenous peoples , forest dependent communities, and other stakeholders.
	Transition Towards a Framework for Development with REDD+
Moderately urgent	a) Development of national roadmaps to identify what kinds of investments and strategies are needed to integrate REDD+ in development frameworks.
	b) Protocols for integrated land use planning and decision-making to allow the integration of economic, biophysical and social information, by using multi-criteria decision making tools.
	c) Capacity to develop integrated visions and reach out to other sectors such as planning and finance to prioritize investment and public spending to promote more sustainable development options.
	d) Strengthening policies so that they are pro-poor. Capacity to develop better indicators to guide investments; such as 'GDP of the Poor'.
	e) Case studies and comparison with probable impacts of 'business as usual' investment practices and trajectories and those with green economy options in pilot districts (such as agro forestry, more efficient processing of timber, REDD+ projects, payments for environmental services).

4.2.5 Ecuador

General Context

Ecuador is a country characterized by the production and export of raw materials, where the main sectors include the oil industry, agriculture, fishery and aquaculture, and forestry. These sectors represent 40% of the GDP and generate approximately 80% of exports.

In 2010, the GDP reached US$ 24983 million (BCE, 2011). In macroeconomic terms, the contribution of the forest sector to the national economy, despite having grown 48% between 1997 and 2006, has remained stable in comparison with other sectors, averaging around 2.3% of the real GDP. However, this percentage is not reflected in the real contribution of this sector to the economy, given that in the National Accounts System (SCN in Spanish), the forestry sector is included under two areas: silviculture and wood extraction, and production of wood and manufacture of wood products. It can therefore be

inferred that other contributions originating from the forestry sector are included under other sectors (tourism, agriculture and industrial) or in other cases are not even quantified or valued (water sources, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, etc.) (Lascano, 2008).

Around 80% of Ecuador's forests are found in the Amazon region, which makes up around 50% of its continental territory. Of the forest surface area, more than 7 million hectares is owned by indigenous peoples, around 65% of the native forests of the country (Palacios, 2005).According to FAO (2005), of the total forest area of Ecuador, more than 9 million hectares is property of the state (national government, sectional governments and government organizations), in 50% of which there are conflicts over use and ownership of the land. The uncertainty related to the ownership of forests lands is one of the principal weaknesses of the sector (Morales, 2005).The government of Ecuador, in the current Constitution of the Republic, approved in September 2008), introduced a legal framework that promotes the protection of the environment and natural resources. Environmental safeguard measures for ecosystems, biodiversity, natural patrimony, genetic patrimony, indigenous communities, peoples and nationalities (CPNI) and ecologic protection are presented as superior rights, fundamental throughout the different chapters of the Constitution. These developments are conducive for REDD+

The Environmental Policy of Ecuador, approved and published in 2009, also establishes the promotion of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures as a priority, with emphasis on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. On this basis, the Environment Ministry of Ecuador has developed the Forest Governance Model, which proposes reducing deforestation by 30% by 2013 as one of its main objectives.

Three approaches have been identified for the development of REDD+ activities in Ecuador: the development of projects in areas that are part of the Forest Partner (Socio Bosque) Programme; the development of projects in the State Forest Patrimony (PFE) and other areas under the jurisdiction of the Environment Ministry; and carrying out actions through private initiatives that implement projects in other areas not covered by the first two approaches.As a result of this political commitment, currently there are important governmental initiatives related to forest management such as Forest Partner (Socio Bosque) and Proforestal. The former started in 2008 and has the objective of reaching 4 million hectares of conserved forest in 7 years, through incentives to rural dwellers and indigenous communities that voluntarily commit to the conservation and protection of native forests. By May 2011, the Forest Partner programme had presented a total of 1217 signed agreements (94% individual agreements and 6% community agreements) through which it intends to conserve approximately 811203 hectares. Proforestal, also created in 2008, has the goal of executing the National Forestation and Reforestation Plan (PNFR), through programmes and projects for social and agroforestry plantations as well as for establishing industrial and commercial plantations with the aim of preserving native forests. There are also non-governmental initiatives that support REDD+ that are being implemented in coordination with the Environment Ministry of Ecuador, such as those promoted by PROFAFOR in the Orellana province

Institutional Context

The public administration of Ecuador is under the Central Government, mainly the Presidency and Vice-presidency of the Republic. The National Planning Secretariat (SENPLADES) is the entity responsible for medium and long term national planning, amongst other roles, as a result of which it plays a key role. Below these are the seven Coordinator Ministries which, as their name implies, are in charge of coordinating the 20 Executing Ministries and the 8 National Secretariats. The Environment Ministry (MAE), responsible for the environment at national level, is an executing ministry and articulates its management with the Patrimony Coordination Ministry.

The MAE, through the Sub-secretariat of Natural Patrimony (SPN) manages forests in Ecuador and also has competencies in the area of climate change through the Sub-secretariat of Climate Change (SCC). It is through the latter that the MAE leads the process of construction of the National Climate Change Strategy (ENCC). The SCC is made up of two Offices: the National Adaptation Office and the National Mitigation Office. The latter is responsible for facilitating the formulation of policies and other regulatory instrument, and implementing mechanisms that contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions (REDD+, CDM, etc.).

On the other hand, in 2010 the Inter-institutional Climate Change Committee was created by decree, with the main objective of being the high level entity that enables the coordination and facilitation of the integrated execution of national climate change policies, the National Climate Change Strategy (UNCC) and the commitments established in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This committee is made up of nine State institutions, including SENPLADES, the Ministry of Natural Patrimony, the Coordinating Ministry of Strategic Sectors, the MAE and the Coordinating Ministry of Social Development. In the next few months the REDD+ working group is expected to be formalized.

Challenges in the REDD+ Preparation Process in Ecuador

The Fourth Rural Preparatory Dialogue for REDD, carried out in Ecuador in 2010, identified four challenges for the preparatory phase of REDD+ in the country. The proposals to overcome these challenges are summarised in Table 22:

Table 22: Challenges to Ecuador's REDD+ Programme

Challenges	Steps to overcome challenges
Tackle the causes of deforestation and forest degradation through thorough analyses	– Create a National Directive Committee to thoroughly analyze the causes of deforestation and forest degradation and the main factors that affect this process. – Develop a methodology for prioritizing the causes and factors that affect deforestation in the framework of ENREDD+. – Internalize the costs of deforestation for the purpose of decision making related to the National "Live Well" Development Plan
Establish an income and benefits distribution system	– Carry out an analysis of how to regulate the rights to the production, provision and use of carbon under the current Constitution. – Pilot possible REDD+ benefits distribution mechanisms – Promote private sector participation

Establish mechanisms and processes for the inclusion and participation of diverse actors	– Design and establish a national multiple stakeholder dialogue process (MSD) – Map stakeholders and define participation mechanisms – Make use of and integrate existing mechanisms – Promote efficient communication and facilitation
Improve the access, use and availability of information to satisfy local capacity development needs	– Define the information that will be communicated to the main stakeholders during the REDD+ preparation phase. – Define the information requirements to fill existing knowledge gaps during the REDD+ preparation phase.

According to the report ***REDD+ Preparation Process in Ecuador, Challenges from a Multiple Stakeholder Vision,*** it is necessary to strengthen actions related to information dissemination, promotion of education processes and strengthening capacities, especially at local level. It is also necessary to thoroughly examine the causes and factors that affect deforestation and forest degradation processes. It is crucial to analyze to role of municipal and provincial governments in activities such as the development of public infrastructure, especially the construction of roads and energy generation projects and the promotion of certain agricultural activities that often imply the loss of forests without previous cost-benefit analysis.

Regulations related to production, provision and use of the ecosystem services of the country must encourage a favourable context for the carbon market and private investments, consistent with environmental and legal safeguards that ensure conservation of biodiversity, livelihoods and the rights of vulnerable populations.

On the other hand, it is hoped that the initiation of REDD+ activities and pilot project will permit the testing of forest management activities, measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems and financial models for benefit distribution, etc. It is also necessary to tackle the issue of the transaction and administration costs of the activities and projects.

It is indispensable to clarify land ownership and ensure legal clarity with regard to property and management of carbon and ecosystem services. Accountability and the application of laws must also be strengthened.

Finally a viable regulatory framework that fills the legal and institutional gaps is required, especially with regard to carbon rights, benefits distribution and the need for a MRV system.

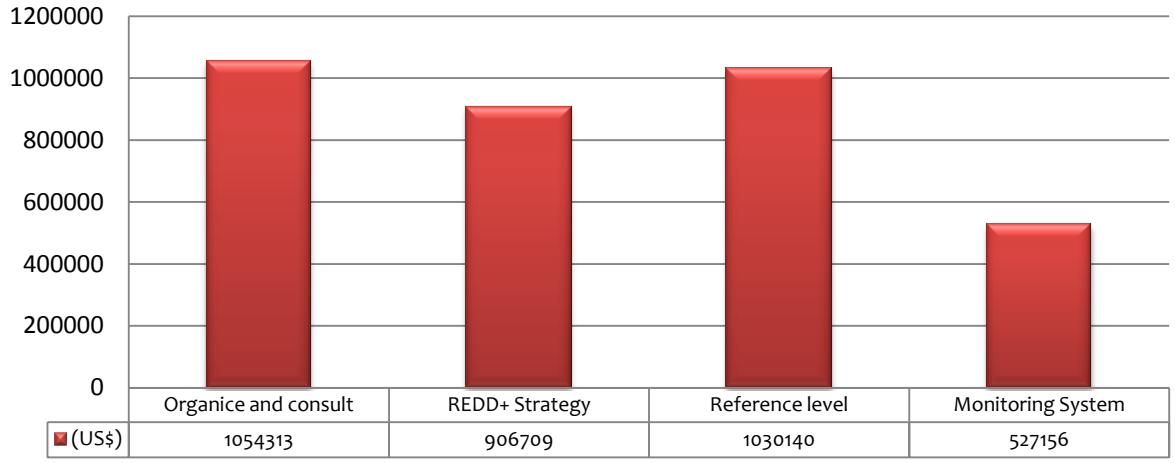
It is important to mention that these needs were identified two years after the initiation of the REDD+ process in Ecuador (in 2010), as a result of which is it necessary to consider the latest progress by the government and other stakeholders in the preparation efforts to implement REDD+ actions in the country.

National Joint Programme

The National Joint Programme document aims to support Ecuador in the preparation phase for the implementation of REDD+. To achieve this, the PNC sets out six expected results: National Forest Monitoring System designed and implemented; process for the consultation and involvement of civil society, communities, peoples and indigenous nationalities, Afro-Ecuadorian peoples, the Montubio people and municipalities in REDD+ at national level; policies and instruments for the implementation of REDD+ developed; development of the required operational framework for the implementation of REDD+; multiple environmental and social benefits ensured; and the design and implementation of the benefits distribution system.

The proposed budget for the above in the NPD is US$ 4 million, allocated as shown in the following graph:

Figure 6 Allocation of the proposed budget in the NPD*:*



The organization and consultation component represents a significant percentage of total costs in the case of Ecuador and the majority of Latin American countries. This can be explained given that the forests of the region and especially those of the Amazon basin are host to a great number of indigenous peoples which depend on them for subsistence. In Ecuador, according to the 2001 census, almost 7% of the population is indigenous.

Other sources of finance related to REDD+

The greatest sources of finance for REDD+ related activities in Ecuador are the national government, FAO, GIZ, KfW and the UN-REDD Programme. Non-governmental REDD+ resources have been allocated mainly to strengthening and capacity building, communication, research and feasibility studies for REDD+ activities at project level (EcoDecision 2010, 2012). In the 2008 – 2011 period, the Government of Ecuador invested US$ 14.5 million in the Forest Partner Programme. Meanwhile, FAO provided financial support worth US$ 1 million for a project that supports the National Forest Assessment. GIZ provides technical support for activities related to climate change mitigation and the German Development Bank (KfW) has promised € 13.5 million to support REDD activities in Ecuador up to 2015.

1. Filling in matrices and questionnaires

Continuing with the needs assessment methodology for Ecuador, a visit was carried out to directly obtain data and information to complete the matrices and questionnaire. These documents, together with an explanation guide on how to fill them in, were sent to different local stakeholders that represent key stakeholders with the REDD+ development process in the country.

The systematization of the matrix results can be found in Annex XX, together with the list of institutions and people that contributed to the process.

Analyzing the results, although it is difficult to standardize the necessities from a single point of view as a country, the data provides certain obvious information that helps to gauge an idea of the priorities for support from different sectors in Ecuador.

Main findings from the filling in of the needs assessment matrices in Ecuador:

The estimated total sum for the 16 preparation elements is approximately US$ 2,500,000. In some cases these amounts have been estimated as yearly amounts. The environmental and social safeguards component has the greatest budget allocation (US$ 805,000), followed by the governance and national forest monitoring system components, with US$ 500,000 each. Finally the REDD+ strategy or action plan, transition towards a framework for development with REDD+ and forest reference level have the lowest allocations, with US$ 330,000, 200,000 and 80,000 respectively.

Table 23: Estimated required funds for Ecuador for the 16 preparation elements

Component	Required sum (US$)
Governance	500,000
REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan	330,000
Social and environmental safeguards	805,000
Forest reference emissions levels and /or forest reference level	80,000
National forest monitoring systems and information on safeguards	500,000
Transition towards a framework for development with REDD+	200,000

Table 24 shows the preparation elements within each component and subcomponent that have been qualified by the majority of institutions as; very urgent (within the next six months), moderately urgent (within the next year) and urgent (within the eighteen months)

Table 24: Responses from the Ecuador in-depth assessment, prioritized by urgency

Ecuador	**Governance:** **Institutional capacity, coordination mechanisms and legal framework**

Very urgent	a) Assessment of institutional reforms and/or new institutional arrangements necessary for the design/implementation of REDD+
	b) Effective institutions (with technical capacity, administrative authority and financial capacities) to manage deforestation and forest degradation drivers for REDD+ (especially in forest and land use sectors)
	d) An effective coordination mechanism between ministries at political, technical and administrative levels
	f) A legal assessment of how to integrate carbon rights in the context of current legislation, including coordination and consultation on how to assign carbon rights
Moderately urgent	c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve capacities for applying the law and/or MRV, etc.
	e) An effective mechanism for coordination with civil society, indigenous peoples and productive sectors for the design and implementation of REDD+
	Benefits distribution
Moderately urgent	a) Design / trial of the implementation of a transparent and accountable system to cannel REDD+ benefits and income.
	d) Identification, evaluation and use of previous experiences, including REDD+ and payments for ecosystem services demonstration activities, with the aim of generating information for the REDD+ strategy in the design and implementation phase.
Not urgent	c) National capacity for observing fiduciary standards for disbursal and receipt of funds.
	Consultation and participation process (Indigenous peoples, private sector and other stakeholders)
Very urgent	a) Formal procedures for consultation with stakeholders.
	Institutional capacity, coordination mechanisms and legal framework
Very urgent	Develop a permanent training module for the indigenous sector on REDD+, based in the Loja National University and the COICA, designed jointly with the Ecuadorian Amazon Indigenous sector with the support of the university and COICA.
	Support on the issue of regularization of land ownership for REDD Pilot Areas in indigenous territories.
	Indigenous organizational strengthening associated with natural resource management in indigenous territories and the issue of deforestation and forest degradation.
	Transition dialogue: A political, social, technical and economic analysis of the transition proposed in the Constitution and detailed in the National Live Well Plan towards a new model of development based on “sumak kawsay” and respect for nature that no longer mass exploits resources for energy and economic sources and seeks alternatives, such as the REDD+ mechanism to generate a true change in the causes of deforestation.
	REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan
	Development of the REDD+ Strategy and Options
Very urgent	e) A cost assessment (opportunity, implementation, institutional and transaction costs) of REDD+ actions at local, regional and national level to generate policies and information for decision-making
	f) Identification or assessment of significant inconsistencies or conflicts between REDD+ strategy objectives and policies and programmes in other sectors (transport, agriculture, energy, mining

	and tourism), as well as ways of tackling them.
	g) An assessment of how existing laws, policies and practices incentivize deforestation and forest degradation processes
Moderately urgent	a) Use of experiences of natural resource and forest management and agriculture (at local, regional and national level), to produce information for the design/implementation of the REDD+ strategy.
	b) Assessment of the causes of land use changes, including those not related to the forestry sector, at national and regional level.
	c) Systems that simulate and monitor the impact of REDD+ policies at national, regional and local level.
	h) Identification of legislative and policy reforms that can be achieved in the short term.
	Multiple benefits of forests and REDD+
Very urgent	a) Information systems on multiple benefits of forests and social benefits from ecosystems and REDD+
	Social and environmental safeguards
	Information on safeguards
Very urgent	a) Identification and understanding of key social, political, economic and environmental risks in the context of the REDD+ strategy
	Capacity creation amongst civil society, GAD and Environment Ministry regional offices.
Moderately urgent	Harmonization of standards: REDD+SES, UNREDD, FCPF, Cancun Safeguards
	Reference emissions levels
	Reference emissions levels and /or reference level
Very urgent	b) A methodology to estimate historical emissions and emissions scenarios based on expected tendencies in change drivers.
Moderately urgent	a) Data and knowledge of the processes and causes of deforestation and forest degradation and related GHG emissions and methods to assess future emissions development.
	National forest monitoring systems and information on safeguards
	National monitoring framework and capacities
Very urgent	b) Capacity and systems for estimating ground carbon, its dynamics and human-induced changes, leaks and monitoring approaches
Moderately urgent	a)Capacity and conformity with national and international reporting systems (e.g. UNFCCC national communications, FAO- FRA)
	Design of a monitoring system (change of area, precision, verification and reporting)
Very urgent	f) A system and capacity to carry out statistical analysis and transparent interpretation of data, including an estimation of the error margin
Moderately urgent	c) A plan to develop capacity to cover priority data and information needs (e.g. coverage changes, carbon flows, co-benefits, opportunity costs and environmental risks)
	Design of an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards
Very urgent	a) A system to monitor how safeguards are being dealt with during the implementation of REDD+ activities, based on a methodology and practical tools.
	e) Identification of mechanisms to establish independent monitoring and review that enable the participation of civil society, indigenous peoples, forest dependent communities and other stakeholders

Moderately urgent	b) Identification of the scope and roles of stakeholders and governmental entities participating in the design and implementation of safeguards.
	d) Coordination of the safeguards information system with monitoring of other needs
	Transition towards a framework for development with REDD+
Very urgent	b) Protocols for integrated land use planning and decision making to enable the integration of economic, biophysical and social information through the use of multiple criteria tools for decision making.
Moderately urgent	c) Capacity for the development of integrated visions and to reach other sectors such as the planning and financial sectors in order to prioritize investments and public spending, with the goal of promoting more sustainable development options
	e) Case studies and comparisons between the possible impact of habitual practices and investment trajectories and that of green economy options (such as agroforestry, more efficient use of wood, REDD+ projects, ecosystems services) in pilot districts.

Participatory consultations Ecuador

To conclude the process of obtaining information and data on the needs of Ecuador, group meetings were carried out with different sectors involved in the REDD+ process in coordination with the Ministry of Environment, enabling the review to enter into greater detail with regard to needs. The names of the people with whom these meetings were held and the institutions they represent are set out in Annex X.

Within the National Governance component, the following priority needs have been identified:

- Support for institutional strengthening in the Environment Ministry and SENPLADES
- Formalization of the multidisciplinary support team to support the initiation of the REDD+ process in Ecuador
- Support for the management of funding sources and project and programme monitoring (UNREDD, GIZ, KFW, ICA)

With regard to planning and the strategic vision of REDD+, the following studies have been identified as priority needs:

- Studies on the macroeconomic impact of different deforestation reduction scenarios (A, B, C) at district and circuit levels.
- Study developed with the accompaniment of SENPLADES on multicriteria analysis (biodiversity, water sources, spiritual and cultural values, etc.)
- Study of the distribution of benefits from deforestation and forest degradation (deforestation stakeholders)

Similarly, the potential for support from universities on strategic issues for REDD+ (research, science, bioknowledge) with the participation of SENPLADES, the Environment Ministry and SENESCYT, has been identified as key.
On the other hand, with regard to REDD+ strategic planning, is it important to:

- Consider the contribution of the implementation of the REDD Programme to the Live Well Plan, under the constitutional principles of Ecuador and the prioritization of areas with potential for REDD focused on mining and oil project planning for the next 25 years
- Define potential for impacts mitigation and/or pure REDD+ areas (without large projects?)
- Prioritize areas with REDD+ potential aligned with energy security planning in Ecuador, identifying mitigation potential (river basin management)
- Identify links and opportunities for complementation between REDD+ and policies and strategies for sustainable tourism, agroforestry and genetic resources
- Legal review of the Constitution of Ecuador and the scope of the implementation of the REDD+ strategy

With regard to internal and external inter-institutional coordination, the following support needs have been identified:

- Harmonization of standards: REDD+SES, UNREDD, FCPF, Cancun Safeguards
- Capacity creation amongst civil society, GAD and Environment Ministry regional office
- Forest governance models that incorporate REDD with clarity at GAD level
- Collective rights of indigenous peoples must be taken into account through the strengthening of the citizen participation and planning committees and others
- Guidelines for GADs associated with REDD+

On the other hand, together with the indigenous sector and civil society, the following needs have been identified:

- Development of a permanent, sustainable training module for the indigenous sector on REDD+, based in the Loja National University and the COICA, designed jointly with the Ecuadorian Amazon Indigenous sector and COICA with the support of the university (indigenous languages)
- Support on the issue of regularization of land ownership for REDD Pilot Areas in indigenous territories.
- Indigenous organizational strengthening (representativeness) for the management of natural resources in holistic indigenous territories

With regard to capacity development, it is necessary to:

- Develop capacities of government and NGO staff and civil in general for specific issues, through universities (scholarships for indigenous sector). Institutional reports of universities.
- Create research programmes in universities that generate technical information that supports decision making of key REDD issues, MRV systems and forest management in close coordination with the Environment Ministry
- Conform REDD+ information systems together with universities with information dissemination and systematization alternatives (mixed, public-private)

4.2.6 Colombia

General Context

In 2010 the Colombian economy grew by 4.3%. All sectors presented significant growth, with the exception of agriculture. The economic growth has mainly been due to mine and quarry exploitation (11.0%), commerce (6.0%), industry (4.5%) and transport (4.7%). The significant growth of the energy/mining sector originates from the 16.9% increase in the added value of crude oil, natural gas and minerals. This result ratifies the relevance that this sector has acquired in the economic growth of Colombia, considering international prices and the greater volume of oil production (17.6%), natural gas (6.4%) and coal (2.0%).

The forestry sector is not significant to national GDP: between 2000 and 2008, silviculture and wood extraction contributed 2.26% of the agricultural GDP and 0.21% of national GDP (Ideam, 2010). Data shows that the sale of illegal wood represents 35% of the wood produced in the country, more than 1.2 million cubic metres of wood product (IDEAM – ECOFOREST, 2005). On the other hand, environmental services are not sufficiently valued, given that forest services and their contribution to social and economic development are not included in national accounts (CI, 2010).

In general the forestry sector presents a range of significant deficiencies and gaps, such as [7]

- Deficient and divided institutional context:,
- Weak financial capacity
- Dispersed, out of date and unknown information

Average annual deforestation in Colombia is around 336,000 hectares. Studies show that more than two million hectares of forest were lost in the country between 2000 and 2007, especially in the Amazon region, followed by the Andean region. The main causes of deforestation identified include: the expansion of the agricultural and livestock frontier, illegal crops, displacement/colonization of populations, infrastructure, mining activities, and wood extraction and forest fires.

In Colombia, different population groups live in Colombia, they are self-recognized as ethnic minorities. Among them are: indigenous 1,378,884 (representing 3.4% of the population), 4,261,996 Afrocolombians, black, Palenqueros and raizles (10.5% of the population), and between 5,500 and 8,000 Rom or gypsies (DANE, 2005). Indigenous peoples occupy an important percentage of the country territory (27.34%) representing 32 million ha. approx. There are 87 distinct indigenous population groups officially recognized, of which 57 inhabit the forests of the Colombian Amazon, representing 42% of the country and contain about 70% of the country's forests. These territories have the property of being indefeasible, inalienable and non-transferable. They also have special seats in the national congress.

[7] Según Viceministerio de Ambiente, 2010

The Colombian government is developing two main strategies: "The Colombian Low Carbon Development Strategy" and the "National Strategy for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation (ENREDD+)". Both strategies form part of the National Development Plan 2010 – 2014.

The National Development Plan includes the restructuring of the National Climate Change System (SNCC), which consists of the Executive Climate Change Commission (COMECC), a Financial Management Committee, an orientation group, and a consultation group and four permanent sub-commissions. The superior coordination and orientation of the SNCC is the responsibility of the COMECC, which will coordinate the ENREDD+ implementation efforts. This committee is made up of the Ministries/Vice-ministries of Agriculture, Mining and Energy, Social Protection, Foreign Relations, Environment and Sustainable Development, Housing, City and Territory, amongst others. The Executive Secretariat of this commission will be presided by the Ministry for Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS).

Despite official support for REDD+ the 2011-2014 Development Plan in which developments in , agriculture, mining, infrastructure and innovation are proposed, could pose challenges to REDD+ .

Progress on REDD+ in Colombia

The MAVDT and the IDEAM, with the support of Fundacion Natura and funds of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, implemented the "Scientific-Technical-Institutional Capacity for supporting REDD Projects: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in Colombia" project, which was initiated in 2009 and lasted two years.

Some of the main results of this project included:

> ***Estimation of carbon stocks.*** Aboveground biomass and potential carbon reserves in natural forests were estimated on the basis of information generated in more than 3,500 plant and forest inventories carried out in different-sized plots, covering an area of around 844 hectares. Allometric models developed specially for Colombia were used for these estimations.
>
> ***Deforestation monitoring through digital image processing.*** A multi-scale hierarchical approximation was developed combining the capacities of optical, radar and laser sensors.
>
> ***Validation Protocol for a pilot project.*** The Deforestation Quantification Protocol and the Protocol for the Estimation of Carbon Stocks by Forest Type were designed and implemented at national scale. These protocols were validated at sub-national scale in a pilot project in the south of the Huila department: Puracé – Cueva de los Guácharos National Park and Regional Biological Corridor. In this zone, the NGO Andina and the Regional Autonomous Corporation of Alto Magdalena (CAM) plan to implement a REDD project.
>
> ***Deforestation Projections.*** Possible tendencies in deforestation behavior have been identified and potential scenarios have been developed with regard to deforestation and spatial distribution patterns.

On the other hand, the Colombian Government, as part of its REDD+ preparation work, has been developing the REDD+ Preparation Proposal (R-PP) in the framework of the support received from the Forest carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF). The Colombian Government has currently presented the fourth version of the RPP document to the FCPF participants committee. The key expected results from the R-PP implementation process are:

- Capacity strengthening among relevant stakeholders
- Structuring and/or adjustment of the institutional, regulatory and technical framework that enables the implementation of REDD+ activities
- Development and/or coordination of vegetative cover and carbon stock monitoring protocols
- Identification of possible social, environmental and economic impacts in the implementation of REDD+ projects
- Construction of a participative national REDD+ strategy.

To this end, the estimated total budget in the proposal is 18,470,000 US$ and the anticipated funding sources are: US$ 3.4 million from the FCPF. US$ 4.0 million from UN-REDD (the Regulatory Committee of UN-REDD has not yet approved this budget), UDS$ 1.4 million contribution from the national government and US$ 9.7 million from other sources. The allocation of this total sum to each component of the R-PP is detailed in the following graph:

In depth Country Needs Assessment

The governance structure thought to manage the REDD+ process in Colombia is complex and responds to the strategic vision that's is agreed in the CONPES[8], which gives a political mandate to implement the structure and the policies associated to a REDD+ process under a Low Emissions Development Strategy.

At the moment the structure is under construction, the REDD+ team led by the Forest, Biodiversity and Ecosystem services Director in close coordination with the Climate Change Director is in charge of implementing the ENREDD with the FCPF funding.

One of the key elements of progress perceived is the public and civil society network created through the participative design of the RPP document. The Indigenous people and civil society perceived this process has characterized to be open, transparent and inclusive. However Indigenous Peoples from the Amazon and Afrocolombianos groups perceived a more inter-institutional coordination is needed at all levels to ensure the objectives of different processes and Ministries are not conflicting with each other.

Another very clear demand from indigenous peoples and Afrocolombianos group was the urgent need to provide a legal framework; guidelines for early REDD+ initiatives, so they are implemented following minimum standards, to avoid fraud, manipulation of IPs groups and abusive contracts. The IPs from the amazon region were very clear saying that they prefer to work closely with the government in the REDD+ process that dealing themselves with the world private sector cause the power difference put

[8] Consejo Nacional de Política Económica y Social, National Council on Economic and Social Policy

them in a very weak position to negotiate fair contract and therefore they will prefer to rely on the government process.

Table 25: Priority Actions in Colombia

National REDD Governance	Long term training mechanism/programs (Course/diploma on **REDD**+ for the public sector and civil society, Course/diploma on REDD+ for Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon eco-region, Course/diploma on REDD+ for Afro-descendent communities of the Pacific eco-region)
	National REDD+ experts meeting to discuss and define the REDD+ strategic vision in the country and how to relate it to the national development vision.
REDD+ strategy or action plan	Hiring of Professionals at the Departments and regional autonomous corporations levels to lead the mainstreaming REDD + in the regions.
Social and Environmental Safeguards	Finance for a programme to support the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development on the prevention of fraud in REDD+ project, including: legal advisory services for the Ministry for monitoring specific cases of possible fraud; design of texts, publication and dissemination of a basic document on preventing fraud related to supposed REDD+ initiatives, aimed at indigenous, black and peasant communities.
Transition to a development framework with REDD+	Studies on the Economic impact of REDD+ Strategy Options at regional and National level

These five priority actions have been described as very urgent need (in the next six months) except for: Hiring of Professionals at the Departments and regional autonomous corporations levels to lead the mainstreaming REDD + in the regions and Studies on the Economic impact of REDD+ Strategy Options on regional economies, these need are required over the next year (moderately urgent)

Table 26: Priority needs and preferred support mechanisms, Colombia

Priority Actions	**Type of support**	**Mechanism**
National REDD Governance		
Long term training mechanism/programs (Course/diploma on REDD+ for the public sector and civil society, Course/diploma on REDD+ for Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon eco-region, Course/diploma on REDD+ for Afro-descendent communities of the Pacific eco-region)	Financial	Direct funding
	Administrative	Direct funding
	Technical	Specific expertise
National REDD+ experts meeting to discuss and define the REDD+ strategic vision in the country and how to relate it to the national development vision	Financial	Direct funding
	Technical	Specific expertise
		Work shop
REDD+ strategy or action plan		

Hiring of Professionals at the Departments and regional autonomous corporations levels to lead the mainstreaming REDD + in the regions.	Financial	Direct funding
Social and Environmental Safeguards		
Finance for a programme of support for the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development on the prevention of fraud in REDD issues, including: legal advisory services for the Ministry for monitoring specific cases of possible fraud; design of texts, publication and dissemination of a basic document on preventing fraud related to supposed REDD+ initiatives, aimed at indigenous, black and peasant communities.	Financial	Direct funding
	Technical	Specific expertise
Transition to a development framework with REDD+		
Studies on the Economic impact of REDD+ Strategy Options at regional and National	Financial	Direct funding
	Technical	Specific expertise

The five prioritized readiness elements in Colombia will require financial support, in the form of direct financing. The technical support is also important especially in the National REDD Governance, Social and Environmental Safeguards, and Transition to a development framework with REDD+ components, the preferred support mechanism is "Specific expertise", a workshop is required only for the National REDD+ experts meeting. Finally in order to implement the Long Term Capacity Building under the Governance component administrative support is required through Direct Funding.

Estimated costs to implement priority needs

The estimated amounts needed for implementation are detailed in the table below.

Table 27: Estimated Costs for implementation, Colombia

Priority Actions	Costs (US$)
Mechanism/Long term Capacity Building programme	400.000
National REDD+ expert meeting	20.000
REDD Experts for Departments and Regional Autonomous Corporations (2 years)	65.000
Support Program for REDD+ projects Fraud prevention for the MADS.	70.000
Studies to determine the economic impact at Regional and national level of the different REDD+ scenarios under the REDD+ National Strategy	200.000
Total	**755.000**

As seen in Table 5, the estimated aggregate amount for the five priority actions amounted to 755,000 (US$)[9].

Beneficiaries

The implementation of these priority needs, will primarily benefit the Government Institutions, followed by others (have been identified as "Others" Universities and Research Institutes, private sector)

[9] This amount is addition to the amount identified in the Needs Assessment Matrix detailed in Table 2 of this report.

Matrices and questionnaires results

Readiness elements that require "Very Urgent" support

The following table shows the readiness elements within each component and subcomponent that have been qualified by the majority of institutions as: Very urgent (within the next six months)

Table 28: Elements requiring very urgent support in Colombia

VERY URGENT
Component. Governance
Institutional capacity, coordination mechanisms and legal framework
a) Evaluation of institutional reforms and/or new institutional arrangements necessary for the design/implementation of REDD+
b) Effective institutions (with technical capacity, administrative authority, financial capacities) for managing deforestation and forest degradation drivers for REDD+ (especially forest and land use sectors)
c) Identification of institutional strengthening requirements, for example to improve law enforcement of MRV capacities, amongst others.
e) An effective coordination mechanism between civil society, Indigenous Peoples and productive sectors, for the design and implementation of REDD+.
f) A legal evaluation on how to integrate carbon rights in the context of current legislation, including the coordination and consultation on how to assign carbon rights.
Benefits Distribution
d) The identification, evaluation and use of previous experiences, including REDD+ and payment for environmental services demonstration activities, with the objective of generating information for the REDD+ strategy in its design and implementation phase.
Consultation and participation process (Indigenous peoples, OSC, private sector and other stakeholders)
a) Formal procedures for the stakeholder consultation.
b) Capacity development and information supply to facilitate the participation of Indigenous Peoples, forest dependent communities and other relevant stakeholders in REDD+ management.
Component. REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan
Development of the REDD+ Strategy and Options
e) An evaluation of costs (opportunity, implementation, institutional and transaction costs) of REDD+ actions at local, regional and national levels, to generate policies and information for decision making.
f) Identification and assessment of major inconsistencies or conflicts between the objectives of the REDD+ strategy and policies and programmes in other sectors (transport, agriculture, energy, mining, tourism) as well as ways of tackling them.
g) An evaluation of how existing laws, policies and practices incentivize deforestation and forest degradation processes.
Component. Social and environmental safeguards
Information on safeguards
a) Identification and assessment of key social, political, economic and environmental risks in the context of the REDD+ strategy.
Component. National forest monitoring systems and information on safeguards
Design of a monitoring system (change of area, precision, verification and reporting)
d) Revision, consolidation and integration of existing data and information (forest inventory, permanent sample

plots, REDD+ demonstration activities)
g) Use of an independent system to verify and interpret data.
h) Institutions or platforms that guarantee public access to data and information for transparency purposes, as well as required capacity for putting them into practice and maintaining them.
Design of an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards
b) Identification of the scope and roles of participating stakeholders and government entities in the design and implementation of safeguards.
c) Identification of necessary capacity for the design and implementation of safeguards.
e) Identification of mechanisms for establishing independent monitoring and revision that enables the participation of civil society, Indigenous Peoples, forest dependent communities and other stakeholders.

Source: Matrix Needs Assessment – Colombia

As is stated in Table 28, the 18 elements identified as very urgent will require US$4.440.000 to be deliver in the next 6 months.

Table 4: Funds requirement for Very Urgent elements

The estimated financial support for other readiness elements, which are foreseen for the next 18 months, is US$7.000.000 out of a total estimate of US$ 11,540,000.

Tendencies in the type of support required

In general the type of support that is most required is financial support, followed by administrative support. The technical support is important in the Component Social and Environmental Safeguards.

Mechanism's through which support is preferred

The mechanisms through which support is preferred to be received are: Specific Expertise (88%) in the financial type Direct Funding and workshops (both with 67%). The modalities required for technical support are Specific Expertise and Direct Funding with little difference between them, followed by Guidelines and Workshops.

Finally administrative support is required for evaluation of policies, Laws, Decrees, identification of the reforms and gaps required and to develop institutional arrangements to Implement Multiple Benefits Monitoring Systems.

Beneficiaries

On average the beneficiaries are government institutions (98%), followed by Civil Society (53%) and Indigenous Peoples (with 50%).

4.3 Summary of results from the response matrices – all countries

Countries involved in the CNA

As already explained during the course of the study, a total of six countries; Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Ecuador Papua New Guinea and Tanzania were visited. In general, these six countries represent a range of stages of readiness, which can be roughly segregated into three clusters, depending on their position on the path to readiness. There are countries such as the DRC and Tanzania, hat have made considerable progress and are set to complete Phase I of readiness within 8 to 12 months. Then there are countries such as Ecuador, which are in the middle stages, have functional coordination structures in place and have started making progress on components such as MRV, REDD+ strategy development. Countries such as Cambodia and PNG are in the early stages of readiness, but have initiated actions and processes such as the formation of 'technical working groups' and 'national coordination structures' for REDD+ that have just begun functioning.

The countries which were either visited or responded to the questionnaires are as follows:

Africa: Central Africa Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zambia

Asia: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Vietnam

Latin America and Caribbean: Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras and Mexico

Responses on whether support is needed and nature of support

The responses of countries based on the matrix of readiness issues are presented in Figures 7 (a-j) herein and are also in Appendices I and II. The bar graphs show the responses of all countries to the questions on; *whether* and *under which component* and *sub-components*, is support needed by the countries. All the countries in the three regions are represented in the graphs.

The highest number of readiness needs, are in Africa and Asia respectively, while Latin America and Caribbean have indicated relatively few needs.

Figures (Appendix II) show country responses on how urgently (degree of urgency) they would like support to address issues under components, their elements or sub-components. Next, are the types of support (administrative, financial and technical), and the desired mechanisms of delivery (specific expertise, guidelines, workshop etc). The general trends that can be discerned from the responses are as follows:

Figures (Appendix II), show the response of countries to questions on their preferred mechanisms of delivery of support, also segregated by components and subcomponent.

Figures (Appendix I) contain country responses on whether and under which components or sub-components of readiness, they need support.

In terms of *urgency* the following components were rated high among all the countries:

- Governance Issues, particularly institutional coordination and benefit sharing

- REDD+ strategy development – particularly work on drivers and strategy and impact monitoring
- Social and environmental safeguards – are considered very urgent in Africa and Asia
- Reference Levels – again , support needed urgently in Africa and Asia

On the *preferred types of support* (whether financial, technical and administrative), there was a clear preference for technical and financial, almost in equal measure .

On the *governance component* a majority of countries prefer financial to any other form of help.

There is *an overwhelming demand* for *financial* and *technical support* and components considered quite relevant by countries are:

- Benefit sharing
- REDD+ strategy development
- Safeguards
- Reference levels and MRV

On *mechanisms of support* (workshops, guidelines, specific expertise, direct funding etc) country responses were as follows:

Most of the countries preferred *guidelines* and *direct funding* on:

- Governance
- Benefit sharing
- REDD+ strategy options

Guidelines and *specific expertise* are preferred to address

- Safeguards
- Reference levels
- MRV
- Transition to green economies

Responses from visited and non visited countries

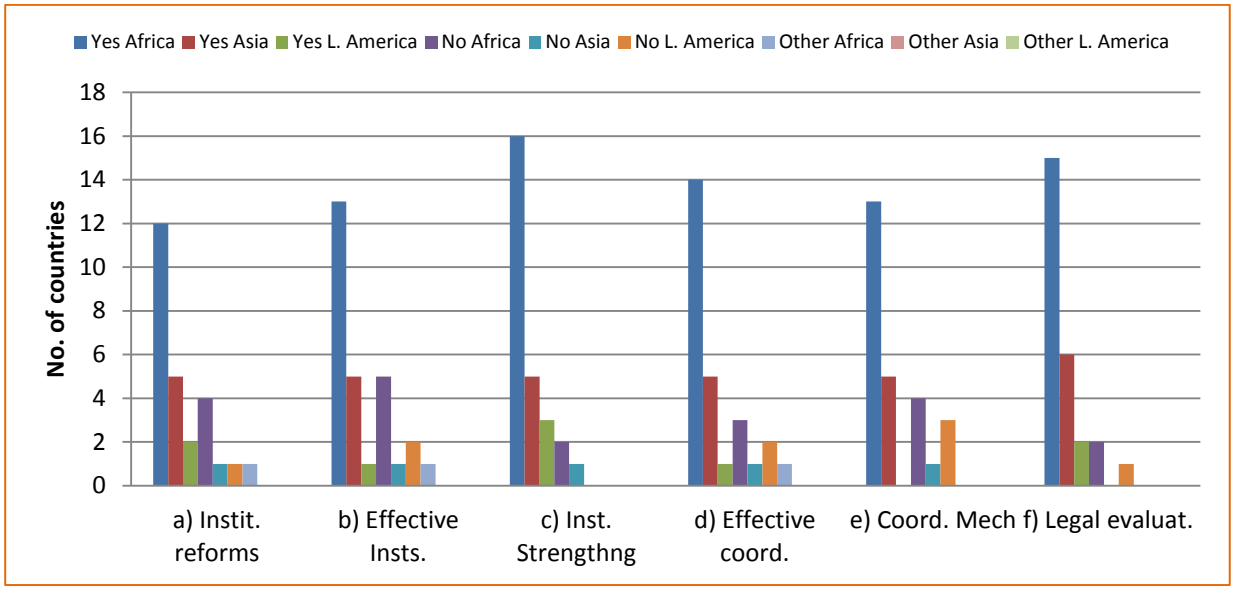
In general, the consultants who conducted country visits observed that countries that were visited gave a stronger indication of their priority needs that those who received and filled the matrices mailed. In the remotely administered matrices and overview questions, a majority of country respondents, tended to 'tick' more boxes that when country respondents had to interact with consultants to justify their priorities; a finding that is not quite unexpected.

Graphical representation of some responses

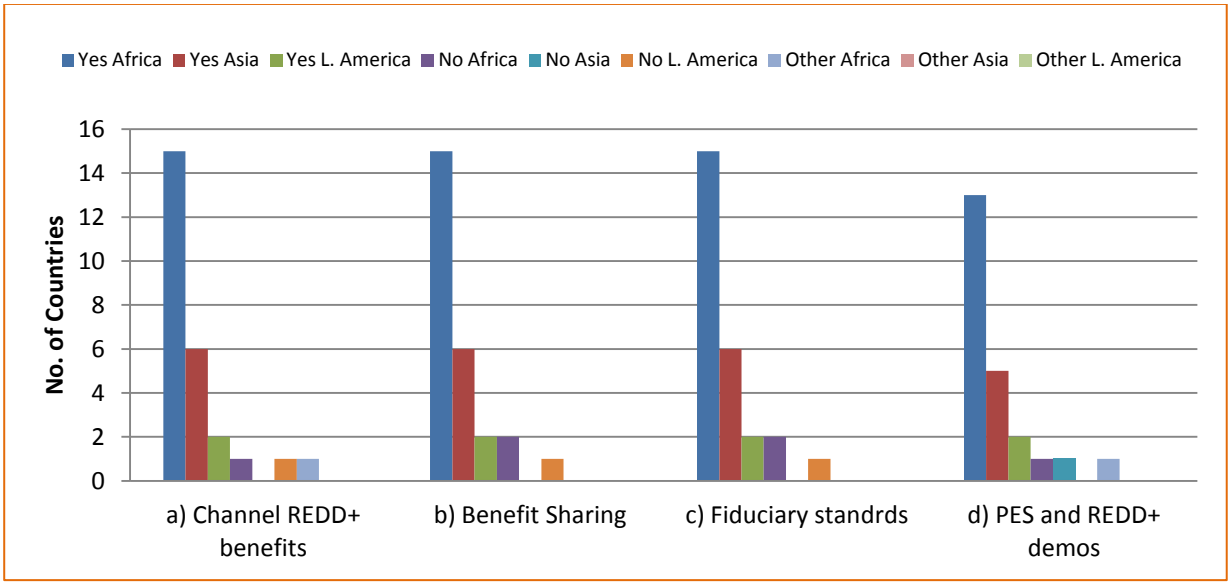
Figure 7(a-j) Expression of needs for support (yes or no) under each readiness component for all countries

Element 1. Governance

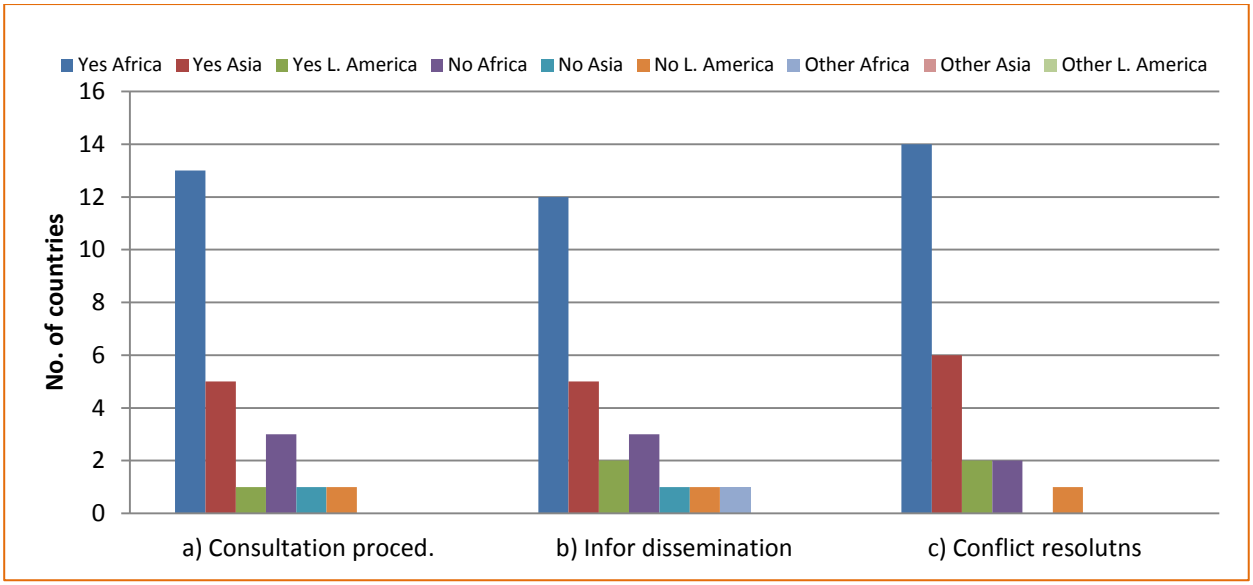
7a) Sub-Element 1.1. Institutional capacity, coordination and legal framework



7b) Sub-element 1.2. Benefits distribution

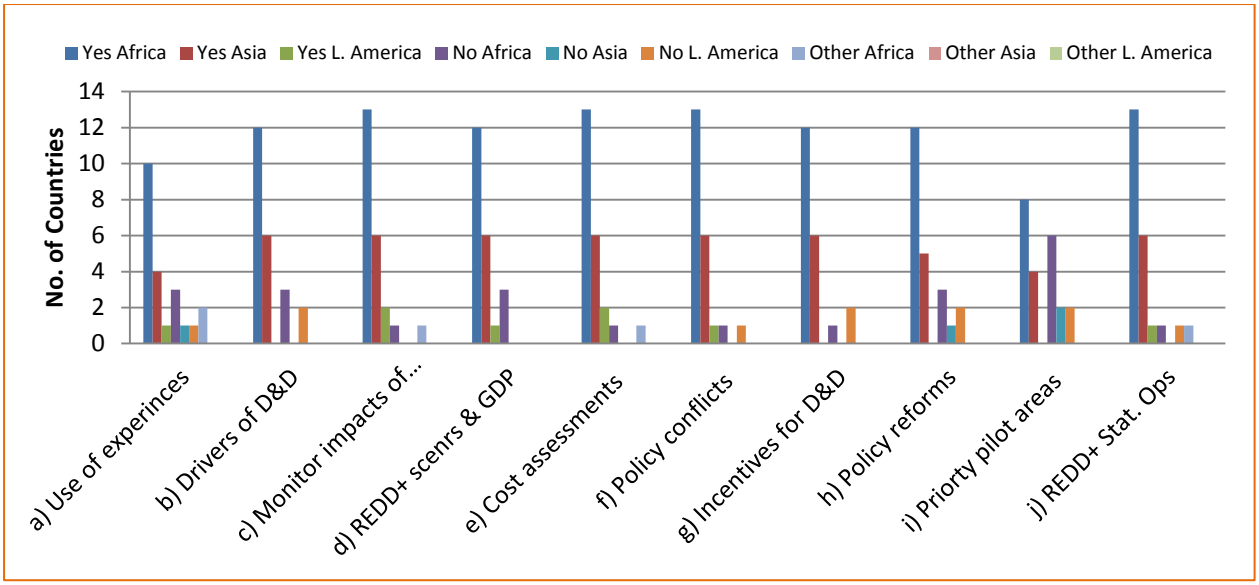


Sub-element 1.3. Consultation and participation process (indigenous peoples, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders).

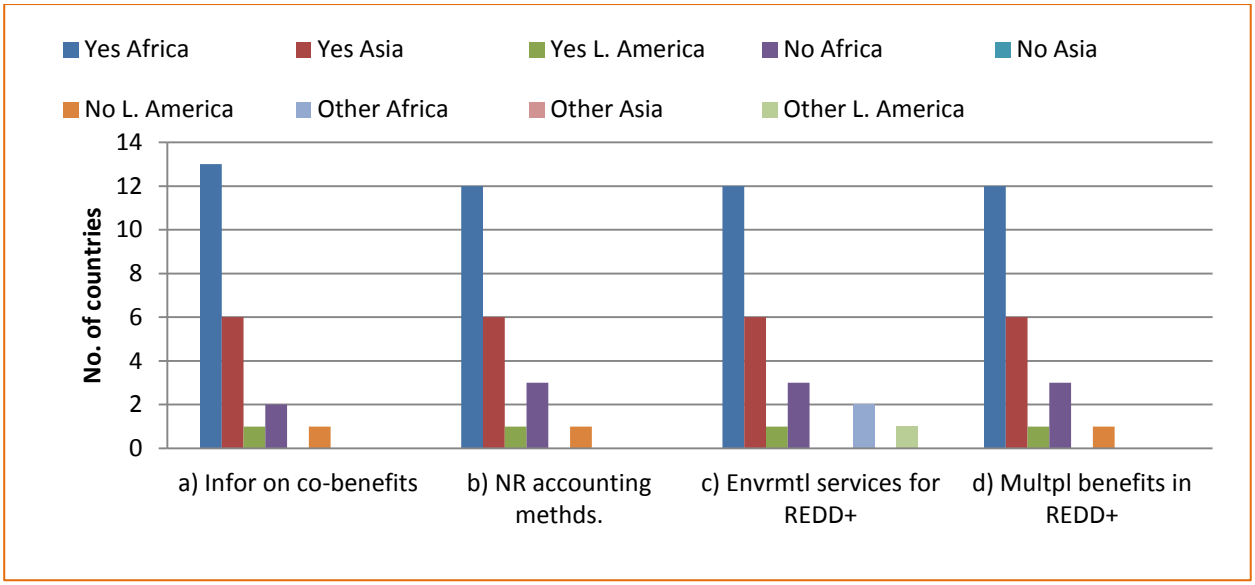


Element 2.REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan

7c) Sub-element 2.1.Development of REDD+ strategy and options

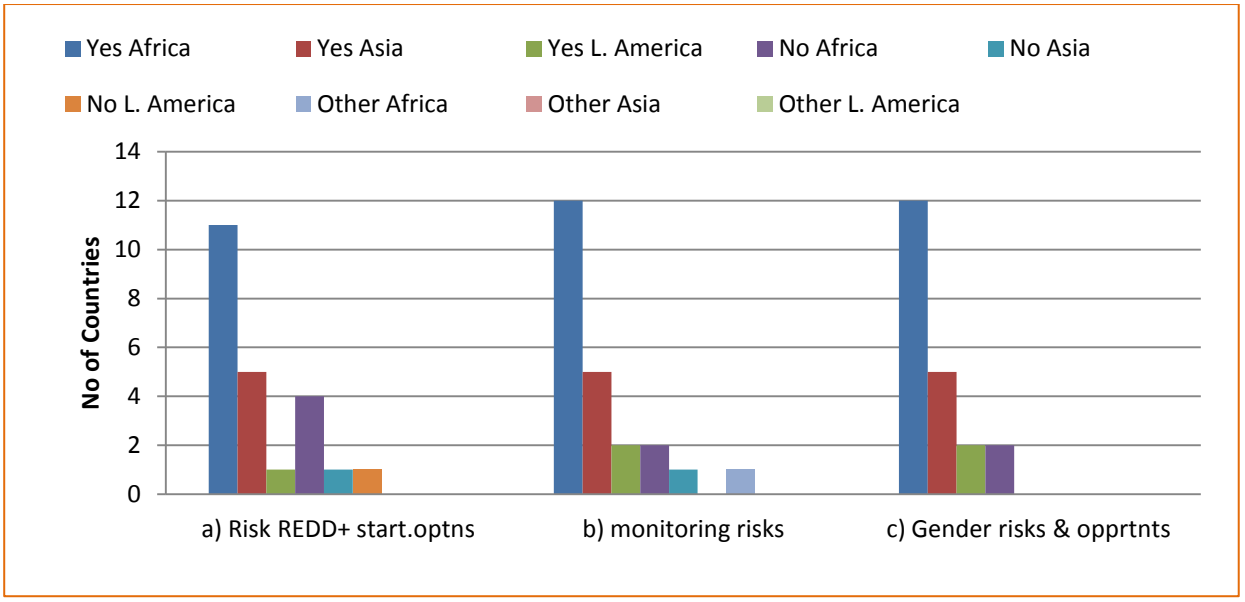


7d) Sub-element 2.2. Multiple benefits of REDD+



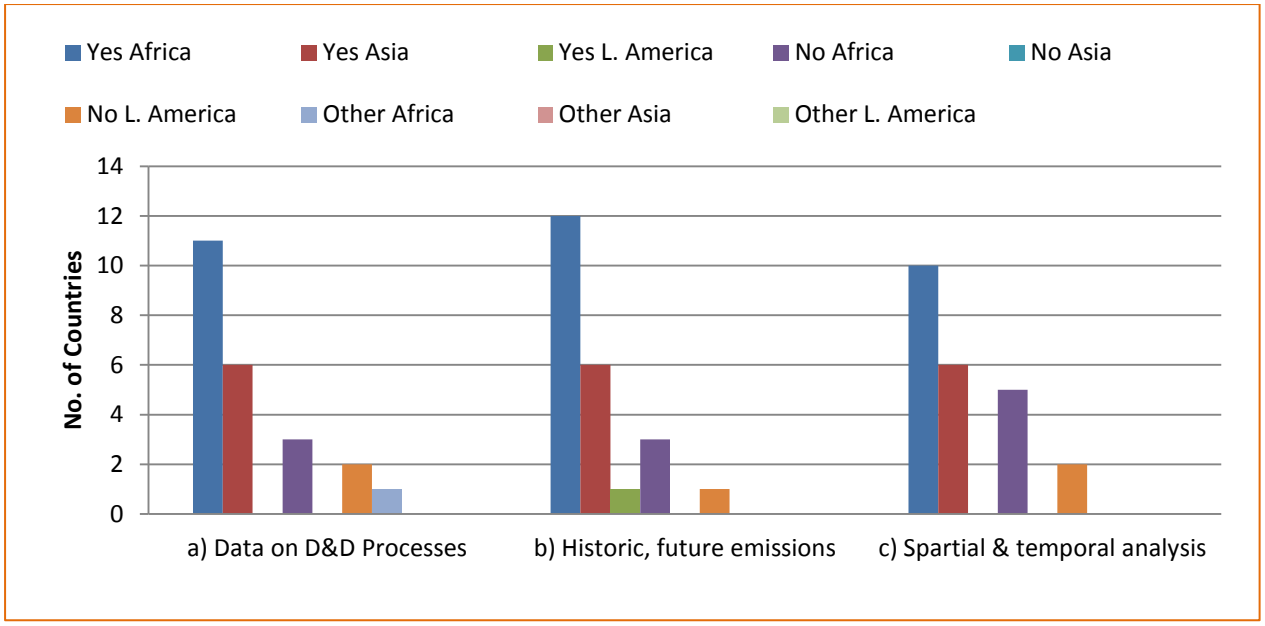
7e) Element 3.Social and Environmental Safeguards

Sub-element 3.1.Information on safeguards



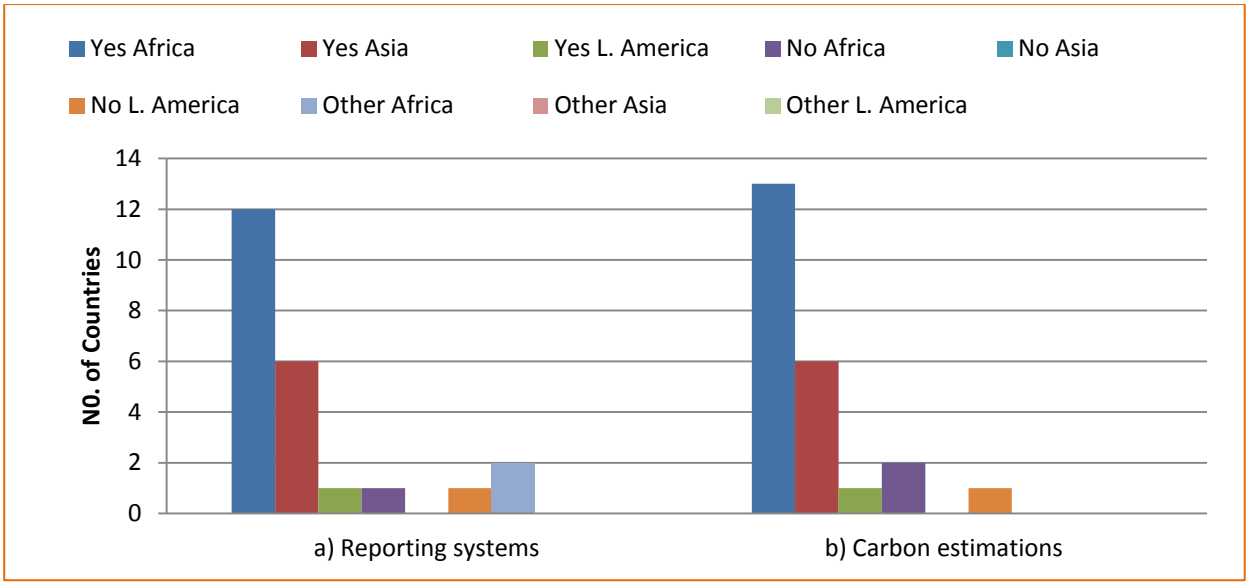
7f) Element 4.Reference Emission Levels

Sub-element 4.1.Reference emission levels and/ or reference level

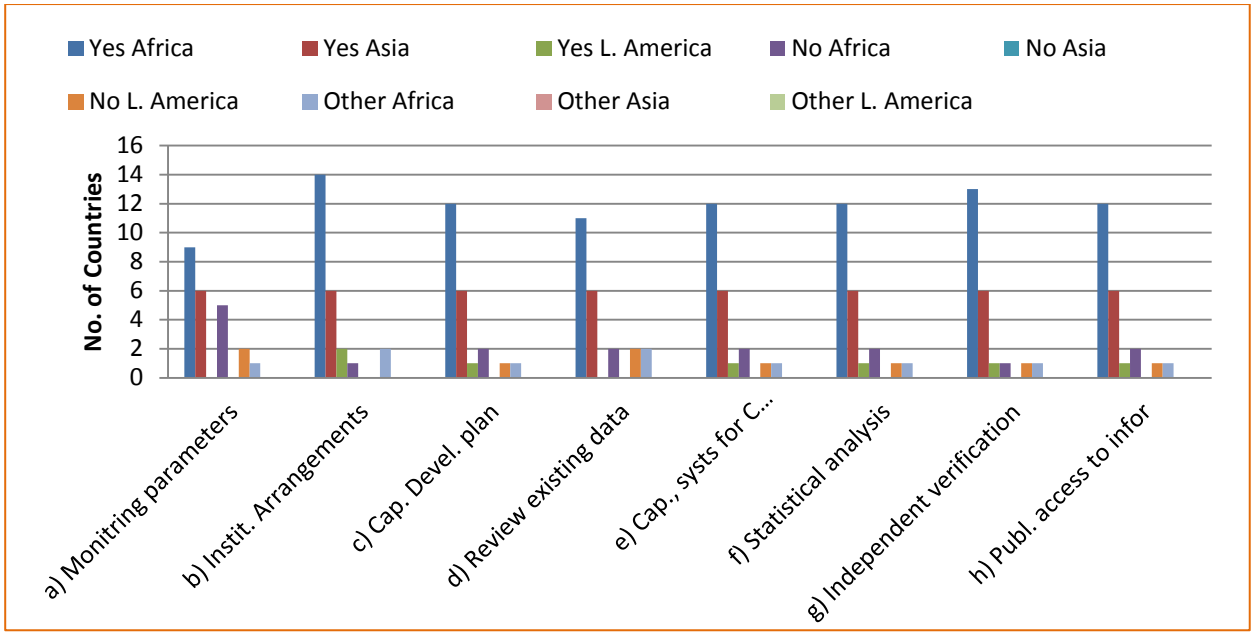


7g) Element 5.National Forest Monitoring System and Information on Safeguards

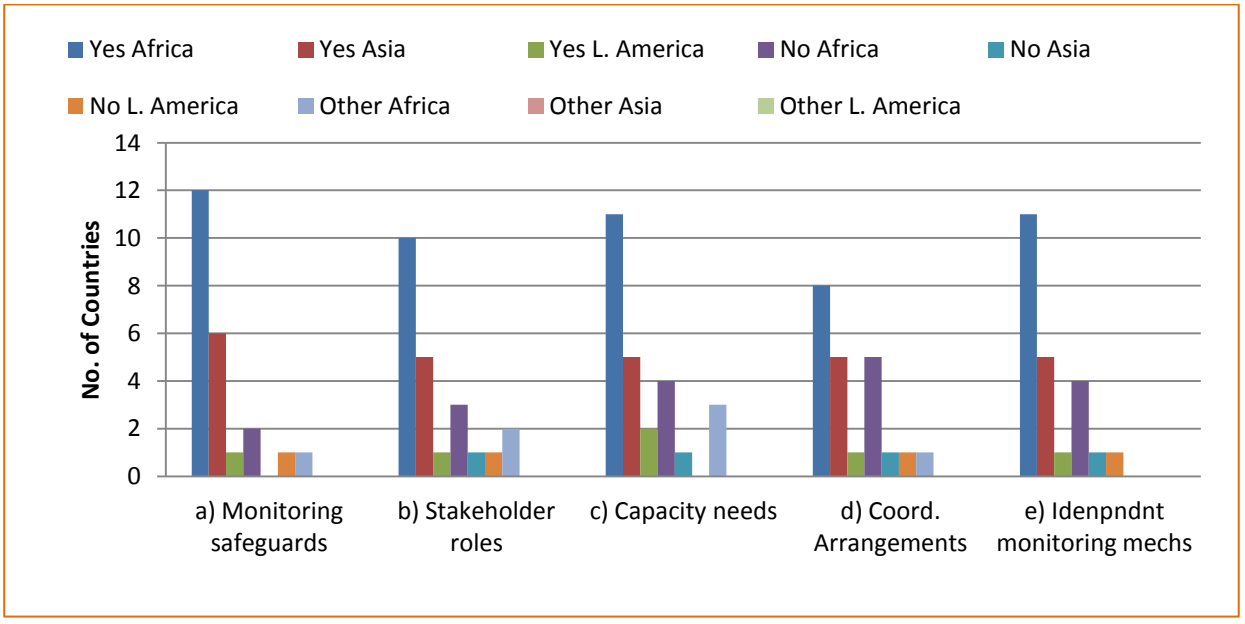
Sub-element 5.1.National monitoring frameworks and capacities



7h) Sub-element 5.2.Design of a monitoring system (change of area, precision, verification and reporting)

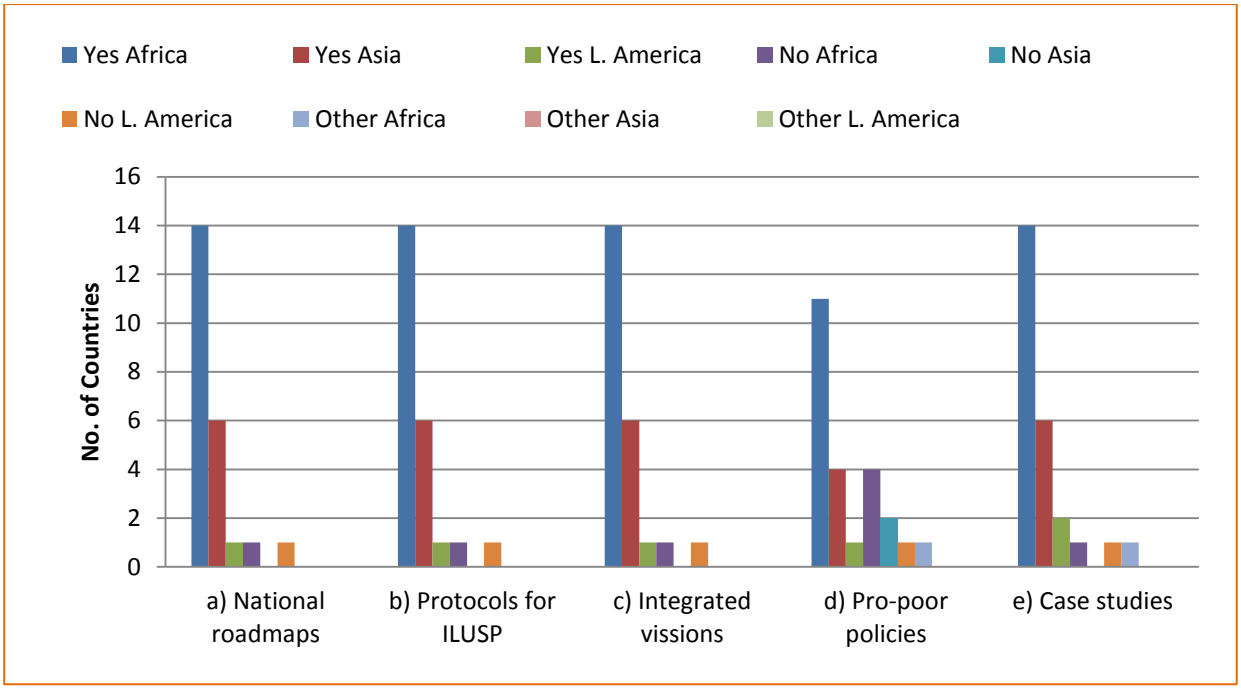


7i) Sub-element 5.3.Design of an information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards



7j) Element 6.Transition Towards a Framework for Green Development with REDD+

Sub-element 6.1.Transition towards a framework for development with REDD+



5. *Discussions and conclusions*

Country Visits

The decision to mix in-country visits and remotely administered response matrices was a deliberate decision to put responses into context by having direct discussions with personnel in their own countries. It is therefore appropriate to comment on the responses from both remotely administered response matrices and the six overview questions. In general, countries identified their priorities more precisely during in-country visits than by just filling the matrices on their own. A possible explanation to this observation is that faced with and interacting with a consultant, respondents had to think more about priority rather than all needs, since the issue of priority needs for support was stressed by the consultants. The same was not the case for the remotely administered material

The sense of urgency given to issues of *governance* and *REDD+ Strategies* is both interesting and relevant and shows that a number of countries still need support to support their national coordination structures, seek cross-sector engagement on REDD+ programmes and agreement on national REDD+ policies and policy frameworks. Above all it suggests the centrality of governance in the success of REDD+. The same can be said about REDD+ strategies, particularly strategy options and their potential utility to deal with the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and the high priority that many countries visited put on the importance of pilot programmes as opportunities for testing and learning. The responses are therefore corroborated by the evidence from country visits.

The preference of financial support to governance is most probably related to the desire of many countries to pay for consultations with stakeholders, strengthen and support the functions of their

national and sub-national committees, engage their political leaders and pay for policy and legal reforms processes, among other things.

The fact that a majority of countries also chose financial and technical support to deal with benefit sharing, REDD+ strategy development, safeguards and reference levels is interesting. In general and during country visits, these same issues came out as priorities in discussions and also from remotely administered matrices. Again, countries stressed the need for pilots which require funding to set up and run and to test the issues of safeguards in which a number of countries have not set up frameworks or guidelines for. The setting of reference levels is another aspect of readiness where a number of countries need funding to get the right people to implement it. Again country visits also supports the views expressed here.

Key Areas of Need

As would be expected, the needs of countries differ depending on their stages of readiness. Based on the six countries that were visited, and the responses to the matrices of other countries, some general needs have emerged.

i. The *capacities of sub-national structures such as provincial or district structures* should be prioritized since it is where REDD+ Programmes will be implemented. DRC, for example, calls this priority as "the decentralization of REDD+".

ii. To overcome what appears to be a *waning 'political interest'* in REDD+ within countries, it is important that national REDD+ Programmes are supported to demonstrate 'strong business cases' for REDD+ in relation to other competing land policies.

iii. Countries suggest that additional resource*s to initiate and support REDD+ pilot projects*, is one of the better ways to create buy-in from both communities, local and central governments.

iv. Support to *build national technical capacities to substantively participate in the setting of reference levels /reference emission levels,* test models and build expertise in maintaining national forest and carbon databases is needed.

v. *Quantification of the deleterious effects of drivers* of deforestation and forest degradation in both ecological and economic terms should also be supported since such information can be effectively used to create a 'sense of urgency' for REDD+.

vi. Support to *resolve 'land tenure' and 'carbon rights'* issues in the REDD+ context is needed in virtually all existing and nascent REDD+ country strategies, particularly to help countries develop incentive based models that will generate 'stewardship' over forests and wooded landscapes.

vii. In all countries visited there seems to be an urgent need to address the issue of *strengthening local NGOs and community groups*, but without alienating central governments. It seems that

stronger in-country voices outside government will eventually be in the interest of forest administrations which are the ones largely and primarily responsible for the mitigation of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation

viii. For countries with substantial forest cover such as DRC, PNG and Cambodia, *links between pilot projects to "carbon funds or markets"* and setting of minimum investment thresholds needed to create desired 'impact' for REDD+ can produce transformative changes on how REDD+ is perceived. Without a robust economic analysis, the DRC has suggested such a threshold at 500 million US$ for itself. It would be worthwhile to investigate this threshold for a few representative REDD+ Countries.

ix. In countries where forest land is under *pressure for commercial conversion* in manners that would inhibit the success of REDD+, a suite of mechanisms need to be devised that would among other things, *strengthen forestry administrations, protect fragile and high conservation value forests and also enhance the potential for the rural poor* to share in the benefits of legitimate investments.

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