

# REDD + ANNUAL COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORTING (with semi-annual update)

**COUNTRY:** Republic of Panama

**PERIOD:** March 2016

**Background:** This country reporting framework has been developed following the structure of the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, its logical framework and Performance Measurement Framework (PMF), so as to facilitate and systematize the data analysis. The semi-annual country reporting should provide the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) with indications of REDD+ countries' progress towards the achievement of their readiness activities and the implementation of their Emission Reductions programs overtime, in a way that data are easily consolidated and provide indications on the level of achievement of the FCPF output, outcome and impact indicators as defined in the FCPF M&E Framework.

**Report preparation:** Submitted country reports should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD + (component 6 of R-PP) and should be prepared in consultation with members of REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated into national reporting, and divergent views indicative of lack of consensus on specific issues should be recorded in the country report.

**Reporting schedule:** It is expected that the annual progress country reporting will be submitted to the FMT by August 15<sup>th</sup> each year. The reporting should be based on a self-assessment of progress. An update of this country reporting will also be submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

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## 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This section should provide a short description of FCPF support in country (bullets on FCPF-financed activities only). Information should summarize progress, key achievements with a focus on higher level results and important issues/problems that arose during the reporting period. Highlights of next steps in following period should also be provided (key bullets only).

### SUMMARY:

- Consolidation of the REDD+ teamwork of the Ministry of the Environment (15 national officers – seniors and juniors-), to support the four components of the project.
- Purchase orders to acquire information technology equipment to support the component no. 4.
- Next steps in following period, hiring of: the national REDD+ Coordinator, the specialist in organization and consultation, the communication specialist, and the monitoring and evaluation specialist.
- Organization and execution of the National plan of public participation to consult the REDD+ strategy with the key stakeholders.

## 2. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS DURING THE PERIOD

The section below should provide qualitative and quantitative data on the progress towards expected results along the following subsections. Information is to be provided cumulatively. If the information requested is not available or not relevant at the time of the reporting, mention “does not apply – n/a”.

Amount of non-FCPF investments received under R-PP process (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):	
<u>Source:</u> n/a	<u>Amount provided:</u> n/a
<u>Source:</u> n/a	<u>Amount provided:</u> n/a
<u>Source:</u> n/a	<u>Amount provided:</u> n/a
Amount of non-FCPF investments received for implementation of activities relevant to ER Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private sector), if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):	
<u>Source:</u> n/a	<u>Amount provided:</u> n/a
<u>Source:</u> n/a	<u>Amount provided:</u> n/a
<u>Source:</u> n/a	<u>Amount provided:</u> n/a

**Describe how stakeholders are participating and engaging in REDD+ decision making processes (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.3.A):**

**Provide examples of how IPs and CSOs are represented in institutional arrangements for REDD at the national level.**

Stakeholders engage in REDD+ decision-making processes in Panama through active participation in the National REDD+ roundtables and active-listening derived meetings, workshops, gatherings and conferences.

UN-REDD funds were invested in a national outreach, consultation and participative campaign to inform stakeholders and the general population about the REDD+ mechanism and its potential in Panama. Four national workshops were held, which covered topics related to existing forest policies, the National Forestry Plan and REDD+. Subsequently, Four National REDD + Roundtables were held, which were attended by key stakeholders, including: indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, farmworkers and countrymen, members of the civil society, local authorities, private companies representatives and delegates from public institutions. Therefore, the national roundtables proved to be a useful mechanism to gather information relevant for the drafting of Panama's National REDD+ Strategy.

Multiple informational meetings and working sessions have been held between the Ministry of Environment of Panama and indigenous peoples' traditional authorities to coordinate all REDD+ related activities in their territories. Approval to conduct activities in indigenous territories have always been requested to and granted by the respective traditional authorities. In fact, all consultation processes that took place in indigenous territories were conducted by NGOs led by indigenous groups and their own BALU WALA outreach methodology was applied to conduct such processes.

Most of indigenous groups (9 out of 12) were represented by the National Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of Panama (COONAPIP) in the activities funded by the UN-REDD program. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Environment and the traditional authorities of the indigenous peoples to develop activities based on their worldview of the "good life" to develop and implement activities related to the sustainable management and conservation of forests and the restoration of degraded lands.

**Examples of stakeholder engagement platforms in country which meet regularly to discuss and provide inputs to the REDD+ readiness process (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.a):**

Frequency: Within the last 3 years, Four National REDD+ Roundtables were held.

The National REDD+ roundtables proved to be the most useful method to interact with and gather information from keys stakeholders.

**Examples of resources made available to enable active participation of IPs , CSOs and local communities in national REDD+ readiness.**

A substantive portion of the funds received from the UN-REDD Program were destined to finance the active participation and engagement of indigenous peoples in national consultations and participatory processes related to REDD+ in Panama. These resources were managed exclusively by NGOs led by indigenous groups. Additionally, funds were also allocated to finance the active engagement of afro-descendants, farmworkers and countrymen, members of the civil society, local authorities, private companies' representatives and delegates from public institutions in active-listening related activities. The Ministry of Environment has also allocated financial and in-kind contributions to support key stakeholders in the organization and development of workshops and conferences geared toward internal decision making and outreach activities related to REDD+.

**Number and type of policy reforms initiated, completed or underway complying to REDD+ standards, if any (*FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.3.B.*):**

**Number of policy reforms during the reporting period that are:**

**Underway:** 2 (Forestry Law (Ley Forestal) and Forestry Incentive Law (Ley de Incentivos Forestales)).

**Completed:** 4 (Law 8 of 25 March 2015 *Creation of the Ministry of Environmental, amends provisions of the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama and dictates other provisions*, International Center for the Implementation of Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (ICIREDD), creation of National Climate change Direction under the Ministry of Environment, Creation of National Forest Direction under the Ministry of Environment.

**Please describe these policy reforms:**

In order to comply with the provisions of the Strategic Government Plan 2015-2019, the Ministry of Environment is updating the National Forestry Law.

Framed on the principles of sustainability, efficiency and social inclusion, and guided by the provisions of the Strategic Government Plan 2015-2019, the Ministry of Environment has defined five lines of action:

1. The modernization of the environmental management model, which aims to strengthen institutional capacity and governance, in addition to the use of instruments for efficient and effective environmental management.
2. The Socio-economic integration of protected areas through the promotion of responsible and sustainable eco-tourism and the development of areas for public use, which will benefit local communities and contribute to improving their quality of life.
3. The Alliance for a Million Reforested Hectares, which, based on the principle of social inclusion, seeks to reforest one million hectares within twenty years through the restoration of degraded lands via commercial reforestation and conservation, and the establishment of agroforestry systems and forest grazing.
4. The sustainable management and restoration of watersheds through the strengthening of local Basin Committees and other community-based organizations, as well as integral management of prioritized watersheds to ensure water availability through the years.
5. The National Climate Change Strategy, which seeks to develop adaptation and mitigation policies, plans and projects in order to increase the adaptive capacity of the most vulnerable populations to the adverse effects of climate change and to propel the transition of our economy toward a low carbon emissions pathway.

The following initiatives are worth mentioning:

1. The Adoption of Law 8 of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 which establishes the Ministry of Environment.
2. The Forestry Development Bill, who seeks to provide incentives for reforestation and conservation activities is currently under consultations.
3. The establishment of the International Center for the Implementation of REDD+ with its headquarters in Panama City, Panama with the objective to promote cost effective, fair and transparent national and international cooperation, collaboration and trade to mainstream REDD-plus activities.

4. The establishment of the Climate Change and Forestry Directorates, as part of the structure of the new Ministry of Environment.
5. Pending the update of the National Forestry Policy and its respective implementation plan.
6. Promotion of eco-tourism in protected areas.

**Design of national REDD+ Strategies addresses indicators for enhancement of livelihoods of local communities and for biodiversity conservation (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 3.B.):**

**Provide examples of how national REDD Strategies address livelihoods of local communities and biodiversity conservation.**

The national REDD Strategy addresses livelihoods of local communities and biodiversity conservation through the incentive of sustainable forest management, nurseries of native timber and fruit trees, production of wildflowers and medicinal plants, organic honey production, ecotourism, animal breeding and handicrafts.

### 3. PROGRESS AT R-PP sub component level

#### 3.1. REDD Readiness Progress

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please briefly describe here the progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.A.): up to 300 words, if applicable

**Progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package:**

We are currently in the process of hiring the following consultants:

- National REDD+ Coordinator, and
- Specialist in organization and consultation.

We are also revising the terms of references to hire the following consultants:

- Communication specialist, and
- Monitoring and evaluation specialist.
















Additionally, we are in the process of contracting a polling company to conduct interviews at a national scale and sample the Panamanian population to measure their level of knowledge related to climate change and REDD+. Furthermore, a contract has been awarded to a local NGO to conduct a national campaign which seeks to educate the Panamanian public about the ecosystem services that forests provide and their thermo-regulation capacity. Moreover, this campaign will also inform the public about the importance and relevance of forests and protected areas for climate change adaptation and mitigation and social and environmental risks management.

Lastly, a large fleet drones, workstations and dock stations have been purchased for forest cover monitoring and satellite analysis.

Please indicate which of your country R-PP components and sub-components have received support from FCPF through the Readiness Preparation Grant (>3.4 million USD)		
Components	Sub-components	Support from FCPF (Yes/No)
1. Readiness Organization and Consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yes
	1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach	Yes
2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Yes
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Yes
	2c. Implementation Framework	Yes
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yes
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		Yes
4. Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring System	Yes
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Yes



Level of overall achievement of planned milestones according to approved FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD) (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.b.):
















<p><u>Planned Milestones:</u></p> <p>Panama is at the early phases of the execution of the project; therefore, not many significant achievements have been attained.</p>	<p><u>Level of Achievement</u><sup>1</sup>:</p> <p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>	<p><u>Tracking</u><sup>2</sup>:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="987 323 1463 648"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Significant progress</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Progressing well, further development</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Further development required</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Not yet demonstrating progress</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Non Applicable</i></td> </tr> </table> <p>Please explain why:</p>			<i>Significant progress</i>			<i>Progressing well, further development</i>			<i>Further development required</i>			<i>Not yet demonstrating progress</i>			<i>Non Applicable</i>
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		<i>Not yet demonstrating progress</i>															
		<i>Non Applicable</i>															

<sup>1</sup> Countries are expected to provide data on the overall level of achievement of planned milestones as defined in their Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, and, if applicable, on their Supplementary Grant Agreement for an additional grant of up to \$5 million. For instance, under their Preparation Readiness Grant Agreement (>3.4 million USD), Countries should provide data on (i) the support to the Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-Stakeholder Consultations; (ii) the contribution to the Design of a National REDD+ Strategy; and (iii) the preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+






<sup>2</sup> The level of achievement of planned milestones according to approved RF grant will be summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of an overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale "Non Applicable" can be selected.

This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework
















**Degree of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component and sub-component (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.c.).  
Countries are expected to rate progress toward the implementation of R-PP sub-component only once a year, as part of the reporting submitted by August 15<sup>th</sup> each year**
















	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)										
		Planned milestones	Achievements											
R-PP Component 1 – Readiness Organization and Consultation	<p><b>Sub-Component 1a</b> – National REDD+ Management Arrangements</p> <p><i>Purpose: setting-up national readiness management arrangements to manage and coordinate the REDD-plus readiness activities whilst mainstreaming REDD-plus into broader strategies</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) accountability and transparency; (ii) operating mandate and budget; (iii) multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration; (iv) technical supervision capacity; (v) funds management capacity; (vi) feedback and grievance redress mechanism</i></p>	<p>Full participation of the key stakeholders in the National REDD+ Roundtable.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table> <p>Please explain why:</p>		Significant progress		Progressing well, further development		Further development		Not yet demonstrating progress		Non Applicable
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	Not yet demonstrating progress													
	Non Applicable													
	<p>High level of incidence of key stakeholders in decision making related to forest management.</p> <p>Active participation of stakeholders is an added value to the preparatory phase of REDD+, especially regarding safeguards' information system.</p> <p>The stakeholders are equipped with the knowledge and information necessary to ensure a consultation process and effective implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (product)</p> <p>– Milestone to be defined.</p>													






<sup>3</sup> The level of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component should be self-assessed and reported, as well as summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of this overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then briefly explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale 'Non Applicable' can be selected. This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework, The R-Package assessment criteria are included to






Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
	Planned milestones	Achievements			
<p><b>Sub-Component 1b</b> – Consultation, Participation, and Outreach</p> <p><i>Purpose: broad consultation with and participation of key stakeholders for future REDD+ programs, to ensure participation of different social groups, transparency and accountability of decision-making</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment</i></p> <p><i>Criteria: (i) participation and engagement of key stakeholders; (ii) consultation processes; (iii) information sharing and accessibility of information; (iv) implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes</i></p>	High level of participation of key stakeholders in the preparatory phase of REDD.	Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.			Significant progress
	High representation of key stakeholders in the validation process of the National REDD+ Strategy.				Progressing well, further development
	Established a grievance and response mechanism for REDD+ in Panama (product).				Further development
	- Milestones for being defined.				Not yet demonstrating progress
					Non Applicable
			Please explain why:		






assist countries identify, plan and track their readiness preparations progress with the core aspects and desired outcomes of readiness preparation activities as contained in R-  
Package Assessment Framework.

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)										
		Planned milestones	Achievements											
R-PP Component 2 – REDD+ Strategy Preparation	<p><b>Subcomponent 2a:</b> Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</p> <p><i>Purpose: identification of key drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation, as well as activities concerning conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) assessment and analysis; (ii) prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest enhancement; (iii) links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities; (iv) actions plans to address natural resource right, land tenure, governance; (v) implications for forest law and policy</i></p>	High level of viability of the strategic options included in the National REDD+ Strategy.	Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>		Significant progress		Progressing well, further development		Further development		Not yet demonstrating progress		Non Applicable
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Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)										
	Planned milestones	Achievements											
<p><b>Subcomponent 2b:</b> REDD+ Strategy Options</p> <p><i>Purpose: Develop a set of policies and programs for addressing the drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options; (ii) feasibility assessment; (iii) implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies.</i></p>	<p>Legal and operational framework established for the implementation of REDD+ in Panama.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table> <p>Please explain why:</p>		Significant progress		Progressing well, further development		Further development		Not yet demonstrating progress		Non Applicable
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	Non Applicable												
















Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
	Planned milestones	Achievements			
<p><b>Subcomponent 2c:</b> Implementation Framework <i>Purpose: Set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options</i> <u>Country Self- Assessment Criteria:</u> (i) adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations; (ii) guidelines for implementation; (iii) benefit sharing mechanism; (iv) national REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities</p>	<p>National financial mechanism for fundraising and distribution of benefits in operation (product)</p> <p>- Milestones for being defined.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>			Significant progress
					Progressing well, further development
					Further development
					Not yet demonstrating progress
					Non Applicable
<p>Please explain why:</p>					

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
	Planned milestones	Achievements			
<p><b>Subcomponent 2d:</b> Social and Environmental Impacts</p> <p><i>Purpose: Ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues; (ii) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts; (iii) Environmental and Social Management Framework</i></p>	<p>Social and Environmental Strategic Assessment concerning the strategic options for REDD+ finished.</p> <p>Environmental and Social Management framework Developed.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>			Significant progress
					Progressing well, further development
					Further development
					Not yet demonstrating progress
					Non Applicable

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 3 – Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	<p><b>R-PP Component 3</b> - Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</p> <p><i>Purpose: Development of the general approach to establish a REL/RL</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment</i></p> <p><i>Criteria: (i) demonstration of methodology; (ii) use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances; (iii) technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines</i></p>	<p>Numerical values of NER / NR available.</p> <p>All sectors and territories at the national level are represented to provide inputs for the development of NER / NR.</p> <p>Numerical values of NER / NR for Panama submitted for technical evaluation to the UNFCCC.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development required
						Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				And explain why:		



	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	<p><b>Subcomponent 4a:</b> National Forest Monitoring System</p> <p><i>Purpose: Design and develop an operational forest monitoring system and describe the approach to enhance the system over time</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) documentation of monitoring approach; (ii) demonstration of early implementation; (iii) institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests</i></p>	<p>Deforested hectares dataset elaborated by type of forest in a period (annual / biannual).</p> <p>Data sampling units raised and analysed for the pilot phase of the National Forest Carbon Inventory.</p> <p>Sampling units raised and analysed of the National Forest Carbon Inventory (2nd phase).</p> <p>Numerical value of GHG for Land Use and Land Use Change and Silviculture generated periodically as part of the National Forest Monitoring System.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development
						Further development
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				And explain why:		






Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)											
	Planned milestones	Achievements												
<p><b>Subcomponent 4b:</b> Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards <i>Purpose: Specify the non-carbon aspects prioritized for monitoring by the country</i> <i>Country Self-Assessment</i> <i>Criteria: (i) identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues; (ii) monitoring, reporting and information sharing; (iii) Institutional arrangements and capacities – Safeguards</i></p>	<p>Social and environmental diagnostic about the design of the Safeguards Information System.</p> <p>Indicators and means for the verification of the Safeguards Information System.</p> <p>Mechanism for compliance the social and environmental standards.</p>	<p>Not relevant at this moment of the report, the project has just started.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table> <p>And explain why:</p>		Significant progress		Progressing well, further development		Further development		Not yet demonstrating progress		Non Applicable	
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Disbursement rate of FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD), in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):																	
	Rate	Tracking															
RF Grant - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements  So far it has been executed \$31,736.64		<p><i>Please select your rating:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Up to 10% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 10-25% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 25-40% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td>More than 40% variance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Up to 10% variance with plans			Between 10-25% variance with plans			Between 25-40% variance with plans		X	More than 40% variance			Non Applicable
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Disbursement rate of Total R-PP Budget in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):																	
	Rate	Tracking															
Total Budget in R-PP - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements (including other funding sources and FCPF Readiness Grant)  The value is US\$ 8,773,713 that include: 5,300,000 from UN-REDD+ programme +2,164,783 from Environment Ministry (Planning Office- Investment program. There is not included Human Resource salary involved) - Otros: US\$1,308,930.00 (400,000 from GIZ initiative + 322,000 Target Support FAO +186,930.00 Target Support UNEP + 400,000 Forest for life from PPD initiative)		<p><i>Please select your rating:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Up to 10% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 10-25% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td>Between 25-40% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>More than 40% variance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Up to 10% variance with plans			Between 10-25% variance with plans		X	Between 25-40% variance with plans			More than 40% variance			Non Applicable
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		Non Applicable															

### 3.2. Engagement of stakeholders within the approach to REDD +

Examples of actions/activities where IPs, CSOs, and local communities participate actively, if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.a.):	
Action/activity:	Describe IP, CSO, and local community participation:
Not relevant at this time of the report.	Not relevant at this time of the report.

Number of IP and REDD country CSO representatives (men/women) having been successfully trained by FCPF training programs (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.b.):					
Please list the training conducted:  Not relevant at this time of the report.	Duration (# of days)	# of participants # of men / # of women			Targets in terms of number of men and women to be trained by country to be
					
					
					
					Non Applicable

### 3.3. Knowledge sharing

Has your country developed and published REDD+ knowledge products with FCPF support:	
Yes/No: Not yet.	Please provide the list of published REDD+ knowledge products, if any during reporting period :

How many people have been reached by these knowledge products, if any:	
Overall number by product: Not relevant at this time of the report.	
# of Men:	
# of Women:	

Have some experts of your country participated in any South-south learning activities? If yes, how many (men and women)?		
Yes/No: Not relevant at this time of the report.	List the South-South learning activities:	# of men:(IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives)  # of women: (IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives)

#### 4. ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND RISKS

This section should present any problems, difficulties or constraints faced by the country in making progress towards the intended REDD+ results (outputs, outcomes and possible impacts), the main causes and their expected effect on the work plan. Actions that have been taken to overcome or manage these constraints/flaws/problems identified should be stated. Each problem/constraint should be stated as a separate point, along with associated proposed changes in work planning for the next six month/year to address it, as relevant.

It is expected that the country monitors any changes in the assumptions that underpin the logic of intervention of FCPF at the national level and other significant risks that may arise. This section should explain through a narrative any changes in the level of risk associated with the different assumptions, or describe new risks that may have emerged and have a significant bearing on the national work-planning with respect to FCPF support for the next year and beyond, along with the associated measures required to address this change.

- REDD+ requires conducting activities in remote areas of the country and the extensive administrative processes that need to be conducted before the activities are implemented makes such implementation a bit hard. Therefore, administrative flexibility is needed for activities conducted in remote areas. It will be useful the design and implement new processes to make such experiences a little easier, especially with regards to the payment of food, health insurance, equipment and daily subsistence allowances for participants of activities in remote areas.
- REDD+ needs to be implemented with the support of staffs from the Ministry of the Environment and not rely only in consultants, because once the project ends the capacity built could be lost. For that reason the Ministry of the Environment has a consolidated group of analysts, local community members and indigenous people that will work with the consultants that will be hired with FCPF funding. This will allow the improvement of the installed capacity at national level for the development of REDD+ and its sustainability in the long run.
- Stakeholders need to learn what REDD+ means at the local level and what are the opportunities that REDD+ will provide them with. Therefore, local activities are planned to bring this knowledge to the communities.

#### 5. MAIN LESSONS LEARNED

This section should be used to provide information on important lessons learned since the beginning of the readiness process. It is expected that this section will be fairly substantial, making reference to different lessons learned, analysis documents developed, and/or experiences made in dealing with issues of particular interest to REDD+.

During the UN-REDD implementation in Panama there were situations limiting the progress of the program. However, these challenges allowed the rectification of actions from the partners of the program. The most important lesson obtained was the irreplaceable role of the government leading the implementation of the project, that was demonstrated in the key role that

MIAMBIENTE played overcoming the differences that emerged between COONAPIP (Coordinadora Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas/National Coordinator of Indigenous People) and the UN-REDD Programme in 2013. The leadership of ANAM, today MIAMBIENTE, conducting the dialogue among parties, permitted overcome obstacles, harmonized expectations, and improved communication and trust. In addition with the new governmental period which started in August 2014 and the creation of the Ministry of Environment, the communications were strengthened with all the indigenous groups in Panama, as well as the Readiness Phase of the National REDD+ Strategy Draft for Panama. This leadership role remains essential in the readiness phase of the REDD+ National Strategy with the FCPF funding.

United Nations agencies have recognized deficiencies related to stiffness in administrative procedures, lack of clear definition of roles and effective participation of stakeholders, particularly indigenous people. ANAM, meanwhile, acknowledged that there were significant delays and to correct the situation, made great efforts to overcome differences with indigenous peoples and work together an environmental agenda that included the continuity of the program. The dialogue among the different parties allowed overcoming long run obstacles, excessive expectations, communication problems and mutual distrust.

The recommendations of the investigation into allegations of indigenous peoples and the mid-term evaluation were implemented in the process of constructive dialogue. This was based in the respect for the autonomy and without interfering in the internal processes of indigenous peoples, generating an instrument of participation for these people (also for Afro-descendants and peasant communities) as well as the constant updating of key players.

Thereafter, decision-making processes for the drafting of the National REDD+ strategy Panama were conducted under the leadership of MIAMBIENTE, the technical support of UN agencies and with the consultation of key stakeholders, particularly indigenous peoples.

It is recognized the need of a better coordination and close cooperation between partners in implementing the national program, to achieve the expected outputs and optimize available resources. Under this scheme were met the goals set out in the annual work programs 2014 and 2015, which allowed a good final evaluation.