



Readiness Fund REDD+
Country Participants Progress Report
Template

v. 2018



FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participants Annual Progress Report

COUNTRY: [ENDE-REDD+ Report Nicaragua]

PERIOD: [YEAR-August 2017-July 2018]

About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30 June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework.

(<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15 July** every year.

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities delivered within your country during the last year?

- For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness-raising initiatives
- Please be as specific as possible, e.g. name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting

The main activities undertaken were as follows:

- Nicaragua prepared its ENDE-REDD+ package, which was presented and defended at the XXIV Meeting of Participants Committee (PC24) on 25 September 2017 in Laos. The package consisted of : i) the ENDE-REDD+ strategy, 2); the Environmental and Social Management Framework; iii) the Forest Emissions Reference Level; iv) the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System; v) the Communications Strengthening Mechanism; vi) the Framework for Planning by Indigenous Peoples; vii) an Analysis of the Legal Framework and Public Policy; and viii) the Communications Strategy.
- During this period, Nicaragua received US 5,000,000.00 in additional funds, in order to advance the ENDE-REDD+ readiness process.
- A Reductions Emissions Program to Fight Climate Change and Poverty on the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast, the BOSAWAS Biosphere Reserve and the Indio-Mañíz Biological Reserve was prepared. Further, a study was carried out on the Evaluation of Land Tenure and Ownership of Natural Resources on the Caribbean Coast and the two aforementioned reserves.
- A Climate Change Policy has been drawn up. It was approved in January of 2018.
- Annex 1: Statistics on Participation at Workshops and Training Events.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related achievements in your country during the last year?

- For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalized, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed

During the period covered by this report, the most important milestones in the ENDE REDD+ readiness process were the presentation of the Readiness Package and the drafting of a proposal for a Reductions Emissions Program to Fight Climate Change and Poverty on the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast, the BOSAWAS Biosphere Reserve and the Indio-Mañíz Biological Reserve.

3. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

The challenges faced during the ENDE-REDD+ readiness process are related to the very basic technical capacities in carbon accounting and monitoring systems.

4. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalization of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

Work continues on national and specific studies related to the causes of deforestation, the improvement of forest emissions reference levels, the updating of the National Forestry Plan, the Caribbean Coast Development Strategy, local and institutional technical and technological strengthening prior to the implementation of the National Forest Monitoring System. In addition, there will be a stronger presence in the territories of the North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region (RACCN), the South Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region (RACCS), as well as the Pacific and Central-Northern regions of the country. Also planned are sixteen (16) training workshops keyed to technicians and leaders of communities and/or indigenous peoples.

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

5. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:
(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

Complete	The sub-component has been completed
	Significant progress
	Progressing well, further development required
	Further development required
	Not yet demonstrating progress
N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)	
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organization and Consultation			
Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Complete	The Project Execution Unit is working efficiently and meets the project's results indicators.	
			x
	N/A		
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	Complete	The three working groups have been consolidated and participate in the dialogue and consultations with indigenous and Afro-descendant protagonists. A total of 218 persons participated in 18 events held. A Communications Plan has been drafted that propitiates the exchange of information and access to said information, which is uploaded to the project website. Prioritization of provinces in the Pacific and Central-Northern regions has taken place, for the purpose of expanding the process of dialogue and consultation.	
			x
	N/A		
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation			
Sub-component 2a:	Complete		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)	
Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Yellow	X	Dialogue has been broadened regarding the causes of deforestation and forest degradation in the Pacific and North-Central regions.
	Orange		
	Red		
	N/A		
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	Complete		A strategy is in place intended to reduce emissions due to deforestation and forest degradation. It will be further strengthened by an analysis of the causes and prioritization of the strategic guidelines for the Pacific and Central-Northern regions. There is now a final version of a document that specifies the strategic guidelines for the Caribbean Coast.
	Green		
	Yellow	X	
	Orange		
	N/A		
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	Complete		Progress was achieved with the governing institution of the forestry sector (INAFOR) regarding an analysis of the mechanism for offering incentives, as set forth in the Forestry Act. A Concept Note and Work Plan were drawn up for the design of a benefits-sharing mechanism. Institutional arrangements were made for recording carbon certificates.
	Green		
	Yellow	X	
	Orange		
	N/A		
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	Complete		There is now an Environmental Management Framework which was broadly discussed and consulted with original and Afro-descendant peoples, as well as a matrix of environmental and social risks.
	Green		
	Yellow	X	
	Orange		
	N/A		
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels			
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Complete		The methodology used to calculate data regarding activities and factors which cause emissions has been updated. A zero draft for a national Forest Emissions Reference Level (FERL) was written up. A visual evaluation of high and low satellite imagery has taken place, with the aim of calculating data regarding activities that cause emissions. To that end a systematic dot mesh was distributed in both the RACCN and RACCS. National emissions factors were estimated using information taken from the National Forest Inventory of forest cover in a very wet tropical climate. Regional FERL were calculated for RACCS and RACCN by using the new methodological adjustments to data regarding activities and factors that cause emissions. The Interinstitutional Monitoring Table was consolidated. Members include INETER, MARENA, INAFOR and technicians from RACCS and RACCN.
	Green		
	Yellow	X	
	Orange		
	N/A		
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards			
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	Complete		The draft of the National Forest Monitoring System has been updated.
	Green		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
	Yellow	X
	Orange	
	Red	
	N/A	
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Complete	
	Green	
	Yellow	
	Orange	X
	Red	
	N/A	

SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?
(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes	No	(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

As part of REDD+ activities, the project will provide strategic advisory services to those making new investments in forestry and agribusiness, while promoting the development of competitive value chains with high aggregate value in the areas of influence on the Caribbean Coast. It is expected that these actions will lead to a considerable increase in the creation of new jobs in agricultural and silvopastoral activities in the region.

Along the same lines, Nicaragua has selected job creation as one of the priority carbon benefits, due to its importance in the National Human Development Plan and taking into consideration institutional capacity and alliances with the private sector as concerns monitoring. Among other factors, this indicator represents a good indicator on new livelihoods being generated for the poorest families.

In order to follow up on the employment creation indicator, the project developed a monitoring proposal which is to be fed with information provided by PRONicaragua through its regional office (PRONiCaribe). The latter is a government agency charged with attracting investments that contribute to the economic development of the region and the creation of new jobs by promoting entrepreneurial activities in several sectors, among them those related to the ENDE-REDD+ lines of intervention.

7. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes	No	(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach.

As part of the implementation of the ENDE-REDD+ project, a proposal for a monitoring system was put forth. It will serve to evaluate the joint benefits of the REDD+ program in terms of biodiversity conservation resulting from the restoration of ecosystems and an increase in forest cover in the program's area of influence.

The design and implementation of this monitoring process is to take place in close collaboration with the Biodiversity Directorate at the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA), which is currently the focal point for the Convention on Biological Diversity established by the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED). In addition, the monitoring proposal will enjoy support from the National Forestry Institute (INAFOR), which is charged with carrying out the national forest inventory in Nicaragua, as well as from groups researching biodiversity at universities and private protagonists. These are to triangulate information and feed it back into the process.

The design and implementation of this monitoring process will begin during the first quarter of 2019. It will establish a sample baseline that is to include 10% of the 371 permanent parcels in the National Forest Inventory (37 parcels). These will be selected in a strategic manner, based on their importance for conservation and the areas of ERPD implementation. The information collected on biodiversity will in turn be triangulated with information gathered from the analysis of satellite images, for the purpose of relating biodiversity to patterns of soil degradation, conservation and biological corridors.

SECTION D: FINANCE

8. Please detail the amount of all finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process since the date that your R-PP was signed. Figures should only include secured finance (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included:

(Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$ 200,000	FCPF	01/2011	Public	Grant
\$3.600,000	FCPF / Readiness Grant	01/2014	Public	Grant
\$5.000,000	FCPF/ Additional Funds	04/2018	Public	Grant

9. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
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SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

10. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects					X
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

11. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information					X
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements					X
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements					X
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

12. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

Annex 1. Statistics Regarding Participation at Workshops							
	Subject	Place	Date	Participants			Institution
				Total	M	F	
1	Strengthening communication in Wiwilí	Wiwilí, Jinotega	18-19 October 2017	33	27	6	ITGs, Upper Wangki and Bocay rivers
2	Workshop on reference levels and the monitoring system	MARENA	15 October 2017	30	28	2	MARENA, INAFOR, GRCC, ITGs, INETER
3	Presentation of ENDE-REDD+ and diagnostic of technological capacities	MARENA-Jinotega Territorial Delegation	23 January 2018	3	3		MARENA
4	Presentation of ENDE-REDD+ and diagnostic of technological capacities	MARENA- Matagalpa Territorial Delegation	23 January 2018	8	4	4	MARENA
5	Presentation of ENDE-REDD+ and diagnostic of technological capacities	MARENA – Chinandega Territorial Delegation	24 January 2018	3	2	1	MARENA
6	Coordination session with leaders from the Upper Wangki and Bocay rivers	MARENA	24 January 2018	4	3	1	ITGs, Upper Wangki and Bocay rivers
7	Presentation of ENDE-REDD+ and diagnostic of technological capacities	MARENA-Estelí Territorial Delegation	26 January 2018	5	5	0	MARENA
8	Presentation of ENDE-REDD+ and diagnostic of technological capacities	MARENA-Nueva Segovia Territorial Delegation	26 January 2018	4	4	0	MARENA
9	ENDE-REDD+ presentation and diagnostic of technological capacities	MARENA- Chontales Territorial Delegation	29 January 2018	6	3	3	MARENA
10	Coordination on availability of funds, benefits sharing and training	INAFOR	8 February 2018	10	7	3	INAFOR y MARENA
11	On FONADEFO and benefits sharing	MARENA	9 February 2018	10	5	5	INAFOR y MARENA
12	Video presentation on carbon accounting	MARENA	9 February 2018	6	5	1	INAFOR, INETER and MARENA
13	Session to create a methodological protocol for data on activities at reference level	MARENA	15-16 March 2018	10	8	2	INAFOR, INETER and MARENA
14	Meeting of ENDE-REDD+ Group 1	MARENA	21 March	50	40	10	Group 1

Annex 1. Statistics Regarding Participation at Workshops							
	Subject	Place	Date	Participants			Institution
				Total	M	F	
15	Video to discuss comments on ERPD made by TAP (Zenia, Germán, Jacive and Larry)	MARENA	4 April 2018	7	3	4	INAFOR, SDCC and MARENA
16	Video with donors (Ben de Jhon)	World Bank	05 April 2018	7	3	4	MARENA and MHCP
17	Session to prepare video on benefit sharing	MARENA	8 May 2018	5	1	4	SDCC
18	Meeting with MARENA authorities to answer questions from donors	MARENA	11 June 2018	17	12	5	GRACC, SDCC and SPPP
	Total			218	163	55	
		%			75	25	