

Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: PANAMA

October 2012

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- Panama has chosen UNDP as Delivery Partner under the Common Approach.
- R-Plan assessed by FCPF PC at PC3 (June 2009), and Readiness Preparation Grant funding authorized by PC requesting Panama to address the key issues identified in the TAP assessment, the preliminary findings from the World Bank's due diligence, and the Summary Report, before signing Grant Agreement. This process is pending.
- UN-REDD National Program Document (NPD) was assessed and approved at October 2009 UN-REDD Policy Board meeting.
- Bank teams traveled to Panama in May and July 2009, and February 2010 to review progress and provide technical assistance on the R-PP, and social and environmental risk management. UNDP as the eventual delivery partner has signed the general transfer agreement in late June, 2012.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) has formally endorsed the Readiness Preparation process.
- Panama has requested UNDP to be the delivery partner in charge of implementation of the FCPF Readiness Preparation grant.
- ANAM prepared the annual work plan and budget for the UN-REDD programme for 2012 which is under implementation.
- ANAM has established a working group of 8 professionals.
- The UN-REDD coordinator was hired in 2011 and other key support staff is being hired in 2012 such as the specialist for forest inventory, MRV, Reference Level, and communication. Other key profiles will be recruited in the near future.
- Meetings with COONAPIP have been held in Sept 2012 in order to sort out the question of participation of COONAPIP to the implementation of the UN-REDD program.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- In 2009, Technical advisers from COONAPIP reviewed and provided input to the UN-REDD NPD.
- Since 2009, with support from FCPF, several regional meetings with indigenous peoples were organized. At the end of 2011, a global meeting was organized in the Comarca Guna Yala with Indigenous Representatives from Asia, Africa and Latin America to present the Common Approach and the standards and safeguards of the FCPF, the IDB and UNDP.
- In 2011 a study to explore ways strengthening the National Coordinating Body of the Indigenous Peoples of Panama (COONAPIP) was carried out in collaboration with GIZ and resulted in a capacity building plan for COONAPIP. The REDD related capacity building needs will be covered by the UN-REDD NP.
- The process of consultation and engagement with stakeholder will continue in 2012. It will be facilitated by the creation of the national REDD committee (CONAREDD).
- In the meantime, ANAM has organized the first meetings of the REDD national working group during the second semester of 2012. This REDD national working group is composed by different institutions from the government, from NGO, university, representatives from different indigenous groups, etc. It

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has a consultative role. It will facilitate the elaboration of the national REDD+ strategy. It has been organized in sub-groups. Each of them will contribute and facilitate the preparation of some of the key products of the REDD+ readiness phase.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- During 2011, with the support of the UN-REDD National Program, a working group of experts was established to work on 1. Drivers of deforestation, 2. Analysis of impact of past and present policy on forest conservation and sustainable use, and 3. Cost of REDD+. Presently, this working group is mapping the most relevant land use trajectories at the deforestation frontier, identifying their direct and indirect drivers, and estimating their net present value and their opportunity costs to enter a potential REDD+ program. The elaboration of the REDD Strategy will start in early 2012, and is being considered as a priority within the annual work plan 2012.
- Panama considers the preparation of sub national pilots for the future REDD strategy as a nested approach to REDD readiness.
- The first meetings of the REDD national working group have been held during the second semester of 2012 (starting in Sept 2012). This REDD national working group is composed by different institutions from the government, from NGO, university, representatives from different indigenous groups, etc. It has a consultative role. It will facilitate the elaboration of the national REDD+ strategy. It has been organized in sub-groups. Each of them will contribute and facilitate the preparation of some of the key products of the REDD+ readiness phase.

5. Implementation Framework

- Regarding the implementation of the UN-REDD National Programme (NP), the NP invested resources in 2011 to strengthen local capacities of ANAM on areas related to specific thematic areas. This has resulted in a noticeable increase in capacity in selected personnel at ANAM on issues related to the implementation of REDD. Also, in 2011, ANAM consolidated a UN-REDD management team, which is composed of ANAM staff, UN agencies and a representative from COONAPIP.
- Regarding the implementation framework of future REDD programs in the country, a first phase of analysis was concluded in 2011. It included a review of the current situation on legal issues associated to a REDD program. The analysis were focused on (i) legal framework; (ii) environmental governance, (iii) land tenure; (iv) rights associated to carbon use and (v) carbon sequestration in the current national legislation. The results and recommendations from these analysis will contribute to generate an appropriate national implementation framework for REDD in Panama.
- A specific sub-group of the national REDD working group has started working on the institutional framework requested for the implementation of REDD+ in Panama in Sept 2012.

6. SESA Social Environmental Strategic assessment

- ToR's for SESA have been drafted by the National REDD Group
- Panama participated on May 23-26, 2011, in Washington DC in Task Force Meeting on the Common

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Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

In 2011:

- **A preliminary study done on the Causes of Deforestation in Panama was completed for Panamá with funds from the regional German REDD+ support program carried out by GIZ. The general structure of the national forest and carbon monitoring system has been defined and agreed upon. It will consist of the following components:**
 - **a new forest and vegetation base map;**
 - **a national forest inventory;**
 - **a remote sensing based system for monitoring area and area changes of land use and forest types;**
 - **a national greenhouse gas inventory.**
- **Existing documentation and information related to REDD in Panama has been compiled.**
- **New satellite images have been purchased and will be delivered early 2012. The design of the national forest inventory is in its final stage.**
- **Work has also started on the acquisition of equipment and software for the national forest monitoring system. The GIS software for the mapping component has been purchased, and the purchase of equipment for the field inventory is in process.**
- **Coordination has also been established with other organizations and institutions carrying out monitoring activities.**
- **Work started on definitions and a system for classification of forests and land use**
- **The design of the national forest inventory in close cooperation with FAO is expected to be finalized in 2013.**

8. MRV

The initial stages of MRV design are being developed by UN-REDD since 2011. UN-REDD has started the work on the combined forest and carbon inventory which is expected to be ready on a date to be determined.

9. Other