

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

August 2015

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- Argentina's R-PP was assessed by FCPF PC at PC6 (June 2010), and the Readiness Preparation Grant funding was allocated.
- The Government of Argentina is considering pursuing one grant agreement for the full amount of US\$3, 8 million.
- Argentina submitted a revised R-PP in July 2012 with revisions as requested by the PC of April 2010. The updated version was reviewed and returned for further revisions.
- The FCPF FMT confirmed on March 4, 2014, completeness of Argentina Final R-PP version including all issues raised by participants at PC6. The review did not consider information requested by the technical team of the WB as delivery partner, which should be further verified by the TTL.
- The WB conducted a short mission in October 2014 in order to finalize the due diligence process, define implementation arrangements with emphasis on the coordination with ONU-REDD which also supports the project, and establishing the following steps for accessing the grant.
- In January 2015 the WB Country Director gave the approval to the project.
- The readiness grant agreement is in the process of being signed in Argentina.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- The REDD readiness Management Arrangements have been defined and appropriate coordination with ONU-REDD which is also supporting the project was ensured.
- During the first semester of 2015, a Coordination Office (*Unidad Operativa del Proyecto, UOP*) was established within the Environment Secretariat (SAYDS), under the Environmental Planning and Policy Undersecretariat with an overall coordinator who is SAYDS staff and REDD focal point. The CO is being supported mainly through an UN-REDD grant and will be complemented with FCPF resources to adequately implement and manage both programs through a single roadmap of activities under SAYDS leadership.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- A plan and agenda for consultation was reached in September 2012 with the government.
- Meetings with key stakeholder groups with specific objectives to validate the consultation plans were carried out between 2013 and 2014.
- Forty workshops were already carried out during the pre-readiness stage, with a participation of some 1,000 people from more than 100 organizations of civil society and aboriginal peoples.
- An aboriginal consultation protocol for REDD+ was put forward by a nationwide organization of aboriginal peoples. The protocol is being discussed and will be adjusted in consultation with aboriginal peoples for its utilization within the REDD+ framework.

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4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- Vision: Strengthen land-use planning and governance at provincial level.
- Forest Law has required provinces to submit initial land-use plans. Several provinces are actively working on their land-use plans, and working with provincial stakeholders. 22 provinces already submitted land use plans ratified by provincial law to the forest national authority.
- Discussions are underway as to how to create consistency with Argentina's vigorous plantation forestry sector, and its inclusion in a future REDD+ Strategy.

5. Implementation Framework

- Discussions will be held to identify appropriate traditional decision-making mechanisms.
- The National Fund for the Enrichment and Conservation of Native Forests under the Law 26,331 is currently under development. In the meantime, required funds are being annually provided through the national budget.
- A federal strategy is being developed with provincial governments
- National capacity building strategy is being developed with National Universities and other stakeholders.

6. SESA

- The Guidelines for the SESA Working Plan were developed and agreed with ONU-REDD.
- Institutional and legal gaps studies to apply World Bank and Cancun Safeguards framework in the country are underway

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- Data available: One inventory has been undertaken at national level.
- National map of forest and soil carbon was finalized.
- Contracting out of the expert team for the development of the reference level is under way.

8. MRV

- Currently designing a permanent forest inventory system covering the country entire forest area, but with higher sampling intensity in areas of greatest change or concern.
- Co-benefits maps were developed for the various eco-regions in the country. Specific metrics and indicators are current under development

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REDD Focal point contact: Lic. Leandro Fernández

Secretaria de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable de la Nación - Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros.

e-mail: leanfe1@gmail.com Phone: +54(11) 4348- 4858/ 7257