

# **Grant Reporting and Monitoring National REDD+ Strategy Guatemala**

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## Grant Reporting and Monitoring Guatemala

### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Guatemala has done significant progress in the preparation of the National REDD+ Strategy, such as:

- Component 1 Organization and consultation: GCI has been doing the management and supervision process in coordination with multisector mechanisms for participation at a political and technical level. Participation process has reached at least 4,000 stakeholders and the technical team has defined that the process of national consultation and participation process will include the consultation plan (methodology nationwide), systematization of ex post experiences and the implementation of the consultation in REDD+ territories.
- Component 2 REDD+ strategy: recent approval of PROBOSQUE Law, preliminary definition of strategy options and the jointly creation of an advisory group of multiple stakeholders to develop a proposal for the benefit sharing mechanism of the strategy.
- Component 3 Reference emission scenarios: emission baselines are being made by the Inter-agency group for forest monitoring and other land use (GIMBUT, formed by the GIS directions of the GCI and academia) and have reach 60% of advance for the three REDD+ modalities (avoided deforestation and degradation, and enhancing carbon stock). It is expected to finish the national emissions scenarios in July 2016.
- Component 4 forest and safeguards monitoring systems: under the GIMBUT group it has been agreed governance scheme for information generation and monitoring of GHG emissions and is in process for the non-carbon variables (multiple benefits, other impacts, management and safeguards). As well, it is in hiring process for the design of the national monitoring and information of GHG emissions and non-carbon variables system).

### 2. DISBURSTMENT SUMMARY

Component	Total Funds per component (US\$)	Allocated Funds (US\$)		Available Funds (US\$)
		Committed	Disbursed	
<b>Component 1: Organization and consultation</b>	<b>747,250.00</b>	<b>76,630.49</b>	<b>35,353.89</b>	<b>635,265.63</b>
<i>Subcomponent 1a: National REDD+ management arrangements</i>	225,000.00	0.00	0.00	225,000
<i>Subcomponent 1b: Consultation, participation, and outreach</i>	522,250.00	76,630.49	35,353.89	410,266
<b>Component 2: REDD+ strategy preparation</b>	<b>1,188,250.00</b>	<b>380,716.67</b>	<b>330,611.95</b>	<b>476,921.39</b>

<b>Subcomponent 2a:</b> <i>Assessment of land use, land-use change drivers, forest law, policy, and governance</i>	171,000.00	15,000.00	0	156,000
<b>Subcomponent 2b:</b> <i>REDD+ strategy options</i>	464,250.00	90,309.95	138,656.92	235,283
<b>Subcomponent 2c:</b> <i>Implementation framework</i>	300,000.00	157,906.72	109,455.03	32,638
<b>Subcomponent 2d:</b> <i>Social and environmental impacts</i>	253,000.00	117,500.00	82,500.00	53,000
<b>Component 3:</b> <b>Reference emission level/reference levels</b>	<b>1,099,250.00</b>	<b>369,125.33</b>	<b>392,359.05</b>	<b>337,766</b>
<b>Component 4:</b> <b>Monitoring systems for forests and safeguards</b>	<b>765,250.00</b>	<b>322,461.12</b>	<b>107,522.66</b>	<b>335,266.23</b>
<b>Subcomponent 4a:</b> <i>National forest monitoring system</i>	300,000.00	122,461.12	107,522.66	70,016.225
<b>Subcomponent 4b:</b> <i>Information System for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance and safeguards</i>	465,250.00	200,000.00	0.00	265,250
<b>TOTAL (US\$)</b>	<b>3,800,000</b>	<b>1,148,934</b>	<b>865,848</b>	<b>1,785,219</b>

### 3. PROGRAM SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

#### I. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives, included those funded by others:

The Inter-Agency Coordination Group (GCI<sup>1</sup>) is the national entity which leads the REDD+ process in Guatemala. Under the leadership of the GCI, the country has established multisector coordination mechanisms like the Biodiversity and Climate Change Group (GBByCC), the Multisector REDD+ Safeguards Committee (CMSREDD+), the Interagency Group for Forest Monitoring and other Land Uses (GIMBUT), the REDD+ Implementers Group (GIREDD+) and the Advisory Group for the REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism

<sup>1</sup> GCI formed by the Ministry of Environment (MARN), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), National Forestry Institute (INAB) and the National Council for Protected Activities (CONAP)

(GAMDB), for the jointly management of the implementation of activities financed by the FCPF and the articulation of complementary support from other REDD+ initiatives funded by other international partners such us:

- **USAID programs (PRCC and CNCG<sup>2</sup>):** technical assistance to GIMBUT for the development of the national reference emission levels, development of the national workshop for the country safeguards approach, development of the emission base line for avoided deforestation in one of the REDD+ regions and the evaluation of the drivers of deforestation in one of the REDD+ regions, development of regional guidelines for consultation and safeguards process, facilitation of the proposal for the national REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism, the elaboration of the governance approach for the MRV national system, amongst others.
- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):** support for the elaboration of the PROBOSQUE Law, elaboration of the WISDOM analysis for firewood, development of the National Forest Landscape Restoration, assessment of needs for the development of the National REDD+ Strategy under the UNREDD program, support in the national dialogue with forestry community organizations, technical assistance for the conceptualization and methodology for estimating forest degradation, amongst others.
- **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)** through the “Forest Sustainable Management Programs” has hired three technical SIG to support GIMBUT activities and national workshop for conceptualization of degradation concept under the REDD+ process in the country.
- **The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** has helped in the elaboration of the PROBOSQUE Law, national workshops for REDD+ and gender, early socialization process and the national workshop for the safeguards approach.
- **Global Alliance and the World Bank** with the “Clean Cookstoves Action Plan for Guatemala” under the National Strategy for Sustainable Production and Efficient Use of Firewood.
- **REDD+-SES standard** for capacity building for REDD+ safeguards.

## **II. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities:**

Component 2: During the preparation of the National REDD+ Strategy there has been many important changes in the technical design and approach within the four components, such as: Due the Common Approach tools feedback each other (the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment -SESA-, the Environment and Social Management –ESMF- and the Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism -FGRM-), the Guatemalan technical team decided to integrate them in one only process for which the first product will be the FGRM followed by the SESA and ESMF. For this, terms of reference (ToRs) have been done integrating the three tools in one bidding process and it is in the hiring process of an international consulting firm by IDB since this process cannot be done by the Executor (the Minister of Environmental -MARN-) because its administrative process does not allow the recruitment of foreign firms.

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<sup>2</sup> The Climate Change Regional Program (PRCC) and the Climate, Nature and Communities of Guatemala program (CNCG) are being executed with the support of IUCN, CARE, CATIE, Rainforest Alliance, TERRA GLOBAL CAPITAL, TNC, Winrock International, University of Del Valle, civil association Stozil and the foundation Defensores de la Naturaleza.

Component 3: in order to facilitate the development of the Reference Emission Scenarios, eleven GIS technicians were hired (with the FCPF and UNDP funds) to support the GIMBUT entities for the elaboration of these products; this can also contribute to leave installed capacity within the government entities.

Component 4: under the multisector coordination mechanisms the technical team has decided to integrate the two systems of monitoring and reporting for the component four (according to Preparation Guide FCPF), ie, subcomponent 4a "Forest monitoring systems and information on safeguards" and subcomponent 4b "Information systems for multiple benefits, other impacts, management and safeguards". Both systems have been merged into a single system in order to facilitate the interaction between the four components of the National REDD+ Strategy, avoid high economic costs of design and maintenance, improve and facilitate management and coordination systems between institutions in the GCI as well as facilitating access and social dissemination of information to multiple stakeholders. Therefore, Guatemala has decided that this integrated system is called "National System for monitoring and reporting of GHG emissions, multiple benefits, other impacts, management and safeguards (MRV national system)".

### **III. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant**

There has been progress in addressing key capacity issues such as capacity building which are address through several training workshops for each component of the strategy, for example:

- The products of the four components of the strategy are run by the government institutions leading the REDD+ national process, with the technical support of academia, ONG, amongst others.
- For the development of the reference emission levels nine capacity building events have been done (one of them in Costa Rica) with GIMBUT and GIREDD+.
- Regarding to safeguards, capacity building has been target to the National Multisector REDD+ Safeguards Committee (CMSREDD+), as well as there has been active participation in the annual REDD+/SES international workshops
- Concerning financial management and procurement, it is been hired an operations analyst that supports the Executive Unit (Coordinator, Finance Specialist and Procurement Specialist) for these specific matters.

### **IV. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?**

Guatemala has done important efforts to interpretive the REDD+ safeguards within the national context and the development of the national safeguards approach. Those efforts include jointly interpretation of principles, objectives and indicators, as well as the identification of the legal, institutional and accomplished framework for each safeguard.

As the ESMF is a result of the SESA, and both tools feedback the FGRM and vice versa, the three tools have been aligned in the same ToR making sure it is aligned to the Common Approach of the FCPF. It is important to mention that Guatemala is aligning the Common Approach tools: FGRM, SESA and ESMF, with the national consultation and participation process. Under the multisector coordination mechanisms, ToRs have been done for the development of MAR, SESA and ESMF and it is in hiring process of an international consulting firm. For this, IDB has coordinated with the FMT to guarantee coherence in the implementation under the Common Approach of the FCPF.

Within some REDD+ activities in protected areas, initial efforts have been done to identify social and environmental impacts which will be articulated to the SESA and ESMF tools.

#### **V. Describe the progress in stakeholder consultation, participation and disclosure related to this grant.**

It is important to highlight that the National REDD+ Strategy of Guatemala include strategy options aligned to the policy legal framework of the forestry sector within the Forestry Law and the Protected Areas Law, i.e., national incentive programs (PROBOSQUE and PINPEP Laws, PINFOR) and the Guatemalan system for protected areas (SIGAP). These policy instruments have been developed under a wide participatory process with multiple stakeholders (private sector, local communities, NGO, academia, amongst others) and have an experience of more than 15 years. This experiences and participatory structures have facilitated social inclusion in the early exchange information, participation and consultation on REDD+.

Under this participation process and the forestry governance structures created for it, the consultation, participation and disclosure process for the National REDD+ Strategy is being done. Progress has been made in stakeholder engagement at an early phase. Early socialization has been done in some areas for training institutional trainers and local community leaders. It is expected in early 2016 to continue this process within the nine regional directions of INAB, CONAP, MAGA and MARN, as well with multiple stakeholders in REDD+ initiatives.

In some REDD+ territories like GuateCarbon, Lachuá, Caribe and Bosques para la Vida, a process of consultation and participation was held within the free, prior and informed consultation methodology, and it is expect to aligned this with the national consultation and participation process to ensure accomplish with the FCPF and Common Approach requirements.

Likewise, it is been working on the articulation of the work of the thematic groups for the development of reference emission scenarios, MRV system, benefit sharing mechanisms, among others. It is important to mention that Guatemala is aligning the Common Approach tools SESA, ESMF and the FGRM, with the national consultation and participation process; this has taking into account in the ToRs and it is expected that during the consultation process possible conflicts around REDD+ activities can be predicted or detected within the FGRM.

#### **4. LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMENDATIONS**

- It is important from the beginning to institutionalize with the national entities with competition on the REDD+ modalities, with the policy framework and institutional framework to promote ownership and involvement of the actors as well as comply with Cancun safeguards (A and B). This process has

been done through linking REDD+ modalities within the national legal and policy framework in the forestry sector and other sectors related (energy –firewood-, agriculture, etc.) to promote leverage of public and private sector finance, as well to strength national forestry governance and achieve sustainability of the process.

- Ensuring the involvement of actors in the territory and local governments, and their coordination with central government institutions to establish a link between the two levels and move from the conceptual and strategic phase to the implementation phase.
- It is important to coordinate with the different REDD+ initiatives of other international donors to optimize financial and technical efforts for the national process, avoid duplication of effort and confusion of stakeholders.
- From the beginning of the process it is important to mainstream gender considerations and REDD+ safeguards into the four components of the strategies and in the three REDD+ phase's preparation, implementation and payments by results.
- It is important the alignment between the different funding mechanisms between the three phases of REDD+ to ensure that countries can reach the ultimate goal of REDD+, as well to optimize the use of different sources of funding. Financial support institutions should make an effort to promote these articulations (joint missions, involving the same actors in all three phases and others).