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Nicaragua REDD+ Initiative: progress towards completing the R- Package

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Nicaragua ENDE REDD+: the readiness grant

MTR at PC22: the first stage of readiness

- R-PP endorsed and grant allocated at PC12 in Santa Marta, Colombia (June, 2012)
- Grant agreement (US\$3,600) signed between GoN and WB (December 26, 2013)
- Current closing date: December 31 , 2017
- As of today, total commitments are US\$ 2.57 million (68 %)
 - Current disbursements: US\$ 2,1 million (55 %)
 - Current commitments: US\$ 0,47 million

Nicaragua ENDE REDD+: the roadmap towards the R- Package

MTR at PC22: the first stage of readiness

- December 2013 – the launching of the initiative
- October 2014 – the inflection point
- May 2015 – the ENDE REDD+ speeds up & the ER-PIN enters the stage
- November 2015 – keeping up the pace towards the MTR
- May 2016 – MTR mission and further implementation support
- September 2016 – the WB grant report monitoring

Nicaragua ENDE REDD+ : main success factors

Strong political commitment and local ownership:

- It is part of broader national strategies and has high-level governmental support
- It has full support from regional autonomous governments, of indigenous, and afro-Nicaraguan territories of the Caribbean Coast
- The country is learning from its own REDD+ experience and from experiences in other REDD+ countries

Nicaragua ENDE REDD+ : main success factors

Improved institutional capacities:

- Consolidation of a stronger national and local ENDE-REDD+ technical team
- Full institutionalization of the ENDE-REDD+ process in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA)
- Increased institutional capacity to participate in the strategic and technical dialogue on CC and REDD+ at global and regional levels
- Full command of REDD+ principles and of the FCPF readiness assessment framework
- Speeding up R-Package preparation.

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: key milestones

The progress achieved is substantial enough to merit additional funding from FCPF.

- robust national REDD+ management arrangements
- progressing relatively well in the design of the ENDE-REDD+ strategy
- progressing well on establishment of both the REL and the National Forest Monitoring System
- Advancing the design and implementation of a M&E framework
- (!) Less progress in the design of an information system to collect information on multiple benefits and safeguards

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: key milestones

The progress achieved is substantial enough to merit additional funding from FCPF.

- REDD+ management structures are fully operational
- Strong inter-institutional coordination between the environmental and forest sectors
- Improving coordination with the agricultural sector and the national planning and finance ministries
- The SESA Plan is being implemented
- Assessments to prepare the REDD+ Strategy are underway:
 - drivers of deforestation,
 - legal and governance aspect of the forest sector (including land and resource rights),
 - Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment,
 - options for benefit-sharing and
 - options for a Feedback Grievance and Redress Mechanism.

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: key milestones

The progress achieved is substantial enough to merit additional funding from FCPF.

- Feedback and Redress mechanism focused on indigenous peoples and is being discussed
- REL is under construction and will be supported by the ERPD preparation process
- Strong coordination with the National Institute for Territorial Studies (INETER) for MRV design
- Initial screening of existing efforts to monitor indicators for non-carbon benefits with the National System for Environmental Information (SINIA)

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: main challenges ahead

- Broadening the range of stakeholders participating in the last stage of REDD+ Readiness, including the agricultural public and private sectors, civil society, and local stakeholders in regions other than the Caribbean Coast
- Creating effective incentives to accelerate the level of inter-sectoral policy alignment that is needed to implement the ENDE-REDD+
- Ensuring a balance between consultations and the country interest to start REDD+ implementation
- In spite of recent improvements, institutional capacity could be challenged by a tight timeline to complete the R-Package and the ERPD within the next 12 months

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: key dates to complete the R-Package

Main bullet:

- Draft ENDE REDD+ Strategy consulted by November, 2016
- Final SESA report prepared in December, 2016
- ESMF finalized in December, 2016
- REL and MRV finalized in December, 2016
- R-Package self-evaluation and submission to the FCPF in January, 2017

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: additional financing

US\$ 5,0 M additional financing is needed to complete the R-Package and continue consolidating the country capacity to implement REDD+, including:

- To extend the organization and consultation in regions other than the Caribbean Coast, and continue improving the ENDE-REDD+ National Mechanism (US\$ 1,6 M)
- Complete the ENDE-REDD+ Strategy (US\$ 0,1 M)
- Complete the REL ((US\$ 0,6)
- Implement the MRV and the SIS (US\$ 2,7 M)

Nicaragua ENDE-REDD+: conclusions

The WB supports Nicaragua's request of additional financing:

- The ENDE-REDD+ national process has achieved substantial progress and is on its way to achieve the expected results
- A clear action plan with key activities and dates to complete the R-PP has been agreed at the highest level of the Government of Nicaragua
- Current grant commitments exceed 50 percent
- The additional financing request focuses on activities to complete the R-PP, while supporting country priorities on improved land use management



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