

# Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

## **Independent TAP Expert Review of Nicaragua's Readiness-Package**

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### Objective:

This presentation contains the consultant's review of the Self Assessment Process of Nicaragua's R-Package, performed on March 28, 2017 - through a participatory multi-stakeholder consultation. The review also assesses REDD+ readiness progress and remaining challenges to be addressed to achieve REDD+ readiness.

### Review carried out and Contents:

To carry out the required tasks, the following methodological approach was followed:

- Task 1:** Review self-assessment process and documentation, based on Nicaragua's R-Readiness package produced by the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources MARENA.
- Task 2:** Review progress on REDD+ readiness based on the submitted reports and background documents and information.
- Task 3:** To review key outputs referred in the R-Package, including the national REDD+ strategy, the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), the Reference Emissions Level and forest monitoring, and national institutional structures.
- Task 4:** To provide constructive and targeted feedback, highlighting strengths and weaknesses in the subcomponents

### Conclusions & Recommendations



# Review of the self-assessment process

- ✓ The Self-Assessment process was conducted according to FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework, and the R-Package Report provides adequate documentation on the actual status of REDD+ Readiness and on work remaining.
- ✓ On **28 February 2017**, MARENA held the Self-Evaluation Workshop on the REDD+ readiness process, with the participation of many actors and stakeholders. Eighty persons participated in the workshop, including participants from the Caribbean Coast Autonomous Regions and representatives of the Indigenous Territorial Governments in the Caribbean, Pacific, Central and Northern regions.
- ✓ The ENDE-REDD+ Program Implementation Unit made a major effort to organize the participation and social dissemination of the consultation. Particular attention was paid to the analysis on the causes of deforestation and forest degradation and the measures required to mitigate them. The social and environmental impacts of REDD+ activities was also discussed.
- ✓ Three evaluations were made before submitting the final report. A Mid-Term Report evaluation carried out on August 2016; a second evaluation was performed on June 2017, and the third one, made just before submission of the Self-evaluation by actors on 28 Feb 2017.

## REDD+ Readines: Results I

No progress shown as yet	More development needed	Good progress but needs to be developed further	Considerable progress made
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REDD READINESS COMPONENT AND SUB-COMPONENT	PROGRESS INDICATOR
<b>Component 1. Readiness Organization and Consultation</b>	
Sub-component 1a	
Sub-component 1b	
<b>Component 2 REDD+ Strategy Preparation</b>	
Sub-component 2a Assessment of land use, Land use changers, Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	
Sub-component 2b REDD+ Strategy Options	
Sub-component 2c Implementation Framework	
Sub-component 2d Social and Environmental Impacts	
<b>Component 3 Reference Emissions Level/ Reference Levels</b>	
<b>Component 4 Monitoring systems for Forests and Safeguards</b>	
Sub-component 4a National Forest Monitoring System	
Sub-component 4b Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance and Safeguards	

## REDD+ Readines: Results II

### Component 1. Readiness, Organization and Consultation

- Various REDD+ (Readiness, FIP) multi-sector coordination mechanisms have been set up at both National and Provincial level, with the latter creating a dynamic that will be helpful for REDD+ implementation

### Component 2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation (Criteria

- The Nicaragua ENDE- REDD+ feels the need of improving and expanding legal texts on forestry and on carbon rights. There is also the need to define Benefit Sharing Mechanism, not yet been drafted.
- Actions conducive to REDD+ have already begun. Cattle Ranching, Sugar Cane and Peanuts farmers have committed to REDD+ strategy implementation, although oil palm producer have not yet been integrated.



## REDD+ Readines: Results III

### **Component 3. Forest Reference Emissions Levels/Forest Reference levels**

- ✓ A preliminary Reference Level (NREF/NRF) for the 2005-2015 period has been defined. Although, capacity building in this regard is strongly felt, some capacity strengthen has been done through interinstitutional technical workshops.

### **Component 4. Monitoring system for forests and safeguards (Criteria 29-34)**

- ✓ The information system for multiple benefits, other impacts and safeguards. However, needs significant additional work, especially to ensure the constructive involvement of local communities in participatory MRV;
- ✓ Better dissemination, in the appropriate native language, of safeguard instruments is also required to enable more active participation of local communities in monitoring.

## What still needs to be done ... I

### **Sub-Component 1a**

Strengthen coordination mechanisms with Ministry of Economy, producers and regional governments to design an emission reduction programme.

Strengthen institutional capacities at MARENA, INAFOR, MAG and regional governments by providing training to the MRV table.

Create capacities for implementation of the communication strengthening mechanism.

### **Sub-Component 1b**

Strengthen dialogue and coordination in the Pacific, Central and Northern regions of Nicaragua, dialogue and consultation with the PI-PCN.

Strengthen information dissemination on radio, and television, as well as through written and digital means.

Develop printed educational materials for ENDE-REDD+.



## What still needs to be done ... II

### Subcomponent 2a

- Strengthen the analysis of relation between barriers and ENDE-REDD+ activities.

### Subcomponent 2b

- Draft a proposal for adjustments to the forest legal framework and policies required for the implementation of strategic options.

### Subcomponent 2c

- Define guidelines for the implementation of the ENDE-REDD+ program.
- Finish the study on ERPD benefit distribution and/or REDD+ activities implemented at national and regional levels.

### Subcomponent 2d

- Draw up Involuntary Resettlement Procedure Regulations.
- Draw up social and environmental framework for the Emission Reduction Programme.

## What still needs to be done ... III

### Component 3

- Carry out a process of resampling in units of national forest inventory to estimate forest emission factors.
- Diagnostic and analysis of forest degradation.
- Technical strengthening to interinstitutional teams in new methods and procedures to estimate CO2 emissions and absorptions.
- Construction of a Land Use map to year 2018 to identify Land Use changes.

## What still needs to be done ... IV

### Subcomponent 4a

- Resampling of permanent INF plots in areas where there is still forest remaining. The collected data will serve as an input to deepen the forest degradation studies.
- Technical strengthening at regional and local levels to manage the ODK monitoring tool.

### Component 4b

- In the course of 2017-2018 a statistical information system will be established, so that in the future MARENA will have on hand real time progress of indicators.
- Creation of an inter-institutional web page to display the results of each of the environmental indicators being followed up on by each of the institutions.
- The MRV Working Group will analyze selected indicators and assign responsibilities to ensure that each indicator is up-to-date, thus ensuring sustainability over time.



### Main Conclusions:

- ✓ The inclusion of the ENDE-REDD+ Program in the national policy on forests and climate change, embodied in the government agenda is by its self a very important achievement.
- ✓ The REDD+ readiness process is the result of a participatory process that has included stakeholders from the Caribbean Coast regions, Council of Indigenous People (PCN) and the Government central level representatives.
- ✓ One unquestionable implication is that the ENDE-REDD+ process has open a country vision up to 2040, and draws a roadmap for the implementation of effective actions at the level of the national territory to reach the defined goals and reduce the rate of deforestation.

### Selected Recommendations:

- Reforestation-afforestation, in order to be sustainable, should be made with a purpose either for the production of non-wood services, such as soil conservation or soil recuperation, water provision or non-wood products, or commercial timber for the production of sawlogs, pulplogs or firewood through dendroenergy plantations.
- Cattle-ranching, sugar cane and peanut farmers have committed to reforestation. Every effort should be made to incorporate oil palm producers in the program.
- The intersectoral coordination, in order to tackle the problems of deforestation and forest degradation, should be strengthened, as well as implementation of the multisectoral coordination, which was felt and spoken out at the workshop level.
- Obtain greater participation, cohesion and effectiveness in communication and liaison between public and private agencies interested in supporting the design and implementation of ENDE-REDD+ in the territories.

**THANK YOU**

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