

**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Mechanism  
Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) External Review Template  
(interim, January 10, 2011, from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 5)**

**Guidelines for Reviewers:**

- 1) *FCPF REDD Country Participant R-PPs will be reviewed and assessed by the FCPF Participants Committee, the FCPF's governing body, taking TAP comments into account. External (Technical Advisory Panel or other) and Bank reviewers may provide recommendations on how a draft R-PP could be enhanced, using this template on a pilot basis until a process is approved by the PC.*
- 2) *One set of criteria should be used for review: specific standards each of the current 6 components of an R-PP should be met.*
- 3) *Your comments will be merged with other reviewer comments (without individual attribution) into a synthesis document that will be made public, in general, so bear this in mind when commenting.*
- 4) *Please provide thoughtful, fair assessment of the draft R-PP, in the form of actionable recommendations for the potential enhancement of the R-PP by the submitting country. A REDD Country Participant would be allowed three submissions of an R-PP to the PC for consideration.*

**Objectives of a Readiness Preparation Proposal (condensed directly from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 3)**

*The purpose of the R-PP is to build and elaborate on the previous Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) or a country's relevant comparable work, to assist a country in laying out and organizing the steps needed to achieve 'Readiness' to undertake activities to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), in the specific country context. The R-PP provides a framework for a country to set a clear roadmap, budget, and schedule to achieve REDD Readiness. The FCPF does not expect that the activities identified in the R-PP and its Terms of Reference (ToR) would actually occur at the R-PP stage, although countries may decide to begin pilot activities for which they have capacity and stakeholder support. Instead, the R-PP consists of a summary of the current policy and governance context, what study and other preparatory activities would occur under each major R-PP component, how they would be undertaken in the R-PP execution phase, and then a ToR or work plan for each component. The activities would generally be performed in the next, R-PP execution phase, not as part of the R-PP formulation process.*

**Review of R-PP of: Colombia**

**Reviewer (fill in): James Tolisano and Tomas Schlichter  
coordinating a TAP Review Team of 8 members**

**Date of review (fill in): May 17, 2011**

**Summary of Findings and Recommendations**

**Introduction**

The TAP team completed a review of the initial draft of the Colombia R-PP on May 17, 2011. The observations and recommendations from the May 17, 2011 review are presented first under each Component heading, but only provide reference to the first draft of the R-PP. This first TAP review included a classification of the degree to which the draft R-PP met the terms of the six FCPF standards. The classification scheme used by the TAP review team is as follows:

- **Standard Met** (no further work needed to describe the actions proposed under this standard)
- **Standard Largely Met** (proposed work is acceptable, but can be enhanced with additional

information)

- **Standard Partially Met** (some additional information is required before the proposed strategy fulfills the terms of the standard)
- **Standard Not Met** (information is incomplete and does not fulfill the terms of the standard)

A second, revised Colombia R-PP was received by the TAP review team on June 3, 2011, and a second TAP review was prepared to determine if new information in the second draft responded to the observations and recommendations made in the first TAP review. Our revised comments and recommendations from this second TAP review are included directly below the first TAP review, and a revised classification is included for each component.

### Overview

Colombia has nearly 70 million hectares of forest, which represents approximately four percent of all the tropical forests in the world. Colombia is also a global center of biodiversity distributed across 21 vegetation zones, five major watersheds, vast wetlands, and numerous rivers and lakes, and is recognized by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) as one of the ten most important countries in the world for biological diversity. Human communities have utilized the forests of Colombia and benefitted from the various ecosystem services they provide for tens of thousands of years, and most of the forested regions are only sparsely populated, suggesting that Colombia is in a good position to enact measures that can continue to sustain their rich forest heritage. However, expanding agriculture, population growth, and rising demand for forest resources and services from an increasingly urbanized population threatens the integrity, resilience, and expanse of Colombia's remaining forests.

### TAP Assessment Summary May 17, 2011

The Colombia R-PP represents an important step towards enhanced conservation of the country's globally significant forests, and a great deal of work has clearly been invested in the preparation of the proposed strategy. Overall, the R-PP presentation is very good, the text is well written and it is stated in a logical order. The R-PP is well composed, informative and responds to most of the key issues requested by the FCPF for each of the six components. The Colombia team has obviously invested a significant amount of time and energy towards this process and produced a very commendable initial draft of the R-PP. There are opportunities to further strengthen the document, and the TAP review outlines several areas where additional information can be included to enhance the presentation.

The relative strengths of the current R-PP draft, and opportunities to reinforce it, can be summarized as follows:

Strength: The R-PP proposes a complex institutional arrangement that will engage more than a dozen existing and proposed new government agencies in a multi-tiered consortium designed to guide all activities pertaining to the mitigation, adaptation and management of climate change consequences. The consortium is based on three national strategies that address the needs to lower carbon emissions in a way that is compatible with Colombia's development needs. The three strategies appear to be very appropriate to the development and management needs for REDD+ projects.

Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP: The development of the proposed institutional arrangement is still in a formative stage, and any constraints that may be experienced in implementing it are not entirely certain. It may be helpful to include additional descriptions and diagrams to specifically show how the various institutions will communicate; mitigate conflicts; negotiate strategies; and reach decisions. This will be particularly true for the proposed "working groups" (Mesas de Trabajo), who will hold significant responsibilities. Each working group will focus on a specific area of concern (technical data, community relations, finance, etc.), and the REDD+ working group will also be responsible for the overall monitoring and evaluation program. The document also includes many acronyms for institutions and programs that are relevant to the proposed strategy. Unfortunately, not all acronyms are fully explained. It will be essential to include a table providing the full reference for each acronym.

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**Strength:** Early consultations have been very productive and their results are clearly described in the R-PP. A comprehensive consultation plan has been outlined, and includes a detailed identification of the key actors relevant to the REDD+ process.

**Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP:** The R-PP reveals the significant cultural and ecological diversity found in Colombia. The current draft of the R-PP approaches this diversity through primarily a centralized, national perspective. The institutional structure for implementing and managing the proposed REDD+ strategy can be enhanced by including more regional representation, and by decentralizing some activities. This will be particularly true in the further development of the consultative process, establishment of the national reference level, and MRV system. For example, it may be helpful to consider including training and capacity building measures for some of the regional and local stakeholder groups in order to engage them in MRV data collection and analysis, and adaptive management of the strategy.

**Strength:** The R-PP provides a good, concise overview of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and outlines several broad actions that will be carried out to improve the data to improve the understanding of these drivers and reduce or mitigate the deforestation process. Budget allocations include funding to improve the data base and assign responsibility for the completion of this work.

**Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP:** The R-PP points out the lack of quantified data available to support the analysis of the drivers of deforestation, and particularly emphasizes the limited data to provide a regional assessment of deforestation drivers and trends. It may be helpful to include a list and concise description of tasks that will be completed to produce the data necessary to improve the understanding of the deforestation drivers by sector (agriculture, timber production, infrastructure development, etc.) and geographic region. Pointing out the linkages with the development of the sub-national reference scenarios may further increase the clarity of the approach. It may also be important to increase the proposed cost estimates to ensure that sufficient funding is budgeted to complete these very important tasks.

**Strength:** The R-PP includes extensive summaries of available information in tabular and mapped forms to provide a concise overview of existing conditions.

**Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP:** Some maps are difficult to read and future editions of the document should improve visual clarity in all maps and tables, and ensure that titles and legends are sufficient to allow readers to take full advantage of the information. It will also be helpful to show how maps and tables are linked in the development of the strategy. For example, a map on the extent of illicit crop production can be linked to maps of forest cover to show one apparent driver of deforestation.

**Strength:** A clear, broad REDD+ strategy is described, with information on the most important deforestation drivers.

**Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP:** The proposed strategy will be easier to understand by including a work plan as an annex to show how the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation will be measured, monitored, and mitigated. It will also be useful to display the potential measures by region and unit of analysis, considering the different land use dynamics in each region and the deforestation and degradation projections.

**Strength:** An extensive set of tables is included to outline the proposed budget and provide costs summaries.

**Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP:** The R-PP can be enhanced by combining the existing separate budget activities within each component tables into a single aggregate budget table of total estimated cost for each component and for each contributor to funding (e.g. FCPF), and demonstrates the connection and mutual support between each component. The document could be further strengthened by including a basic analysis of benefits and costs, however this is not required; and a tentative schedule for delivery of proposed activities within each component.

**Strength:** Important initial steps have been outlined for the development of a national reference scenario, and the implementation of a comprehensive MRV system.

**Opportunities to Reinforce R-PP:** The measures to be implemented to support the reference scenario and

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the MRV system can be enhanced with a clear definitions of “forest” and “forest degradation”. It will also be helpful to show how this system will be effectively linked with other components, particularly the consultation program (Standard 1.c) and the SESA.

The following TAP Review provides greater detail on each of these strengths and opportunities, and offers recommendations that can help the Government of Colombia (GoC) meet the terms and standards of the FCPF Readiness Mechanism.

### **TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011**

The revised R-PP of June 3, 2011 responds to many of the observations raised in the initial TAP review of May 17, 2011, and a great deal of new and appropriate information has been included in the revised draft. The revised draft particularly responds to the observations and recommendations recorded for Components 1.a-c, and 2.a-d, with less information included to expand the descriptions for Components 3, 4.a and 4.b, 5, and 6. As a result, the revised TAP review assigns the following assessment for each component:

Component 1.a: **Standard Largely Met**

Component 1.b: **Standard Met**

Component 1.c: **Standard Met**

Component 2.a: **Standard Partially Met**

Component 2.b: **Standard Met**

Component 2.c: **Standard Largely Met**

Component 2.d: **Standard Largely Met**

Component 3: **Standard Partially Met**

Component 4.a: **Standard Not Met**

Component 4.b: **Standard Partially Met**

Component 5: **Standard Partially Met**

Component 6: **Standard Partially Met**

Specific comments explaining the basis for these determinations is included under the heading for each component, with the observations and recommendations from the May 17, 2011 TAP review presented first, and the observations and any additional recommendations from the June 3, 2011 TAP review presented second.

### **Standards to be Met by R-PP Components**

*(From Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 5:)*

#### **Component 1. Organize and Consult**

##### **Standard 1a: National Readiness Management Arrangements:**

*The cross-cutting nature of the design and workings of the national readiness management arrangements on REDD, in terms of including relevant stakeholders and key government agencies beyond the forestry department, commitment of other sectors in planning and implementation of REDD readiness. Capacity building activities are included in the work plan for each component where significant external technical expertise has been used in the R-PP development process.*

##### **Reviewer’s assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

###### **Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

A new and logical institutional framework has been proposed to facilitate the implementation of the R-PP,

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including the establishment of a National Commission for Climate Change. The REDD+ Working Group will serve as an internal body dependent on this National Commission. The REDD+ Working Group ( Mesa de Trabajo REDD) will be chaired by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS) and will include sub-groups dedicated to specific topics pertaining to the drivers of deforestation; data and technical information management; livelihoods and economic development; and community relations.

Each of these groups will be chaired by different ministries, including MAyDS, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Justice. The new institutions will need to harmonize their actions with existing policies and ensure effective coordination with other inter-sectorial processes.

The proposed institutional arrangement appears sound and appropriate to the needs of the national climate change program, and is well described in the R-PP. Several useful diagrams are included to show the agencies that will participate.

However, the R-PP can be further enhanced by adding descriptions or additional diagrams to show how these institutions will work independently and collaboratively. This could be achieved, in part, with additional information on the roles and responsibilities that will be assigned to each agency or group, and the frequency or proposed schedule of meetings. It may also be helpful to describe the protocol or methods that will be used to mitigate conflicts and ensure harmonization with existing policies. As one example, the proposed new institutions may result in new legislation that could subordinate existing environmental law and change the mandates and jurisdictions of existing institutions. An additional paragraph or diagram can show how the new legislation can move forward even if it must work with existing legislation and policies.

The R-PP can also benefit from additional descriptions to show how existing institutions and sectors presently responsible for the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation will collaborate, and capacity building measures that will be carried out to strengthen communication, data analysis and decision-making. This information will be particularly important when describing the various working groups (mesas de trabajo) pertaining to biodiversity, investments, education, agriculture and other topics.

For example, the proposed National Commission on Climate Change will re-distribute many responsibilities currently assigned to the Ministry of Environment to new sub-sectors and working groups. It will be beneficial to include a concise explanation or diagram to show how this improves the national dialogue on climate change mitigation and adaptation, forest conservation, and the production of REDD+ projects in Colombia in a manner that will be consistent with a national framework.

It will also be important for the R-PP to include information in diagrams and the text to show that it has good representation on the Commission and in proposed working groups from those sectors that contribute most to deforestation pressures, including agriculture, energy, mining, and infrastructure development.

The R-PP acknowledges the importance of gaining the input from regional stakeholders, although the diagrams and descriptions of the institutional structure primarily emphasize a national perspective. The document can be reinforced with additional information to show how planning and management responsibilities will be shared with regional and local authorities. For example, the Regional Autonomous Cooperation units (CARs) hold significant responsibilities for the adjudication of forest concessions and management and exploitation of forested regions. Similarly, rural farmers play a very important role in impacts to forests, along with the more than 600 indigenous reservations authorized in Colombia. The R-PP recognizes these and similar entities as key stakeholders, and can further empower this recognition by including more information on the role and responsibilities regional entities will hold, and the process by which communication from regional to national scales will be ensured.

The R-PP provides some information on existing government mandates that are immediately relevant to a national REDD+ framework. However, additional details and examples may help show how the proposed institutional framework can take advantage of these existing mandates. For example, the existing Colombian constitution already authorizes autonomous regional corporations with extensive natural resource extraction and management responsibilities, particularly in the Amazon, Sierra Nevada de San Marta, and other extensively forested regions. These entities include representative bodies that could provide

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significant support in articulating a national REDD+ framework. This is also true in the indigenous areas encompassing a significant percentage of Colombia's forested regions, where local councils empowered by the national constitution are responsible for land use regulations; social and economic development policies and programs; implementation of public investments; monitoring and compliance with national standards, and representation before the national government. Including this and similar information will permit the R-PP to show how conflicts in jurisdiction or redundancy of effort will be avoided.

### Recommendations:

- Include a diagram showing how NGOs, indigenous communities, academic institutions, municipalities, the private sector, and other non-government institutions will be represented in the new national institutional framework.
- Consider adding regional REDD+ working groups (e.g., Andean, Pacific, Amazon, Orinoco, Caribbean and Island) in order to take into account the significant variation in social conditions, deforestation drivers, and stakeholder co-benefits.
- Include a concise institutional analysis as an annex to the document to outline the responsibilities of existing institutions; and how overlap, redundancy, or conflict will be mitigated or avoided.
- Include a table to summarize proposed capacity building measures, and a concise description of how capacity building measures will complement or minimize the need for contracted external expertise.
- Include a concise paragraph to explain how existing and proposed legislation and policies will be used to achieve a cost-effective strategy. For example, the proposed Organic Zoning Law can facilitate REDD+ policies on indigenous territories.

### Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met

#### TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:

The revised R-PP includes a great deal of new information to illuminate the national readiness management facilities that will be put in place to support the REDD+ strategy. Several new figures and diagrams have been added to give a clear representation of the national scale institutions to be engaged in producing the strategy. The diagrams provide a simple and easily understood delineation of the institutional roles and relationships. The figures showing the composition and relationships of the diverse working groups (Mesas de Trabajo) to be assembled around specific technical and administrative responsibilities are particularly valuable. The figures are well done and easily understood. Additionally, the figures provide some indication of the ways in which the national readiness management arrangements will gain input from regional stakeholders and local authorities.

The R-PP can be further enhanced by including additional information on existing mandates that are immediately relevant to a national REDD+ framework. Some new information on existing laws and policies is included under Component 1.b. However, it is probably more appropriate if moved to be included under the description of national readiness management for component 1.a.

While this section of the document is greatly improved, the following recommendations from the May 17, 2011 TAP review can still be used to strengthen further work with the national strategy:

- Include a concise institutional analysis as an annex to the document to outline the responsibilities of existing institutions; and how overlap, redundancy, or conflict will be mitigated or avoided.
- Include a table to summarize proposed capacity building measures, and a concise description of how capacity building measures will complement or minimize the need for contracted external expertise.
- Include a concise paragraph to explain how existing and proposed legislation and policies will be used to achieve a cost-effective strategy. For example, the proposed Organic Zoning Law can

facilitate REDD+ policies on indigenous territories.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Largely Met**

**Standard 1b: Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups:**

*The R-PP presents evidence of the government having undertaken an exercise to identify key stakeholders for REDD-plus, and commenced a credible national-scale information sharing and awareness raising campaign for key relevant stakeholders. The campaign's major objective is to establish an early dialogue on the REDD-plus concept and R-PP development process that sets the stage for the later consultation process during the implementation of the R-PP work plan. This effort needs to reach out, to the extent feasible at this stage, to networks and representatives of forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers and forest dependent communities, both at national and local level. The R-PP contains evidence that a reasonably broad range of key stakeholders has been identified, voices of vulnerable groups are beginning to be heard, and that a reasonable amount of time and effort has been invested to raise general awareness of the basic concepts and process of REDD-plus including the SESA.*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

The R-PP shows that significant progress has been achieved in the development of a national pre-consultation process for REDD+, with considerable results produced in the Colombian Amazon. A thorough consultative process has been carried out, with 9 regional workshops having been conducted engaging 538 participants representing 188 organizations. Throughout this process seven main actors were identified, among them "forest communities" (including indigenous groups and Afro-Colombian communities), private enterprises, national government, territorial governments, NGOs and academic groups, and donors. Recommendations derived from some of the consultative events are incorporated into the R-PP document. Consultative activities also appear to be continuing, with several new activities pending as reflected by the proposed work plan and budget.

The process used to identify stakeholders and engage them in dialogue with the national government is clearly described in the R-PP. This process includes the strategy used to establish the CONACC (the advisory body to the Government in the implementation of the Climate Change National Policy) in order to socialize the GoC's progress and coordinate institutional efforts, ensuring complementarities of action for prevention, mitigation and adaptation.

The R-PP also provides an excellent categorization of indigenous peoples as representatives of forest communities, which is an important step forward in the national planning process. Indigenous communities exercise significant public functions pertaining to the development and management of forest resources, and could strongly affect the implementation of regulations and policies set by national or regional government. The R-PP properly recognizes indigenous groups through their traditional authorities and indigenous councils, and ensures that dialogues with the state and national government will not be done through intermediaries.

The proposal to build REDD+ workshops (under the SNCC) is also a very good addition to the R-PP and will allow the national program to engage a wider sector of stakeholders.

Thus the national concern for the management and mitigation of climate change consequences appear to have been communicated well to a comprehensive mix of potentially affected stakeholder groups. The R-PP can be further reinforced by including additional information on the methods used to carry out the consultation process, particularly to show that the meetings and workshops were designed with similar objectives, and applied consistent methods and protocol.

**Recommendations:**

- The R-PP should show how agricultural organizations and private business interests are included as distinct entities in the consultative process.
- The description of civil society groups should show how groups other than traditional NGO

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representatives are included in the consultation process, such as representatives from Afro-Colombian committees and councils at the grassroots level, without ignoring other bodies still in the process of consolidation. This point is already brought out in the R-PP in the workshop held in Bogotá on February 23-24, 2011.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met**

### **TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

The new version of the R-PP includes a wealth of new information on stakeholder identification and information sharing. For example, the revised R-PP acknowledges the participation and consultation as fundamental rights of communities dependent on forests and therefore aims to generate binding mechanisms to ensure respect for fundamental rights. The revised R-PP adds strong language to support the inclusion of a wide spectrum of stakeholder groups in the REDD+ dialogue, including workshops and events conducted with public institutions, organizations and networks in the agriculture, industrial, mining, energy and infrastructure sectors. The revised materials also include recognition of specific organizations in each sector who can play important roles in the divulgation and implementation of the REDD+ strategy, and identifies existing laws and policies that will support the information sharing and consultation process.

The revised R-PP also includes an extensive description of regional actors to be engaged in the REDD+ strategy, and provides a clear table outlining additional information sharing events planned for 2011, and a list of the actors involved and the anticipated outcomes.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Met**

### **Standard 1c: Consultation and Participation Process**

*Ownership, transparency, and dissemination of the R-PP by the government and relevant stakeholders, and inclusiveness of effective and informed consultation and participation by relevant stakeholders, will be assessed by whether proposals and/ or documentation on the following are included in the R-PP (i) the consultation and participation process for R-PP development thus far<sup>3</sup> (ii) the extent of ownership within government and national stakeholder community; (iii) the Consultation and Participation Plan for the R-PP implementation phase (iv) concerns expressed and recommendations of relevant stakeholders, and a process for their consideration, and/or expressions of their support for the R-PP; (v) and mechanisms for addressing grievances regarding consultation and participation in the REDD-plus process, and for conflict resolution and redress of grievances.*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

### **Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

This section of the R-PP includes several important lessons learned from initial stakeholder dialogues, including the need to incorporate standards to ensure respect for cultural practices and traditional

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<sup>3</sup> Did the R-PP development, in particular the development of the ToR for the strategic environmental and social assessment and the Consultation and Participation Plan, include civil society, including forest dwellers and Indigenous Peoples representation? In this context the representative(s) will be determined in one of the following ways: (i) self-determined representative(s) meeting the following requirements: (a) selected through a participatory, consultative process; (b) having national coverage or networks; (c) previous experience working with the Government and UN system; (d) demonstrated experience serving as a representative, receiving input from, consulting with, and providing feedback to, a wide scope of civil society including Indigenous Peoples organizations; or (ii) Individual(s) recognized as legitimate representative(s) of a national network of civil society and/or Indigenous Peoples organizations (e.g., the GEF Small Grants National Steering Committee or National Forest Program Steering Committee).

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knowledge; capacity building requirements; and the allocation of funds to establish distinct spaces for on-going communication, conflict mitigation and negotiation. Initial consultations also appear to have created fluid dialogues with key decision makers in government institutions representing a wide and appropriate spectrum of Ministries.

The R-PP references a work plan that proposes a set of consultation mechanisms to be carried out with a wide variety of stakeholder entities, including government institutions, NGOs, indigenous groups, Afro-Colombian communities, farmers organizations, and private businesses. The plan includes reference to mechanisms to ensure transparency across all sectors. Information is also included to list activities to be carried out with specific actors to respond to such concerns as rights to verified carbon credits; distribution of benefits from credit sales; land tenure; and law enforcement.

As mentioned under Standard 1.a, the R-PP can also further enhance its description of the consultative process by showing how representation at the meetings and workshops included recognition of regional differences. For example, the actions of national, regional, and in some cases, local government institutions are significantly influenced by various state entities, particularly in relation to monitoring and enforcement of standards and regulations. The consultative process should include information to show how state responsibilities, such as those held by the Attorney General, Comptroller General, Ombudsman's office are incorporated. Including a description of this regional perspective could also be important to ensure the participation of some key stakeholder groups.

It will also be helpful to include a concise paragraph or diagram to summarize roles and responsibilities for implementation of consultation activities; the implementation schedule; and how conflict mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the consultation process.

The R-PP places a great deal of emphasis on consultations with indigenous groups, which is essential and well placed in the document. This important approach can be further strengthened by indicating that opportunities are also included for groups that are less represented at the moment. Particular attention should be given to rural farmers and colonists who may now account for more than 20% of the population of Colombia. As mentioned under Standards 1.a and 1.b, the R-PP can be further reinforced by showing how the consultation process will ensure strong regional and local participation.

The projected budget of more than US\$3 million should also suggest any financial sources that can be secured to complement the US\$1.4 million requested from the FCPF.

### Recommendations:

- Similar to the recommendations made under component 1.a and 1.b to acknowledge regional and local differences, the description of the consultation work should include a paragraph explaining how key state, municipal, and district entities are incorporated into the consultation process, and regional recognition of communities, especially in the Caribbean, Orinoco and Andes regions will be achieved.
- Identify opportunities to take advantage of existing local and regional coordination schemes in order to structure a continuous consultation process and maintain open and transparent communication channels.
- Include a table or concise summary to show the process and mechanisms used to advance consultation, such as focus groups; forums and seminars; workshops; round table meetings; and similar activities.
- Identify any activities carried out to build the capacity of stakeholder groups to participate in the REDD+ process, particularly those affecting indigenous and Afro-Colombian entities.

### Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met

### TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:

Several of the observations and recommendations included in our TAP review of May 17, 2011 have been effectively mitigated by new information included under Component 1.b in the revised R-PP. The extensive description of regional and local actors, and explanation of existing and planned consultation processes should ensure that the Colombia REDD+ strategy incorporates key state, municipal and district entities and organizations, and takes full advantage of existing local and regional coordination schemes.

Component 1.c of the revised R-PP also includes a clear and extensive outline of the methodology used to disseminate strategy information and the content of information sharing events. This new material reveals that consultation events cover the key topics pertinent to REDD+ project development, and should enhance at least cursory regional and local assessments of REDD+ opportunity costs.

Extensive new materials also provides an analysis of the relationship between human rights, collective rights, climate change, and the REDD+ strategy, with particular attention to Afro-Colombian coastal communities. A concise table summarizes the collective rights of these communities; a list of 21 conditions that should be incorporated into new agreements forged with communities; and limitations and concerns raised by communities in the consultation process.

New material also provides a thorough description of inter-sectorial agreements established with participating national agencies. Sector specific workshops were also scheduled to identify the key actors to be included, and roles and responsibilities for the development of regional and national REDD+ strategies. A detailed plan is also included for implementation of additional national, regional and locally scaled workshops and consultations with key stakeholders, including a summary of proposed methods to be used and anticipated outcomes.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Met**

## **Component 2. Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy**

### **Standard 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Forest Law, Policy, and Governance:**

*A completed assessment is presented that: identifies major land use trends; assesses direct and indirect deforestation and degradation drivers in the most relevant sectors in the context of REDD; recognizes major land tenure and natural resource rights and relevant governance issues; documents past successes and failures in implementing policies or measures for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; identifies significant gaps, challenges, and opportunities to address REDD; and sets the stage for development of the country's REDD strategy to directly address key land use change drivers.*

### **Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

#### **Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

The R-PP includes a list of the most important deforestation drivers, but acknowledges that insufficient research has been carried out to establish reliable estimates by source (agriculture, mining, infrastructure development, etc.) and region in Colombia. Unfortunately, the lack of this information limits our understanding of the significance of each threat.

The R-PP includes measures intended to eliminate this information gap, and a budget is included for providing a more thorough assessment of deforestation and degradation drivers. It will be helpful to include additional information to suggest agencies or organizations who can conduct these studies; probable indicators to be measured and methods to be used for data analysis and reporting; and how information will be disseminated and verified by stakeholders in the process. This will significantly increase the amount of work required to fulfill this component and is likely to require an increase in the proposed budget for these activities.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The approach being used can be further clarified by including a diagram or concise description to show how the development of sub-national reference scenarios supports and is linked to the national REDD+ strategy.
- Include information in the R-PP to show how data can eventually be obtained to reveal

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deforestation causes and rates by sector (agriculture, forestry, mining, hydrocarbon development, etc.), including a description of proposed methods. The analysis should also be certain to include impacts from illicit crop production.

- Include a table in the main text to summarize the known information about the drivers of deforestation, including some data that is now included in an annex to the R-PP. Organize the table to show the principal drivers and the indirect or underlying factors contributing to each driver.
- Make certain that all maps, tables, and figures are legible and easily understood, with clear and comprehensive legends.
- Prepare a revised budget that shows how funds will be allocated to administer additional research on deforestation and degradation drivers by sector, with specific information on funding requirements for compilation and analysis of existing and original (new) data; project management; and dissemination of results.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Not Met**

### **TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

The revised R-PP includes a great deal of new information that responds in several ways to the observations and recommendations included in our TAP review of May 17, 2011. The new material includes maps to help distinguish deforestation by sector, with maps included for agricultural lands; illicit crop production; mining concessions; forest reserves; protected areas and indigenous reserves. The included maps do give a broad perspective of the general geographic locations dominated by each sector. This broad perspective is further enhanced by a table summarizing the area of forest in Colombia under distinct ownership regimes, with delineations for protected areas, public forest reserves, indigenous reserves, Afro-Colombian community reserves, and civil society authorizations. Unfortunately, the scale of the maps are too large to provide a clear indication of sector-driven deforestation. As a result, this section does not yet include sufficient information to show how data will be obtained to reveal deforestation causes and rates by sector (agriculture, forestry, mining, hydrocarbon development, etc.). It particularly lacks a description of proposed methods to produce and analyze these data.

Additional data and descriptions summarize deforestation rates within 5 distinct sub-regions from 1990-2000 and again from 2000-2005. A great deal of new information presented in written and graphic format summarizes the drivers of deforestation, with a very broad suggestion of how these drivers are influenced by the distinct social and economic sectors in Colombia. This section of the document is improved, however the following recommendation from our initial TAP review can still be used to enhance the proposed strategy:

- Include information in the R-PP to show how data can eventually be obtained to reveal deforestation causes and rates by sector (agriculture, forestry, mining, hydrocarbon development, etc.), including a description of proposed methods. The analysis should also be certain to include impacts from illicit crop production.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Partially Met**

**Standard 2.b: REDD-plus strategy Options:**

*The R-PP should include: an alignment of the proposed REDD strategy with the identified drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and with existing national and sectoral strategies, and a summary of the emerging REDD strategy to the extent known presently, and of proposed analytic work (and, optionally, ToR) for assessment of the various REDD strategy options. This summary should state: how the country proposes to address deforestation and degradation drivers in the design of its REDD strategy; a plan of how to estimate cost and benefits of the emerging REDD strategy, including benefits in terms of rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and other developmental aspects; socioeconomic, political and institutional feasibility of the emerging REDD strategy; consideration of environmental and social issues; major potential synergies or inconsistencies of country sector strategies in the forest, agriculture, transport, or other sectors with the envisioned REDD strategy; and a plan of how to assess the risk of domestic leakage of greenhouse benefits. The assessments included in the R-PP eventually should result in an elaboration of a fuller, more complete and adequately vetted REDD strategy over time.*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

As mentioned under Standard 2.a, the R-PP identifies the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and proposes broad strategies to minimize, avoid, or mitigate them. The R-PP can be strengthened by adding more information to demonstrate the social, political and institutional feasibility of the proposed strategy. The component should also clarify how the country plans to perform an analysis of benefits and costs of each strategy option. This clarity of this section of the document can also be improved with a diagram, table or concise description to show how the five strategy options are linked, and how each responds to the drivers of deforestation (and incorporates indirect drivers). Fire control and prevention are critical elements in the proposed strategy, and the document will benefit from a table showing a more thorough description of the measures to be used, including mechanical, silvicultural, education, and others.

The GoC's current environmental and agricultural policies include mention of measures intended to mitigate or avoid the effects of deforestation and forest conversions. The R-PP can be reinforced by including a concise paragraph or diagram to show how the proposed REDD+ strategy can be linked and harmonized with these existing policies and regulations. For example, local level zoning plans produced by municipalities and districts may include information on the areas allocated for development of hydrocarbons, biofuels, and infrastructure in forested regions, and this information can provide important guidance to the R-PP as it plans more detailed assessments of deforestation and degradation drivers.

It may also be useful to include a concise assessment of the effectiveness of these policies and opportunities to strengthen them, since some existing GoC, NGO, or private sector programs are potentially exacerbating deforestation threats. For example, The aims and purposes of the National Development Plan include the transfer of public lands for agricultural production (1 million ha), increasing the road network (740 km), increased production oil (1.4 barrels/day), increased coal production (124 million tons annually) and increased gold production (72 tons). In this same context, the R-PP can indicate how illicit crop production, a significant agent in deforestation and land degradation in Colombia, will be incorporated into the proposed strategy.

Colombia is now a party to several important international agreements on deforestation and degradation, and the R-PP should identify those relevant to the strategy in a table or concise paragraph. For example, Colombia has signed the Copenhagen Political Agreement reached at the Council of Parties (COP) 15 meeting in December 2010. This agreement commits each signer to produce a measurable set of mitigation actions to reduce deforestation and degradation to the Climate Change Secretariat. Similarly, on August 2, 2010, the Colombian Foreign Ministry submitted five nationally mitigation measures appropriate, included "Reducing deforestation in the Colombian Amazon to zero for the 2020".

This section of the document also needs a clear budget summary. It may be necessary to increase the proposed budget for this component in order to provide sufficient funds for additional data collection, analysis, information dissemination, and policy analysis.

**Recommendations:**

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- Include a table to show specific strategy objectives; the activities to be carried out under each strategy objective; results to be achieved; and potential implementation constraints.
- Include information on existing international agreements on deforestation and degradation to which Colombia is now a party.
- Identify maps that can be produced to show geographic distribution of deforestation patterns by source.
- Include a distinct budget for this component showing the amount of funding required, and how funds will be allocated.
- Include a summary of measures, other than simply reducing deforestation, that will be included in the REDD+ strategy to enhance forest conservation, such as biodiversity offsets and banking and reforestation.
- Indicate the measures to be carried out in distinct regions, taking into consideration the different land use dynamics in each region and the deforestation and degradation projections at a sub-national level.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Not Met**

### **TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

The revised R-PP includes extensive new information that corresponds well to the observations and recommendations included in our TAP review of May 17, 2011. For example, a detailed list of 7 objectives now introduces this section of the document, with some indication of results to be achieved and potential implementation obstacles. An excellent and very detailed table now describes measures to be implemented over the short, medium and long-term to respond to the drivers of deforestation by specific sector. This extensive description also includes some mention of actions other than simply reducing deforestation, that can be included in the REDD+ strategy, although it will be helpful to expand the range of options beyond what is now included in this revised R-PP. It may also be useful to expand this table to show how these measures can, in turn, be applied regionally as well as by sector.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Met**

### **Standard 2.c: REDD-plus implementation framework:**

*Describes activities (and optionally provides ToR in an annex) and a work plan to further elaborate institutional arrangements and issues relevant to REDD-plus in the country setting. Identifies key issues involved in REDD-plus implementation, and explores potential arrangements to address them; offers a work plan that seems likely to allow their full evaluation and adequate incorporation into the eventual Readiness Package. Key issues are likely to include: assessing land ownership and carbon rights for potential REDD-plus strategy activities and lands; addressing key governance concerns related to REDD-plus; and institutional arrangements needed to engage in and track REDD-plus activities and transactions.*

### **Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

#### **Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

Components 2.b and 2.c are combined in the R-PP, and a separate section for Component 2.c is not available in the document. The TAP review team thus derived its assessment of Component 2.c through an analysis of information included under Component 2.b.

Similar to the assessment offered for Standards 2.a and 2.b, the R-PP includes information to broadly identify the issues relevant to the management and administration of forest resources and ecosystem

services. However, it will be important for the document to add more details to describe the institutional framework that will be used to carry out these broad ambitions. In particular, the R-PP can identify and assign roles and responsibilities to specific institutions, and include as an annex a work plan describing specific actions to be carried out, management and administrative responsibilities, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting protocol. Similar to standard 2.b, It may be necessary to increase the proposed budget for this component in order to provide sufficient funds for additional data collection, analysis, information dissemination, and policy analysis.

**Recommendations:**

- Describe the mechanisms to be used to institutionalize the proposed strategies and recommendations within existing ministries and sectors.
- Include a table or an annex to the document to show a work plan describing specific actions proposed to fulfill this standard, methods to be used to implement these actions, management and administrative responsibilities, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting protocol.
- Include a detailed budget for this component showing the amount of funding required, and how funds will be allocated.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Not Met**

**TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

Components 2.b and 2.c are combined in the revised R-PP, and a separate section for Component 2.c is not available in the document. The TAP review team once again derived its assessment of Component 2.c through an analysis of information included under Component 2.b.

Responses to many of the observations and recommendations recorded in our TAP review of May 17, 2011 have been satisfactorily included in the information presented under Component 2.b. However, the detailed table describing measures to be implemented over the short, medium and long-term to respond to the drivers of deforestation by specific sector does not fully meet the request to produce a work plan to fulfill this standard. It is further recommended that a work plan describing management and administrative responsibilities for the implementation of the comprehensive REDD+ strategy be included as an annex to the R-PP.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Largely Met**

**Standard 2.d: Social and Environmental Impacts during Readiness Preparation and REDD-plus Implementation:**

*The proposal includes a program of work for due diligence for strategic environmental and social impact assessment in compliance with the World Bank's or UN-REDD Programme's safeguard policies, including methods to evaluate how to address those impacts via studies, consultations, and specific mitigation measures aimed at preventing or minimizing adverse effects. For countries receiving funding via the World Bank, a simple work plan is presented for how the SESA process will be followed, and for preparation of the ESMF.*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

The R-PP provides a clear description to show how the proposed strategy will respond to the principle components of a World Bank SESA, and points out that a more detailed SESA proposal will be prepared based on the results from a fully completed stakeholder consultation process. The R-PP can be further reinforced

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by adding a concise description of the process that will be used to carry out the SESA, including the institutions involved, roles and responsibilities, and outputs to be produced.

The R-PP can be further strengthened by including a table to summarize the key social and environmental issues that have already been identified in the consultation process. The document should also describe the social and environmental review process that will be used for sub-national projects.

It will also be helpful to include a more detailed description of how the SESA components will account for the significant biological, social, cultural, and economic diversity of Colombia. For example, existing GoC legislation does not include provisions that correspond to World Bank guidelines for indigenous communities. The description of the contents of the proposed SESA should provide more detail to show how the social and environmental impact analysis process will be adapted in Colombia to compensate for these gaps and ensure full compliance.

### Recommendations:

- Include a table or an annex to the document to show a more detailed work plan for completing the SESA process, including specific objectives; the activities to be carried out under each strategy objective; results to be achieved; and potential implementation constraints.
- Provide a concise description of the process that will be used to carry out the SESA
- Describe how the proposed REDD+ strategy will be linked and harmonized with existing policies and regulations to mitigate or avoid forest conversions, and provide an assessment of the effectiveness of these policies and opportunities to strengthen them.
- Describe how the results from the assessment and monitoring of potential multiple benefits (Standard 4.b) will be linked with the preparation of the SESA
- Revise the existing budget for this component showing the amount of funding required, and how funds will be allocated.

### Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met

### TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:

A great deal of new information has been included in the revised R-PP adding considerable detail on the approach to be used to assess social and environmental impacts during readiness preparation, including methods for assessing ways to respond to impacts through studies, consultations, and mitigation measures to prevent or minimize adverse effects. However, there is still a lack of a clear work plan for completing the SESA process. It will also be important to include more specific indicators to be used to measure social and environmental impacts and an indication of how the indicators will be measured. This section of the R-PP will also benefit from additional information to show how the proposed strategy will be linked and harmonized with existing policies and regulations.

### Revised Conclusion: Standard Largely Met

### Component 3. Develop a Reference Level

#### Standard 3: Reference Level:

*Present work plan for how the reference level for deforestation, forest degradation (if desired), conservation, sustainable management of forest, and enhancement of carbon stocks will be developed. Include early ideas on a process for determining which approach and methods to use (e.g., forest cover change and GHG emissions based on historical trends, and/or projections into the future of historical trend data; combination of inventory and/or remote sensing, and/or GIS or modeling), major data requirements, and current capacity and capacity requirements. Assess linkages to components 2a (assessment of deforestation drivers), 2b (REDD-plus strategy activities), and 4 (MRV system design).*

*(FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a stepwise approach may be useful. This component states what early activities are proposed.)*

#### Tap Assessment May 17, 2011

This component of the R-PP includes a useful summary of proposed actions that will work at a sub-national level to produce the necessary reference levels. This work will be followed with more comprehensive aggregation at a national level to provide overall coherence to the estimations. Five sub-national areas are identified and the reference level for each will be determined in accordance with IPCC guidelines. A second step will calculate the reference scenarios of deforestation in the five sub-national areas (calculated on a conservative basis and based on the IPCC guidelines), showing regional patterns of deforestation in the past and projecting potential future trends. A subsequent third step is then proposed as soon as greater clarity is provided from the UNFCCC on how to complete the national reference level assessment. It will be important to include additional information to explain how this phased approach will accomplish the goal of developing a reference level.

The R-PP also includes important information to recognize activities related to voluntary markets that are allowing the communities and institutions to “learn by doing”, and ensures a mechanism to avoid double accounting for the implementation of REDD+ projects. Colombia is developing a process by which projects will be registered at the national level, and the results from this work will support lessons learned from sub-national projects.

The R-PP makes some reference to existing data that can support this analysis. However, additional data will be needed to illustrate national scale estimates of forest biomass and carbon content by forest type. The R-PP includes estimates of carbon stocks, but there is insufficient information to determine how these estimates were derived or how to interpret the results. Some additional information should be presented in relation to confidence intervals, and to show how the total uncertainty estimate was derived. Also, this section of the document should again summarize the drivers or agents of deforestation, including underlying factors, and show how information on the drivers will be used to establish the reference level (e.g, how they affect the change in carbon stocks in the various pools).

Perhaps most importantly, the R-PP will benefit from a clear definition of “forest” and the criteria to define “forest degradation”.

The R-PP also should include a concise description of the methods to be used to ensure standardization at each step (e.g., the standards to be used; methods and protocols to be applied, data pools to be included, etc). Any models that will be used to predict future change should also be described, including mention of required data inputs and anticipated sources of data in cases where significant gaps now exist. It will also be important to include a table of concise description of the institutional roles and responsibilities to produce the reference level; capacity building needs for each institution; and proposed timing or schedule for each stage.

The document mentions degradation, but will need to include a concise description of the causes (e.g., timber extraction, fire, infrastructure development, etc.), and a description of the measures that are proposed to minimize or mitigate degradation.

The R-PP should also be certain to include a diagram or concise description of the sectors (government, NGO, civil society, business) that are responsible for deforestation and forest degradation in Colombia. For

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example, more attention should perhaps be given to the mining and agricultural sectors.

The R-PP includes a wealth of technical information on remote sensing analyses and estimates of carbon stocks in forests. This information can be significantly reinforced with additional information included as an annex to the document to show the carbon pools used to produce these estimates; methods used; and how these data will be used to support the overall plan.

It may be helpful to review the UNFCCC documents from COP15 on the preparation of national reference levels to obtain guidance on how to incorporate historic emissions and national circumstances, and to show a logical description of the parameters to be used, data sources, methodologies, and steps to be carried out to produce the reference level.

### Recommendations:

- Provide a definition of forest and forest degradation
- Include a table or an annex to show a work plan for establishing the national reference level, including activities and results to be achieved. The work plan should identify the lead institution responsible for carrying out the reference level research, and describe the roles and responsibilities to be assigned to other participating institutions and groups.
- Provide a diagram or cite an annex that describes the specific methods to be used to establish the national reference level (historical baseline, deforestation projections, etc.) and steps carried out to implement these methods.
- Describe the methods used to calculate carbon stocks, and explain how to interpret the results (e.g., do results reflect confidence limits, etc.).
- Include a table showing the complete results from calculations of forest conversion to other uses, with reference to existing national scale data previously compiled and analyzed for Colombia.
- The GoC may wish to review the approaches used in other R-PPs to meet this standard. The R-PPs approved for Kenya and Cambodia could serve as good examples. These R-PPs are available at FCPF website.

### Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met

#### TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:

The revised version of the R-PP notes that additional information is still needed in order to complete the reference level estimates for all Colombian forests. However, the revised R-PP identifies information sources and provides data for almost all forest types found in Colombia, including average numbers and confidence intervals. The document also notes that estimates of carbon stocks are still coarse and that more accurate information is still being collected from studies that have been completed by academic institutions, NGOs and other institutions.

The revised R-PP adopts an international definition of forests derived from the IPCC Task Force on Greenhouse Gas Inventories (“Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry”, 2003), but it has not included a specific definition for “forest degradation”.

Some inconsistencies are also evident in this new version. For example, the text on page 97 proposes to estimate forest cover, with a medium resolution scale, over periods of 4 years. However, the same activity is represented in Figure 3.1 for intervals of two years. It will be important to review the document thoroughly to correct this and any other inconsistencies.

The material describing the methodology for monitoring deforestation and forest cover at the national level, including Figure 3.1, should be moved to the section describing Component 4.a, since this information pertains more specifically to the establishment of MRV as a baseline.

The R-PP still lacks a clear analysis of needs and opportunities for capacity building to strengthen the

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viability of the proposed REDD+ strategy. The document does not identify who is most in need of capacity building, what should specifically be strengthened, or how this capacity building can be carried out.

The work plan included in the revised version identifies the need to clearly define the roles of each institution involved in establishing the reference level, and indicates that these roles will be elaborated as the project is implemented. However, it will be helpful to provide additional information here that will enable potential participants to understand the functions that will be expected of them.

Recommendations: the following recommendations from the May 17, 2011 TAP remain in effect, along with one additional recommendation -

- Provide a definition of “forest” and “forest degradation” that is specific to conditions in Colombia.
- Include a table or an annex to show a work plan for establishing the national reference level, including activities and results to be achieved. The work plan should identify the lead institution responsible for carrying out the reference level research, and describe the roles and responsibilities to be assigned to other participating institutions and groups.
- Provide a diagram or cite an annex that describes the specific methods to be used to establish the national reference level (historical baseline, deforestation projections, etc.) and steps carried out to implement these methods.
- Include a table showing the complete results from calculations of forest conversion to other uses, with reference to existing national scale data previously compiled and analyzed for Colombia.
- Explain with some detail the participation and roles of the institutions involved in the development of the reference level
- Provide more detail about capacity building measures to be carried out, including training events, equipment and identification of the institutions/communities to benefit.
- The GoC may wish to review the approaches used in other R-PPs to meet this standard. The R-PPs approved for Kenya and Cambodia could serve as good examples. These R-PPs are available at FCPF website.

Revised Conclusion: **Standard Partially Met**

### **Component 4. Design a Monitoring System**

#### **Standard 4a: Emissions and Removals:**

*The R-PP provides a proposal and work plan for the initial design, on a stepwise basis, of an integrated monitoring system of measurement, reporting and verification of changes in deforestation and/or forest degradation, and forest enhancement activities. The system design should include early ideas on enhancing country capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities) to monitor emissions reductions and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, and to assess the impacts of the REDD strategy in the forest sector.*

*The R-PP should describe major data requirements, capacity requirements, how transparency of the monitoring system and data will be addressed, early ideas on which methods to use, and how the system would engage participatory approaches to monitoring by forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers. It should also address independent monitoring and review, involving civil society and other stakeholders, and how findings would be fed back to improve REDD-plus implementation. The proposal should present early ideas on how the system could evolve into a mature REDD-plus monitoring system with the full set of capabilities.*

*(FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a staged approach may be useful. The R-PP states what early activities are proposed.)*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-Plan meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

The R-PP includes 10 steps that will be carried out to design and implement a monitoring plan. The 10-step process is clearly described and provides a good logical framework to proceed towards the development of monitoring protocol. This information can be further enhanced with a concise explanation to show how these steps will result in a more comprehensive, efficient and effective national monitoring-reporting-verification (MRV) program. The R-PP should also identify the institutions responsible for implementation and management of MRV, and indicate which institution will take lead and oversee this process.

The MRV system will add to the transparency of the REDD+ strategy, and the R-PP can include an explanation of how MRV results will be disseminated among stakeholder groups through the consultation process, and used to support the preparation of the SESA and related activities.

The proposed 10-step process also includes several points in need of greater clarification. For one, the establishment of permanent plots will aim to produce tier 3 results in the medium and long term. The R-PP also states that the GoC will establish permanent field plots to support monitoring work, and mentions the possible use of emerging remote sensing technologies, such as Lidar and Radar. The value of this investment can be strengthened with a concise benefit-cost assessment of this proposed approach, if such data and estimates are currently available.

The document should also add information to clarify the role of degradation in the national monitoring plan. If information on degradation will be included then additional information on the causes, including indirect factors, should be added in a table or concise paragraph. It will also be important to state the significance of degradation in establishing the reference level in order to determine how to best incorporate these factors in the monitoring plan.

The proposed MRV process can be further enhanced by incorporating stakeholder groups in data collection, analysis, and application, as well as in the financing of MRV activities. This will create opportunities to build local capacity, and could ultimately reduce costs. Rural and indigenous communities, in particular, can participate in data collection and analysis.

The R-PP does indicate that the GoC is already participating in a demonstration initiative with Mexico and Peru to collaboratively design a common monitoring system. This process should provide important lessons to guide the development of a more detailed MRV program, and significantly accelerate the process.

**Recommendations:**

- Include a table to show a more detailed work plan for completing the MRV process, including specific objectives; the activities to be carried out under each strategy objective; results to be achieved; and potential implementation constraints. The work plan should identify the lead institution responsible for implementation and management of MRV and describe the roles and responsibilities to be assigned to other participating institutions and groups.
- Add information to describe how the proposed monitoring work will be linked technically and institutionally to the national REDD+ strategy, and to show how estimates of forest degradation will be included into MRV.
- Include a table or diagram to show how MRV results will be disseminated among stakeholder groups, and used to guide REDD+ strategy planning and decision-making.
- Provide at least a brief overview of current policy developments in the forestry, energy and mineral sectors that will affect the monitoring of deforestation and degradation rates and trends.
- Describe activities to be carried out to delineate reporting and verification systems, with specific attention given to show how these systems will improve transparency and stakeholder engagement in the MRV process.

**Initial Conclusion, first TAP Review: Standard not Met**

**TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

The revised R-PP includes new material to reinforce the information included in the original document. However, the new material does not specifically respond to the observations and recommendations raised in our TAP assessment of May 17, 2011. The R-PP still lacks a clear work plan for the design of the monitoring plan. Although, some new information is included to generally describe some institutions to be engaged in the monitoring plan, there is still a lack of information will be linked to the national REDD+ strategy, and to show how estimates of forest degradation will be included in MRV.

The new material does indicate an increased role for indigenous groups in the MRV process. However, the role that these groups will play and the responsibilities they will hold remains unclear.

As a result, the recommendations offered in the May 17, 2011 TAP review remain relevant, and should continue to guide further developments of the R-PP.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Not Met**

**Standard 4b: Other Multiple Benefits, Impacts, and Governance:**

*The R-PP provides a proposal for the initial design and a work plan, including early ideas on capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities), for an integrated monitoring system that includes addressing other multiple benefits, impacts, and governance. Such benefits may include, e.g., rural livelihoods, conservation of biodiversity, key governance factors directly pertinent to REDD-plus implementation in the country.*

*(The FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a staged approach may be useful. The R-PP states what early activities are proposed.)*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-Plan meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

This section of the R-PP provides a good assessment of the important environmental and socio-economic services provided by forest ecosystems, and underscores the globally significant biodiversity values inherent in Colombia's forest regions. The development of a set of indicators and methods to estimate potential benefits from ecosystem services, in particular, is proposed and institutional arrangements to support this process are identified. This proposed process should be further reinforced by including additional information to suggest strategies for data collection, validation, information dissemination, and possible revenue streams or other benefits that can be derived. It would be helpful to include a table suggesting the types of indicators that have been developed and how they may be monitored as part of the implementation of REDD+.

The R-PP should mention or cite results from work in this area that has already been carried out by NGOs and research scientists to estimate potential socio-economic and environmental benefits in Colombia's forests, including qualitative or quantitative estimates of potential revenue streams that may be derived through improved conservation and other actions that may be associated with the implementation of the proposed REDD+ strategy.

**Recommendations:**

- Include a table, diagram or similar matrix to show a more complete range of benefits that can accrue from the proposed REDD+ strategy for improved livelihoods, conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem dynamics; and enhanced governance of natural and cultural resources.
- Provide more detailed description of the proposed indicators to track the social, economic and environmental impacts from the REDD+ strategy, and the proposed methods to be used to track and analyze potential benefits.
- Describe how the results will be used to strengthen overall transparency in the REDD+ strategy, and

support the SESA process.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met**

**TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

No new material has been included in the revised R-PP to specifically respond to the observations and recommendations offered in the May 17, 2011 TAP review. As a result, the recommendations offered in the May 17, 2011 TAP review remain relevant, and should continue to guide further developments of the R-PP.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Partially Met**

#### **Component 5. Schedule and Budget**

##### **Standard 5: Completeness of information and resource requirements**

*The R-PP proposes a full suite of activities to achieve REDD readiness, and identifies capacity building and financial resources needed to accomplish these activities. A budget and schedule for funding and technical support requested from the FCPF and/or UN-REDD, as well as from other international sources (e.g., bilateral assistance), are summarized by year and by potential donor. The information presented reflects the priorities in the R-PP, and is sufficient to meet the costs associated with REDD-plus readiness activities identified in the R-PP. Any gaps in funding, or sources of funding, are clearly noted.*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

An extensive set of tables is included in the R-PP outlining proposed costs for items associated with activities pertaining to standards 1-4. The report can also add a schedule for delivery of the proposed line items, and information to show how the proposed budgets will be administered and monitored. The line items included in each table also appear to reflect only a portion of the activities expected to be included in each component of the REDD+ strategy, thus providing an incomplete picture of the distribution of costs.

This section of the R-PP may also want to include a concise statement to show how the scheduling and budget process will contribute to improved project transparency in component 6. [[moved to component 6]]

**Recommendations:**

- Expand the list of line item parameters included in the existing tables to show a more complete description of the range of costs associated with each component.
- Include a description of how the individual budgets will be linked and coordinated in order to ensure the delivery of fluid and transparent REDD+ activities.
- Include a total aggregate budget for all components, and include a description of how the cumulative project delivery will be mutually supported and reinforced by linking the various components.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met**

**TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

An additional table has been included in the revised R-PP providing an aggregate budget for all components. The line item parameters have been expanded to provide a more thorough understanding of the full range of activities and materials required to implement the R-PP. However, no additional changes are noted for this section of the document. As a result, the recommendations offered in the May 17, 2011 TAP review remain relevant, and should continue to guide further developments of the R-PP.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Partially Met**

**Component 6. Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

**Standard 6:** *The R-PP adequately describes the indicators that will be used to monitor program performance of the Readiness process and R-PP activities, and to identify in a timely manner any shortfalls in performance timing or quality. The R-PP demonstrates that the framework will assist in transparent management of financial and other resources, to meet the activity schedule.*

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Tap Assessment May 17, 2011**

The R-PP indicates that that this component of the document is still in a preliminary state of development. The document does provide an outline of the approach to be used to develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework. Additional information can also be provided on baselines that will be used to identify and adapt to changes over time and ensure compliance with each standard.

It would be helpful to include a table suggesting the types of indicators that have been developed or are being considered, possible methods to be used to carry out the monitoring, and how stakeholder groups will be engaged in the monitoring and evaluation of project implementation.

The document should also include a table or simple diagram to indicate the institutions to oversee and carry out M&E activities. Tables can also summarize any proposed training and capacity building activities; and measures to be used to ensure independent verification of results

**Recommendations:**

- Produce a diagram or table to show the proposed institutional framework for independent monitoring and feedback.
- Provide a draft outline or a proposed plan to develop during the R-PP implementation process, possible performance indicators and baselines that can form the foundation of the proposed M&E system, for example a S.M.A.R.T. (specific-measurable-attainable-relevant-time bound) set.
- Use the schedule and budget to show how the scheduling and budget process will contribute to improved project transparency, and how stakeholder groups will be engaged in the monitoring and evaluation of project implementation.

**Initial Conclusion, First TAP Review: Standard Partially Met**

**TAP Assessment of Revised R-PP June 3, 2011:**

No new information on the program monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework has been included in the revised R-PP. The R-PP continues to propose a more thorough development of the M&E framework at a later date when more reliable data may be available. As a result, the recommendations offered in the May 17, 2011 TAP review remain relevant, and should continue to guide further developments of the R-PP.

**Revised Conclusion: Standard Partially Met**