



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Honduras

for the period 1 January –  
31 December 2014

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United Nations Development  
Programme

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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Transfer Agreement was signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

The report has been prepared by UNDP and solely reflects the perspectives of UNDP as a Delivery Partner.

## Summary

Country:	Honduras
Project Title:	Apoyo a la preparación para la Reducción de las Emisiones Debidas a la Deforestación y la Degradación Forestal (REDD+) en Honduras
Implementing Partners:	Secretaría de Energía; Recursos Naturales; Ambiente y Minas (SERNA)
Responsible Parties:	Confederación de Pueblos Autóctonos de Honduras (CONPAH)  Mesas Indígenas y Afrohondureñas de Cambio Climático (MIACC)  UNDP
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	PC/14/2013/5	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	\$200,000    22 Oct 2013
			\$3,600,000    8 July 2014
Preparatory Grant		Inception Phase	Launch: 25 Sept 2014
			PMU Staffed: 15 Nov 2014
			First Board Meeting: 28 Nov 2014
Project Appraisal Committee	23 May 2014	Mid-term Review	
Project Signature	28 May 2014	No-Cost Extension:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Duration of Project	3 years	New End Date:	

## 2014 Results

Institutional reform followed the installation of the new Government Cabinet in 2014. As a result, SERNA and the Forestry Conservation Institute (ICF) were integrated, in what is called today MiAmbiente. This reform also included the implementation of a “programmatic approach”, under which a “project coordination office” was set up. This office is responsible for the coordination and the alignment of all environment cooperation programmes towards the national development plan. This approach helps better coordination among REDD+ readiness initiatives, as they have a common platform to interact with GoH counterparts and focal points.

Under request from the Government of Honduras (GoH) the project included an activity intended to create and maintain a coordination platform for the REDD+ readiness initiatives in the country. The first meeting to launch this platform took place in early 2015. It was agreed that the platform will be coordinated by the GoH through the Natural Resources Secretariat’s (SERNA) international cooperation office.

### **a. Progress on how the project activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives, included those funded by others.**

The main GoH’s partners have been identified during the design of the FCPF project. Those partners currently active in Honduras are: GiZ, USAID, IUCN, UN-REDD, and FCPF. During the FCPF project design, consultations were conducted with those partners in order to assess the potential niches and gaps that could be covered by FCPF activities against Honduras’ R-PP. As a result, FCPF activities were designed in a way that adds to the progress achieved or planned by the GoH with support of those partners<sup>1</sup>. The same approach was used to coordinate the design of the USD 3,6 million UN-REDD National Programme.

### **b. Important changes in the technical design or approach related to the project activities**

Activities and results related to the work on REDD+ safeguards were kept broad. This approach was necessary as the expected results from the support of other cooperation programmes working on that topic were not clear at the time of designing the FCPF project. Those results are clearer now, and whether there is a need to make a reference related to a change in the design of the FCPF in this topic or not, is a decision that will be considered by the Project Board, under advice from the PMU and UNDP.

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<sup>1</sup> An example of this is the development of the Forest Reference Emissions Level / Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL). This work has been supported in Honduras with funds from GiZ and USAID mainly, each of them working in a different sub-region of the country. The GoH with support from FCPF funding will revise the technical protocols of that work, and propose changes in order to make it more compatible with UNFCCC guidelines if necessary. In addition, FCPF will provide funds to include new satellite data series for assessing deforestation and further development of the FREL/FRL.

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## 1. In Focus

Following agreement on the Warsaw framework, UNDP support is mapped below as per its contribution to country progress against elements of the UNFCCC's four Warsaw pillars.<sup>2</sup>

### **National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan**

- Programming of the FCPF project in Honduras included three sets of activities that are intended to develop what is called: "National Strategy to reduce deforestation in the context of REDD+" (REDD+ NS). First, capacity development and stakeholder engagement aimed at facilitating the generation and integration of inputs in the REDD+ NS. Second, generation of technical analysis to be used as a basis to identify/design and prioritize REDD+ Policies and Measures (PaMs). And third, integration of inputs, processing, and development of the REDD+ NS.
- With advanced resources transferred to Honduras in 2013 and during 2014, some activities from the first set were executed. An Institutional Context Assessment, an analysis of the needs for setting up a grievance mechanism, and the facilitation of a political dialogue with IPs have set an initial ground for the stakeholder engagement process in the country.

### **Forest reference emission level (FREL) / forest reference level (FRL)**

- The project design has included activities intended to complete satellite data so a FREL including 2015 information can be finalized.
- Other FREL activities include revision of the technical protocols developed in the country for sub-national FRELs (supported by others – GiZ and USAID), and proposal of changes in order to make it more compatible with UNFCCC guidelines if necessary. FCPF will finance the process in Honduras for the development of a deforestation-FREL that covers the national level.
- Other partners working on this issue have been contacted by the PMU. A work plan that take their progresses into account is being developed. The technical staff at MiAmbiente has been engaged in collecting all the available information.

### **National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)**

- The FCPF project in Honduras has been designed to strengthen the technical capacities at MiAmbiente for: (1) using satellite information to quantify activity data; (2) estimating emission factors; (3) assessing emissions from deforestation; and (4) revising the corresponding technical protocols. Other activities are intended to enhance the technical capacities of the Forest Monitoring National Group and IP's representatives more broadly on forestry issues.
- The following information has been collected by the PMU and MiAmbiente to start the process of supporting the revision of the technical protocols: land use cover maps, national forest inventory data, allometric equation studies in the country, and the Forest Monitoring Unit creation legal base.

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<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 71 of the UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16 requests countries to have the following elements in place for REDD+ implementation and to access results-based payments / results-based finance. The four elements requested by this paragraph are 1) A national strategy or action plan; 2) A forest reference emission level (FREL) of forest reference level (FRL); 3) A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of the five REDD+ activities; and 4) a safeguard information system (SIS).

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### **Safeguard Information System (SIS)**

- Following consultations with other cooperation programmes that support the readiness phase in Honduras, it has been agreed that the FCPF project will contribute on the design of the SIS.
- Over 170 representatives from GoH, CSOs, and IPs have participated in training events on safeguards, FPIC (also with support from ILO and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), and the SESA process. Those events have been developed with a view to prepare the ground for the design of the SIS, as well as for conducting SESA (which is expected to provide inputs for the SIS). On SESA, the process to map out REDD+ stakeholders has been initiated.

### **2. Risks, issues and responses**

Two main concerns have been considered during this period. Political willingness from IPs to engage in the process was addressed by facilitation of a political dialogue between the GoH and IPs leaders (see section on social and environmental issues), which resulted in a positive response from the main IPs national organization to engage in the design and implementation of the project. Ability to set up a solid PMU was addressed by recruiting staff with capacities related but not specific to REDD+, followed by capacity building and technical backstopping, as well as setting up an administrative unit within MiAmbiente with proved experience in managing UNDP programmes and projects.

### **3. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project.**

- Several training sessions have been conducted with the PMU in order to expedite the quick beginning of the project implementation. Topics covered included climate change mitigation, REDD+, the readiness phase (including the four Cancun pillars), and administrative management (financial arrangements and procurement).
- UNDP has been supporting the development of key roadmaps using the work plan as a basis. Up until to December 2014, the emphasis has been on the REDD+ NS process, including stakeholder engagement as a sub-process. SESA has been also covered as part of the REDD+ NS process. This support is intended to provide guidance to the PMU, without being prescriptive, and is being constantly revised.
- A grant agreement has been signed between UNDP Honduras and the National Confederation of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Hondurans (CONPAH) under request of the Project Board in the context of this project, in order to facilitate its institutional strengthening.
- Under request from MiAmbiente and CONPAH, training events to key stakeholders have prioritized topics such as: safeguards, FPIC, and SESA. More than 170 representatives from GoH, CSOs, and IPs participated in training events conducted at the national level. Further capacity building events on these topics and others will be conducted at the sub-national level.

### **4. Progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?**

The REDD+ readiness process in Honduras has required an important coordination effort between the GoH and IPs leaders. This process started in 2012 and ended with the adoption of a 15 point agreement in 2013. That agreement signed by CONPAH's President and four secretaries of State in Honduras, cover

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some points which go beyond REDD+, but set the ground to allow a dialogue and participatory process in the context of REDD+ readiness.

The design of the FCPF project benefited from a participatory process, including a delegation of IPs representatives on the round table for the project design. Coordination with IPs continues under the Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Roundtable on Climate Change (MIACC); a space created in the context of the agreement between the GoH and CONPAH. The UN-REDD Programme will complete these efforts to ensure a participatory process by allocating resources for capacity development and fostering participatory spaces with other non-indigenous forest dependent communities in the country and other relevant stakeholders.

Regarding the respect of IPs rights, the Project has committed resources to facilitate the consultation of a FPIC/consultation policy instrument. This is one of the 15 points agreed between the GoH and IPs leaders, which has been requested by IPs to be considered as a pre-requisite before they sit on the table to further work on REDD+ readiness.

Developing the SESA has been contemplated as part of the project implementation. It will be conducted as part of the REDD+ NS development process. The ESMF is viewed as another source of input information that will need to be considered at the time of developing and prioritizing REDD+ PaMs. Capacity building on SESA to the PMU was followed by the initiation of the first step in the SESA process towards the end of 2014 (mapping out REDD+ stakeholders).

#### **5. Progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the FGRM, related to this project**

Regarding stakeholder participation the Project will implement specific activities. From political dialogues for motivating political momentum to developing a plan for consultation on PaMs and other activities to be executed as part of the Project, or potentially in the context of REDD+ implementation.

Participation of stakeholders will happen by using the existing relevant platforms, namely the REDD+ Sub-Committee, which is part of the Inter-institutional Committee on Climate Change (CICC). Those platform combines CSOs, as well as GoH's representatives. IPs for the moment prefer to use the MIACC; however, linkages with the REDD+ Sub-Committee are expected. Capacity development and the implementation of a communications plan on REDD+ are important elements of this process, for which the same platforms will be used.

UNDP advanced resources from the Project to facilitate preliminary work on FGRM in 2013. A diagnosis of the needs, policy framework, and institutions related to FGRM was done and specific recommendations were put forward. Some of those recommendations are part of the Project implementation with a view of setting up a robust FGRM. MiAmbiente and the National Directorate on Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Honduran Affairs (DINAFRO) are the national entities that will lead this work.

Relevant information has been temporarily published at the UNDP Country Office's website (available [here](#)). Following the institutional reform at MiAmbiente, the corporate image has changed, therefore, other information produced during the course of the Project implementation is being edited and will be available soon at MiAmbiente's website.

## 6. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2014)	Year 2 (2015)	Year 3 (2016)	Year 4 (2017)
Number of institutions represented in steering committee	4			
Number of women represented in steering committee	1			
Number of civil society organizations engaged in different aspects of the project (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 engaged in implementation</li> <li>• 8 engaged on capacity development</li> </ul>			
Number of people trained on REDD+, climate change, and related topics (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	170 (60% men / 40% women approx.)			
Number of people trained on the four WF elements (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	59 + PMU			
Number of national consultation workshops held	None			
Number of CSOs trained on REDD+ and climate change	6			
Number of information notes produced	4			
Number of people actively engaged in advising on the development of the national strategy	None (not formally started)			



## 7. Financial Delivery

The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the R-PP implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS				
OUTPUTS	Amount Transferred by UNDP	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2014		
		Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
				(D) = B + C
Formulacion de Proyecto	183'350	0.00	163'803.31	163'803.31
OUTPUT 1 - Estrategia Nacional REDD+, consensuada con los actores claves	2'472'650	0.00	236'801.56	236'801.56
OUTPUT 2 - Marco habilitador para implementar la Estrategia Nacional REDD+	1'144'000	0.00	35'252.68	35'252.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>3'800'000</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>435'857.55</b>	<b>435'857.55</b>

8. Picture and caption



Project Launch, Tegucigalpa, September 2014



Minister José Galdamez (MiAmbiente) at FPIC event, Tegucigalpa, September 2014