

TAP's Summary Report - Nicaragua

FCPF External Technical Advisory Panel

June 27-29, 2012 12th FCPF Participants Committee Meeting Santa Marta, Colombia TAP team: Stephen Cobb and Tomás Schlichter

General aspects

- Nicaragua submitted the 4th version of its RPP at the end of May 2012. The new document presents substantial improvements, including many of the recommendations made by the TAP.
- REDD+ is considered as part of a wider national strategy to avoid deforestation, which includes various environmental and socioeconomic aspects, such as adaptation to climate change, development of agroforestry systems and agro-ecology.
- The document has a lot of valuable information including sub-national deforestation rates and the potential of different forest regions to participate in the REDD+ process.

Strengths of the Nicaragua R-PP

- The document recognizes the need to extend consultation processes to a wide range of institutions and organizations, including those which are responsible for most of the deforestation, such as farmers and cattle-ranchers. This dialogue will improve the probability of decreasing the rates of forest conversion.
- The Government of Nicaragua recognizes the importance of Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- Drivers of deforestation, including government policies, are properly identified and, in many cases, carefully described.

The R-PP includes relevant strategic options to diminish the rates of deforestation, consisting of new incentives, land tenure policies, law enforcement, sustainable agricultural practices and others. Although little detail is provided for each of the options the document sets up a process to develop these proposals.

Areas needing further work

- With respect to the Reference Level (Component 3), Nicaragua should return to the text of the document presented in April 2011. In that version, the TAP considered that the standard was already met.
 - That version presented capacity-building needs, identification of information gaps, plans for elaboration of the Reference Level, and participation by civil society. Changes made in the present version resulted in a decline in the quality of the document for this component.
- For component 4a (MRV) it would be helpful to present a more detailed work plan, identifying the roles of all institutions and organizations involved in this process. Alignment of the proposed lines of action with the activities included in the budget would be also necessary.

• With respect to (4b) the document still lacks a clear work plan to monitor other socio economic benefits. It would be useful to include the main variables and indicators to be monitored as well as the methodology to carry out this task.

Conclusions

• The R-PP document of Nicaragua shows a considerable improvement and it very nearly satisfies all the requirements of all the standards.

Overall summary

Component 1a Component 1b Component 1c

Component 2a Component 2b Component 2c Component 2d

Component 3

Component 4a Component 4b

Component 5

Component 6

June 2011

Standard partially met Standard partially met Standard met

Standard partially met Standard partially met Standard partially met Standard not met

Standard met

Standard partially met Standard partially met

Standard met

Standard met

June 2012

Standard met Standard met Standard met

Standard met Standard met Standard met Standard met

Standard partially met

Standard partially met Standard partially met

Standard met

Standard met