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Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Honduras

for the period 1 January –
31 December 2016

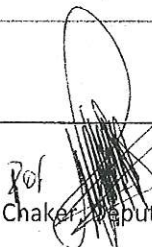
United Nations Development
Programme

Approved by:


Tim Clairs, Principal Policy and Technical advisor

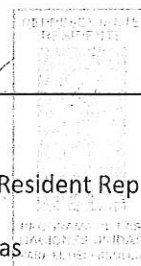
UNDP

Date: 7/22/2017


Alissar Chaker, Deputy Resident Representative

UNDP Office in Honduras

Date: 7/21/2017



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	January 2017
Project Signature	28 May 2014	No-Cost Extension:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Duration of Project	3 years	New End Date:	<i>To be requested in July 2017</i>

2016 Results

1. Achievements

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

Honduras conducted midterm progress report (MTR) at the end of 2016, which was submitted to the FCPF with a request for additional funding that was approved at the PC meeting in March. The MTR described the results achieved in Honduras REDD+ readiness process highlighting that Honduras has developed capacities of the main stakeholders; laid out the basis of the National REDD+ Strategy (NRS), Safeguards Information System (SIS), and the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS); and completed its Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) which will be submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2017.

Honduras completed developing its FREL during 2016 and submitted it to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in January 2017 marking an important milestone in the REDD+ readiness process that enables Honduras to make the transition from readiness to implementation.

Regarding the National REDD+ Strategy, the Government identified that one of the policy instruments to implement it will be a National Policy for Agroforestry with a sustainable productive landscapes approach. The policy is part of a national master plan to integrate Water-Forest-Soil that has been discussed at the economic development sectoral cabinet with different government sectors including environment, forestry and agricultural, and consulted with national stakeholders on a first national dialogue in June 2016.

Important progress was made on establishing a NFMS and FREL. A total of 12 technicians (3 women) from the Institute of Forest Conservation (ICF) have been trained to date to identify changes due to deforestation and the annual rate of deforestation that are included in the reports on FREL. For the NFMS, the definition of the concept of forest (UNFCCC requirement) has been agreed with representatives of the inter-agency climate change technical committee and board of the Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Honduras (CONPAH). In addition, it is ready the forest coverage map using the rapid eye method and the forest monitoring report, which includes 5 methodological protocols for the measurement of emissions, is in its final stage. On the other hand, 94 men and 48 women from the sub national offices of ICF, MiAmbiente and several Municipal Environmental Units have been trained in the use of geographic information systems to monitor the structure of the forest and are in the process of procurement furniture and equipment that allow to strengthen the NFMS.

The participatory process over the elaboration of REDD+ strategy is on track and multiple events have been organized that prioritized capacity building and the participation of indigenous peoples and afro Honduran representatives. These have included about 160 training programmes, workshops and meetings. Approximately 1,500 participants were involved in these events. The focus of these events was to increase awareness of REDD+ and to ensure that the perspectives and concerns of local communities

are reflected in the NRS. Implementation of the consultation and participation plan will further strengthen the capacity of all constituents of the Consultation Group (CG).

Multiple studies have been completed, along with consultation forums and workshops to address social and environmental issues and safeguards. These include inter-sectoral consultations for the new Agroforestry Policy with sustainable productive landscapes approach, which will be one of the policy instruments to implement Honduras's NRS, and consider that strategic social and environmental issues will be adequately addressed in the NRS. The SESA and ESMF will be completed in parallel with the NRS document, through a consultancy starting in January 2017. The ESMF will be developed in accordance with the guidelines of the Common Approach. In partnership with CARE, Honduras' Safeguards Information System is under development, finalizing at the date the analysis of the institutional and legal framework.

Communications have been a priority since inception, including videos, brochures, press releases, web page (7 publications) and other visual communication instruments has been to raise awareness and disseminate the REDD+ concepts and its enabling actions. Additionally, in compliance with the Common Approach, all BTORs (Back to Office Reports) related to technical support missions are uploaded to the UNDP Honduras Country Office website.

In parallel, Honduras has been implementing activities to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation to foster progress and start delivering tangible results, these include the elaboration of a national plan for forest restoration (1 million hectares) that is part of the "Bonn Challenge" and the National Determined Contribution (NDC). Other initiative is related to the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the government of Honduras to Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) that is in its final stage of negotiations.

All institutions and organizations supporting REDD+ readiness in Honduras are coordinated through the REDD+ sub-committee (3 meetings at the date) which is part of the interinstitutional climate change committee. UNDP, other international organizations and donors participate in this committee to ensure that resources and inputs are deployed effectively and efficiently to maximize synergies and results.

A summary of progress in FCPF funded activities is presented in table 1.

Table 1. Summary of progress in FCPF funded activities

Output 1: Honduras has a National REDD+ Strategy agreed upon with relevant stakeholders			
Activity	Status	Timeline	Responsible institution (Main/involved)
1.1 Establish an effective coordination and participation structure	Completed		Miambiente/ CONPAH, MIACC, UNDP

UNDP 2016 Annual Progress Report to the FCPF
as a Delivery Partner – Honduras

1.2 Create a mechanism to coordinate the different stakeholders involved in financing REDD+ readiness in Honduras	Completed		Miambiente/Interinstitutional Committee for Climate Change
1.3 Implement a strategy to position the forestry sector at a high-political level	Ongoing	12-2017	Miambiente/Clima+ office, Government Coordination Secretariat
1.4 Establish a dissemination platform regarding the national REDD+ process	Ongoing	12-2017	Miambiente/ CONPAH, MIACC, UNDP
1.5 Establish a robust grievance and redress mechanism	Ongoing	10-2017	Miambiente/ CONPAH, MIACC, UNDP
1.6 Develop participation and consultation mechanism with indigenous peoples and afro Hondurans considering their rights	Ongoing	06-2017	Miambiente/ CONPAH, MIACC, UNDP
1.7 Carry out a drivers of deforestation analysis	Ongoing	03-2017	Miambiente/UNDP
1.8 Develop inputs to identify REDD+ strategy options (policies and measures)	Ongoing	06-2017	Miambiente/UNDP
1.9 Develop the National REDD+ Strategy	Ongoing	12-2017	Miambiente/UNDP
Output 2: Enabling framework following international standards to implement the National REDD+ Strategy developed			
2.1 Identifying and establishing a financial mechanism for REDD+	Yet to be undertaken	12-2017	Miambiente/UNDP
2.2 Implementing a National Forestry Registry	Yet to be undertaken	12-2017	Miambiente/ICF
2.3 Support the development of the forest reference level for deforestation and forest degradation	Completed for deforestation, ongoing for enhancement	11-2017	Miambiente/ICF, FAO
2.4 Establish the National Forest Monitoring System	Ongoing	12-2017	Miambiente/ICF, FAO
2.5 Strengthen capacities of the forest monitoring group and CONPAH/MIAC	Ongoing	12-2017	Miambiente/ICF, CONPAH, MIAC, ESNACIFOR
2.6 Support the development of the National Safeguards System	Ongoing	08-2017	Miambiente/UNDP
2.7 Develop the SESA	Yet to be undertaken	08-2017	Miambiente/UNDP

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

No major changes in technical design have been put in place. Considering that additional FCPF funds have been approved for Honduras, a significant project revision and extension will be submitted to the project board in July, to incorporate the additional activities.

While there are no significant changes in the technical design of Grant activities, the creation of the new Clima+ office under the President of Honduras, will impact the institutional arrangements for REDD+ in the country. It is foreseen that through the NRS process, these arrangements will be agreed upon and formalized for the implementation.

2. In Focus

During 2017, the application of the social and environmental safeguards to the REDD + strategic options will be a key factor to identify the territorial priorities and initiate the implementation of the National Restoration Program and the National Agroforestry Program in Productive Landscapes. Besides, the articulation of the National REDD + Strategy with the new Water-Forest-Soil Master Plan will also be a determining factor in 2017 to link these national programs with the general budget of the Republic and identify funding gaps.

3. Risks, issues and responses

Table 2: Key Risks and Issues

Issues/risks	How to resolve it	Proposed date of action	Responsibility
Changes in key technical project staff and key counterpart institutions.	Continue training on REDD + issues to technical staff of key institutions. Recruitment of an international technical advisor to strengthen the technical capacities of the project team and the new people to be hired.	March 2017	UNDP CO
Changes in some political decision makers in this electoral year or by institutional reforms.	Continue to involve several Secretariats of State to achieve political empowerment of REDD + beyond the Ministry of the Environment.	July 2017	UNDP CO
The opposition to, and misunderstanding of, the concept of REDD+ held by some indigenous organizations. Specifically, with	Maintain UNDP support to the consultation and finalization process of the CLPI Law in a broader context than just REDD + as it has been to date. Design and implement a	During the year	UNDP CO PMU MiAmbiente

<p>regard to the linkage of the proposed law of Free Prior Informed Consultation (CLPI)</p>	<p>more effective communication strategy on the scope of REDD + and related national programs to reduce REDD + concerns by some indigenous organizations. Continue inviting them to all activities so as not to slow down the consultation process with other organizations.</p>		
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4. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project.

During inception, the PMU went through an intensive training and capacity building exercise, led by the regional technical advisor and 2 technical experts from UNDP REDD+ team. Unfortunately, during 2016 three members of the PMU left their positions, leaving a capacity gap that needs to be addressed during 2017.

During 2016 the Ministry of Environment began receiving quarterly disbursements from UNDP for the implementation of the project activities. The previous thing after a micro-evaluation of capacities and the elaboration of manuals and administrative and financial procedures that have allowed to accelerate the implementation of the resources. UNDP staff conducts periodic visits to the project unit to verify procedures and conduct hands-on training courses on procurement and financial management issues.

5. 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?

In line with the Common Approach, UNDP, as an implementing partner, complies with its Social and Environmental Standards in project implementation. These standards provide detailed guidance on social and environmental assessment and project management, as well as the evaluation of project-specific types and impacts. In addition, UNDP guides the actions of REDD+ readiness in Honduras, so they may comply with UNDP’s institutional implementation standards; through specific review meetings and close joint work.

The grant activities have been coordinated with other initiatives through Miambiente and the REDD+ focal point. Institutions and organizations supporting REDD+ readiness in Honduras are coordinated through the REDD+ sub-committee (3 meetings at the date) which is part of the interinstitutional climate change committee. UNDP, other international organizations and donors participate in this committee to ensure that resources and inputs are deployed effectively and efficiently to maximize synergies and results. FCPF

and UN-REDD have a joint-project board that provides strategic advice and guides coordination of both initiatives.

Progress on the SESA has included the following steps, as described in the midterm report:

- Analysis of relevant the social / environmental circumstances in Honduras in the context of REDD+
- Comprehensive stakeholder analysis and mapping of key sectors and stakeholders to be engaged in REDD+, including a review of their stakes and perspectives about REDD+ (completed in July 2015)
- Identification of focal points for each stakeholder category to lead in the facilitation of dialogue with their respective constituencies
- Held numerous national, regional and sector workshops, focusing on consultation, training and capacity building on the following topics:
 - What REDD+ is, incl. requirements and vision
 - The status of REDD+ in Honduras
 - Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Honduras, potential PAMs and broad scale risks and challenges
- 2 analyses have been undertaken to identify the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
- 2 safeguards committees have been established: one at the national level and a technical committee focusing more deeply on substance. Both have been jointly supported by UNDP and FLEGT.
- CARE with a UNDP-FCPF funds is in the process of finalizing a legal and institutional analysis of safeguards for REDD+ in Honduras

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

A comprehensive stakeholder analysis (mapping and characterizing political and social stakeholders) related to the REDD+ process was concluded in 2015¹. The report maps stakeholders related to REDD+ at regional and national level, analyzing their positions regarding forests and the State. It includes an analysis of the perception of drivers of deforestation and proposed solutions, as well as recommendations to implement an adequate participatory process with gender mainstreaming considerations.

¹ Camacho, C. 2015. *Mapeo y caracterización de los actores sociales y políticos alrededor de REDD+ en Honduras*. Proyecto de Apoyo a la Preparación para la Reducción de Emisiones debidas a la Deforestación y a la Degradación en Honduras (Proyecto REDD+). MiAmbiente. Honduras. Available at http://www.ocphn.org/docredd_mapeo_actores_alrededor.html

In parallel, a *Plan for stakeholder engagement, strategy dissemination, safeguards evaluation and REDD+ monitoring in Honduras*² was produced. The implementation of the recommendations and the work-plan have served to identify and/or strengthen key platforms of participation.

Since 2014, extensive work has been done to strengthen stakeholder capacities with over 60 capacity building and stakeholder engagement activities, reaching more than 1,500 participants (40% women). Capacity building activities on REDD+, SESA, FPIC, and safeguards targeting 262 leaders and members of CONPAH were carried out. During 2016, 94 men and 48 women have been trained in geographic information systems for monitoring forests.

Regarding Local Governments, it is important to highlight the involvement of the Municipal Offices of Women in the training on the REDD + Academy, which has allowed a relative participation of 30% women. With the 9 indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples, 44% of women have participated. Capacity building is broadened through the Network of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Women (RedMIAH), which has allowed community workshops to be replicated in the Miskito and Tawahkas, involving more than 130 people from both peoples. With the Safeguards Academy next year, it is planned to improve the participation of women representatives of the agroforestry sector, local governments and the private sector.

Communications have been a priority since inception, including videos, brochures, press releases, web page (7 publications) and other visual communication instruments has been elaborated for awareness raising and socialization of the REDD+ concepts and its enabling actions. Additionally, in compliance with the Common Approach, all BTORs (Back to Office Reports) related to technical support missions are uploaded to the UNDP Honduras Country Office website.

As part of the national arrangements for the REDD+, efforts have begun on establishing a grievance mechanism. In 2013 an assessment was undertaken to analyze the current sources of conflict in the forestry sector, potential new conflicts that may arise related to REDD+, and the mechanisms that exist to address conflicts. The assessment also proposed recommendations to develop a mechanism for conflict resolution, and steps to support the prevention of conflict.

The REDD+ Subcommittee will meet in March 2017 to discuss next steps for further clarifying the roles and responsibilities within the Subcommittee about the GRM, as well as a procedure for the receipt, registration, referral and response to complaints.

While the GRM is being established, the response to complaints from multiple stakeholders has taken place through training workshops with CONASAH, REDD+ activities, and planning workshops led by

² Plan de Trabajo específico para el involucramiento de actores, divulgación de la estrategia, evaluación de salvaguardas y monitoreo REDD+ de Honduras. Annex 15 of R-PP. Available at : <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2013/August2013/Completeness%20check.zip>.

the REDD+ MIAmbiente project, and through letters sent to the Minister of the Environment, which have been speedily addressed.

The delivery partner is equipped to handle grievances through its Social and Environmental Standards and procedures.

7. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2014)	Year 2 (2015)	Year 3 (2016)	Year 4 (2017)
Number of institutions represented in steering committee	4	7 ³	7	
Number of women represented in steering committee	1	3	3	
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"> • 2 engaged in implementation • 8 engaged on capacity development 	4	Safeguards: 26; implementation of institutional agreements:4	
Number of people trained on REDD+, climate change, and related topics (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	170 (60% men / 40% women approx.)	458 (60% men / 40% women approx.)	921 (45% women)	
Number of people trained on the four WF elements (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	59 + PMU	379 (30% women / 70% men approx.) ⁴	2,406	
Number of national consultation workshops held	None	3	Previous, Free and Informed Consultation (PFIC) of Indigenous People: 19; red de Mujeres Indigenas y Afrohondureñas: 3; Mesa Sectorial del Pueblo Lenca:4; Safeguards:7	

³ FAO and UNEP are non-voting members

⁴ This figure includes people trained specifically in one of the four pillars such as FREL or safeguards.

UNDP 2016 Annual Progress Report to the FCPF
as a Delivery Partner – Honduras

Number of CSOs trained on REDD+ and climate change	6	11	26	
Number of information notes produced	4	4	7	
Number of people actively engaged in advising on the development of the national strategy	None (not formally started)	None (not formally started)	None (not formally started)	

8. 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 2016		
		Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
				(D) = B + C
Formulacion de Proyecto	183,500		162,508.62	162,508.62
OUTPUT 1 - Estrategia Nacional REDD+, consensuada con los actores claves	2,425,000		1,751,623	1,751,623
OUTPUT 2 - Marco habilitador para implementar la Estrategia Nacional REDD+	1,191,650		423,306.41	423,306.41
Total	3,800,000		2,337,438.03	2,337,438.03

9. Picture and caption

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