

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) Template

February 12, 2009

Guidelines:

1. The purpose of this document is to: a) request an overview of your country's interest in the FCPF program, and b) provide an overview of land use patterns, causes of deforestation, stakeholder consultation process, and potential institutional arrangements in addressing REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest degradation). This R-PIN will be used as a basis for the selection of countries into the FCPF by the Participants Committee. Information about the FCPF is available at: www.carbonfinance.org/fcpf
2. Please keep the length of your response under 20 pages. You may consider using the optional Annex 1 Questionnaire (at the end of this template) to help organize some answers or provide other information.
3. You may also attach at most 15 additional pages of technical material (e.g., maps, data tables, etc.), but this is optional. If additional information is required, the FCPF will request it.
4. The text can be prepared in Word or other software and then pasted into this format.
5. For the purpose of this template, "Deforestation" is defined as the change in land cover status from forest to non-forest (i.e., when harvest or the gradual degrading of forest land reduces tree cover per hectare below your country's definition of "forest." "Forest degradation" is the reduction of tree cover and forest biomass per hectare, via selective harvest, fuel wood cutting or other practices, but where the land still meets your country's definition of "forest" land.
6. When complete, please forward the R-PIN to: 1) the Director of World Bank programs in your country; and 2) Werner Kornexl (wkornexl@worldbank.org) and Kenneth Andrasko (kandrasko@worldbank.org) of the FCPF team.

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c) Who was consulted in the process of R-PIN preparation, and their affiliation?

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Note: The consulted institutions during the elaboration process of the R-PIN work at a national level and are interrelated with different government institutions and civil society organizations that look after the adequate management of the natural resources, among the most important we can mention: Federation of Xicaque Tribes of Yoro (FETRIXY) Development Association of the Honduran Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Central American Indigenous Peasant Association of Community Agro forestry (ACICAFOC), Honduran Black Fraternal Organization (OFRANEH), Honduran Lenca Indigenous Federation (FHONDIL), Main Field Workers Central (CNTC), Popular Indigenous Council of Honduras (CopinH), etc. As a commitment, in this workshop, the participants assumed the responsibility of disclosing the REDD process among the before mentioned organizations.

Likewise other government institution were invited, but for more stronger reasons they couldn't participate but manifested their interest to incorporate in the future, like: the Corazon Biosphere Reserve Project, Finance Ministry, the Land Administration Project (PATH), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, among others.

2. Which institutions are responsible in your country for:

a) forest monitoring and forest inventories:

National Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife Institute (ICF), through the Forestry Economic Development Department which its main purpose is to design, collect, analyze data, and information disclosure of the National Forest Inventories. Likewise the Public Heritage Forestry Information Center (CIPF) is the one responsible for the elaboration of national forest maps, and information disclosure. Subsequently the Technical Audit Department is the one in charge of giving follow up on the present state of the forest mass.

b) forest law enforcement:

National Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife Institute (ICF) (Decree No. 98-2007). Likewise the public organizations in charge of initiating penal actions so that the environmental crimes be known and sanctioned by the Judicial Power that is the Public Ministry through the Especial Environment Attorney (FEMA) and the Environment and Natural Resources Prosecution (PAR) altogether with the local communities, Armed Forces through the organization of join tasks and the National Police.

c) forestry and forest conservation:

National Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife Institute (ICF), through the following departments:

- i. Forestry Economic Development Department: is the entity in charge of the regulations, approval, and y seguimiento de los planes de manejo forestal de los diferentes tipos de terreno de vocación forestal por tenencia en el país
- ii. Protected Areas Department: the entity in charge of the administration and management of protected areas, as well as the issuance of regulations and to monitor of the approved management plans of these areas.

d) coordination across forest and agriculture sectors, and rural development:

- i. In attention to the National Developing Plan to 2030, the country at present has divided into two sectors Agriculture and Forest, which are being coordinated by the Presidential Ministry. It coordinates sectorial institutions such as ICF and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG). Both sectors carry out actions and activities related with integral rural development, an example of it are the following programs: PBPR, COMRURAL, and PATH all financed by The World Bank.
- ii. Another entity of much relevance that serves to this purpose is the National Forest, Protected Areas and Wildlife Consult Council (COCONAFOR), (Chap. 2, Art. 22 of the Forest, Protected Areas, and Wildlife Law) that

- pretends to link different sectors Agriculture, Forest, and rural development, as consultation mechanism for civil society participation, supported by ICF.
- iii. Also SERNA through the National Climate Change Program and the Environment Protection and National Reforestation Program are coordinating efforts with ICF and SAG to fulfill the UNFCCC commitments and impel the REDD subject that is related with forest management, agriculture, livestock, Land Use- Change, and integral rural development.

3. Current country situation (consider the use of Annex 1 to help answer these questions):

a) Where do forest deforestation and forest degradation occur in your country, and how extensive are they? (i.e., location, type of forest ecosystem and number of hectares deforested per year, differences across land tenure (e.g., national forest land, private land, community forest, etc.)):

According to the “**Honduran Forestry Sector Analysis**” base document for the Preparation of the 2007 Country Environmental Analysis, forests in Honduras covers approximately 5, 791,602 hectares equivalent to 51.5 % of the national territory and two main ecosystems can be differentiated, the broad leaf forest on the lower parts of the Atlantic and coniferous forest from the *Pinus* genus in the south especially on the higher central parts of the country.

A result from the National Forestry Evaluation (ENF) indicates that there exists 4,341,104 ha of accessible forests and of these 3,2 millions of Ha are broad leaf and productive coniferous forests. Figure No. 1 shows the total amount of surface covered by forest by their four mayor types of forest. You can also observe on the next links:

http://www.zonu.com/mapas_honduras/m_forestal95x.htm and
<http://gisweb.ciat.cgiar.org/Vulnerabilidad/Flash/Datos.htm>

Figure No. 1
Forest Surface estimates based on the type of forest

Type of Forest	Surface		
	Hectares	Kms ²	Percentage
Broad Leaf Forest	3,527,584	3,5276	33.4
Coniferous Forest	1,679,735	16,797	16.3
Mix Forest	536,601	5,366	5.2
Mangrove Forest	47,682	477	0.4
Total	5,791,602	57,916	55.4

Source: National Forestry Evaluation (2005, 2006).

- i. In Honduras there have been various National Forestry Inventories and in each of them different methodologies have being used to estimate the forest existence .Figure No. 2 below shows how these inventories have evolve:

Figure No. 2: Comparative Table of the National Forestry Inventories achieved in the country in different years

	FAO	COHDEFOR	GTZ	FAO
YEAR	1964	1986	1997	2006
Pine tree /Mix (millions of Ha.)	2.7	2.4	3.1	2.2
Broad leaf (millions of Ha.)	4.3	2.7	2.9	3.4
Total (millions of Ha.)	7.0	5.1	6.0	5.8

Source: AFE-COHDEFOR, 2007

- ii. Based on the shown data, various comparisons may be done between different inventories, for example: if we compare the results from the practiced inventory by FAO, among the years 1964 and 1986 deforestation is 19,356.84 hectares equivalent to an annual deforestation rate of 0.4 %. It is important to emphasize that this results were made based on a period of 42 years.
- iii. Using the same table if we compare the practiced inventories by the German Cooperation Agency (GTZ) through the German Enterprise GAF using satellite images on 1:100,000 and 1:250,000 scale with field control from 1996 and the results of the inventory practices by FAO in 2006 the existing deforestation in the country is 19,799.8 hectares per year, that is equivalent to a deforestation rate of 3.3%.
- iv. If we compare the FAO inventory and the 1964 with the inventory made by AFE-COHDEFOR in 1986, we see that the deforestation rate was 80,000 hectares per year, for that reason it is proposed to continue the forest inventory based on a methodology to be reportable, verifiable and reliable so as to compare and contrast the data for REDD.

Deforestation and degradation of forest resources

The dimensions and causes of deforestation are well known in the country, however, it is difficult to specify the amount of forest cover disappearing every year, this is because in the country there have been no continuous monitoring of the existence of the forest.

According to the Forestry Sector Analysis in Honduras, "Background Paper for the Preparation of Country Environmental Analysis 2007", the productive activities of agriculture and livestock have been identified as major causes of forest resources loss in the broad leaf forest, while fires and shifting cultivation are the causes of pine tree forest deterioration. Other ecosystems such as mangroves have been reduced substantially by increasing shrimp farm activity especially in the Gulf of Fonseca and the increasing urbanization for tourism on the coast in the Bay Islands. Another related cause, recent studies reveal that the growing and unregulated process of population growth accompanied by a pattern of scattered settlements especially in areas of frontier forest is growing especially as irreversible loss of forested areas.

In addition the country has a high dependence on wood as an energy source for poor households for cooking. A 38.3% of the population uses firewood for domestic purposes and is still considered a very high consumption rate. According to the national energy balance, 6.5 million cubic meters of firewood per year are consumed in the country, a figure that without a doubt has to be taken into account in the debate on climate change and greenhouse gas inventory raised in Honduras (SERNA, 2005; Benítez, R., 2004).

b) Are there any estimates of greenhouse or carbon dioxide emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in your country? If so, please summarize:

The Greenhouse Effect Gases that were estimated are the ones suggested by the Good Practice Guides of the IPCC: a) Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), b) Methane (CH₄), c) Nitrous Oxide (N₂O), d) Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x), e) Carbon Monoxide (CO), f) non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC).

The emission summary table by sector for the year 2000 gases estimations, in the National GHGI of Honduras, are shown on table 1:

Table 1: Greenhouse Effect Gases Emissions, year 2000

Sector	Emissions in Gg					
	CO ₂	CH ₄	N ₂ O	NO _x	CO	NMVOC
Energy	3,728.99	11.39	0.35	33.48	504.48	45.57
Industry Processes	689.97	-	-	-	-	6.82

Agriculture	-	103.61	7.31	12.03	1.22	-
Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry	1574.47	58.56	0.4	14.55	512	-
Waste	268	69	0.07	-	-	-
Total	6,261.43	242.56	8.13	60.06	1,017.70	52.39

The national balance of Greenhouse Effect Gases Emissions for the year 2000 from the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry sector, are shown on the following table:

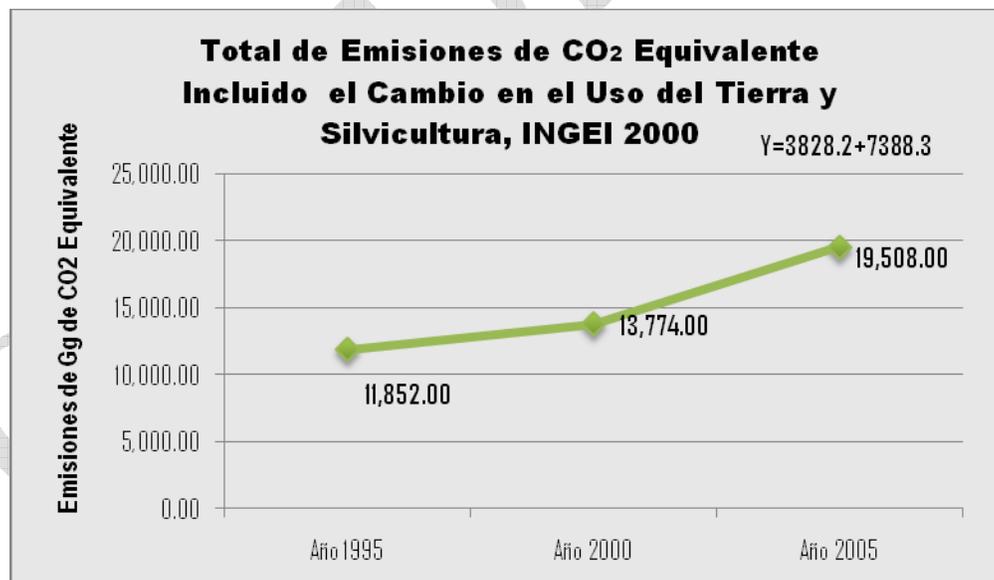
Table 2: National Emission Balance, GHGI 2000

Year 2000	Gg
CO₂ Removal (Gg)	50,940.79
CO₂ Equivalent Emissions in Gg	67,643.14
CO₂ Equivalent Net Emissions	-16,703.14

This balance is calculated by subtracting the total of CO₂ removed by the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry sector (forest) and the total amount of emissions by other sectors. The year 2000 reports a negative balance of 16,703.14 Gg.

The GHG emission trends (CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O) are expressed as CO₂ equivalents in Gigagram (Gg), for the year 2000 and preliminary estimates for the year 2005, show an increase in the emissions as shown in the following graph:

Total of Equivalent Emissions included in Land Use, Land -Use Change and Forestry Sector



c) Please describe what data are available for estimating deforestation and/or forest degradation. Are data published? Describe the major types of data, including by deforestation and forest degradation causes and regions if possible (e.g., area covered, resolution of maps or remote sensing data, date, etc.).

The country has various means to publicize the activities in the forest and environmental sector, among them we mention:

- i. AFE-COHDEFOR, 1996(a). Analysis of the Forestry Sub sector of Honduras. Cooperación Hondureña-Alemana. Programa Social Forestal. Silviagro S de R.L. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 496 p.

- ii. AFE-COHDEFOR, 1996(b). Forestry Action Plan 1996-2015 PLANFOR is our Honduran Society. SECLAN/SRN/PROFOR. Volume I, II, III. Tegucigalpa, Honduras.
- iii. AFE-COHDEFOR. 1997. Forestry Estadistic Yearbook. Planification Department. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 126 p.
- iv. AFE-COHDEFOR, 2001. Anuario estadístico forestal 2000. Forest Estadistics Section. Forestry Information and Statistics Center. PAAR. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 79 p.
- v. AFE-COHDEFOR, 2004. Tala ilegal. Informe Final. Organización Internacional de las Maderas Tropicales. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Abril. 52 p.
- vi. AFE-COHDEFOR, 2006(a). Anuario estadístico forestal de Honduras 2005. Departamento de Gestión de Información Gerencial. DGIG/PBPR. Proyecto Bosques y Productividad Rural. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 200 p.
- vii. AFE-COHDEFOR, 2006(b). Evaluación Nacional Forestal. Resultados del inventario de bosques y árboles 2005-2006. Proyecto Apoyo al inventario y evaluación nacional de bosques y árboles. TCP/HON/3001 (A). SAG/ESNACIFOR/AFH/FAO. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 115 p.
- viii. AFE-COHDEFOR, 2007. Statistical Yearbook of Forestry 2006 Honduras. Planning Department. Information Center and Forest Statistics. GFA. Component Cadastre and Regularization of Land Tenure CIEF. Multiphase Program for Sustainable Forestry Development. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 215 p.
- ix. AFE/DAPVS. 2006. National Report. Status of Protected Areas of Honduras. II Mesoamerican Protected Areas Conference. SERNA/CBM/PBRP. Tegucigalpa. Honduras.
- x. Barros, R.P; Carvalho, M; Franco, S. 328 p. Rural Poverty in Honduras: magnitud and determinants. PNUD. IPEA. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 328 p.
- xi. Benítez, R. 2004. National Energy diagnosis. Sustainable use of firewood as an input to national policy and sustainable renewable energy and energy efficiency to promote economic growth, poverty reduction and sustainable development of Honduras. PNUD/SERNA. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 40 p.
- xii. Cadalso-Flores, G. 2005. Updated analysis and interrelated legal framework for the protection and conservation of the protected areas and the rights of ownership and use of land to indigenous peoples, Afro-Honduran and mixed on the lands they have traditionally occupied in the Book of Man and the Rio Platano Biosphere. GFA. Component Cadastre and Regularization of Land Tenure. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 28 p.
- xiii. Castillo, M; Roper, J. 1998. Assessment Report of the conventions of use. PAGS. Honduras. 54 p. Anexos.
- xiv. CNA. 2007. Informe nacional de transparencia. Hacia un sistema nacional de integridad. ASDI. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 193 p.
- xv. COHEP-CIES. 2007. Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible. Para un conocimiento económico y social de base amplia
- xvi. COLPROFORH.2006. Meeting for the formulation of a national forest monitoring and control illegal logging in Honduras. Memorias. Publishers Aroldo Jose Santos, Carlos Sandoval and Gabriel Barahona. Institutional COLPROFORH contribute to solving a problem of national incidence. COLPROFORH/GTZ. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 56 p.
- i. Corrales, L; Alpizar, W; Manso, P. Quantifying the environmental benefits of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the El Cajon Dam, within the framework of Joint Implementation (AIC). PNUD/AFE-COHDEFOR/PROCUENCA. 200 p.
- ii. EIA. 2005. The crisis of illegal logging in Honduras. How the import of illegal Honduran wood by the United States and the European Union increases poverty, corruption and accelerates destroys forests and communities. Center for International Policy. 43 p
- iii. ESNACIFOR. 2004. Analysis of spatial context (ACT). Subcuenca Humuya Medio. EMAPRAS. Multiphase

- Program for Management of Natural Resources in Priority Watersheds. Siguatepeque, Comayagua. 183 p.
- i. ESNACIFOR. 2007. Evaluation of land cover in the Book of Man and the Biosphere of Rio Platano. Multitemporal analysis of satellite images Landsat-TM and SPOT between years 2002-2005/2006. INTELSIG/KFW/GTZ/GFA. Siguatepeque, Honduras.
 - ii. Estrada, N. 2006. Report on Coordination of the monitoring systems of the effectiveness of management and monitoring of the ecological integrity of the Department of Protected Areas and Wildlife. AFE/DAPVS/PBPR. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 10 p. Anexos.
 - iii. Estrada, N. 2007. Análisis de los resultados del monitoreo biológico 2001-2005. AFE/DAPVS/PBPR. 89 p.
 - iv. Dourojeanni, M; Quiroga, R. 2006. Management of protected areas for biodiversity conservation: evidence from Brazil, Honduras and Peru. Inter-American Development Bank. Sustainable Development Department. Washington. 116 p.
 - v. FAO/CCAD. 2002. Evaluación del potencial de mitigación del sector forestal sobre el cambio climático en Honduras. Proyecto Bosques y Cambio Climático. Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo. Tegucigalpa, Honduras.
 - vi. FAO, 2006. Las mejores practicas para fomentar la observancia de la ley en el sector forestal. Estudio FAO Montes 145. Organización Internacional para las Maderas Tropicales. Roma, Italia. 121 p.
 - vii. FDsF. 2007. Informe anual 2006. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 32 p.
 - viii. FOSDEH. 2004. La transparencia de la corrupción. Balance de la corrupción en Honduras 2004. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 43 p.
 - ix. Flores-Rodas, J; Eveline, Luis R. 2004. Informe de evaluación de la AFE-COHDEFOR presentado a la presidencia de la Republica de Honduras. Comisión Interventora. Decreto Ejecutivo No. 007-2004. Tegucigalpa. Honduras. snp.
 - x. Flores-Rodas, J.G; Santos, J.A. 2006. Análisis de los procesos y principales resultados del Programa Forestal Nacional PFN en Honduras. GTZ/AFH/IUCN. Tegucigalpa, Honduras.
 - xi. GFA. 1996. Mapa forestal de Honduras mediante la interpretación de imágenes de satélite. Informe sobre el Proyecto. KfW/COHDEFOR. Manchen, Alemania. 17 p. Anexos.
 - xii. GFA(a). 2007. Informe Principal. Componente Catastro y Regularización de Tierras del Proyecto Manejo y protección de la Reserva del Hombre y Biosfera del Río Plátano (PBRP). KFW. Frankfurt, Alemania. 34 p. Anexos.
 - xiii. GFA(b). 2007. Intercambio de experiencias de cooperativas forestales de la Moskitia Hondureña y Nicaragüense: como mejoramos nuestras organizaciones y el manejo forestal? MASRENACE-PRORENA. GTZ. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 35 p.
 - xiv. GTZ. 2007. Forestaría comunitaria: un aporte de la reducción de la pobreza en el marco del desarrollo sostenible. Río Plus/INS/IDRC. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. CD Interactivo.
 - xv. Kerkhoff, F. 2002. Competitividad de la micro, pequeña y mediana empresa de Honduras: Análisis y Propuestas. Programa de Fomento a la Micro, pequeña y Mediana Empresa. PROMYPE/GTZ. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 45 p.
 - xvi. Lara-Pinto, G. 2002. Perfil de los pueblos indígenas y negros de Honduras. Unidad Regional de Asistencia Técnica. RUTA. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 153 p.
 - xvii. MAO. 2007. Optaron por la vida. El Movimiento Ambientalista de Olancho. Tegucigalpa.
 - xviii. MARENA. 2006. Support for the belligerence of the institutional AMHON in the decentralized management of natural resources
 - xix. . SAG/AMHON/MARENA.

- xx. PAGES. 1999. The contribution of Broad leaf Forest to the sustainable development of Honduras: Strategic lines to enter the XXI century. The broad leaf forest, wood, and much more. Report of the Technical Workshop and Policy Forum. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 272 p. Annex.
- xxi. PDBL. 1998. Monitoring of deforestation in the Forest Region Atlantis. Period 1954-1997. Project ACDI 448/17638. TECSULT/Roche. La Ceiba, Honduras. 60 p.
- xxii. PNUD. 2006. Human Development Report, Honduras 2006. United Nations Program for Development.
- xxiii. Portillo, E. 2003. Municipal Forest Management. The experience developed in the municipalities of Lepaterique, Guaimaca and Villa de San Antonio, Honduras. AFE-COHDEFOR/MAFOR/PROCAFOR/FINNIDA.
- xxiv. Land Administration Project in Honduras. Adjustment Project. Pilot Area Agua Fría Yoro. Procedure Manual. PATH. Noviembre de 2006.
 - i. Rendón-Cano, J. 1995. La legislación forestal en Honduras. Análisis. Proyecto para el Desarrollo de Políticas Agrícolas de Honduras. PRODEPAH/Chemonics International/USAID. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 115 p. Anexos.
 - ii. SAG. 2002. Mapa de ecosistemas vegetales de Honduras. Proyecto de Administración de Areas Rurales. PARA/AFE-COHDEFOR/Banco Mundial. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Anexos.
 - iii. SAG. 2004(a). Programa Nacional Forestal PRONAFOR Honduras 2004-2021. AFH/ACDI-PRO-MESAS. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 65 p.
 - iv. SAG. 2004(b). Informe final de implementación. Proyecto de Administración de Areas Rurales. AFE/SGJ. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 57 p. Anexos.
 - v. SAG. 2006. Plan estratégico operativo del sector agroalimentario 2006-2010. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 115 p.
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It is important emphasize that the REDD in Honduras as well as in other countries is totally new, however Honduras as part of the coalition of countries to help enhance this matter, has initiated a strategic alliance between the ICF and SERNA, to drive the bases of REDD's theme, among them are:

- i. Define a baseline scenario that has the historic and future emissions,
- ii. Forest Inventory to estimate the carbon stock to allow testing of forest inventory methodology according to the criteria and rules of the IPCC,
- iii. National REDD strategy based on the principle of emissions reduction,
- iv. Assembly of a national monitoring system that is governed by a designed system that calculates the emissions and links the sub national projects with a national system,
- v. National Register of sub national and private accounts.

d) What are the main causes of deforestation and/or forest degradation?

According to the study "Honduras, Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Experience Systematization of Process National Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (2005)

(http://www.agendaforestalhn.org/documentos/C%20e%20I/Report_on_C_I_Honduras_01_2005.pdf), the main causes of deforestation and degradation are:

- i. The high deforestation rates, which is more or less than 80,000 hectares per year. (not specified by the arguments of Section 3.a of this form)
- ii. The forest fires impact, that affects more than 50,000 hectares per year.
- iii. The plague incidence and forest disease that from 370 hectares in 1997 it has 13,511 hectares, an increase in 2002, affecting currently (2004) a volume of 715,480 cubic meters.
- iv. Inequitable distribution of productive land induces migratory flows to forest areas attractive for the apparent fertility of their soils, which are actually very fragile by its specific characteristics, such as broad leaf forest.
- v. Illegal logging, according to some studies, exceeds over 60% of the land use law, mainly in the forest.
- vi. Disputes over land use, since in 52% of watershed soils that produce water equivalent to 5.8 million hectares.
- vii. Poor planning and participative implementation of management plans in protected areas, leading to changes in land use, illegal hunting, extraction of endangered flora and fauna, and degradation of water.
- viii. The high annual budget distribution for the construction of civil works to mitigate the impacts of floods resulting

from deforestation

e) What are the key issues in the area of forest law enforcement and forest sector governance (e.g., concession policies and enforcement, land tenure, forest policies, capacity to enforce laws, etc.?)

- i. Understanding and demonstrate that forest management is a sustainable option as a tool to against poverty
- ii. View the multisectorial nature of forestry
- iii. Forestry information is not accessible to decision-making and does not meet the needs of related sectors
- iv. Stabilize populations in forests
- v. Financial limitations in the public sector
- vi. Inequity in the land tenure
- vii. Participation and effective participation of the peasant communities, indigenous and african descendent
- viii. Honduras is a country of laws, but these are not met, just as there are few staff to control the problem in the field
- ix. Limited investment of the Private Enterprise sector in the Forestry Sector
- x. Lack of incentives for Forest management
- xi. Consolidation of the Forest Sector (created recently under Decree- 98-2007)

4) What data are available on forest dwellers in lands potentially targeted for REDD activities (including indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers)? (e.g., number, land tenure or land classification, role in forest management, etc.):

- i. In Honduras, approximately 60% of forests are owned by the State or Municipalities (forests). It is estimated, from a legal point of view that about 2.5 million Hondurans are located within areas that have traditionally belonged to the ethnic groups Tawakas, Pech, Tolupan, Lenca, Garifuna and Chorti, it is important to note that the State of Honduras has legalized and titled them.
- ii. The Forestry, Protected Areas and Wildlife Law in their: Title VI (National System of Protected Areas, Wildlife and Water System) establishes the obligation of the ICF (Art. 113, Management Plan and Protected Areas and Wildlife) the development and updating of management plans and operational plans for Protected Areas and Wildlife Public as well as, monitoring the proper implementation of the same, either directly or through third parties. For this purpose the Natural Resources and Environment Secretariat, municipalities, organized communities, private sector and other civil society organizations, especially farmer organizations, indigenous peoples and Afro Hondurans living in the area will be involved. Title VII (Social Forestry System, Human Settlement and Resettlement) establishes that the ICF (Art. 126, Social Forest System) will promote, organize and strengthen the Social Forestry System, as a means to incorporate the communities living in or around national areas of forestry activities in the protection, management, forestation and utilization of the forest activities; including processing, manufacturing and marketing of their products, also the ICF (Art. 127, Community Forestry) within the framework of the Social Forestry, will promote Community Forestry for the optimal use of natural resources to support the Strategy for Poverty Reduction and raise the living standards(art. 128, Promotion and Development of Community Forestry in Forest Municipalities)also Municipalities will also promote and encourage the Social Forestry System through its Community Forestry in forest areas, in order to meet with the social, economic and environmental quality of these. Organized communities (Article 129, rights to conclude contracts for Community Forest Management) accredited by the National Institute for Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife (ICF), as mentioned in previous articles, shall be entitled to preferential forest management contracts on these forests. The area allocated is determined by population size and availability of the area of forestry in the community. This provision will be developed in the Rules of this Act
- iii. The ICF, the National Agrarian Institute, the Property Institute through the Land Administration Project (PATH),

funded by the World Bank are developing land certificates in forest lands to refine these figures that will be available in 2009 for the registration of these lands in the Public Forest Heritage Catalogue (Census of the National Statistics).

- iv. Poverty: According to the Human Development Report 2005 hand, Honduras is located at position 116 out of 177 countries, with an index of 0.667, which corresponds to a medium human development, lower than average for Latin America (0,797). Also available in most indicators lower positions relative to other Central American countries.

5. Summarize key elements of the *current* strategy or programs that your government or other groups have put in place to address deforestation and forest degradation, if any:

a) What government, stakeholder or other process was used to arrive at the current strategy or programs?

The Government of Honduras in the course of time has taken a series of legislative and institutional measures that will contribute to the reversing the degradation of national natural resources nationals. They include:

- a. Enactment of the Forestry Law (Decree No. 85 of 1972).
 - b. Decentralization of the State Forestry Administration, with the establishment of the COHDEFOR (1974 to date), through Decree Law No. 103.
 - c. State Administration of all the country's forests (1974 -1992).
 - d. Creation of the Social Forestry System (1974-present).
 - e. Perpetual declaration of 41 protected areas.
 - f. Restoration of forest ownership to the owners of land, through the Law for the Modernization and Development of Agricultural Sector (LMDSA) 1992.
 - g. Liberalization of internal and external marketing of forest products (LMDSA).
 - h. COHDEFOR only assumes regulatory functions in private and ejido forests lands and forest management through the National LMDSA (1992).
 - i. Forestry Action Plan (PLANFOR) 1996-2015.
 - j. Adoption of the participatory "Forest of the Protected Areas and Wildlife" (2001).
 - k. Transfer of functions of protected areas and wildlife to COHDEFOR (1991 to date, Ordinance 74-91).
 - l. Restructuring of AFE-COHDEFOR (2002).
- i. Subsequently proceeded to create a new forestry law that led to the creation of the Institute of Forestry and Wildlife Conservation (ICF) through a new Forestry Law, which includes protected areas and wildlife (Decree 98-2007). Within the context of this law is created:
- a. **Reinvestment Fund Forest** management plans and activities state forest areas and infrastructure required in the same.
 - b. **Plantation Development Fund** for the promotion of forest plantations in deforested and degraded areas.
 - c. **Fund for the Municipal Forest Management** to finance infrastructure and forestry activities prescribed in the management plans to run in municipal forest areas, and works for social development in communities located in priority areas where the income originated
 - d. **Fund responsible for the Management of Protected Areas and Wildlife** for conservation and management of protected areas and wildlife, according to the guidelines of the National System of Protected Areas of Honduras (SINAP).
- ii. For 2003, there are the Roundtables, as forums for dialogue between Government, Civil Society and Cooperating to follow up the process of National Reconstruction and Transformation. Under the Agricultural Sector Roundtable, was made the State Policy for the Agri-Food Sector and Rural Environment of Honduras, which defines four Sector Programs: National Program for Sustainable Rural Development (PRONADERS), National Agricultural Program (PRONAGRO); National Fisheries and Aquaculture (PRONAPAC) and the National Forestry Program (PRONAFOR). The four programs are framed in the Sector-Wide Approach to Planning (SWAP and SWAP Agro forestry product).
- iii. The Honduran Forest Agenda (AFH) is a forum for consultation and cooperation within the forestry sector, which provides intra-and intersectorial dialogue, including international cooperation agencies. Is in the process of formulating the mechanism of the Planning Sector-Wide Approach (SWAP agro-forestry), which provides the necessary coordination to overcome the institutional vacuum, the financial gaps, overlapping responsibilities and

demands of competition in the Forestry Subsector.

- iv. The National Forest Plan (PRONAFOR), which is part of the State Policy of the Food Sector and Rural Areas 2004 - 2021 is aimed at positioning the forest sector, as state policy, enhancing and increasing its contribution to economic development , social and environmental optimizing the comparative advantages and promote the competitiveness of goods and services of natural forests and plantations, is consistent with the initiatives of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the framework of Agenda 21 and the Forest Principles. Thus the four Subprograms PRONAFOR:
- Forest Development and Production
 - Forestry and Community Development
 - Forests, Water and Environmental Services
 - Forest & Biodiversity

b) What major programs or policies are in place at the national, and the state or other subnational level?

Políticas:

At the national level has led the Environmental Policy of Honduras (Agreement 361 - 2005), the Forest Protected Areas and Wildlife (SAG / AFE / COHDEFOR / AFH, 2001), Food Policy Sector 2004-2021, Policy State Food and Rural Affairs and the National Wetland Policy (in socialization)

Strategies and Plans

- Strategy for Poverty Reduction
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan(SERNA)
- Forestry National Program (PRONAFOR)(ICF)
- National Strategy for Environmental Goods and Services (SERNA)
- SINAPH Strategic Plan
- Tourism National Strategy(IHT)
- Eco-tourism National Strategy(IHT)
- Desertification Action Plan(SERNA)
- Climate Change National Strategy (in elaboration)(SERNA/ICF)
- Biotechnology Law Proposal (SERNA)
- Competitiveness National Strategy (IHT)
- DesAgro national Plan 2006-2010
- Sector Program Expanded Agroforestry Long-term (2004 - 2015)

6. What is the current thinking on what would be needed to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in your country? (e.g., potential programs, policies, capacity building, etc., at national or subnational level):

- Deforestation and forest degradation are due to economic factors because the communities that coexist within the carriers do not receive a wooded direct economic benefit from them, thus they decide to change the current use of forest land to other uses agriculture and livestock. The communities have no capacity or expertise to develop a sustainable management of forest in their carriers.
- Through participation methods of consultation it was identified that to achieve the objectives of conservation and prevent forest degradation, it is necessary to give a broad participation to all beneficiaries, through the co handling agreements and contracts that bind the pursue of the appropriation of these strategies to achieve a sustainable forest management. It has being proven that co management, usufruct, and binding contracts is the best way to preserve forest areas, given that the beneficiaries receive direct and tangible incentives, that is very similar to what is intended to be done with the REDD Strategy implementation. An example is the agro-forestry cooperatives in the area of Gualaco, Olancho where people are using national forests and at the same time they are developing processes for the protection and reforestation of these areas.
- The country has a series of policies and planning instruments that need to be linked together to meet the problem of deforestation and degradation from a more coherent and integrated approach, allowing the impact on the implementation of national strategies and programs, implemented as base:

1. Implement the National Strategy for Reducing Greenhouse Gases

2. Develop and implement the National Strategy for Climate Change
3. Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (Process Lepaterique)
4. Strengthen citizen participation in terms of the mechanisms that raises the Forestry Law
5. Strengthen the institutional forest sector (state and municipal institutions)
6. Establish policies that encourage the modernization of the forestry industry
7. Implement the National Forest Plan (PRONAFOR)
8. Strengthen the National Fire Management
9. Implement the National Strategy for the Control of Illegal Logging
10. Strengthen the Program for Control of Illegal Logging under the figure of the Independent Forest Monitoring,
Strengthen the National Reforestation Program

a) How would those programs address the main causes of deforestation?

- It is intended that through these strategies and programs mentioned in the previous item, that conditions are created in the short, medium and long term to stop the advance of deforestation processes that may give the following results:
 - a. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
 - b. Reduction of environmental vulnerability
 - c. The growth of institutional capacities
 - d. Strengthening the regulatory framework
 - e. Economic valuation of natural resources
 - f. Strengthening the technical capacity and community organizations for forest management
 - g. Reduction of Illegal Logging
 - h. Improve forest management practices
 - i. Improving food security
 - j. Greater promotion of value-added forest products

b) Would any cross-sectorial programs or policies also play a role in your REDD strategy (e.g., rural development policies, transportation or land use planning programs, etc.)?

- i. The Natural Resources and Environment Secretariat(SERNA) through the National Climate Change Program is developing several initiatives such as:
 - a. The Second National Communication (National Strategy for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change and the National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases)
 - b. In collaboration with ECLAC (CEPAL) and with funding from the British government's Fund for Development (DFID), It aims to develop the study of the "The economy of climate change" at national and regional levels,
 - c. Initial development of the UNDP Global Project "Strengthening the national capacity of developing countries to assess and develop policy options, To address the issue of climate change on various sectors and economic activities, which can serve as input for the negotiation positions of the Convention,

Likewise, the ICF is training its staff on issues and changes in land use, forest inventory, multi-temporal analysis of vegetation so that they can be in tune with the policy of incentives for REDD.

REDD strategy is seen as a cross-cutting planning tools (programs or policies) from the platform of the natural resource management, environment, considering the economic and social. Within the environmental components of existing strategies that are themselves or that promote surveillance activities, evaluation, protection and management of forest resources.

Other cross-cutting strategies in the country are:

- i. Strategy for Poverty Reduction
- ii. The National Forest Plan(PONAFOR, 2004)
- iii. National Plan for Desertification and Drought
- iv. National Strategy for Environmental Goods and Services
- v. National Program for Food Security
- vi.

c) Have you considered the potential relationship between your potential REDD strategies and your country's broader development agenda in the forest and other relevant sectors? (e.g., agriculture, water, energy, transportation). If you have not considered this yet, you may want to identify it as an objective for your REDD planning process.

Yes, this relationship is considered under the policy and instruments, as mentioned in the preceding paragraphs (a and b). Some of them need reviewing and updating their way to incorporate measures and actions to address the issue REDD among the actors mentioned are the following: Secretary's of State, local governments, NGOs, civil society organized.

It is important to emphasize the fact that the Government of Honduras will coordinate all the actions with the institutions mentioned above through instruments such as the Second Climate Change National Communication and the Study "Economy of the Climate Change in Central America"; through these strategies each sector will reduce their emissions according to its percentage share, hoping to reach neutrality by 2021 and also to enhance the implementation of adaptation measures to climate change. Similarly, the Forest Sector with a positive balance that will become a strategic ally for the sectors that generate a greater amount of GHG such as the Energy Sector (transportation), Land Use – Change, and Agriculture (According to the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory, Honduras 2000). In this sense we must enhance the national legislation so as to reduce deforestation and develop a political technical platform to implement the R-PIN.

d) Has any technical assistance already been received, or is planned on REDD? (e.g., technical consulting, analysis of deforestation or forest degradation in country, etc., and by whom):

Yes, we have received some support, such as:

- a. Training technical personnel from ICF on issues such as Land Use- land use-change, Forest Inventory and Analysis of Multi-temporal Vegetation, Training on the REDD Topic, sponsored by the Rain Forest Coalition, IWENT and GTZ of Germany. Likewise, Honduras has participated since the 11th Reunion of parties were the REDD topic was introduced worldwide till present.

This has allowed a closer approach and interinstitutional coordination between SERNA and ICF to address and plan actions on REDD issue.

7. What are your thoughts on the type of stakeholder consultation process you would use to: a) create a dialogue with stakeholders about their viewpoints, and b) evaluate the role various stakeholders can play in developing and implementing strategies or programs under FCPF support?

Consultation initiate through time the following way:

- i. The Government of Honduras initiates a creation process of State Policies in the Agri- Food Sector and Rural Means, as part of this policy the National Forest Program (PRONAFOR) was created as a response to the agriculture consultant tables in which Local Governments, State Institutions, NGO's, Peasant Groups, Indigenous people, Local Associations, Water Boards, Associated Peasant Cooperatives, Agro Forestry Cooperatives, Private Enterprises involved in the sector participated.
- ii. Subsequently this facts served as basis for policy making which led to the issuance of the new Forestry Law, which took 10 years process of consultation with all multisectorial stakeholders.
- iii. The new Forest Law includes within its institutional framework in Part II Chapter II (Articles 21-28) the creation of the Consultative Councils, which are intended to advise the National Forest Development and Conservation,

Protected Areas and Wildlife Institute (ICF) in the formulation, proposal and general evaluation of special strategies in forestry, protected areas and wildlife issues;

- iv. Because of this the ICF in conjunction with the Forest Agenda they will have to coordinate national actions to be able to develop the REDD strategy, involving the following authorities: The Ministry of Agriculture and livestock, Natural Resources and Environment Secretariat, Ministry of the Interior and Justice, Ministry of Finance, Presidency Ministry, Ministry of Security, and other organizations such as: Fire Department, the National Emergency Committee, Local Government and organized civil society involved in this sector.

a) How are stakeholders normally consulted and involved in the forest sector about new programs or policies?

- i. The Government of Honduras through the ICF in response to the precepts of democracy and transparency principles uses the Honduran Forest Agenda as a body for consultation and cooperation between actors and sectors involved in the forestry sector which promotes and coordinates exchange processes to guide sustainable development of forest resources in the country.
- ii. Therefore, first the Honduran Forest Agenda, appropriates of the subject, second, identifies all national stakeholders and summons them, third through consultation meetings or work sessions reveals the subject to generate the respective conclusions. Finally creates a document on the consultation and is discussed and analyzed for it's approval, dissemination and implementation according to the consensus agreement of the organizations and the ICF.

b) Have any stakeholder consultations on REDD or reducing deforestation been held in the past several years? If so, what groups were involved, when and where, and what were the major findings?:

- i. The Government of Honduras through the Natural Resources and Environment Secretariat in strategic alliances with the ICF have organized a multidisciplinary working group with the purpose to develop the REDD Strategy in Honduras, as first step the technical capacities of both institutions are being strengthened on this issue, subsequently other institutions and groups associated will be included in the subject accordingly to the financial resources available and according to legal and administrative processes of the country.
- ii. On the issue of reducing deforestation ICF has undertaken the following actions:
 - a. The creation of the National Environment Conservation and Reforestation Program, financed with national funds.
 - b. The creation of the Independent Forest Monitoring to control illegal logging is being carried out by the National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH).
 - c. Through the Honduran Forest Agenda there have been held talks with organizations and civil society to address the issue of illegal logging, forest fires and land use change and forestry.
 - d. Support from the Government of Honduras to the Regional Program of Forest Ecosystems Management (PERFOR) that instructs the countries to strengthen the national reforestation and emission reduction by deforestation and degradation programs.

In all this consultation processes initiated in 1994 with the AFE-COHDEFOR and the following actors have participated actively: Local Government, State Institutions, NGO's, Peasant Groups, Indigenous Communities, based organizations and foundations, Water Boards, Peasant Cooperatives, Agro Forestry Cooperatives, Private Enterprises involved in the sector till present.

c) What stakeholder consultation and implementation role discussion process might be used for discussions across federal government agencies, institutes, etc.?

Through the facilitation of initiated processes between ICF, SERNA, and the Honduran Forest Agenda through different participative and consultation means, such as:

- Consultation Workshops on different levels
- Regional and National Forums
- Interviews with actors and sectors

If it is implemented as it is established by the New Forestry Law, as it is explained in question 4 of this template.

d) Across state or other subnational governments or institutions?

Sub national and institutional consultations will be practiced with the national organizations and area local governments, peasant groups, indigenous communities, grassroots organizations such as foundations, Water Boards, Rural Cooperative Associations, Agro-forestry Cooperatives, private companies involved in the sector, the other stakeholders will be involved according to the roles they play within their regions at all times trying to develop REDD strategy, one should not lose sight of the forest governance, implementation of environmental laws and the equitable distribution of benefits REDD.

e) For other stakeholders on forest and agriculture lands and sectors, (e.g., NGOs, private sector, etc.)?

National-level consultations will be carried out at different levels through the ICF – SERNA structures through awareness workshops in the subject, workshop, discussion forums, involving the other government institutions such as: The National Agrarian Institute (INA), the Land Administration Project (PATH), National Rural Sustainable Development Program (PRONADERS), Agriculture and Animal Science National Program (PRONAGRO), Association of Municipalities of Honduras (AHMON) Timber Association of Honduras (AMADHO), Honduran Private Enterprises (COHEP) and the National Association of Entrepreneurs of Wood Processors (ANETRAMA).

f) For forest-dwelling indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers?

Private forest owners played a major role in the consultation process that will be necessary to advise them how they can access and REDD incentives (financial resources, technical assistance and compensation). Similarly they should give special attention to marginalized groups and indigenous communities because they are potential beneficiaries of the strategy for REDD will need to identify those barriers that prevent an equitable distribution of benefits.

The AFE-COHDEFOR promoted in the past the Network of Private Forest Owners, so that they can develop sustainable management of forests, in order to be competitive within the forestry sector. This organization will be part of the consultation strategy for implementing the REDD in the future. Similarly, the ICF is organizing the communities living in national forest tenure and management contracts echo binding and use the same, these organizations and other forms of consultation to be beneficiaries of the strategy for REDD example of this self-help organizations of peasants, small agro-forestry, water boards, farmers' associations cooperatives, among others.

8. Implementing REDD strategies:

a) What are the potential challenges to introducing effective REDD strategies or programs, and how might they be overcome? (e.g., lack of financing, lack of technical capacity, governance issues like weak law enforcement, lack of consistency between REDD plans and other development plans or programs, etc.):

- i. The biggest challenge of the Program for the Reduction of carbon emissions caused by deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) is its integration into existing planning instruments in the country, considering this institutional strengthening, capacity building, the appropriate level of technology and sustainability. Since once the REDD strategy is implemented from the financial aspect all state institutions are committed to give continuity to the actions in light of the goal in view, trying to tip the economic balance in favor of sustainable management of forests for the economic goods and services, environmental and social benefits to forest dwellers, always trying to avoid deforestation and forest degradation and thus mitigate the effects of climate change.

To follow up the REDD process is necessary to establish a monitoring unit and monitoring of the activities generated in the process.

b) Would performance-based payments through REDD be a major incentive for implementing a more coherent strategy to tackle deforestation? Please, explain why. (i.e., performance-based payments would occur after REDD activities reduce deforestation, and monitoring has occurred):

- i. The topic of REDD is relatively new and complex. For its development, it is necessary to devise a strategy based on a cost-benefit system in which all activities are compensated for forest conservation, example is the payment for forest management activities such as: forestry treatments (planting, thinning, forest protection, pests and

diseases control). Honduras is a country of great tradition and forestry experience tells us that whenever there have been direct incentive to conserve the forest communities and groups have responded positively (for more information see: http://www.cohdefor.hn/sistema_social_forestal/)

- ii. Payment that takes into account the players who are carrying out actions to prevent deforestation, must become an economic tool that involves the concept of a coherent strategy in their instrumentalization and operation, to encourage owners (state, municipal and private) and non-owners (beneficiaries) and exerting pressure on forests, using appropriate techniques to manage and conserve forests, and the many benefits they give the benefit of a better quality of life focused on the topic of Goods by Environmental Services. For more information, see the experience of the Honduran Forest Agenda (http://www.agendaforestalhn.org/bienes_servicios.html)

9. REDD strategy monitoring and implementation:

a) How is forest cover and land use change monitored today, and by whom? (e.g., forest inventory, mapping, remote sensing analysis, etc.):

- i. The ICF is responsible for monitoring the forest cover through forest inventory, multi-temporal analysis and mapping to identify changes and land use.
- ii. The ICF has the Department of Information Heritage and Forestry (IPPC), which has among its functions: monitoring forest inventory, generating geo-referenced information (GIS), mapping, collecting, analyzing and publishing information on Forest Ecosystems.

b) What are the constraints of the current monitoring system? What constraints for its application to reducing deforestation and forest degradation? (e.g., system cannot detect forest degradation of forest stands, too costly, data only available for 2 years, etc.):

- i. The ICF through central IPPC has trained technical personnel to monitor forest inventory and generate information and create geo-referenced maps. Similarly, the proper equipment for removal of this information. But always have the need to acquire satellite images of higher resolution and accuracy. Also, the technical staff should be in a process of training and updating. Importantly, the images to monitor changes in land use and generation of maps are outdated and do not possess the properties free resolution for professional jobs.

c) How would you envision REDD activities and program performance would be monitored? (e.g., changes in forest cover or deforestation or forest degradation rates resulting from programs, using what approaches, etc.)

REDD activities can be developed through a national system for monitoring change and land use. Through an inventory model that includes permanent plots, according to the one used by FAO in the last national forest inventory (FAO 2006). It recommends increasing the number of permanent plots, with the aim of decreasing the standard error of the inventory and increase their accuracy. In this sense, the satellite images are used to make cross-checks of inventory must be high resolution to allow us to accurately estimate the existence of the forest, its changes over time and thus able to calculate the rate of deforestation and real forest degradation are necessary for implementing the REDD strategy that is reliable, verifiable, and reporting.

Through this monitoring system, it could also be added other important measuring parameters such as: biodiversity, communities in areas with high deforestation rates, including data from human development index, data from vulnerability and risk management among other.

10. Additional benefits of potential REDD strategy:

a) Are there other non-carbon benefits that you expect to realize through implementation of the REDD strategy (e.g., social, environmental, economic, biodiversity)? What are they, where, how much?

Among the potential benefits could include REDD, strengthening the governance of forest resources, resolution of conflicts between landowners and problems of social exclusion.

In addition to the REDD strategy would become the key element that will open a series opportunities, among which are:

- i. Strengthening the actors and stakeholders.
- ii. The strengthening of the environmental strategy of poverty reduction for indigenous peoples and African

- iii. Americans who make use of forest resources
- iv. The recovery of ecosystems by indigenous and black communities such as wetlands with actions to improve the quality of water, soil productivity and conservation of the species
- v. Better use of hydro-energy potential of the country
- vi. Capacity building in environmental management for the success of the REDD strategy.
- vii. The strategy will also improve the policy and planning tools in the country
- viii. Greater linkage between the productive sector and the National Competitiveness Program, considering the participation of the agricultural, forestry and tourism
- ix. The promotion of integrated programs that include management and use of clean technologies
- x. The incorporation of productive sectors and access to international markets
- xi. Reduction of Environmental Vulnerability
- xii. Improving quality of life

b) Is biodiversity conservation being monitored at present? If so, what kind, where, and how?

Yes, the monitoring has been performed by the Department of Protected Areas and Wildlife of the ICF and the Directorate of Biodiversity through SERNA:

- Monitoring the Effectiveness of Protected Areas Management (Administrative)
- The Biological Monitoring (in Protected Areas)

These instruments have been implemented in 33 protected areas, the most important:

- a. Wildlife Refuge of Cuero y Salado
- b. Pico Bonito National park
- c. Jeannette Kawas National Park
- d. Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve
- e. Patuca National park

The methodology used for monitoring these areas was designed by Project PRO - ARCA - CAPAS USAID through participative design with the residents of these protected areas.

c) Under your early ideas on introducing REDD, would biodiversity conservation also be monitored? How?

Once after the process of monitoring the implementation of REDD is consolidated, the system designed can be expanded to monitor biodiversity (species identification of key indicators of biodiversity degradation and fragmentation) using a hierarchical approach that considers the environment and populations of species in the ecosystem. The design of monitoring could include the following steps:

- i. Establishing a baseline.
- ii. Review of existing information.
- iii. Identification of hot spots in ecosystems that show endangered species extinction
- iv. Establishment of the objectives of the monitoring.
- v. Identification of areas to develop monitoring and treatment
- vi. Design of a statistical sampling methodology.
- vii. Analysis and interpretation of indicators
- viii. Threat analysis
- ix. Recommended actions.

The Monitoring could also be extended to include communities in areas with high deforestation rates, including data from human development index, data from vulnerability and risk management among others.

d) Are rural livelihood benefits currently monitored? If so, what benefits, where, and how?

- i. The National Statistics Institute (INE) is responsible for monitoring the quality of life, poverty, illiteracy rates, availability of utilities, per capita income and human development index. These parameters can be used to prioritize areas for immediate attention to social development projects. For more information see <http://www.ine-hn.org/>. There are other institutions that are linked to the theme of human development and community benefits, such as UNDP, Program for the Eradication of Poverty and Based on these statistics in the current government

program, have taken steps to improve the quality of life for most rural communities, the institutions that have the following mandate:

- a. National Program for the Eradication of Poverty,
(<http://www.sierp.hn/sierp.web/site/BibliotecaBusqueda.aspx?id=2>)
- b. Solidary Net (<http://www.primeradama.gob.hn/red%20solidaria.htm>)
- c. Land Administration Project (PATH),
- d. Forestry and Rural Productivity Project (PBPR),
- e. Rural Competitiveness (COMRURAL)
(<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/BANCOMUNDIAL/EXTSPPAISES/LACINSPANISHEXT/HONDURASINSPANISHEXTN/0,,contentMDK:21724793~pagePK:141137~piPK:141127~theSitePK:456502.00.html>)
- f. National Program for Local Development (PRONADEL)
- g. National Program for Environmental Conservation and the National Reforestation;

All these institutions are currently carrying out management of forest resources in the 298 municipalities in the country.

- iii. Similarly, the ICF system through the Social Forestry, benefiting rural communities throughout the country (for more information is attached table peasant Agro-Forestry - Forestry Board).

e) Under your early ideas on introducing REDD, would rural livelihood benefits also be monitored? How?

Yes, considering the broad opportunities that are presented through the REDD Strategy (and developed on question 10 item a))

11. What type of assistance are you likely to request from the FCPF Readiness Mechanism?

- Identify your early ideas on the technical or financial support you would request from FCPF to build capacity for addressing REDD, if you are ready to do so. (Preliminary; this also could be discussed later.)
 - Include an initial estimate of the amount of support for each category, if you know.
 - Please refer to the Information Memorandum and other on-line information about the FCPF for more details on each category:
- a) Setting up a transparent stakeholder consultation on REDD (e.g., outreach, workshops, publications, etc.):

To develop the REDD strategy in Honduras, it is required to:

A communication and outreach strategy is required that contemplates the elaboration of posters, radio programs, forums, workshops, meetings, field trips and more. So that we can fully cover all strategy beneficiaries.

b) Developing a reference case of deforestation trends: Assessment of historical emissions from deforestation and/or forest degradation, or projections into the future.

- i. Funding will be required to develop a real base line on the stock of forest, so that we can contrast and compare between different past forest inventory and the one that will be developed in the present, so that we have a baseline scenario that is reliable verifiable and reportable, and that will also allows us to identify areas in the country that are most threatened in terms of land use change, so that we can generate a risk map of high credibility. With regard to this issue assistance will be required to support us in the development of a forest, soil and coal inventory with its own maps.
- ii. With the support provided from this funding, we will accomplish an updated forest map which will also allow us to estimate the greenhouse gas emissions for this sector.

c) Developing a national REDD Strategy: Identification of programs to reduce deforestation and design of a system for providing targeted financial incentives for REDD to land users and organizations (e.g., delivery of payments, governance issues, etc.):

- i. More financial resources will be required to create a Fund to manage and implement the REDD strategy, in a way that the fund may provide incentives to the beneficiaries to avoid deforestation and degradation of the forest resources. Similarly, the fund will need to develop programs that promote incentives such as:
 - a. Forest fire control
 - b. Plantations
 - c. Thinning
 - d. Pest Control
 - e. Recuperation of degraded areas
 - f. Changing land uses of forests that is used in agricultural practices and livestock.

d) Design of a system to monitor emissions and emission reductions from deforestation and/or forest degradation:

Substantial efforts are needed to suit an efficient monitoring system so it can have a consistent database that can do the following tasks:

- i. Integrate databases for analysis of the past in the present
- ii. To adjust the satellite images of the past with present satellite images to generate maps in which we can identify how the vegetation has changed over time and space.
- iii. That maps that are generated on the use of forest land have the precision so that they can be used by other disciplines at the national level (agriculture, land management, biology, biodiversity, development of future climate scenarios, drought and desertification maps, maps of management risk and vulnerability, among others).
- iv. Creation of operational manuals to management information base and data, so that other institutions related to forestry can interact with that information.

Similarly for the creation of this monitoring strategy it must be consistent with the methodology recommended by the IPCC, better known as "reference methods" Top - Down or Up - Down ", which refers to the estimation of GHG emissions reduced by deforestation in mosaic (Methodology for Estimating Reductions of GHG Emissions from Mosaic Deforestation) proposed by the World Bank BioCarbon Fund which is a proposal that will be adjusted and improved according to changing policy decisions, the scientific literature and field experience. It is currently open to receiving comments and feedback (Biocarbon Fund 2008).

e) Other?: In relation to what is described in subsection "d" this monitoring and following strategy should include the impact of forest degradation attributed to climate change in different scenarios, for example, the attack suffered by coniferous forest in Honduras due to "the pine beetle" (*Dendroctonus Frontalis*) which can be monitored by satellite images showing the location of the attacks and that may allow the development of a strategy to control it in an efficient manner.

Please state donors and other international partners that are already cooperating with you on the preparation of relevant analytical work on REDD. Do you anticipate these or other donors will cooperate with you on REDD strategies and FCPF, and if so, then how?:

Importantly, the issue of REDD is completely new in Honduras as in other Latin American countries, however Honduras belong to the coalition of countries to develop this theme, we have begun a strategic alliance between the ICF and SERNA, to impel the basis of the REDD subject, therefore international cooperation has provided support to Honduras to participate in the issue of REDD and their cooperation has been aimed to: provide information, advice, funds to travel to conferences of the parties, consultation forums between them we can mention Rain Forest Coalition, Capacity Building International, Germany (INWENT) and Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ).

Honduras is expecting to be able to participate in the formal and voluntary carbon market in a way to raise money for the REDD strategy to be sustainable. We hope that the World Bank through FCPF will provide us funds for its implementation

13. Potential Next Steps and Schedule:

Have you identified your priority first steps to move toward Readiness for REDD activities? Do you have an

estimated timeframe for them yet, or not?

- i. **Strengthening of Capacities:** it is necessary to train technical personal at a national level, this training should be done with the assistance of academic institutions such is the case of Honduras with National School of Forestry Sciences (ESNACIFOR), Pan-American Agriculture School, Universidad Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH), National Agricultural University, Universidad Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH), National Agriculture University (UNA), Private Universities, Interinstitutional Committee of Environment Sciences (CICA) and the National Forest, Protected Areas, and Wildlife Investigation System (SINFOR, that includes representatives of the institutions mentioned above). One (1) year.
- ii. **Gathering of Information:** it is necessary to gather all the available information related to the existing REDD strategy, at the same time the government should participate in all events related to the subject to be carried out in the international arena. One (1) year.
- iii. **Establishment of a Base Line:** to be used as reference of the emission level of GHG, it is high priority that all the satellite images from 1990 to 2009 are analyzed so that we can identify the change suffered in the forest cover in Honduras (LULUCF maps). As part of this base line it is important to mentioned that it is necessary to elaborate a forest inventory of permanent parcels that it has already being established in the FAO inventory methodology, and adopt it to the approved methodologies by the IPCC with the purpose to update the data base and generate updated maps. Two (2) years.
- iv. **Creation of a monitoring system:** it is necessary to use a satellite image base based on LULUCF to initiate a monitoring process; this system could take us a year (1) to mount.
- v. **Creation of a REDD Strategy:** to create a strategy it is necessary to mount a media campaign to include outreach and consultation workshops elaborate posters, radio shows, among others, depending on the financial aid it could take us about twelve (12) months, that concludes with the process consolidation.
- vi. **Monitoring of the REDD Strategy:** it would be necessary to design and create a continuous monitoring system of the REDD Strategy, both at a national level so that we can assess whether the strategy is actually making an impact to control LULUCF, in the emission reduction, biodiversity conservation. Besides if the eco-management contracts with communities and forest dwellers are efficient, equitable, and transparent and are accomplishing the goal of avoiding deforestation and forest degradation. Two (2) years.
- vii. **Strategy Adjust:** it would be necessary to review in a short term if the strategy is efficient or not, through consultation workshops that may provide us feedback and may allow us to take corrective actions to the process. This process could be done after two years. It could also be analyzed the incorporation of other national strategies related to forestry and REDD Strategy, such as the National Climate Change Strategy in Honduras.

14. List any Attachments included
(Optional: 15 pages maximum.)

1. Honduras Forest Law (Decree 98-2007)
2. Table Agro forestry Peasant Groups Enrolled in the Social System, in Areas Assigned according to Land Tenure Table (Figures accumulate to 2007).