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#### Piloting national-subnational relationship on RLs in Peru and Guatemala

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(Photograph: Conservation International)







- Diverse country (deserts, dry forest, rainforest, mountain forest, paramo...).
- ~68 Mha of forests.
- Ranks 4<sup>th</sup> among tropical countries with more forest.

### CD

### Peru



- Ongoing decentralization.
- Reference levels are being established at the subnational level:
  - Madre de Dios (8.52 Mha)
  - San Martin (5.16 Mha)
  - Selva Central (10.36 Mha)
  - Cusco (6.60 Mha)
- Roughly 1/3 of the forested area is being covered.
- 100% civil society funded.
- Governments participate and learn.
- More than 40 REDD projects in preparation.

### Nested Approach in Peru



The national reference emission level (REL) will be calculated as the sum of regional reference emission levels.

The "Region" is the scale at which reference emission levels are established. What is a "region" is tbd by the country.

At the local level (or project level) RELs are derived directly from the regional REL ("cookie cut" method)

### Peru



Governance of the readiness process:

- Central Government
- National Civil Society REDD+ Round Table
- Regional REDD+ round tables:
  - Cusco
  - Loreto
  - Madre de Dios
  - Piura
  - San Martin
  - Ucayali

#### REDD+ Round Table of San Martín



Working Group 1: Reference Levels Working Group 2: Community Aspects

# Development of the reference emission level

- 1. Analysis of historical deforestation
- 2. Participative and literature-based analysis of agents and drivers of deforestation
- 3. Estimation of Emission Factors
  - Carbon stocks in forests
  - Carbon stocks in post-deforestation land uses
- 4. Projection of Activity Data:
  - Stratified projection of the rate
  - Location modeling



# Historical deforestation



## Historical deforestation



# Historical deforestation



### Carbon stocks

- 466 existing plots
- 433 passed screening
- Carbon stock densities (CO<sub>2</sub>-e/ha):
  - 267.2 ± 11.0
  - 317.0 ± 12.8
  - 253.3 ± 53.5
  - 261.4 ± 96.4
  - 201.8 ± 78.7



Stratification for projecting the rate.

Factor maps for projecting the location:

- Distance to roads
- Elevation
- Slope
- Distance to settlements
- etc.









































### Projection of the deforestation rate in Madre de Dios



### Economic logic of deforestation









### Deforestation and opportunity costs (meat, corn) in Madre de Dios



**Opportunity Costs US\$/ha/yr** 

Historical Deforestation Rate (%)

### Strata for the projection of the deforestation rate

1)



Close to roads (+ positive opportunity costs)

rate = f (opportunity costs)

#### 2) Far from roads (= negative opportunity costs)

rate = average historic rate (very low rate)

- 3) Mining concessions
  - rate = average historic rate (very high rate)
- 4) More than 50 km from roads rate = 0
#### Guatemala 5 sub-national regions



Nested REDD projects

- 2 national workshops to define the regions.
- Each region has different circumstances.
- A REL will be developed for each region.
- The sum of regional RELs will be the national REL.

#### Guatemala



Most of the remaining forest is located in the "Tierras bajas del Norte"

## **Historical Activity Data**

Agropecuario - No bosque - Guamiles Agua Bosque de pino-mixto Bosque latifoliado bajo Bosque latifoliado medio-alto Degradado a no bosque (huracán Richard) Humedales Palma africana Sabanas (SF) Sabanas inundables Sin datos (nubes)

CD



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# **REDD** projects in preparation

National Park Sierra del Lacandón

С



Forestry Concessions Zona de Uso Múltiple de la RBM

#### Lachuá Ecoregion

# Stratification to project rates





#### Stratum 1: increasing rate

Stratum 2: about constant rate

Stratum 3: decreasing rate

#### Projection in stratum 1





#### Carbon Stocks:

- 762 plots.
- CO<sub>2</sub>-e/ha:
  - 274.7 ± 19.1
  - 181.3 ± 0.3
  - 344.7 ± 18.6

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Gobernanza de la fase de diseño del Proyecto REDD+ en la Zona de Uso Múltiple de la Reserva de la Biosfera Maya

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## Are we on track?

Not yet....

 Almost more project areas that threatened areas (Madre de Dios)

#### Are we on track?

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![](_page_68_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Are we on track?

#### Not yet....

- Almost more project areas that threatened areas (Madre de Dios).
- Still weak leadership of governments.
- Faster decision-making could minimize the risk of future inconsistencies and conflicts.
- High-level policy & methodology guidance would be helpful.
- Critical issues are still not being addressed (under-performance, grandfathering, leakage, permanence, registry, ...)

### Lessons learned

#### **TECHNICAL:**

- Analysis of historical deforestation has delayed almost all projects. It is the most important piece for calibrating a credible projection.
- Documentation of past remote sensing work is usually absent or poor.
- Most of the effort is on data collection.
- Choice of data is determining the model output.
- Most commonly used method to project the rate is: average historic rate (because of insufficient data to do otherwise).
- Models can be validated with historical data, which helps selecting the most credible model.
- Developing RLs for regions encompassing several projects results in more credible RLs (more difficult for individual projects to bias the RL).

## Lessons learned

#### **INSTITUTIONAL – POLITICAL:**

- Speed problem: "the smaller the faster".
- Governments are slowly understanding that some kind of nesting will be hard to avoid.
- Too many donors are focusing on RELs and MRV without coordination.
- Within governments, climate change teams and forest inventory teams are still learning how to work together.
- A change in government teams often implies one year delay or starting over again.
- Organizing people and institutions takes time, more time than the private sector can afford.
- Insufficient thinking on how to reduce deforestation.
## ¡Thank you for your attention!



Aligning interests of local people, governments and investors to protect and restore tropical forest landscapes

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