

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: Honduras

June 2013

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- The work with the FCPF has started in 2009. The R-PIN was approved in February 2009. A mission from the FMT then took place to discuss about the FCPF process and provide advice on the process of preparation of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). The RPP is a document designed to help the country to be prepared for Reducing Emissions from Forest Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) in order to be "ready for REDD" in 2017.
- Honduras has decided to work on the preparation of a document that includes the most important elements for the future implementation of REDD+ at the national level. This preparation process began with the identification of stakeholders for the REDD+ readiness process and includes the construction of a roadmap.
- In October 2011, during PC10, Honduras invited UNDP to act as Delivery Partner of the FCPF.
- In December 2011, the first informal submission of the RPP took place, followed by a second informal submission in August 2012.
- In August 2012, after the signature of the Transfer Agreement between FCPF and UNDP, UNDP confirmed its willingness to act as Delivery Partner in Honduras.
- In October 2012, Honduras received 2 missions from UNDP to discuss about the role of the Delivery Partner, the Common Approach, and the preparation of the RPP and discuss about next steps. In February 2013 a joint mission UNDP-FCPF took place and provided guidance for the finalization of the RPP.
- In February 2013, a validation meeting took place, as a pre-requisite of the delivery Partner before the formal submission of the RPP to the FCPF.
- In March 2013 the RPP document has been formally presented during PC14, and endorsed by the Participant Committees with a couple of requirements.
- In May 2013, it is worth noting that despite the relatively short period to elaborate and finalize its RPP, a series of progresses have been generated, as listed below, thanks to the active participation and efforts of all sectors.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- In June 2010, the Inter-institutional Committee on Climate Change (CICC in Spanish) has been established. This CICC is led by Natural Resources and Environment Secretary and composed by a diversity of actors : private sector, civil society, public sector, academy sector . It includes a dedicated sub-committee to work on REDD+, created in June 2010. This REDD+ sub-committee is led by Natural Resources and Environment Secretary and Forestry Conservation Institute , composed by a diversity of sectors and its role is to facilitate the dialogue between all stakeholders and structure the preparation of the readiness phase and related consultations in order to capture all the needs and concerns in a future REDD + National Strategy.
- From 2010 to May 2013, the REDD+ sub-committee already met in several to discuss all updates that occur an international level and follow the development process of the R-PP document and activities related to the process of preparation.
- A study called "Diagnostic Capacity for REDD+" has been realized in February 2013, with the support of GIZ under the leadership of SERNA. It describes the training needs at different levels and sectoral areas which are required to be prepared to REDD+ and able to access REDD+ finance, and therefore contribute to mitigate climate change. The capacity building and trainings for public institutions will be driven by the government, with the support of international cooperation and national partners to all stakeholders. The capacity building and trainings for other stakeholders such as civil society organizations, indigenous people, agro-descendants groups and other communities depending on forest will be managed by Governmental Sector in collaboration with GIZ and PNUD.

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3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- The early dialogue process with stakeholders in the country, including indigenous peoples and other sectors (agroforestry groups) and government institutions has started in 2012. It has provided inputs which have guided the elaboration of the RPP, and was supported by international donors active in the country. From 2011 to May 2013, more than 30 national and local meetings and workshops have been organized, to discuss about REDD+ as well as the preparation of the RPP.
- In March 2013, during PC14, the FCPF invited Honduras to reach out to the indigenous people organizations that are not yet part of the dialogue on REDD+ readiness. A mission took place in May 2013 to meet with others indigenous people organizations that are not yet part of the process led by Subcommittee REDD and CONPAH.
- In 2012, SERNA and ICF prepared a communication plan on REDD+, in order to generate and disseminate official information on the readiness process developed so far.
- It is worth noting that thanks to the discussions on the RPP and on the readiness phase between SERNA and representatives of indigenous groups, a national platform has been created in January 2013 to discuss a series of requests from indigenous groups and issues outside REDD+, with the highest political authorities, such as land tenure and land right.
- The participation of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran representatives is taking place through the National Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Committee on Climate Change (MINCC in Spanish), The MINCC is led in this moment by the Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Honduras (CONPAH) through his political committee and technical committee. The MINCC is governed by the principles of inclusion and participation of all indigenous and afro-descendant organizations in the country.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- The foundations of the future REDD+ strategy are described in the RPP formally submitted to the FCPF in March 2013. They include a detailed description of the drivers of deforestation, assessment of land use changes, primary and secondary political options for the REDD+ strategy, among others.
- The active participation of relevant actors in the subcommittee REDD + reflects the concentration of stakeholders and institutions at the level of Tegucigalpa, but there are many actors at the sub-national level which directly and indirectly contribute, positively or negatively, to REDD efforts. They will have to be taken into account during the development of the national REDD strategy.

5. Implementation Framework

- The process developed in order to have an implementation framework has begun with the development of the "Analysis of the Legal and Institutional current Carbon Property and Land Tenure for the implementation of REDD + and other compensation mechanisms in Honduras". This analysis was realized in March 2013 under the leadership of Natural Resources and Environment Secretary and Forestry Conservation Institute and with the support of GIZ. This input resulted in the identification of gaps and needs for possible reforms of the national legislation for the benefit of all, and likewise the proposals for legal and institutional reforms necessary to make possible the implementation of REDD+ projects.
- More details on the implementation framework are provided in the RPP submitted to the FCPF.

6. SESA

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- As described in the RPP, the implementation of the SESA is under the responsibility of the national REDD+ sub-committee and the MINCC. A special commission for SESA will be created in 2013.
- After the endorsement of the RPP in March 2013, a national workshop was organized in June 2013 to discuss and generate consensus on the next steps regarding the SES. The participants included government agencies: Natural Resources and Environment Secretary, Forestry Conservation Institute, Indigenous People Secretary and civil society, including indigenous and peasant organizations like CONPAH,.
- The preparing of the SESA will be discussed with the Delivery Partner and will be a priority to be initiated as soon as possible, with training sessions on SESA principles and functions with different actors.
- With the realization of the thematic informative workshop on Safeguards to develop in the month of June 2013, will allow to establish a roadmap to start working on discussions in the conformation of a safeguards system.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- In March 2013, an analysis to understand the dynamics of changes in forest cover called "Quantitative analysis of the dynamics of deforestation for the 16 regions of the Republic of Honduras by applying a predictive model of regional deforestation using GIS" was realized. Official historic information related to national forest coverage begins in 1965, continuing in 1985, 1995, 2001, 2003 and 2009. However, technical processes, methodological protocols, and levels of reliability of the construction of these maps of coverage and land use have different validation methodologies and standards, meaning that a comparison is not always possible.
- In May 2013, and based on the above context, ICF is actually developing a process for building national forest cover maps, for 2000 to 2005 and 2010, with standardized methodologies and classification systems. This effort will enable the country to quantify historical deforestation rates, with a clear level of certainties.

8. MRV

- The National Institute of Forest Conservation and Development (ICF) is the body responsible for forestry in Honduras and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment is the political focal point of Honduras to the United Nations Framework Convention of the United Nations on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Both are working together to generate a national forest map in May 2013, which will be a timely and reliable tool for management, decision making and monitoring the achievement of objectives and national and international goals.
- Another significant progress development under the MRV component is the establishment of a platform for the dissemination of data and information through a geo-portal in May 2013 which is being made available to users in the forestry sector.
- In May 2011, and with the support of the Republic of Taiwan, the implementation of the project "Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems for Resource Management and Natural Disasters" started. This project is expected to be implemented from June 2011 to June 2013. It uses satellite imagery FORMOSAT2 sensor, and will implement a platform that will allow monitoring of the dynamics of change forest cover. This monitoring is then validated through visits in the field, in identified area, and verified by the owners.

9. Other

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