

FCPF – External Technical Advisory Panel

TAP Overview Report:

**Chile, El Salvador, Honduras, Papua New Guinea,
Cameroon, Vanuatu**

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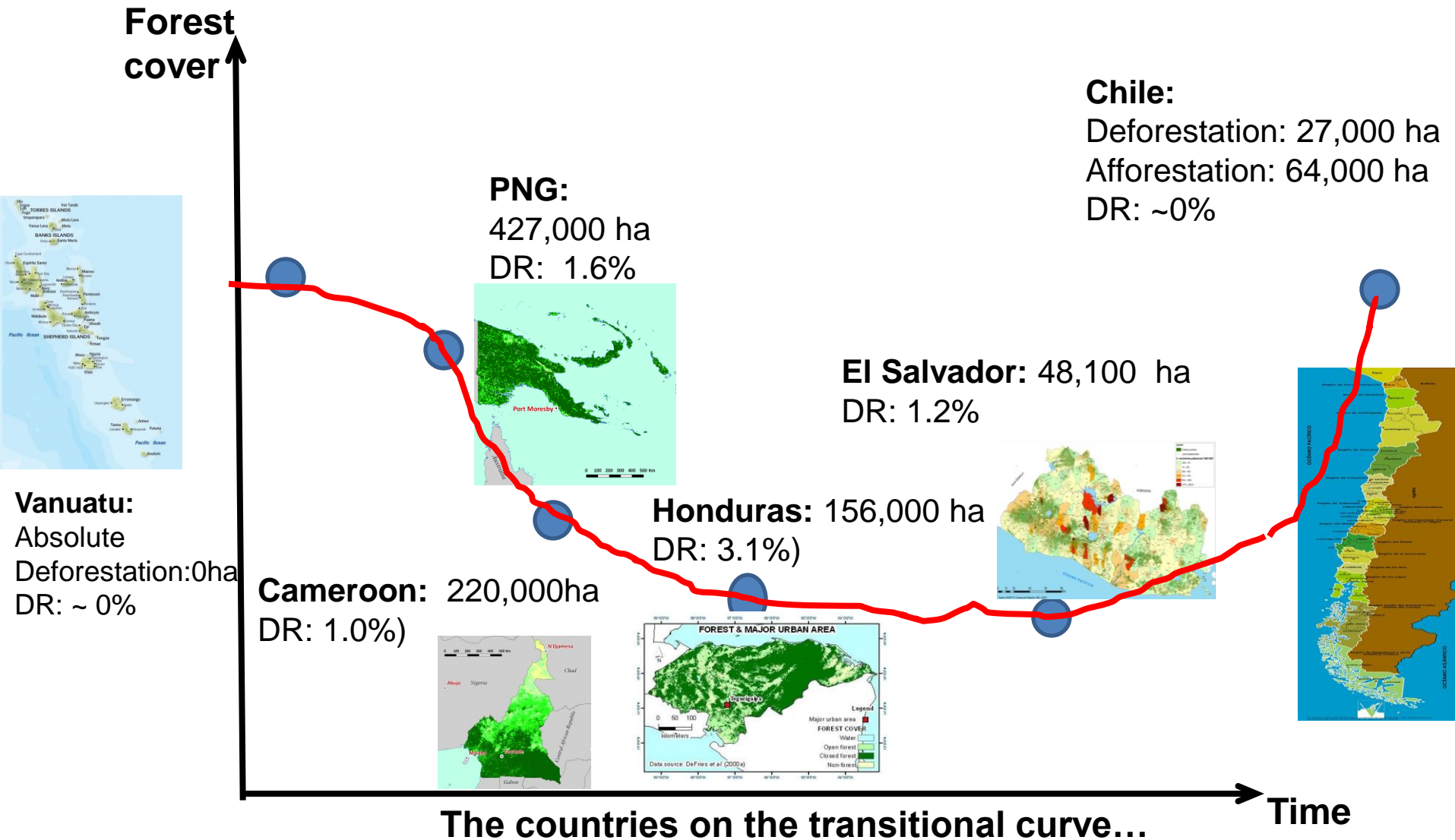
Overview

- **Reviewed Six Countries –**
 - Latin America: Chile, El Salvador and Honduras
 - Central Africa: Cameroon
 - Asia and the Pacific: Papua New Guinea (PNG), Vanuatu
- **Wide range of**
 - Country populations – 0.20 million in Vanuatu to 20 million in Cameroon
 - Rural populations – 13% in Chile to 87% in Papua New Guinea (PNG)
- **Forest areas:**
 - 18% in Chile to 63% in PNG
- **Annual deforestation:**
 - Varies from virtually none in Vanuatu to about 427,000 ha in PNG
 - Also accompanied by 64,000 ha of annual reforestation compared to 27,000 ha of deforestation in Chile

Six R-PPs: Represent Distinct Situations

	Cameroon	Chile	El Salvador	Honduras	PNG	Vanuatu
• Population						
○ Total (Millions)	20	15.1	6.1	7.6	7.04	0.20
○ Rural	~ 50%	13.4%	45%	50%	87%	77%
○ Indigenous		4%		6.6%	>700 tribal groups	98%
• Forest Cover (% National Territory)	42%	18%	43%	42%	63%	36%
• Annual Deforestation	220,000 (1.0%)	27,000 (0.0%)	48,000 (1.2%)	156,000 (3.1%)	427,000 (1.6%)	0 (0.0%)
• Annual Reforestation (ha/yr)		(-64,000)				
• Forestry (% GDP)		3%			4%	

Six R-PPs: Deforestation Represents Diverse Evolution



1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements

- Institutional arrangements range from well described (PNG) to not inclusive enough (Cameroon). Institutional lead taken by forestry sector in all countries except PNG
- Institutional coordination mechanisms need perfecting in the three LAC countries
- Even countries which have proposed new ministerial structures (PNG) may have difficulty proposing leverage mechanisms to facilitate cross-sectoral coordination, so critical for REDD-plus.
- The institutions that will be responsible for leading the REDD implementation process do not generally have the political strength of other sectors; this may be linked to one of the major drivers of deforestation: land-use change to make way at the frontier of agricultural expansion
- Standard only partially met for all of PNG, Vanuatu & Cameroon, but met for all three LAC countries

1b. Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups

- Consultation processes have concentrated on people living in and dependent on forests; more engagement is needed with a wider range of institutions and sectors, as well as with those whose activities are responsible for deforestation (farmers, ranchers, commercial agriculture enterprises, miners)
- The dialogue with IP groups has been slow to get off the ground for example in Chile and Vanuatu. This has required capacity-building to enable these groups to participate meaningfully, as reported by El Salvador and Honduras
- Information sharing has generally been better managed than real dialogue. Increased efforts have been invested in this aspect with positive results
- R-PP formulation processes have not generally engaged systematically enough with other sectors of the economy (and government) to achieve co-ownership of the process
- Standard met by Cameroon, El Salvador & Honduras, largely met by PNG, partially met by Chile & Vanuatu



1c. Consultation and Participation Process

- Preparation of a consultation plan is an appropriate approach for demonstrating the commitment to the consultation & participation process. In some countries (Cameroon, for example), this has been reasonably transparent and methodologies have been developed in partnership
- Generally it is rather unclear how the results of the consultations have been fed into the project formulation process and subsequently, to project design
- Countries generally recognise that participation is a process with tangible outputs and results, not an end in itself. This is clearly laid out by PNG, Honduras and El Salvador
- Participation and consultation processes have continued to improve since the early R-PPs from other countries. The need for capacity-building is widely recognised

2a. Assessment of Land Use, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

Historical data on the impact of the drivers (infrastructure, commercial agriculture, subsistence agriculture, mining, power plants, bio-fuels, commercial and/or illegal logging etc.) are limited in most of the countries, despite their importance (oil-palm and mining in PNG and Cameroon, for example)

- Land tenure and carbon ownership issues are often not treated in significant depth in most of the assessments (PNG is a notable exception); there is a real need for attention to be focused on this early on during implementation and to create the framework for the dialogue needed to make real progress on land and carbon ownership issues**
- The variety of legal land tenure arrangements is wide, PNG and Vanuatu being predominantly under customary title, while in Cameroon, for example, rural land is predominantly state-owned**
- Most countries do not produce strong enough analyses of the links between governance, law enforcement and the causes of deforestation, such as excisions from the forest estate and perverse policies leading to loss of forest carbon and other co-benefits (industrial plantations in PNG, for example)**



2b. REDD-plus Strategy Options

- **Most countries have made a strong case, with a well presented analysis of the options. All of Cameroon, PNG and Vanuatu still have more work to do, however**
- **Interesting approaches to deal with Forest Degradation are presented by Chile and El Salvador with Mitigation-Adaptation Strategies in areas with non-existent or low deforestation rates. The definition of forest (including plantations) and of forest degradation are challenges yet to be resolved in most countries.**
- **Countries have not grappled sufficiently strongly in the R-PP process with the challenge of engaging with those most involved with the causes of the problems of deforestation: hence, for example, miners (Bougainville, PNG), ranchers (Honduras) and small farmers (Cameroon) have had only very limited input to the RPP development processes to date. This affects the probability of success of the strategies if these stakeholders remain peripheral to the strategy and action plan development process.**

2c. REDD-plus Implementation Framework

- PNG has provided detailed information on the relationship between land-use and policy: this is very useful, though there is still more work to do. Cameroon covered all the key issues and described them well, and thus met the standard.
- Generally speaking, countries have not found this section easy, some of them being unclear about what to include. Perhaps “best practice” examples could be drawn from the universe of proposals approved to date to provide guidance.
- The need for establishing a legal basis for institutional mandates with new laws and regulations should be a part of these frameworks

2d. Social and Environmental Impacts During Readiness Preparation and REDD-plus Implementation

- Countries have mostly designed SESA approaches with close attention to the World Bank safeguards
- The thinking about possible impacts of REDD+ has generally not been geared to the strategic or the long-term, using a SESA approach
- Countries are hampered in this by the general weakness of land-use planning capacity and experience, that would have created the framework against which future impacts could be assessed. Cameroon, for example, needs to give more attention to the impacts on land tenure and resource rights and benefit sharing on the outcome of REDD+ implementation through the SESA process
- Workplans that reflect step-wise and time bound implementation actions are generally absent, or not well developed



3. Develop a Reference Level

- In general, this standard has been largely met, or met by the 6 countries. Considering the complexity of the technical issues, this is a remarkable achievement
- Approaches to developing reference scenarios are still varied among countries and analyses of the technical capacity needed to implement them lack sufficient details in some R-PPs
- Cameroon: needs a careful discussion of how specific drivers of deforestation will be treated in the range of agro-ecozones
- There is also still some uncertainty about data quality needed to set a baseline (Cameroon), and inconsistencies in mapping methodology (El Salvador)
- More detail is needed on capacity building (El Salvador, Honduras)

A background image of a dense green forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

4a. Carbon Monitoring

- **The technical aspects of sampling designs and estimation of carbon in chosen pools seem to be well understood (El Salvador)**
- **There is a general lack of concrete stepwise plans to build national capacities to monitor carbon flows**
- **Countries could propose collaborative structures, set targets and timelines and definition of roles with regard to MRV and regional collaboration (e.g. Cameroon with other Congo Basin neighbors implementing RPPs)**
- **Honduras: Reference Level and MRV plan based on appropriate regional approach and staged capacity building**
- **Chile provides a clear plan to develop the MRV system for degradation**
- **Gaps in guidance from the UNFCCC on how to measure degradation, baselines and leakage are still evident and a limiting factor on implementation**

A dark, close-up photograph of a forest floor with various green plants and tree trunks, serving as a background for the title.

4b. Additional Benefits

- **The monitoring of non-carbon variables is generally not very well developed and most RPPs have no clear methodologies for monitoring the impacts of policy and governance changes, biodiversity and socio-economic benefits**
- **An interesting innovation proposed by Chile is to include a socioeconomic study for small family forest owners, in order to measure factors affecting their quality of life**
- **Honduras addresses the TAP request on methodology and in fact, is now one of the more comprehensive discussions of other multiple benefits that have been provided by any country.**
- **Vanuatu, PNG and Cameroon all need to do more work on this component.**



5. Schedule and Budget

- All of the RPPs would benefit from more detail in their implementation plans including schedules and milestones for periodic review and assessment
- Budgets should at a minimum clearly identify: (1) the expenditures intended from FCPF funding and a notional disbursement schedule; (2) co-financing and/or parallel financing that is currently secured and the intended expenditure from that; (3) additional co-financing that is being sought from either domestic or donor sources
- The budget narrative should discuss how the sequence of implementation for intended activities will reflect the funding available and anticipated.
- Lack of such precision is a common weakness in many of the RPPs

6. Design & Program Monitoring and

- This should include periodic (at a minimum, midterm and final) review by qualified independent expertise
- Monitoring should include both aspects of “technical” implementation related to capacity building as well as progress on policies, laws and regulations necessary to effect successful implementation of a REDD+ program intended to last for decades
- Monitoring should include robust reporting on implementation of environmental and social “safeguards” and on co-benefits related to these
- Monitoring should include adequate studies to reflect generation of financial and other benefits and a credible assessment of the distribution of these benefits among (and when relevant within) stakeholder groups – including institutional, community and individual members

Concluding observations from the 6 R-PPs

- Many of the more difficult technical issues are still under development and subject to negotiations within the UNFCCC. The final systems adopted will be strongly influenced by decisions reached in that forum.
- The UNFCCC is not the final arbiter when it comes to REDD+ and to pay-for-performance schemes to achieve measurable and broadly credible results. So REDD+ strategies and action plans will need to include their anticipated sources of potential revenues and the level of capacity needed for documentation, monitoring, reporting and periodic assessment to meet the “standards” expected by markets or other finance mechanisms.
- Key technical areas that would benefit from continuing development include:
 - ✓ Establishment and potential future adjustment of national baselines and reference levels
 - ✓ Robust measurement and reporting of co-benefits -- and their possible future valuation through broader PES schemes
 - ✓ Policy, legal and regulatory frameworks that provide for REDD+ and take into account the influences of other sectors that are vital to national development priorities
 - ✓ Ongoing study of the impacts of REDD+ implementation on IPs and other forest dwellers and differences in impacts on gender and age groups