

Costa Rica: Emission Reductions Program

OVERVIEW

Costa Rica's tropical rainforests are rich in biodiversity, covering nearly 30% of the country's total surface area. Costa Rica is widely recognized as a global leader for its success in forest conservation, and yet, deforestation rates coupled with land use pressures are threatening the country's forests and biodiversity. The Costa Rica Emission Reductions Program aims to not only promote climate change mitigation and adaptation in forest ecosystems, but improve rural incomes and build economic resilience.

Outcomes of the Costa Rica Emission Reductions Program:

- Green and inclusive development
- Reduced ecosystem degradation
- Rehabilitation of rural lands
- Increase agricultural productivity
- Enhanced resilience of rural lands

REDD+ activities (forest protection and enhancement):

- Expand system of protected areas
- Improve capabilities to stop illegal logging
- Strengthen Payment for Environmental Services (PES) program
- Improve capacity to incorporate public land into state natural heritage

AT A GLANCE

- Crediting period:**
January 2018 – December 2024
- Annual Forest Emissions Baseline (Reference Level):** 2.6 million tCO₂e
- Total estimated emission reductions under the Program (gross):** 14.6 million tCO₂e
- Scope of FCPF ER Payment Agreement:**
12 million tCO₂e / \$60 million
- Key impacts:** Stakeholder participation; emission reductions; strengthened governance; incentives for forest conservation
- CORSIA Eligible:** Yes

PROGRAM LOCATION



PROGRAM GOALS

 Lower rates of deforestation and forest degradation	 Poverty reduction	 Strengthened governance of protected areas	 Sustained forest management and restoration	 Increased participation of IPs and communities
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COUNTRY PROFILE

5.2 POPULATION millions	51 LAND AREA 1,000 square kilometers	69.2 GDP \$ billions	59.8 FOREST AREA % land area	-0.5 DEFORESTATION avg. annual %	26.6 TERRESTRIAL PROTECTED AREAS % of total land area
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WORK TO DATE

- **ERs generated to date:** 3.2 million tCO₂e net
- **Estimated emission avoidance:** 79%
- **Estimated emission removals:** 21%
- **Vintage:** 1 January 2018 - 31 December 2019

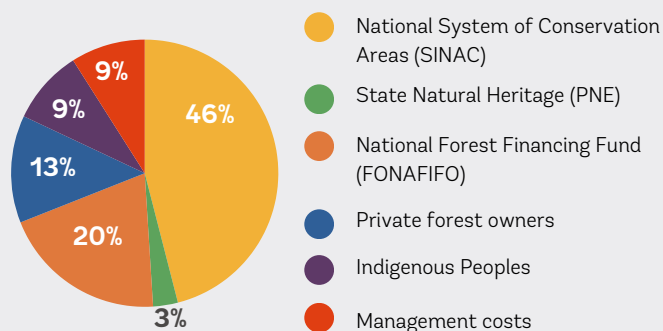
Safeguards system:

- Ensure the proper implementation of the required environmental assessment policy
- Assure the maximization of protection activities and the broadening of natural habitats and their services to the population
- Execute consultation procedures for all projects affecting Indigenous Peoples
- Assist beneficiaries in using forests to integrate them into sustainable economic development

Non-carbon benefits:

- Water protection
- Biodiversity conservation
- Landscape beauty
- Organizational capacity
- Improved participation of forest-dependent communities

BENEFITS SHARING AGREEMENT



Main reversal risks identified and mitigated (additionally, a discount to reported emissions is applied to compensate)

- Limited broad and sustained stakeholder support, such as land tenure conflicts and carbon rights conflicts.
- Limited decoupling of deforestation and degradation from economic activities
- Exposure and vulnerability to natural disturbances, including landslides and forest fires due to lightning

Registry:

- Costa Rica uses the World Bank's Carbon Asset Tracking System (CATS) as its transaction registry

Transfer of title:

- Costa Rica has the authority to transfer title to generated and verified FCPF ER credits.

CASE STUDY: CLOSING THE GENDER GAP

In Costa Rica, nearly 13,000 women producers own 107,000 hectares of land in different regions of the country, accounting for 15.6% of all the farms and 8.1% of total agricultural land owned by individuals.

However, Costa Rican rural women face gender gaps related to recognition, procedures, and distribution in natural resource management.

The FCPF Gender Action Plan provides a pathway for access to financial resources, technical assistance and support to empower and support rural women.



ABOUT THE FCPF

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous People's organizations focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, the sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries, activities commonly referred to as REDD+.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Costa Rica Country Profile](#)
[Emission Reductions Program Document](#)
[1st ER Monitoring Report \(ER-MR\)](#)
[Country Partnership Framework](#)

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Learn more about the FCPF Standard:

