

# Dominican Republic: Emission Reductions Program

#### **OVERVIEW**

Forests cover almost 40% of Dominican Republic's total surface area. In recent years, the country's tropical forests have been decreasing due to deforestation and forest degradation, driven primarily by cattle grazing within forests, timber harvesting for commercial timber, firewood and wood charcoal, and forest fires. Consequently, over the past 20 years, the Dominican Republic has ranked eighth on the list of countries most vulnerable to climate change, according to the Global Climate Risk Index.

#### Outcomes of the Emission Reductions Program, Dominican Republic:

- Increase of carbon reservoirs by boosting regeneration in degraded areas and establishing coffee, cocoa, and silvopastoral systems
- Promotion of natural resource management models for conservation of forests and increase of forest coverage
- Strengthened sustainable use of natural resources
- Strengthened public policies to contain expansion of agriculture, livestock, and infrastructure in forest areas

#### REDD+ activities (forest protection and enhancement):

- Promote agroforestry systems
- Rehabilitation of forest ecosystems in fragile areas
- Promote forest management and natural regeneration
- Improve management of protected areas
- Define and apply legal mechanisms on land tenure and payment for environmental services in REDD+ contexts

## **AT A GLANCE**

- Crediting period:
  March 2021 December 2024
- Annual Forest Emissions Baseline
  (Reference Level): -0.4 million tCO2e
- Total estimated reductions under ER Program (gross): 6.3 million tCO2e
- Scope of FCPF ER Payment Agreement: 5 million tCO2e / \$25 million
- **Key impacts**: Establishment of coffee, cocoa, and silvopastoral systems, reduction in deforestation, natural heritage conservation
- CORSIA Eligible: Yes

#### PROGRAM LOCATION



### **PROGRAM GOALS**



Substantially increase carbon reservoirs



Enhance land tenure security and recognition of rights



Enactment and application of Forestry law



Promote agroforestry practices



Implement profitsharing mechanism for ER benefits

### **COUNTRY PROFILE**

11.2

POPULATION millions

48

LAND AREA 1,000 square kilometers 114

GDP \$ billions 44.3

FOREST AREA % land area

-0.7

DEFORESTATION avg. annual %

26.4

TERRESTRIAL PROTECTED AREAS

% of total land area

#### **WORK TO DATE**

- ERs generated to date: 1.2 million tCO2e net (under verification)
- Estimated emission avoidance: 0%
- Estimated emission removals: 100%
- Vintage: 1 March 2021 31 December 2021

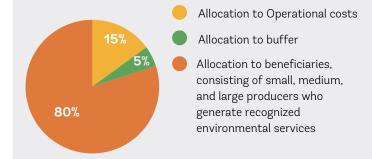
#### Safeguards system:

- Establishment of management framework for environmental and social safeguards, and undertaking of social and environmental strategic assessment
- Establishment of the Grievance Redress and Conflict Management Mechanism to address any complaints or conflicts
- Establishment of the Safeguards Information System for the collation and dissemination of safeguards information
- Gender study and creation of action plan on gender transversality in REDD+ and the program

#### Non-carbon benefits:

- → Improved agricultural productivity through climate-smart agriculture and protection of water producing areas
- → Improved household economies through forest management and conservation
- Enhanced land tenure security, poverty reduction, and job creation
- Biodiversity conservation, rehabilitation of degraded lands, and soil conservation

#### **BENEFITS SHARING AGREEMENT**



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

- → Risk of limited or narrow sustained stakeholder's support
- Limited institutional capacity and/or vertical/cross sectoral coordination
- Limited long-term effectiveness in addressing underlying drivers of deforestation
- → Exposure and vulnerability to natural disturbances

#### Registry:

 The Dominican Republic uses the World Bank's <u>Carbon</u> <u>Asset Tracking System</u> (CATS) as its transaction registry

#### Transfer of title:

 The Dominican Republic has the authority to transfer title to generated and verified FCPF ER credits.

### CASE STUDY: SHADE AGRICULTURE

Decades of focus on quantity rather than quality resulted in coffee and cocoa being grown directly under the sun. But while the tree may produce more beans, both the quality of the bean and ecological diversity suffers.

Coffee and cocoa plants naturally prefer shade, and the trees provide climate benefits, improved nutrient recycling and erosion control. In the DR, tree-shaded crops are now widely promoted and practiced. As a bonus, shade-grown coffee is less acidic and tastes better.



## **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

Dominican Republic Country Profile
Emission Reductions Program Document
1st ER Monitoring Report (ER-MR)
Country Partnership Framework

#### **FOLLOW THE FCPF**

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# COUNTRY

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#### **STAY IN TOUCH**

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## Learn more about the FCPF Standard:

