



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Colombia Emissions Reduction Program for the Pacific Region

Tenth Meeting of the Carbon Fund (CF10)

Bonn

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Colombia ER-PIN

Country progress towards Readiness

- Multi-sectoral, inter-institutional approach to each set of drivers of deforestation; reduction of perverse incentives associated with deforestation and forest degradation; increase of overall policy coherence between sectors; and a nested approach.

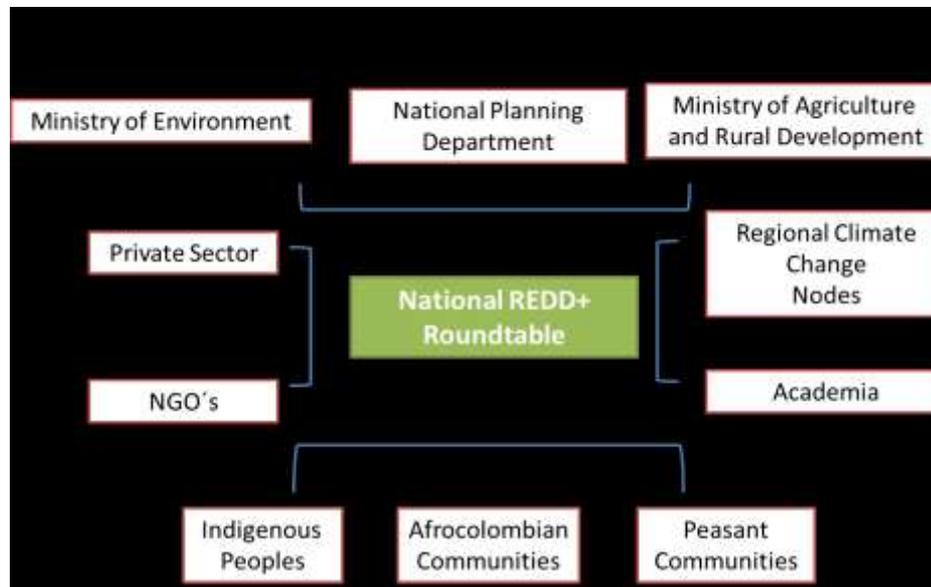


- R-PP has been designed: a roadmap to avoid deforestation, forest degradation, conserve forest carbon sinks, provide sustainable management of woods and improve forest carbon inventories.

Colombia ER-PIN

Country progress towards Readiness

- **High level commitment:** Committed core of participants at the national and local levels, supported by a constellation of international experts from industry and non-profit organizations working toward the development of REDD+ activities; GoC with relatively high level of capacity for REDD+, including the technical aspects managed within IDEAM.
- **National REDD Roundtable:** Highest instrument of coordination for REDD; involv the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS).

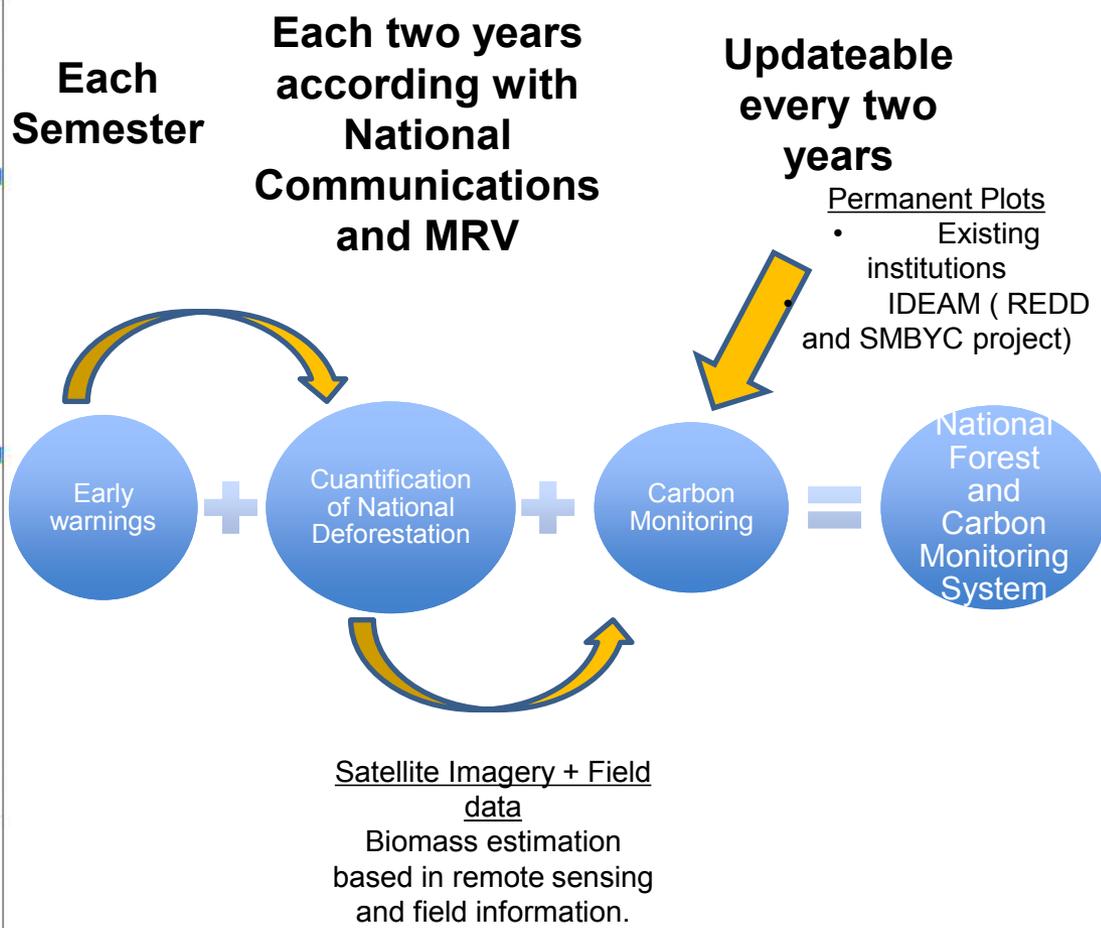
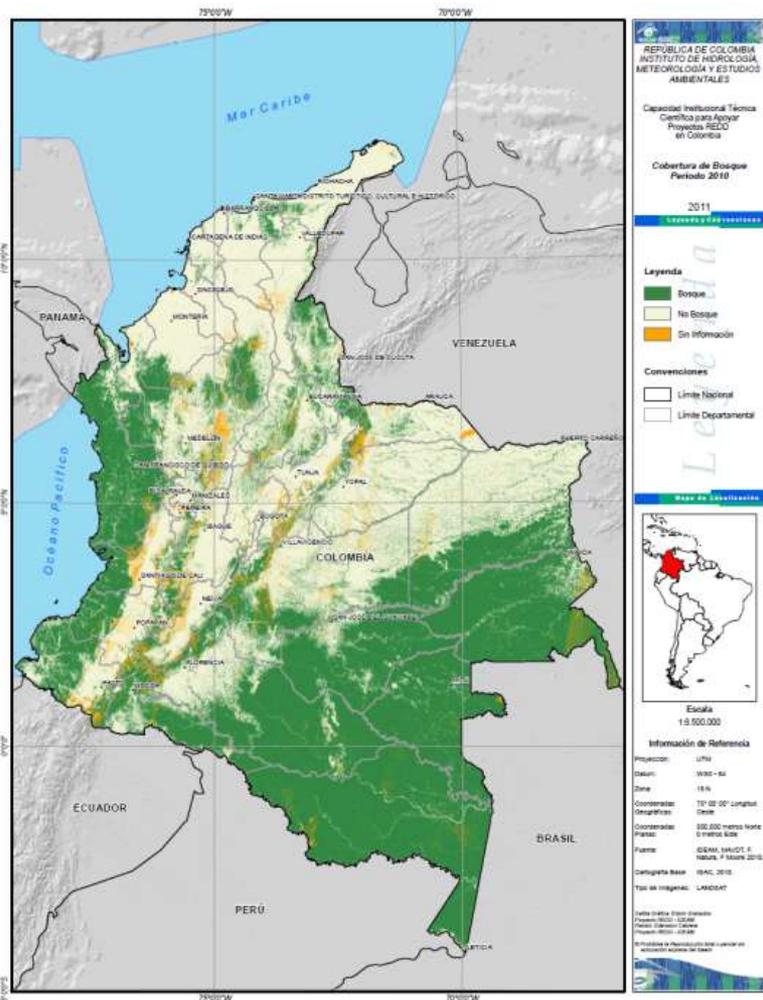


- **Implementation framework for stakeholder participation in REDD+ :** In the process of developpment in relation to the requirements that must be met by stakeholders who wish to participate in future markets or provide funds.

Colombia ER-PIN

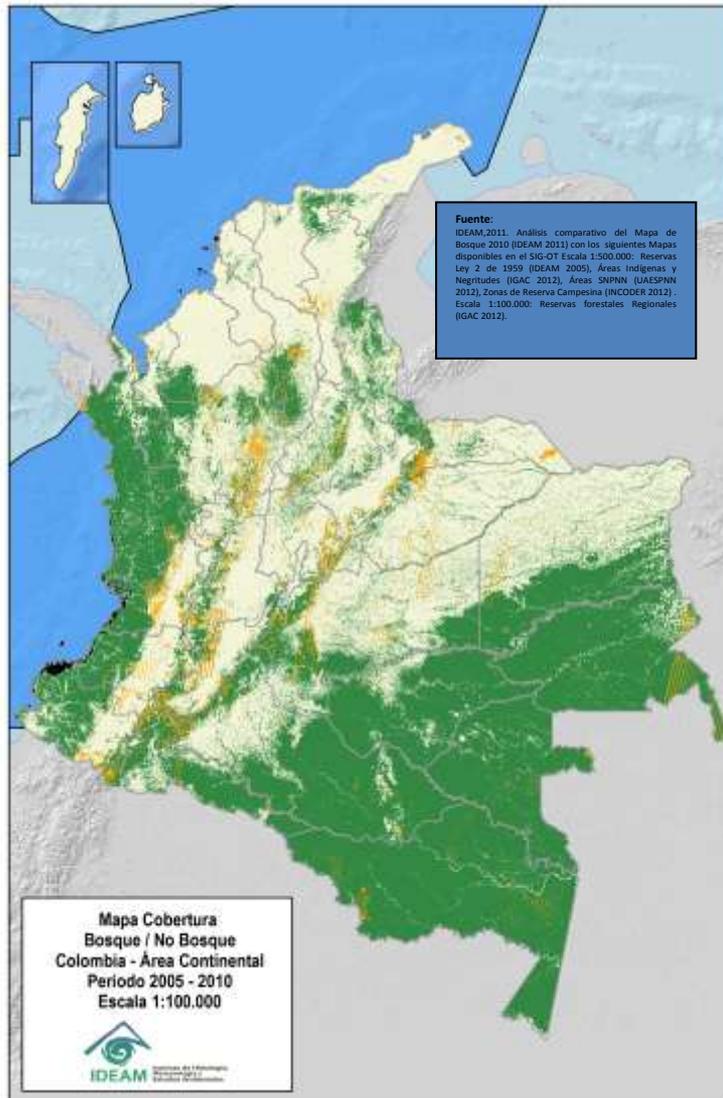
Country progress towards Readiness

NATIONAL FOREST AND CARBON MONITORING SYSTEM: so far the most advanced element of the ENREDD+



Colombia

ER Program Idea Background/Context

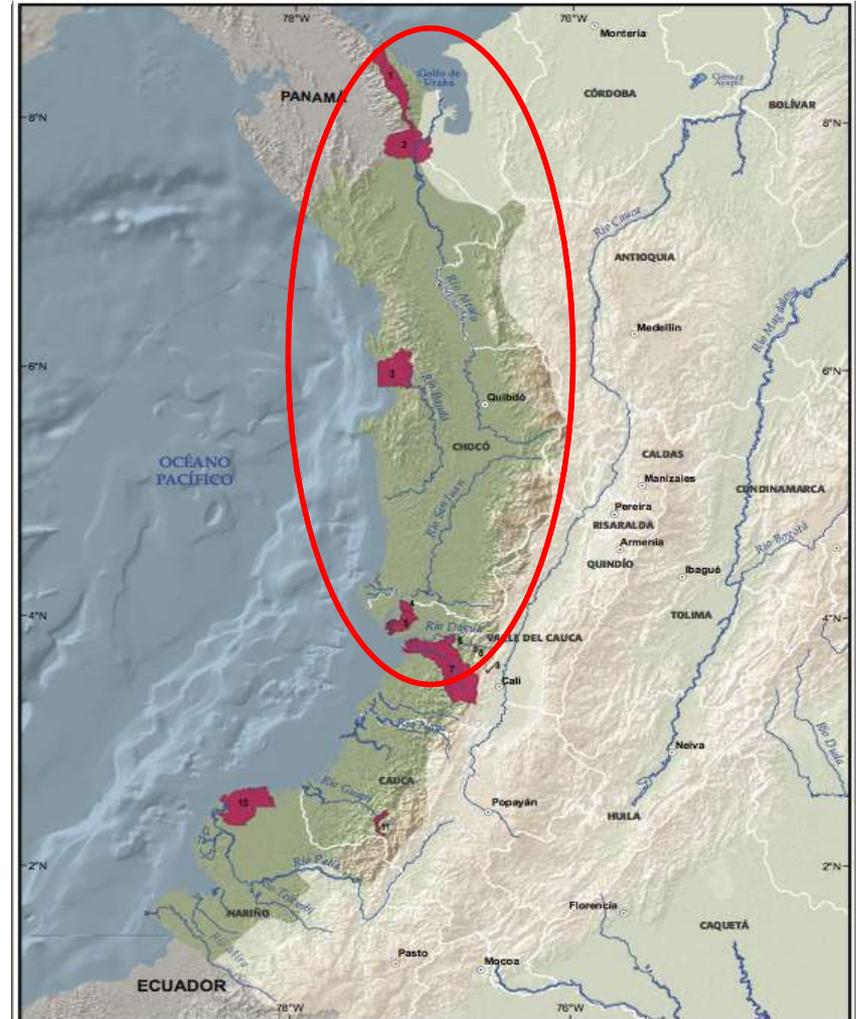


- **R-PP** a roadmap to avoid deforestation, forest degradation, conserve forest carbon sinks, provide sustainable management of woods and improve forest carbon inventories.
- **Early dialogue** (2010 – 2013: 20 events; 280 organizations; 700 people from indigenous, afro-Colombian, peasants, NGOs, productive sectors, regional authorities, ministries and the ombudsman office.
- National Development Plan (PND) prioritizes both adaptation and mitigation. In mitigation the two key strategies are
 - i) The “Colombian Strategy for Low Carbon Development (ECDBC)” and within that,
 - ii) the “National Strategy for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (ENREDD+)”.
- **“The Amazon Vision”**

Colombia ER-PIN Scale

The North Pacific Region of Colombia

- The Colombian North Pacific region: biogeographic region Chocó-Darién, located on the Pacific coast at the meeting point of Central and South America.
- Area: **6,559,000 Has**, running along the Colombian Pacific coast on the jurisdictions of **Corpourabá** and **Codechocó** autonomous corporations.
- Population: **1,130,000 inhabitants**, of which 75% are afro-Colombian and 12% are indigenous communities.
- Extremely wet area, with a humid to superhumid tropical climate considered one of the wettest regions of the world with annual precipitation ranging from 4,000 mm/year up to more than 10,000 mm/year in some locations.



Source: Hernández, Jose Ignacio, Franky, Simón, **Las Áreas Naturales Protegidas de Colombia**, Anexo Cartográfico, CI, Biocolombia, Bogotá, 2009

Colombia ER-PIN Scale

The North Pacific Region of Colombia: High biodiversity and high poverty

- **One of the world's most biologically diverse areas:** The variety of ecosystems within the Chocó-Darién Hotspot has given rise to high levels of diversity and endemism, making it.
- **Nearly 85% of families living under poverty:** This region has the worst poverty indicators in the country.
- The Pacific and Amazon regions together comprise 80% of the country's standing forests.



Colombia ER-PIN

Synergies and complementarity

USAID COOPERATION

BIOREDD+ flagship environmental program of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Colombia.

US\$ 27.9 million program designed to strengthen Colombian capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change, protect biodiversity and support the development of remote, impoverished communities.

The development of REDD+ projects is a key element of the Program, which seeks to promote sustainable livelihoods compatible with forest conservation. BIOREDD+ is developing a portfolio of 8 REDD+ projects in the Colombian Pacific

The projects are located in four geographic nodes covering over 700,000 hectares



Colombia ER-PIN Program highlights (1)

Main Deforestation Drivers has been identified

- **Illegal logging** is stimulated by short-term logging permits, often issued for periods of only one year, and by the practice of permitting the regional autonomous corporations to selectively extract high-value timber species.
- **Infrastructure projects** roads, hydroelectric and energy plants, and telecommunications networks. This infrastructure is designed to boost forestry, fishing, agriculture, and mining but has severe consequences on the environment.

Mining is carried out by means of concessions granted by the State to large companies and, increasingly by means of medium scale illegal mechanized mining, which in most cases takes place without any mining permit or environmental license. Mining for gold by means of dredges, drags, and backhoes in main channels and along banks has damaged rivers and displaced whole communities.

Some areas of primary forests of high complexity, biodiversity and richness have been felled to plant coca. **The cultivation of illicit crops** displaces people out of the areas where they are grown and the Pacific region includes the greatest extension of coca cultivation in the country.





Colombia ER-PIN Program highlights (2)

Expected Outcomes

- **Component 1 –**
 - Improved forest **governance**, management, and monitoring:
 - Increase **institutional capacity** of national, regional and local environmental authorities, as well as of afro-Colombian and indigenous authorities, including financial sustainability. Enhance institutional capacity to account for GHG emission reductions in alignment with the National Forest and Carbon monitoring system.
 - Reduce deforestation in the **sub-national area** compared to the Pacific sub-national reference forest emission level for Colombia.
- **Component 2 –**
 - Sectoral programs for sustainability and land management: **Improve cross-sectoral coordination** and policy coherence in critical sectors to achieve long term reductions in deforestation (e.g. agriculture, mining and forestry).
 - **Adopt sectoral programs** in critical sectors to improve practices that reduce pressures on forests and biodiversity, restore ecosystems, benefit local population and reduce GHG emissions while improving livelihoods.
 - Develop and **implement land management practices** developed and implemented for restoration and to control main drivers of deforestation in identified priority areas.
- **Component 3 –**
 - Monitoring and evaluation



Colombia ER-PIN Program highlights (3)

Main Program Activities

- In order to generate multiple environmental, social and economic benefits, the ER Program will:
 - Support **appropriate cash crops** to provide important sources of income to prevent logging, fight poverty and enhance livelihoods.
 - **Invest funds in social capital** such as sanitation, health or education to fight poverty. The overall investment mix will serve to strengthen community control over natural resource use and associated conservation commitments and will comply with FCPF social and environmental safeguards.
 - Provide considerable **investment into compatible business models** by improving agricultural practices and technologies



Colombia ER-PIN Program highlights (3)

Main Program Activities , cont..

- In order to generate multiple environmental, social and economic benefits, the ER Program will:
 - Raising awareness of **collective identity and rights**, resolving **land disputes**, and constructing creative and **strategic land use plans**.
 - Promote **formalization of illegal miners** and promote **good practices in mining**.
 - **Build upon existing projects** in the region such as BioREDD; the Legal Timber Program (wood tracking system designed to mitigate risk of unknown & illegal material entering the supply chain); and other initiatives to provide timber permits and quotas.
 - **Training of relevant stakeholders** in order to create community patrols to monitor changes in forest biomass and wildlife habitat.

Colombia ER-PIN

Emission Reductions Generated

- REL under construction. The IDEAM has prioritized the Pacific Region as the second sub-national area for which it will calculate an REL and approximate Emission Reductions (ERs).

Deforestación promedio 1990-2012	Tipo de Bosque	AGB (tn/ha)	% North-West (Uraba-Choco) A2	Potencial gross deforestation (ha/yr)	Potencial gross C Emissions (tn/yr)	Potencial gross CO2eq Emissions (tn/yr)
10,824	bs-T	96.20	1.7	186	8,931	32,775
	bh-T	264.10	22.6	2,449	323,431	1,186,993
	bmh-T	165.00	58.5	6,333	522,509	1,917,610
	bp-T	172.20	0.7	76	6,522	23,937
	bh-MB	295.10	0.6	70	10,301	37,803
	bmh-MB	260.10	3.8	414	53,894	197,790
	bp-MB	105.30	0.1	9	469	1,722
	bmh-M	125.50	0.2	21	1,305	4,789
	bp-M	106.40	0.9	92	4,899	17,980
	bh-PM	114.10	1.0	107	6,101	22,391
	bmh-PM	182.90	5.5	599	54,741	200,899
	bp-PM	213.50	1.9	208	22,198	81,468
	Sin info	-	2.4	261	-	-
						3,726,157

- An estimate of ERs for the lifetime of the program will be provided with the ER-PIN at the time of presentation in the next FCPF meeting in October 2014



Colombia ER-PIN

Political commitment

- Colombia believes that **poverty alleviation and economic growth** can be compatible with climate change mitigation and adaptation through a low carbon economy were forests worth more alive than dead.
- Colombia submitted a voluntary commitment to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to achieve **zero net deforestation in the Amazon by 2020**, if sufficient international financing is available.
- Colombia also committed to protect endangered forests by increasing its protected area system. In August 2013, President Santos officially **declared the expansion of Serranía de Chiribiquete National Park from 1.30 million hectares to 2.78 million hectares**.
- Considerable financial commitment of the Colombian government of 8% of the budget along with other bilateral donors, foundations and international cooperation. The diversity of funders in the Colombian RPP can be evidence of the political commitment of the government to REDD+.

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a lush tropical forest. A river winds through the center of the forest, and a thick layer of white mist or low clouds hangs over the trees, creating a serene and somewhat ethereal atmosphere. The colors are dominated by various shades of green and white.

Colombia ER-PIN

Non-carbon benefits

- **Ecosystem-based benefits: water regulation, soil conservation, timber, forest foods and other non-timber forest products, which in turn help to support the livelihood of local communities.**
- **Biodiversity conservation:**
 - **Forests harbour a wide variety of organisms, and although many of them do not seem to have an immediate economic value, they are fundamental for the provision of all ecosystem services.**
 - **Furthermore, some of these organisms could have a considerable potential for future bio-prospecting in the country;**
 - **Potential scientific breakthroughs as well as for the best interest and welfare of the Afro-Colombian and Indigenous peoples of the Pacific region.**

Colombia ER-PIN

Non-carbon benefits

- Strengthening regional institutions will not only enable the implementation of REDD+ projects, but it will also help **control illegal activities, improving social cohesion in the region.**
 - By stopping drug trafficking, violence will decrease in the zone and with the formalization of activities such as foresting and mining, local regional profits will increase allowing for investment on social projects and infrastructure.
- REDD+ projects will focus on **training local communities in the use of sustainable productive systems,**
 - Help maintaining profitable means for sustenance. Activities for sustainable production help communities generate profits while conserving forests and contribute to the maintenance of their traditional knowledge and cultural heritage.





Colombia ER-PIN

Diversity and learning value

- **Development of new means of communication** focusing on the exchange of cultural and traditional knowledge.
 - Local communities need to feel that their traditions will be respected and taken into consideration in order to generate trust and create clear communication channels between community leaders and the government.
- **Appropriate consultations**, Colombia is working to build trust towards the Colombian government, specially from Afro- Colombian, Indigenous and farmer communities, which have been historically marginalized and the State has not always respected their culture and traditions.
- Implementing a REDD+ National Strategy implies a **deep social commitment** by the Colombian government, where local communities should play a fundamental role in the design and execution of projects and programs.



Colombia ER-PIN

Diversity and learning value

- The above presents a singular scenario which will require generating a specific line of knowledge on **conflict resolution and social mediation** in order to increase state presence in areas where it has historically been lacking, control illegal drug trafficking, formalize illicit activities such as mining and foresting and invest in social infrastructure, amongst other activities to improve the livelihood of the affected communities.
 - The country is currently undergoing peace negotiations with the FARC guerrillas and there is a good possibility that the war will end in a near future. This will present a scenario of change where former guerrilla members will be reintegrated into the Colombian society and lands previously occupied by illegal armed groups will be given back to their lawful owners.
- Many of the above changes will take place in the Pacific region where agrarian activities are expected to increase and for this reason the REDD+ National Strategy needs to be prepared to help people use their land productively while decreasing deforestation and forest degradation.

Colombia ER-PIN

Consistency with Methodological Framework (1)

- **Level of Ambition**
- The MADS has decided to implement its FCPF-funded Emission Reduction Program in the North Pacific Region. This region extends over **6,559,000 Has** and corresponds to area A2 in Map No. 2, which also correspond to the jurisdictions of Corpourabá and Codechocó autonomous corporations.
- The area chosen for the program is equivalent to a jurisdictional or government designated eco-zone, and the proposed program is in line with Colombia's strategy for REDD+, as well as other national policies such as CONPES 3700, the Low Carbon Development Strategy, and the National Plan for Forest Development and the National Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Policy (PNGIBSE).



Consistency with Methodological Framework (2)

- Carbon Accounting
- The construction of the Reference Emission Level is based on five main components:
 - estimation of activity data (extension of areas of transformed forest expressed in hectares per year);
 - estimation of historic emissions (the emissions and/or removals of tons of CO₂ emitted or removed per deforested hectare);
 - analysis of deforestation drivers and agents (identification of main determining variables in the dynamics of forest cover transformation);
 - modelling of historic deforestation (calculation of the historic average and the use of deforestation simulation models); and
 - emission projection (simulation of historical tendency and prediction of the quantity and location of forests and calculation of gross emissions for the projected period).

Colombia ER-PIN

Consistency with Methodological Framework (2)

CARBON ACCOUNTING

- Considering the current available information, initially Colombia has decided to include the activity of **deforestation**, and the compartment of **aerial biomass** in the construction of REL.
 - Update its subnational and national REL to include additional activities (i.e. degradation, reforestation, etc.) and additional compartments (i.e. biomass in roots, carbon content in soil, etc.) when the availability and quality of information permits.
- The ER program shall establish a trustworthy REL at a sub-national level, articulated with a **national MRV system** for carbon accounting, which includes the monitoring of possible leakage and displacement.
- A **nested approach** will aggregate subnational levels into a national reference level, fully aligned with UNFCCC guidelines.



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Consistency with Methodological Framework (3)

SAFEGUARDS

- Colombia is developing an information system for the way in which safeguards included in UNFCCC
- This system will monitor possible negative impacts of REDD and additional co-benefits. The safeguards information system will be aligned and coordinated with the national forests and carbon monitoring system and with the national environmental information system.
- A series of indicators will be developed to monitor REDD activities. Local communities shall participate in this monitoring.

Colombia ER-PIN

Consistency with Methodological Framework (3)

- The design of the ER Program for the Pacific is being built on transparent stakeholder information and consultation mechanisms that ensure broad community support and full participation of stakeholders.
- There have been a total of 9 meetings with relevant stakeholders, including local indigenous and Afro-Colombian community leaders, universities, public institutions and commercial organizations. A proper ESMF is under development.

MAPA DE RESGUARDOS INDÍGENAS Y TERRITORIOS COLECTIVOS DE COMUNIDADES NEGRAS (TCCN)



Colombia ER-PIN

Consistency with Methodological Framework (3)

- There have been a total of 9 meetings with relevant stakeholders, including local indigenous and Afro-Colombian community leaders, universities, public institutions and commercial organizations. A proper SESA is under development.



Colombia ER-PIN

Consistency with Methodological Framework (3)

Safeguards

- A feedback and grievance redress mechanism will include the establishment of the institutions, instruments, methods and processes for the reception, proceeding and resolution of any claim or complaint submitted by the involved social groups. This mechanism will allow citizens to exercise their rights, making the conflict resolution process more transparent.
- The MRV monitoring system under construction will include the monitoring of leakage and reversals.
- On benefit sharing, an agreement still needs to be reached, which shall include:
 - Direct financial benefits obtained from FCPF payments should be directed to activities to halt deforestation.
 - The benefits shall be directed at indigenous, afro-Colombian and peasant communities and shall serve to improve local livelihood. Benefits shall be distributed in the form of technical assistance, improvement in public services, etc.
 - Benefit sharing agreements shall be made on a transparent basis

Colombia ER-PIN

Consistency with Methodological Framework (4)

Sustainable Program Design and Implementation

- **The ER Program identifies the key drivers of deforestation** including expansion of the agricultural frontier; colonization/displacement of populations; mining; infrastructure projects; forest fires; illicit crops; and illicit over-logging, and increasing population density.
- **The planned ER Program measures to address those key drivers** include improved forest governance, management, and monitoring; sectorial programs for sustainability and land management; and monitoring and evaluation.
- **The ER Program has identified the land use and land tenure context**, with particular recognition of collective ownership rights to land and forests of indigenous and afro-Colombian peoples.



GRACIAS

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