



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Technical Assessment: Final ER-PD for Guatemala

Twentieth Meeting of the Carbon Fund (CF20)

Washington DC, July 8 – 11, 2019

Presentation of TAP

- The technical assessment was conducted from 24 January to 14 June 2019 by the following team:

Person	TAP expertise
Simon Rietbergen	Team Lead and Safeguards
Javier Cano Martin	Carbon accounting expert
Claudio Cabrera	Local expert
Moritz von Unger	Legal expert

Overall assessment of final ER-PD

		Initial Review	1 st assessment	2 nd assessment
II. Level of Ambition	YES	2	3	3
	NO	1	0	0
	N.A.	0	0	0
III. Carbon Accounting	YES	12	30	36
	NO	24	6	0
	N.A.	8	8	8
IV. Safeguards	YES	3	4	5
	NO	2	1	0
	N.A.	2	2	2
V. Sustainable Program Design and Implementation	YES	4	7	11
	NO	8	5	1
	N.A.	2	2	2
VI. ER Program Transactions	YES	3	4	8
	NO	7	6	2
	N.A.	1	1	1

V. Sustainable Program Design and Implementation

Ind 31.1 The Benefit-Sharing Plan is prepared as part of the consultative, transparent and participatory process for the ER Program, and reflects inputs by relevant stakeholders.....The Benefit-Sharing Plan is disclosed in a form, manner and language understandable to the affected stakeholders of the ER Program.	NO
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- The Final Draft ER-PD foresees consultations with stakeholders from the projects and the forest incentive programs once the draft BSP has been issued (section 15.2). However, it is not entirely clear from the Final Draft ER-PD whether previous consultations were, and how future consultations will be, held in an open and inclusive manner addressing also local language thresholds. As compliance cannot be anticipated, the indicator is deemed not met (**MINOR** non-conformity given that remedial action is readily available).

VI. ER Program Transactions

Ind 37.4 Administrative procedures are defined for the operations of a national or centralized REDD+ Programs and Projects Data Management System; and an audit of the operations is carried out by an independent third party periodically, as agreed with the Carbon Fund	NO
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- The administrative procedures for the above-mentioned SMDRT have not yet been defined, and therefore the TAP was unable to assess their completeness and efficacy. As a result, this indicator has not been met (**MAJOR** non-conformity).
- In the roadmap in section 18.2 of the final draft ERPD, however, the date given for the adoption of the manual of procedures for the Registry is December 2019. Relevant details and protocols are being developed by consultants. Therefore, meeting this indicator prior to ERPA signature should be relatively straightforward.

VI. ER Program Transactions

Ind 38.4 Operational guidance exists, or is in advanced stage of preparation, that clarifies the roles and responsibilities of entities involved in the national or centralized ER transaction registry, as well as rules for operation of the registry.	NO
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- According to the Final ER-PD, the national registry will be managed and operated by MARN. A specific consultancy will be launched by June 2019 to develop the operational guidance for the Registry.
- Therefore, this indicator is considered not to be in compliance at this stage. While this non-conformity is considered MAJOR, it should be relatively easy to remedy, as the relevant consultancy has already been launched (see comment on indicator 37.4 above)

Concluding remarks

- Guatemala's Emissions Reduction Program (ERP) evolved substantially over the course of the review process – requiring a major effort from the government over the past six months:
- Shift from national to sub-national Program (92% of forest covered);
- Adding emissions from degradation to carbon accounting;
- From basic principles only to a fully-fledged benefit-sharing approach, aligned with the transfer of ER title through the new Compensation Mechanism for Forest-related Ecosystem Services (MCSEAB) – which will benefit from INAB's strong track record.
- Remaining challenges: (i) passing the ER Program as a legislative package, including the final Benefit Sharing Plan; (ii) establishment of the MCSEAB (procedures and by-laws to be written).

Thank You!

The TAP team would like to express its thanks to the Government of Guatemala for the energetic and capable way in which it engaged in the review process, and responded to the TAP's (many!) comments.