



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Independent TAP Expert Review of Costa Rica's Readiness-Package

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Purpose and modalities of TAP review

“Assess whether a due process and approach was followed while performing the self-assessment of REDD+ Readiness”:

- Part A: Review of the self-assessment process of Costa Rica’s R-Package
- Part B: Review of the results of the multi-stakeholder R-Package self-assessment, based on the multi-stakeholder consultation workshop
- Part C: Assess what still needs to be done to complete the Readiness Process
- -> TAP Conclusion and Recommendation

Part A: Self-Assessment Process

- FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework was used conscientiously;
- Self-assessment report provides good summary of the REDD+ Preparation and Readiness process since 2008 and includes links to all reference documents;
- REDD+ Secretariat chose to use independent facilitator enabling stakeholders to express themselves more freely;
- Stakeholder Groups have asked the government to involve them in developing a follow-up plan to address remaining weaknesses - this should also help to remedy the “consultation fatigue” felt by some stakeholder groups.

Part B: REDD+ Process: Results (1)

REDD Readiness sub-components	Small Farmers	Indigen. Peoples	Academ.	Private sector	Govt.	Average
1.a National arrangements	1	4	1	2	2	2
1.b Consultation, outreach	2	4	1	2	2	2.2
2.a Land use, governance	1	2	3	2	3	2.2
2.b Strategy options	1	4	1	2	2	2
2.c Implementation framework	<u>n.a.</u>	<u>n.a.</u>	<u>n.a.</u>	2	2	2
2.d <u>Soc/Env</u> impacts	3	3	<u>n.a.</u>	2	2	2.5
3. Reference Emissions Levels	<u>n.a.</u>	<u>n.a.</u>	2	3	3	2.7
4.a National forest monitoring system	2	<u>n.a.</u>	3	2	2	2.3
4.b Benefits/safeguards information system	1	2	1	2	2	1.6

Part B: REDD+ Process: Results (2)

Readiness Arrangements and Consultation (criteria 1-10)

- Ownership of readiness process very uneven (indigenous peoples high, campesinos low), participatory Follow-up Plan essential to remedy this
- Lack of coordination between the various institutions involved in REDD+ despite a number of efforts to improve this - this should get renewed attention in Follow-up Plan
- REDD+ Grievance and redress mechanism will build on long-standing Costa Rican experience with such mechanisms
- Need to accompany small and medium scale agroforestry producers better (cf success of special support mechanism for indigenous peoples)

Part B: REDD+ Process: Results (3)

REDD+ Strategy Preparation (Criteria 11-25)

- For the analysis of drivers of deforestation, structural measures to help improve data-sharing are needed;
- Early draft strategy developed to enable consultation and elaboration of SESA was helpful in generating new ideas, e.g. the creation of dedicated Payment for Environmental Services schemes for small farmers and indigenous peoples;
- Changes needed in the country's (already advanced) legal and regulatory framework are well described in R-package
- Given stakeholder concerns re benefit sharing, it would be useful to discuss four-step approach proposed by REDD+ secretariat with stakeholders, then apply it;
- National REDD+ registry still needs a lot of work;
- Environmental and Social Management Framework well-advanced.

Part B: REDD+ Process: Results (4)

Reference Emissions Levels/Reference levels (criteria 26-28)

- REL/RL most advanced element of REDD+ process in Costa Rica;
- Costa Rica proposes the use of historical data, without any adjustment for national circumstances.

Part B: REDD+ Process: Results (5)

Monitoring system for forests and safeguards (Criteria 29-34)

- Given fragmentation of responsibilities for land use and forestry monitoring, this issue merits special attention going forward;
- Monitoring of non-carbon benefits of REDD+ will be facilitated by Costa Rica's longstanding experience with payments for environmental services.

Part C: What still needs to be done

- Key will be to work closely with stakeholders in developing Follow-up Plan to address outstanding issues mentioned above;
- Focus on roles and responsibilities of key stakeholder groups would help to make matters more concrete for them and reduce consultation fatigue;
- Lack of mechanisms for promoting SFM in natural primary and secondary forest will need to be addressed;
- The next step would be to elaborate a costed work program on the basis of the Follow-up Plan so that required efforts can be estimated and additional resources mobilized as necessary;
- Option of linking Follow-up Plan to Emissions Reductions Program Preparation could be considered.

TAP Conclusion on Costa Rica R-package

- Results and problems of REDD+ Readiness process are honestly presented in R-package, e.g. delays in presenting Emissions Reduction Program, “consultation fatigue” with some stakeholder groups ;
- Consensus between Costa Rica REDD+ Secretariat and main stakeholder groups on the need to develop a Follow-up Plan together provides a good basis for future REDD+ efforts;
- Moving forward with ER Program preparation, by re-engaging stakeholder groups and making their roles and responsibilities more concrete, would help to address some of the above-mentioned problems

TAP Conclusion on Costa Rica R-package

TAP expert recommends that PC accept R-package as being of sufficient quality for the preparation of the ER Program to proceed.

THANK YOU!

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