

REQUEST FOR TARGETED SUPPORT¹

Development and Implementation of a Monitoring, Measuring, Reporting and Verifying Process for REDD+ in Ecuador

II. BACKGROUND²	
I. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (complete cells in white)	
Main objective	Design and implement a Measurable, Reportable and Verifiable Process for REDD+ in Ecuador, to support the implementation of the country's National REDD+ Programme in the context of results based activities and finance, in accordance to relevant decisions for REDD+ and Green House Gases Inventories for Non Annex I countries, under the United Nations Framework for Climate Change.
Main results expected	<p>The main results expected from the implementation of the technical and financial support (targeted support) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring, Measuring, Reporting and Verifying (M-MRV) Process for emission reductions achieved through the implementation of REDD+ activities at national level (in the context of REDD+ results based payments) designed and implemented, in consistency with the Forest Reference Emission Level (currently under development) and the GHG Inventories. • GHG Inventory System established, including the development of the 2012 GHG Inventory and review of the GHG inventories for the years 1990, 1996, 2000, 2006 (LULUCF and Agriculture sectors), to be included in the Biennial Update Report for the UNFCCC
Total amount requested (US\$)	225,800.00
Related Work Area/s as defined in the UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015	Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)
Planned period of implementation	09/2014 – 09/2015 (12 months)
Please select below type of funding as appropriate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for funding for REDD + activities implemented in support of existing UN-REDD National Programmes. <input type="checkbox"/> Request for funding for REDD+ activities complementary to other nationally-defined REDD+ activities (national strategies, RPP and/or bilaterally funded REDD+ activities) or for initiation of REDD+ activities. (The country has no UN-REDD National Programme.	

detailed and can be further elaborated if the request is approved.

Ecuador is at an advanced stage of its *REDD+ readiness* phase and aims to implement REDD+ activities in the context of results based finance by the end of 2014 - early 2015. So far, Ecuador has been able to collect and analyze data to develop a National Forest Inventory as well as implement wall-to-wall processes for forest coverage and loss monitoring. Based on this information the country is establishing its National Forest Reference Emission Level for deforestation. The country has also done important progress on defining its national approach towards safeguards and design of its Safeguard Information System.

The MAE together with the NJP has implemented processes related to awareness raising, information and capacity building at national and local level aiming for a full and effective participation of key stakeholders in the design and implementation of REDD+. Legal analysis and legal/policy instruments to enable REDD+ implementation have been developed and will continue to be developed in the upcoming months.

The country has identified its main drivers of deforestation and, based on this information and on studies and analysis related to REDD+ costs, Ecuador has been able to identify potential policy measures and local actions that may be co-funded by REDD+ finance to contribute to reducing emissions from deforestation, as well as contribute to broader national policies for sustainable development. With this information the MAE will structure its National REDD+ Programme, as the country's strategy for REDD+ implementation.

In this context, Ecuador is currently under bilateral negotiations with the German Government for obtaining and receiving results-based payments from Germany and Norway through the German Programme REDD Early Movers (REM). As part of this bilateral process, Ecuador is currently designing a Emission Reductions' Accounting Tool, which will enable the country to effectively account and report emission reductions achieved at the national level and track emission reductions paid by REM and other future donors/finance entities (considering relevant decisions from the Warsaw Framework for REDD+).

Ecuador has been implementing since 2012 its National Joint UNREDD Programme, which has significantly supported the MAE with its REDD+ readiness process. Ecuador's National Joint Programme was to be implemented in the period 2012-2013, however a non-cost extension was approved and the programme will end by December 2014. Even though the NJP in its programme document had as a specific outcome the 'Establishment of a National GHG MRV Monitoring System for the Forestry sector' (Outcome 1, Output 1.4) this outcome still require additional support to ensure future consistency with support that has been delivered until now and to complement with further activities not considered in the NJP, as per approved by the Programme's National Steering Committee.

In spite of this, the NJP so far has implemented several related activities related to those considered for this targeted support, which include: support to data collection and analysis for the Natural Heritage Monitoring System (National Forest Monitoring System); establishment of a first draft of the GHG Inventory for the LULUCF and Agriculture sectors, for the year 2010; a first draft of technical guidelines for an MRV system of emission reductions at project level based on the VCS (under Outcome 1, Output 1.4).

In this regard, outcomes expected with the implementation of this targeted support will contribute to complement activities started with the NJP in order to support Ecuador's National REDD+ Programme to effectively have a MRV process for results based activities - and in the context of results based finance - to be implemented in the context of a broader National Forest Monitoring System, and in consistency with the Forest Reference Emission Level and the GHG Inventory System (for the Agriculture and LULUCF sectors), based on outputs previously delivered by the NJP.

III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Please describe the main objectives and activities of the request.

- Provide details on type of support requested and include any needs for in-kind support such as knowledge, capacity building or technical information.
- If the country has a UN-REDD National Programme, describe how the requested support will fill gaps / be complementary to the already received funding for the National Programme.

The main objectives of this request are:

1. To design and implement a Measuring, Reporting and Verifying Process for emission reductions achieved through the implementation of REDD+ activities at national level, in the context of REDD+ results based finance. Activities considered to accomplish the expected outcome include:
 - a. Design and implement a protocol for monitoring and MRV based on the methodological guidance for MRV agreed by Parties under the UNFCCC and in consistency with the Forest Reference Emissions Level for deforestation (under current development in the MAE) and with the GHG relevant Inventories.
 - b. Design and implement a monitoring protocol to identify the performance of measures and local actions to be funded by the National REDD+ Programme, in order to verify their effective contribution to tackling drivers of deforestation.
 - c. Follow up and verification of the Forest Reference Emissions Level for deforestation for the national level to be submitted to the UNFCCC for the technical assessment in the in the context of results based payments for emission reductions at national level
 - d. Generate data and information to support the development and updating of Forest Reference Emissions Level for deforestation, the implementation of Monitoring and MRV according to the agreed protocol, Ecuador's GHG Inventory for the Agriculture and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry sectors and information that might be useful for Ecuador's information system for safeguards.
2. To contribute to the development of Ecuador's GHG Inventory System and the Biennial Update Report (BUR). Activities considered to accomplish the expected outcome include:
 - a. Development of the 2012 GHG Inventory for the Agriculture and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry sectors
 - b. Review of the GHG inventories for the years 1990, 1996, 2000, 2006 for the Agriculture and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry sectors.
 - c. Contribute to the development of a software-like tool for the GHG Inventories System as a contribution for Ecuador's Biennial Update Report (BUR) and Third National Communication.

The request for the targeted support has considered financial but also technical support from the UNREDD Programme through one of its Implementation Agencies, FAO in particular, from both global, regional and local offices.

The financial support considered in this request will enable the MAE to hire full time technical team to implement specific processes and activities to deliver the expected outcomes (detailed in section I and above). International consultants will be required to support and review: the design of the MRV process; design of the monitoring protocol for measures and actions to be implemented as part of the PNREDD+, and; GHG inventories.

The results already achieved through the NJPs have been mentioned in the above section. Outcomes and outputs expected from this targeted support will help the country to fill the current gap in terms of establishing a M&MRV process for the national level in the context of REDD+ results-based activities and finance in complement and follow-up of the activities already supported by the NJP.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

Please describe the implementing arrangements for the activities planned.

- Include the main implementing institutions and partner institutions.
- Explain what measures were taken to engage indigenous peoples and civil society, as applicable

The targeted support will be implemented by the Ministry of Environment, through the Undersecretariat of Climate Change, as national partner in close coordination with FAO as Implementation Agency.

The activities defined under this targeted support will require hiring a full time technical team in charge of implementing activities under the outcomes detailed above, as well as hiring consultants for specific activities as detailed in the annex, under the direct coordination of the Undersecretariat of Climate Change, in order to ensure close coordination with other partners mentioned below.

Implementation of activities detailed in the annex will require close coordination with the Undersecretariat of Natural Heritage (Natural Heritage Monitoring System), the Unique System of Environmental Information (SUIA, in spanish) and the Project for the Development of Ecuador's Biennial Update Report and Third National Communication, as main partners within the Ministry of Environment.

Implementation of activities detailed in the annex will also require the engagement of FAO national, regional and global offices for technical support.

V. FUNDING SOURCE

Please indicate any co-funding for the planned activities.

The Undersecretariat of Climate Change has a full time technical team in charge of the design and implementation of Ecuador's National REDD+ Programme, however this technical team is short in number in spite of the support received so far by the NJP UNREDD Programme, GIZ and maybe by the REM Programme through results based finance, in a near future.

The Undersecretariat of Natural Heritage is going through a formal process to establish is Natural Heritage Monitoring System (National Forest Monitoring System - NFMS), which aims to institutionalize processes of data collection and analysis and wall-to-wall forest monitoring, which so far have been implemented with projects with the support of international and multilateral cooperation, such as GIZ, KfW, OTCA, FAO Finland and Ecuador's UNREDD NJP as well. This processes of what would be the country's NFMS will be implemented mostly with public funds from the Ministry of Environment.

The Project for the Development of Ecuador's Biennial Update Report (BUR) and Third National Communication (TCN) (funded by GEF/UNDP and supported by the FOCAM project, funded by UNDP/LECB) is in charge of the establishment of a GHG Inventories System (to be institutionalized in the future in the Ministry of Environment) as well as of the development of the Biennial Update Report and Third National Communication, to be submitted by the country to the UNFCCC on June 2014 and 2016, respectively.

This project will work closely to the SUIA in the development of a software-like tool that will enable the MAE to collect and analyze information from all 5 IPCC sectors for the country's GHG inventories. The BUR-TCN project will fund activities related to other sectors and will be co-funded by the present targeted support for LULUCF and Agriculture sectors. This project will support the MAE in the development of the REDD+ technical annex to be included in the BUR.

As already detailed above, the MAE together with FAO-UNDP-UNEP is currently implementing its National Joint UNREDD Programme, until December 2014. Activities proposed for this targeted support will be developed on the basis of -and complement- current activities implemented with the technical and financial support of the NJP (Outcome 1.4).

VI. SUMMARIZED WORKPLAN WITH BUDGET AND TIMELINE <i>(Please expand space as needed. Alternatively, add Annex with workplan, budget and timeline)</i>		
Description of planned outputs and activities	Amount (US\$)	Implementation period (from month /year to month/year)
1. Support to National MRV System for REDD+ design and implementation	90800.00	
1.1 Support to the design and implementation of the National Monitoring and MRV System processes for REDD+ (including support for generating data and information for the NFMS)	62600.00	
1.2 Support to the design and implementation of REDD+ monitoring protocols	28200.00	
2. Support to the GHG Inventory System for the Agriculture and LULUCF Sectors design and implementation	135000.00	
2.1 Support to the development of the 2010 GHG Inventory and updating of GHG Inventories of previous years for the Agriculture and LULUCF Sectors	77400.00	
2.2 Support to the design and implementation of a software-like tool for the GHG Inventories System - Agriculture and LULUCF Sectors	57600.00	
Total amount requested (US\$)		225,800.00

VII. MONITORING OF PROGRESS AND REPORTING Please describe how the progress of planned activities and outputs will be monitored and reported by time.
Outcomes, outputs and activities identified for this targeted support are detailed with a proposed budget in the annex. A workplan and/or an Annual Operational Plan (AOP), including timeline and means of implementation, will be further developed as a tool for monitoring and evaluation of the progress and achievement of expected outputs and outcomes.
The implementation of activities considered in this targeted support will be monitored by a designated focal point in the Undersecretariat of Climate Change (SCC), in charge of the National REDD+ Programme. This focal point will look forward the correct implementation of activities according to the workplan/AOP as well as to ensure consistency and coordination with other processes under the SCC related to the design and implementation of National REDD+ Programme.

IV. UN-REDD COUNTY FOCAL POINT (name and title) ³	Angel Valverde, National Climate Change Mitigation Director María del Carmen García, REDD+ Focal Point (Alternate)
--	---


(Signature)

Name and title	Angel Valverde, National Climate Change Mitigation Director
Institution and address	Ministry of Environment, Undersecretariat of Climate Change, National Climate Change Mitigation Directorate Madrid and Andalucía Streets. Quito, Ecuador
Phone number	+593 (2) 3987 600
E-mail	angel.valverde@ambiente.gob.ec maria.garcia@ambiente.gob.ec