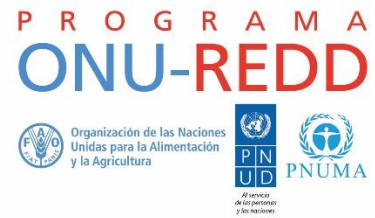


Informative Note



Participative processes for the design of REDD+ National Strategies in Latin America

Practical experiences in the design and implementation of participative plans for the design of National Strategies and REDD+ Action Plans

There are several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean that are currently working on their National Strategies and REDD+ Action Plans geared towards a reduction in emissions generated from deforestation and forest degradation, keeping their carbon stock reserves and promoting the sustainable use of their forests (REDD+), thus complying with their international commitments and meeting their national needs.

There are five examples among these countries and they are Ecuador, Chile, Mexico, Peru and Costa Rica. These countries have built their strategies as part of an inclusive process also involving key actors in the different phases of the design, and validation through participative and consultation processes.

During the last few years and as part of said process, these countries have accumulated valuable experiences, knowledge and lessons that must be shared with the objective of facilitating the exchange and reflections with other countries that are developing their REDD+ strategies. With this objective in mind the UN-REDD Programme organized a webinar on [Participative processes for the design of REDD+ National Strategies](#). The webinar took place on 23 August 2016 and had the participation of over 65 technical specialist and other specialist involved in REDD+ in 12 countries in the region.

Principles and methodologies for the participation.

The public participation linked to the national strategies for the reduction of emissions from the deforestation and forest degradation is a process for national appropriation taking place within the framework of national and international rights, regulations and commitments and it is oriented toward the strengthening of democratic governance and building consensus within a sustainable development framework.

This process is essential for encouraging authentic policy dialogues through spaces of concertation, building trust and promoting transparency as well as building alliances and incorporating actions and measures for social inclusion.

With the knowledge gathered through experiences on the field, the UN-REDD Programme has extracted the following steps that guide the methodology and public participation for REDD+: 1) Enabling; 2) Structuring, 3) managing and adapting and 4) Generating consensus and alliances.

How each country builds this methodology in the field depends on the context and particular conditions, legal frameworks and the definition of the why, who and how of the participation (objective, key actors to be involved and structure of the participation)

Grounded Theory

On the ground, experiences of countries such as Ecuador and Chile, give lights on how these elements were defined in each case and implementation of the participative process towards their respective REDD+ strategies thus achieving the development of a national strategy that meets the needs of the country and their international commitments through the integration of sectorial agendas.

Stakeholder Participation Pyramid



Principles and methodologies for public Participation for REDD+. UN-REDD Programme 2016

For many of these countries it was crucial to generate a roadmap for participation that brings more clarity on the starting point, analyzing the context of the country from a social, economic, political and environmental vision taking into account the needs of the country and potential issues in the agenda that must be addressed in a REDD+ process, the key actors that should participate in the process and the steps to achieve it.

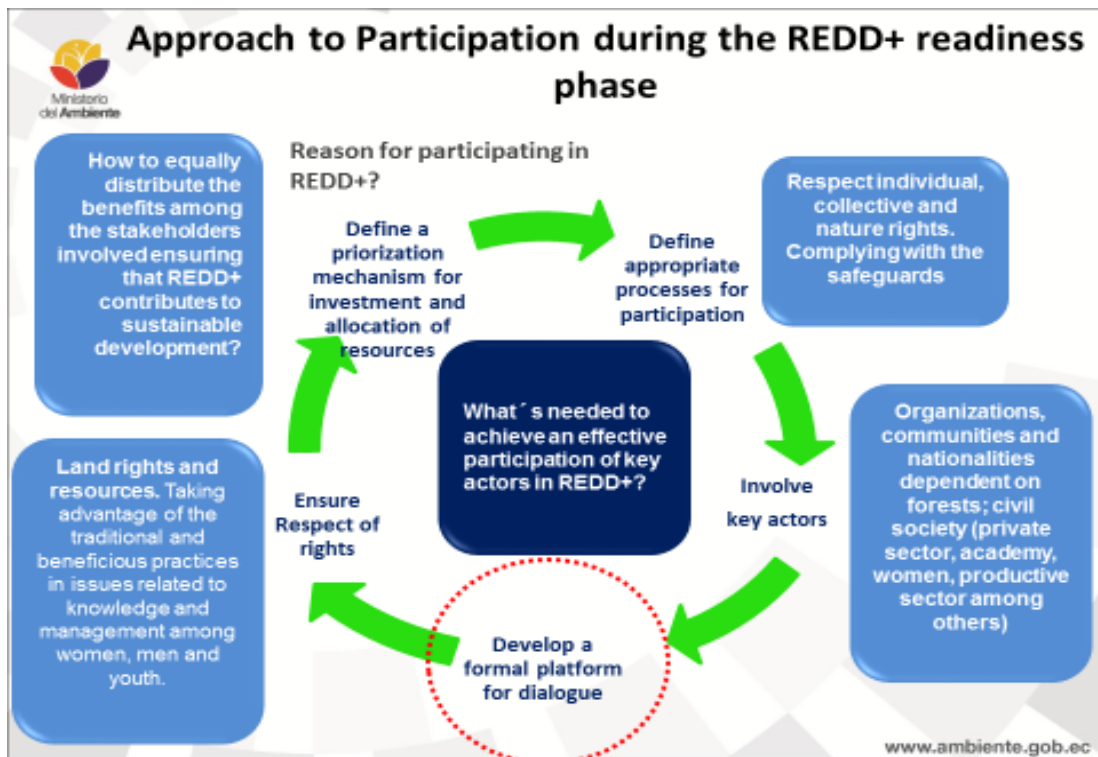
The analysis and determination of the causes of deforestation and degradation in partnership with the relevant actors brings appropriation and key validation of the process thus allowing the identification and formulation of policies, measures and actions that address the main issues of the country.

The evaluation of these measures and actions from an integral vision means assessing the feasibility of them and the need to generate measures of mitigation. The articulation of these visions and social positions adding the technical studies that contribute to the emergence "from the bases" of a REDD+ national strategy that will take many countries to a final consultation process for its socialization and validation. Both are fundamental for the appropriation and commitment of the parties involved.

Case 1. Ecuador.

The REDD+ process in Ecuador is based on the effective participation of society ruled by rights and respect based on international and national normative. The active participation of society implies that all stakeholders need to be informed, trained and strengthened. In order to achieve them the State has facilitated social spaces that articulate several stakeholders that are related to each other and depend on the forest, analyzing the causes of deforestation and policies, measures and actions that could take the country to reduce losses and keep their forests.

Currently Ecuador has finalized the formulation of its REDD+ Action plan and is currently in the final stages of approval and formalization



Participative processes for the construction of a REDD+ Action Plan in Ecuador. UN-REDD, MAE, 2016

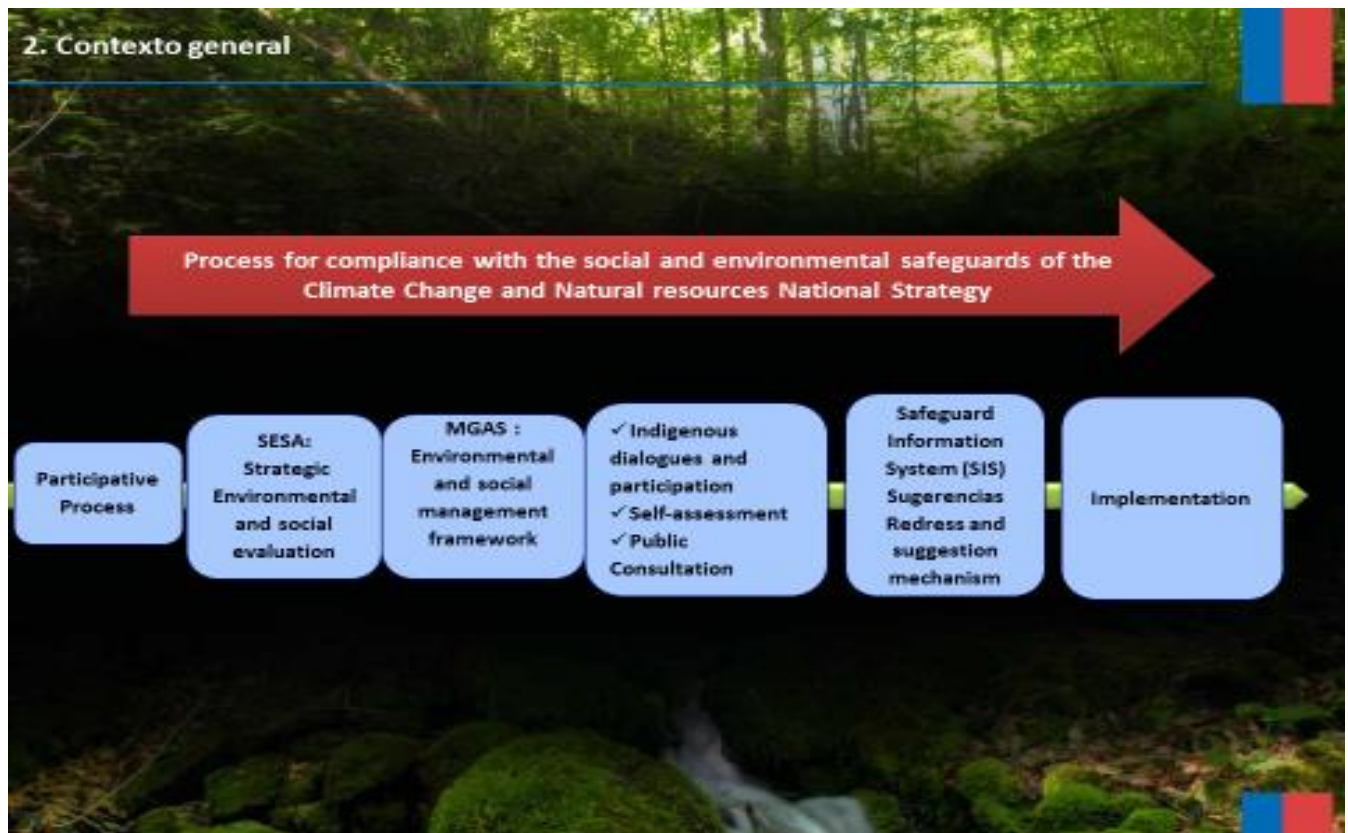
Case 2 Chile.

The “[Plan for the Implementation of Social and Environmental Safeguards for the Indigenous Public Consultation and Self-Assessment of the Climate Change National Strategy and Vegetation Resources \(ENCCRIV in Spanish\)](#)” is the instrument that in the case of Chile, presents the national guidelines for the participative process, consultation and self-feedback for the formulation and future implementation of the ENCCRIV thus complying with social and environmental safeguards and national and international requirements.

Chile considered for the development of the ENCCRIV a participative process that allowed all social sectors of the country related to forest and the rest of vegetation resources to provide through key stakeholders their opinions, visions, suggestions and proposal to be considered for the design and implementation, thus generating a multi-level, multi-region and multi-stakeholder process and also including the cultural relevance and mainstreaming of a gender approach.

The Participative process included several phases. All took place in diverse social platforms and spaces for technical analysis. The following graphic includes all steps that Chile took for the development of their ENCCRIV

2. Contexto general



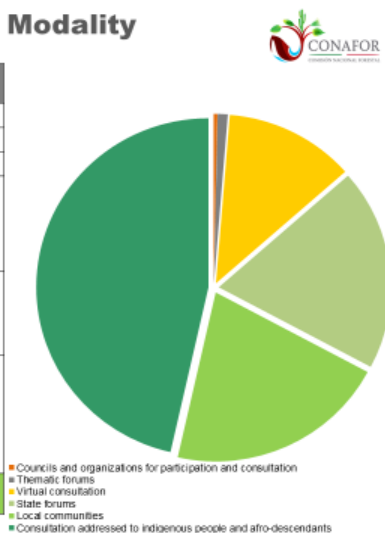
.Participative process for the constuction of the ENCCRV in Chile. CONAF 2016.

CASE 3. MEXICO

Mexico began its participative process for the creation of their REDD+ National Strategy (ENAREDD+ in Spanish) since 2010. This participative process accompanied the development of three drafts up until 2016. In 2015 with the objective of seeking a final validation a wide consultation process was carried out which included 26,360 participants from key sectors related to forests at the national level through virtual and physical spaces including forums and participations and consultation councils as indicated in the following graph about their modalities of participation.

Participation Modality

MODALITY PARTICIPATION	PARTICIPANTS
Virtual consultation	3,222
State forums	5,084
Thematic forums	249
Councils and organizations for participation and consultation	92
Local communities	5,468
Consultation addressed to indigenous people and afro-descendants	12,245
TOTAL	26,360



GOOD PRACTICES OF THE PROCESS

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS
Specific agreements and support of other government institutions as well as organizations of civil society that facilitated the consultation.

COUNTING WITH A MULTI-DISCIPLINE TEAM
With experience and knowledge of several issues

COMMUNICATION MATERIAL THAT ARE CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE
Such as videos, comics, posters, handbooks and summary of the National Strategy among others

LOCAL COUNTING WITH OPERATIONAL STAFF AT THE NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS
State management, community promoters, promoters of forest development...

GENERATING PLANS OF OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES OF THE PROCESS
Such as Consultation plans, Guiding plan, operational Guidelines for forums

Public Consultation of the REDD+ National strategy in Mexico. CONAFOR, 2016

The inputs collected were later organized, categorized, analyzed and integrated in the final version of the ENAREDD+ which is in the final stages of finalization.

During the process Mexico addressed several challenges such as the complexity of the political and social context, time restrictions, administrative and logistical frameworks, the diversity of stakeholder and the complexity of the information however in order to solve these challenges the country identified key good practices that are explained in the figure above. Among these we find that in order to present the progress made in the consultation process for the ENAREDD+ the website www.enaredd.gob.mx was created as a tool to present in a transparent way the process and dissemination of the communicational material.

CASE 4. PERU

Peru approved in July 2016 its [National Strategy for Forests and Climate Change \(ENBCC in Spanish\)](#) which included an intense participative process between September 2015 and April 2016 with indigenous organizations, civil society and government entities with the objective of collecting final inputs for the ENBCCC through forums, workshops and other spaces.

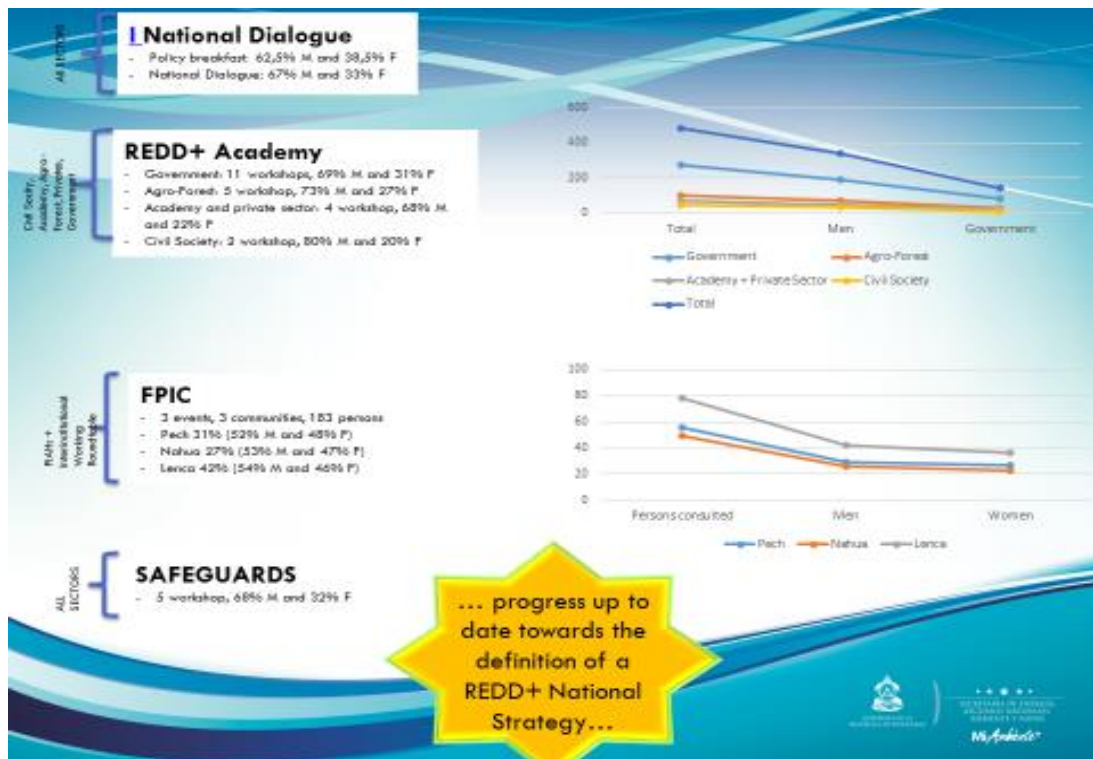
It was important for Peru to use dialogue platforms already established and operational such as the participative space for regional governments which includes several stakeholders. This will be of crucial importance for the implementation of the ENBCC that expects the development of regional roadmaps for its application in the field.

In addition, Peru considered that it was important to understand the relevance of the involvement process at a national regional and local scales in accordance with the other issues to address and the interests of the stakeholders. For this Peru is developing a *Participation and Involvement Process for REDD+* that involves a stakeholder map and analysis of the platforms and its operation from a governance logic which will be key for the implementation of REDD+. Finally the importance of linking technical and participative aspects was highlighted and both are integral and intrinsically related to the construction of REDD+ processes.

CASE 5. HONDURAS

Honduras has begun a participation process that starts from the capacity building to use these spaces for the discussion of informed involvement and generation of key inputs for the REDD+ National Strategy.

In this case the REDD+ Academy has been adapted as a capacity building and involvement process to reach those governments and institutional sectors, social , indigenous, academy, agro-forests, private sector through 22 workshops that during the first year have counted with the participation of 483 people (141 women) at the national level (figures up until august 2016)



Progress in the participation to a REDD+ National Strategy in Honduras. UN-REDD Programme, Mi Ambiente.

This effort has reached 298 municipalities in the Honduras territory and complemented with political and social dialogues at the national level and with an initiative to work with the safeguards which specifically carries involvements of key actors from several sectors and levels.

Regarding the Free, Prior and Informed consent (FPIC), Honduras has been organizing events and spaces for exchanges and involvement with indigenous people including Lenca, Nahua and Pech with the objective of establishing a normative and institutionalizing FPIC in the future.

Common Elements

Other additional experiences related to capacity building and consultation experiences have been key parts of the processes undertaken in countries such as Honduras, Peru and Mexico. Thus facilitating the generation of processes built on the basis of open dialogues and transparency, promoting new ways of relationships and commitments between the parts, allowing key actors involved to have an active role on the formation of policies, measures and actions that can build new agendas in the countries to reduce deforestation and degradation and improving quality of life of the persons that depend of the forests.

There are great challenges for REDD+ including how to build an active participative agenda that facilitates the progress of dialogues and construction of integral agendas and at the same time attends the necessities of several sectors that cannot have objectives of common agendas.

Advancing from conflict to dialogues is a process by which participation brings needed scenarios that articulate the search for changes based on basic principles founded on agreements, pacts and international and national norms shielded by commitments from the parts to generate an inclusive process and comply with their roles and functions.

Summary and recommendations

The several conclusions and recommendations from the experiences in the regional and presented during webinar but key conclusions are listed below:

- From the processes observed in the countries there is a logical roadmap that must answer the context of the country and the following questions in this order: what is it looking for? Who can participate? What is the level of participation desired from the parties? How can they participate? When and where is the participation taking place?
 - The full and effective participation allows the development of public policies that answer the social, political, economic and environmental context of the country and addressing the needs and building the strength of the country.
 - REDD+ can be seen as a process that allows countries to make an in depth analysis of their policies for development, strengthening and guaranteeing the appropriate use and conservation of its resources through the full and informed participation
 - The REDD+ processes have allowed through participation from several countries a strengthening of governance related to the management of forest resources founded by the creation or consolidation of dialogue spaces between the government and civil society.
 - The participative process is not independent nor isolated from the rest of the technical and political processes for the formulation of RED+ national strategies. It should not be seen as a result but a mainstreaming aspect and integrated in the roadmap of the EN/PA
 - It is evident that through dialogues and spaces of concertation each country must define through a open process la legal and social relevance on how and when to develop the consultation process as well in indigenous communities through FPIC.
 - It is essential for any participation process to have Information and capacity building that allows dialogues to be generated in equal, transparent and respectful environments.
 - It is essential that communications be culturally appropriated and disseminated through methods and material of communication taking into account the contexts and needs for the stakeholders.
 - The stakeholders involved in the participation process must be reflected on the documents, projects and policies how have their vision been integrated as well as their opinion and proposal with the aim of reaffirming the usefulness and participation.
 - Finally there is no formula or recipe that can be easily replicated. Each country needs to development their processes based on national and international normative and taking into account the national context and their vision of REDD+
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Materials

The following links will take you the presentations made during the virtual space of this discussions (all documentation are only available in Spanish)

1. [Principios y metodología de la participación pública para REDD+](#). Josep Garí, Asesor en Políticas, PNUD, Programa ONU-REDD.
2. [ECUADOR: Procesos participativos en la construcción del Plan de Acción REDD+](#). Fernanda Proaño, Especialista en Participación. TS ONU-REDD, MAE.
3. [CHILE: Proceso participativo para la construcción de la ENCCRV](#). María Victoria Colmenares, Unidad de Asuntos Indígenas y Sociales. CONAF.
4. [MEXICO: Consulta pública de la Estrategia Nacional, ENAREDD+ de México](#). Cristina Nieto. Especialista en Participación. CONAFOR.
5. [HONDURAS: Avances en la participación para Estrategia Nacional REDD+](#). Marcello Abate. Especialista en Participación. Programa ONU-REDD, Mi Ambiente.
6. [Elementos comunes de la participación de actores en REDD+](#). José Arturo Santos, Especialista en Involucramiento de Actores, PNUD. Programa ONU-REDD.

The webinar recording can be found [here](#). All material can be found on the workspace [virtual workspace of UN-REDD](#), if you are not registered you can do so [here](#) Please note that the recording and presentations are only available in Spanish.

For more information

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