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| UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMEBDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARYDate: 22 May 2013 | UNDP_Logo-Blue w TaglineBlue-ENG.png |
| Name Kimberly Todd (UNDP), Catherine Bodart (FAO UN-REDD), Rocio Condor (FAO MICCA/MAGHG) | **Tel No.** + 1 212 906-5686 |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:**New York –Quito, Ecuador-New York | **Documents/Resources**: * Presentation on National Systems for GHG Inventories (attached)
* WRI MAPT Case Studies on GHG Inventory Systems: <https://sites.google.com/site/maptpartnerresearch/national-ghg-inventory-case-study-series>
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| Inclusive Travel Dates: | **Key counterpart(s):**  |
| 17 – 21 March 2012 |  | * Catherine Bodart, FAO UN-REDD
* Rocio Condor, FAO/MICCA/MAGHG (Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture – Monitoring and Assessment of GHG Emissions and Mitigation Potential in Agriculture)
* Augusto Sanchez, UNDP, Coordinador del Proyecto Fomento de Capacidades para la mitigación el Cambio Climático, FOCAM (national-level programme under LECB
* Johannes Broetz, Coalition for Rainforest Nations (CfRN)/CD-REDD
* Esther Mertens, CfRN/CD-REDD
* Eduardo Reyes, CfRN/CD-REDD
* Kelvin Cueva, FAO UN-REDD
* Pamela Rodriguez, FOCAM-MAE (FAO)
* Fabien Englert, MAE REDD+ MRV Specialist
* Gabriel Jaramillo, UNDP CO
* Monica Merino Dominguez, UNDP CO, Deputy Resident Representative
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| **Purpose/Objectives of Mission:****Main objective:**Joint effort (UN-REDD, MICCA/MAGHG, UNDP LECB, CD-REDD) to support capacity development on greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory implementation in Ecuador, with an emphasis on the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses) sector.**Specific objectives of the meeting:*** To start the process to facilitate the development of the national system for developing the GHG inventory, with a focus on the (AFOLU) sector. This included consideration of the institutional arrangements to be put into place for a sustainable national inventory management system.
* To identify a core AFOLU GHG inventory team within the relevant ministries and institutions for the preparation of the draft AFOLU GHG inventory and start to identify how these team members will work together
* To identify the main data providers for the AFOLU GHG inventory at country level regarding agricultural statistics and forest data
* To map the availability of country and international data to conduct the draft AFOLU GHG inventory and start to compile, to the extent possible

In addition, other specific objectives of UNDP/UN-REDD participation:* Present overview of national inventory systems and country case studies of development of national inventory systems to provide overall context to the AFOLU-specific work to follow
* Meeting at UNDP CO for introductions/provision of de-brief
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| **Context*** Country status related to GHG Inventory work; 2 National Communications have been produced and the PIF for GEF funding for the Third National Communication (TNC) is currently being prepared (to be supported by UNDP). No inventory management system is place at start of mission; Ecuador cannot draw on expertise from 2nd Nat Comm (2006); data had not been compiled into one comprehensive archive/database following the last Nat Comm and technical experts have moved on.
* The national-level Programme funded by LECB (FOCAM) is a 3 yr project running through mid-2015. The FOCAM team sits within Ministerio del Ambiente (MAE) but staffed by consultants supported by UNDP and FAO; MAE wants to institutionalize the inventory coordination function within the government agency in the long-term.
* MAE proposed objective – have a AFOLU inventory by end of 2013; BUR reporting by Dec. 2014.
* In 2011, CfRN/CD-REDD already had a Regional training workshop on the agriculture and LULUCF GHG inventory , were delegates from Ecuador participated, unfortunately, all technicians had since left those positions.
* The Inter-institutional Climate Change Committee is responsible for the GHG Inventory compilation and coordination between working groups from the different sectors. The Comity is leaded by the MAE, Sub Secretary of Climate Change.

**Participants:** MAE, SEMPLADES (Secretaria National de Plannificacion y Desarrollo), MAGAP (Ministry of Agriculture), INEC (National institute of Statistics), INIEP (agriculture research institution associated with MAGAP); CfRN/CD-REDD, UN-REDD (UNDP, FAO), FAO/MICCA/MAGHG, UNDP CO* Opening and closing sessions**:** management-level participation from these institutions
* several technical experts delegated to attend the working sessions from each of those institutions/ministries

**Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings:*** Provided a forum to start to determine what data are already available and the entities holding this data; “hands-on” exercise to fill out the data questionnaire; eventually these questionnaires are meant to provide a comprehensive data mapping. Information of the workshop (presentations, questionnaires) is available http://cdredd.org/content/joint-meeting-ecuador
* First time, the agencies were really engaging on this– particularly MAE and MAGAP – in the context of preparing the Third National Communication.
* First time there is coordination with CD-REDD at the country-level. Connecting the CD-REDD project with UN-REDD and UNDP-LECB provides more weight to the CD-REDD project (CD-REDD team acknowledged this) because FAO and UNREDD supported CD-REDD+MAE-FOCAM in mapping institutions (agriculture, forest) and facilitating the joint meeting. UN-REDD can leverage the CD-REDD process/momentum as their project ends in Oct. 2013.
* Ecuador is in a very good place given the REDD+ related data that is being finalized within the next few months – vegetation maps, deforestation maps for several yrs (1990, 2000, 2008, 2012); NFI being finalized (has been supported by FAO-FIN the last 3 yrs.).
* Generally, on the GHG inventory system, they’ve carried out a stakeholder mapping, identifying 35 stakeholders across sectors who should be involved in the inventory system. This has been carried out under the FOCAM project.
* MAE demonstrated good leadership by coming to the table with a proposal for institutionalizing the inventory system –using the CICC (inter-institutional climate change committee) as the means for high-level political buy-in (proposed the option of having a high-level ministerial agreement) and identifying the experts at the technical level; acknowledged that they won’t have Augusto Sanchez as a permanent inventory coordinator, so they need to have a longer-term plan in place. MAE also acknowledged challenges with the 2nd NC or SNC (high turnover; information spread-out/not digitalized in databases; external QA was lacking) to address by proposing a new management model for the TNC. This includes addressing the database issue by aiming to incorporate GHG inventory data into their National System of Information (SUIA).
* Results from REDD+ REL analysis are ready to use for the GHG inventory. Fabian Englert, the REDD+ MRV expert in MAE/Climate Change, is a strong proponent for ensuring consistency between the REDD+ REL analysis and the GHG inventory work. He is in a good position to ensure these two areas of work are well-aligned going forward.
* Key data providers for preparing the agriculture and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) GHG inventory in Ecuador are INEC and the MAE-Patrimonio Natural, respectively. The mapping of data availability has also identified data gaps and needs to improve data collection in Ecuador. The importance of having the Agricultural Census was highlighted by participants, where variables of climate change should be considered. FAO was asked for technical support on the Agricultural Census.
* More context was needed on IPCC, GHG inventories, which was particularly evident through questions posed by FOCAm and MAE staff in attendance. Resource persons from the various agencies explained concepts as we went but ideally experts attending could have taken part in some introductory webinar or event explaining key concepts – IPCC land classification; need to derive national definitions; managed vs unmanaged land. In addition, implications of 1996 vs 2006 GLs was a frequent question/issue even with a presentation offered, so more explanation of this is needed as well.
* Sub-secretary of MAE/Climate Change - Carola Borja – resigned the first day of the mission. Ongoing turnover of high-level staff is expected. This should not affect technical staff in the ministries but may delay adoption of the recommendations drafted at the meeting. This document (*Sugerencia e acuerdos para la facilitación del proceso de institucionalización y elaboración del Inventario de Gases de Efecto Invernadero del Ecuador en los sectores Agricultura, Uso del Suelo y Cambio del Uso del Suelo y Silvicultura*) was drafted as an output of the meeting to forward to higher management level to endorse (identification of decisions for competent authorities, such as number of focal points within each ministry that need to be officially designated, and FOCAM was identified as starting point to promote capacity development and institutionalization of the GHG inventory, with the role of channeling information from relevant actors).
* Sensitivities apparent in relationship between Climate Change and Patrimonio Natural (the other Sub-Secretary within MAE). PN wasn’t engaged in planning and only invited later on – hesitant to send their staff but in the end they did. This was critical because the forestry expertise sits within PN and the technical experts contributed a lot during the meeting.
* UNDP CO – Monica identified the need to work closely with MAE at a country-level; was pleased to see that this was a joint UNDP/FAO mission; the UNDP CO has apparently received complaints from MAE that the agencies don’t work well together. Monica also cautioned about likely delays, given the instability at a political level currently – probably won’t have a stable team until June.
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| Next steps/Follow up actions:* GHG Inventory working group to be formed between FAO/UNDP (bringing in CD-REDD in as appropriate as well); Using the Ecuador experience as a coordination model, will explore collaboration related to other countries (e.g., Colombia). In the case of Colombia, the UN-REDD National Programme is being formulated so it’s the right time to plan for a coordinated approach.
* CD-REDD team will return to Ecuador for 2 more in-country technical backstopping missions. Follow up with FAO to determine nature of continued HQ support from FAO and UNDP following this kick-off meeting. FAO will support Ecuador on facilitating institutional arrangement, data collection and improving quality of data for the Agriculture and LULUCF sectors.
* Global CD-REDD event to close the project will be held at the next COP; Ecuador wants to be able to demonstrate results at that event – there seemed to be “buy-in” to fast track Ecuador to catch up with the other CD-REDD countries.
* Pamela, FOCAM-MAE, along with 3 additional technical experts, will participate in the May 2013 data compilation/processing workshop
* Share Spanish translations of WRI case studies with participants when available
* Write an article, together with FAO, on this joint mission to submit to both the UN-REDD as well as the LECB newsletter
* Francesco Tubiello, FAO-MICCA, will visit UNDP NYC office as part of another mission. Ongoing coordination with FAO on GHG inventory capacity-building will be discussed.
 | **Distribution List:** * UNDP/UN-REDD Global
* UNDP LECB HQ team
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