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Practical Use of Governance Assessment Information for REDD+ in Ecuador



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Washington DC, May 26, 2011**



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Ecuador's Background





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- Ecuador is one of the 17 mega diverse countries
- 14 different indigenous nationalities
- Approximately 10 million hectares of forests
- Deforestation rate: 61.764 ha/year (MAE 2011)
- Reduce deforestation rate is a national priority



REDD+ in Ecuador



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- Managing forests and climate change is a competency of the Ministry of Environment
- REDD+ as an alternative to comply with both national objectives:
 - Reducing deforestation rate
 - Mitigating climate change
- Development of the National REDD+ Strategy as part of the Readiness phase
- Good governance key to implement REDD+ and ensure long term sustainability



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Ecuador's approach on Governance for REDD+

Related Activities



Elements of governance



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GOVERNANCE

Transparency

Participation

Legality/Institutions

Ensure a transparent REDD+ process

Comply with and go beyond Cancun Safeguards

Identify capacity gaps to implement the Forest Governance Model and the REDD+ National Strategy

Ecuador's approach



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Legislation

Constitution

National
Development Plan

National
Environmental Policy

Presidential Executive
Decree 1815

Institutional Arrangements

Inter-institutional
Committee for
Climate Change

Participation

Communication and
Engagement Action
Plan

Information
Consulation
Engagement
Capacity Building

REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards



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REDD+ SES

- Ensure social and environmental benefits
- “most of the criteria and indicators focus on measuring elements of effective and accountable governance, rightly identifying them as essential institutional pre-conditions for achieving the positive outcomes” (Chatham House, 2010)

Phase 1

- Development of a bench-mark of good practice guide (principles, criteria and indicators)
- Consultations workshops

Phase 2

- National Interpretation
- Pilot implementation in Ecuador
- Establishment of the National Standards Committee

Collection and use of information



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NATIONAL INTERPRETATION

- Workshops with CSO and IPs
- Revision by the Ministry's legal department

IMPLEMENTATION

- Develop a monitoring plan
- Consultancy to identify information needed to comply with the Standards in Ecuador
- Piloting and defining samples
- Scaling up to the National REDD+ Strategy

REPORTING

- Final report
- Assessment of indicators

UN-REDD and Governance in Ecuador



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- ✓ JND approved at the 6th UN-REDD Policy Board in March 2011
- ✓ Governance monitoring through :
 - Monitoring governance for REDD+
 - Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria
 - Risk Assessment Tool
- ✓ Harmonization with other guidelines for implementation in Ecuador
 - Ecuador potential pilot country for UN-REDD safeguards
 - Part of activities included in the JND

Challenges



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How countries will comply with UNFCCC safeguards?

How countries will use the different instruments created at the international level to comply with the UNFCCC safeguards?

How to scale down the instruments developed at the international level to the national level_

Define the complementarities between SES and UN-REDD safeguards and what are the implications for implementation at country level?

How to develop a monitoring system for governance safeguards that is part of the MRV system?



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Thank you for your attention!

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