



**INTERNATIONAL YEAR
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Ecuador

Towards REDD+ Implementation

Combined safeguards and sub-regional capacity building workshop on REDD-plus



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Ministry of Environment of Ecuador
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National experience with REDD-plus





- *Ecuador is one of the 17 mega diverse countries of the world*
- *Ecuador has approximately 9.6 million hectares of forests*
- *Preliminary data states that more than 60.000 hectares of forests are lost each year (MAE, 2011)*



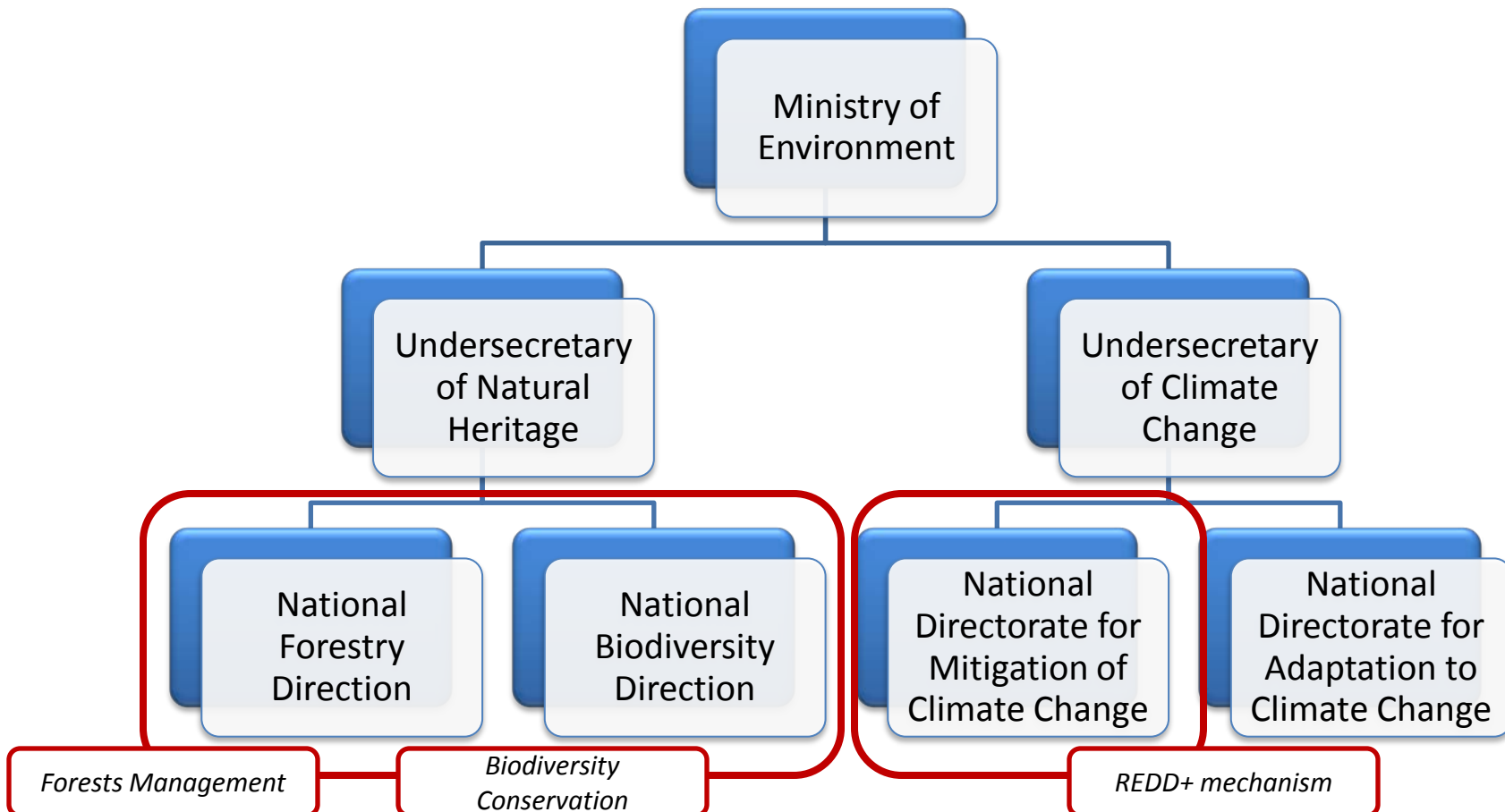
National Structure for REDD+ Planning



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Reducing Deforestation as a national priority

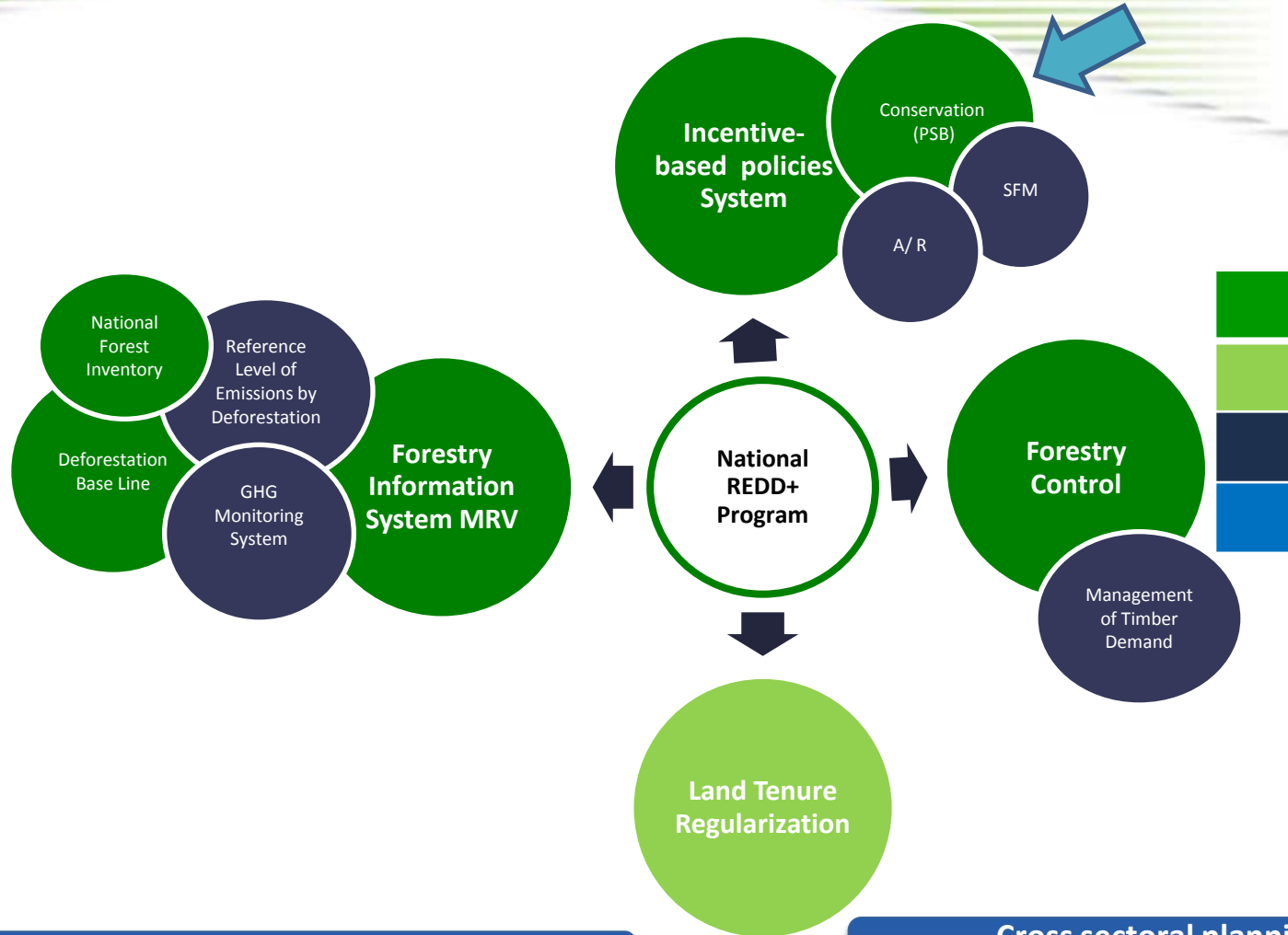
- ✓ Provisions in the Constitution
- ✓ National Development Plan (2009-2013)
- ✓ National Environmental Policy



Elements of the National REDD+ Program



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Competences MAE	On going activities
Competences MAE - MAGAP	
	Planned Activities
	Cross cutting elements

Legal, Financial & Institutional Framework

Cross sectoral planning & inter-institutional coordination

Financial Sustainability

Research

Social & Environmental co-benefits

Multi-Stakeholder Engagement

Some on going activities in Ecuador's REDD+ Readiness phase...



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- ❖ ***Preliminary results of the Historic Deforestation Map***
- ❖ ***Incentive-based policy for forests conservation: Socio Bosque Program currently has 630.000 hectares under conservation (2008 – 2010)***
- ❖ ***Field data collection for the National Forests Inventory has already started***
- ❖ ***Initiatives to ensure multiple benefits and multi-stakeholders engagement in REDD+***
- ❖ ***Fundraising activities***
- ❖ ***Setting up the legal, institutional and financial framework for REDD+ implementation***

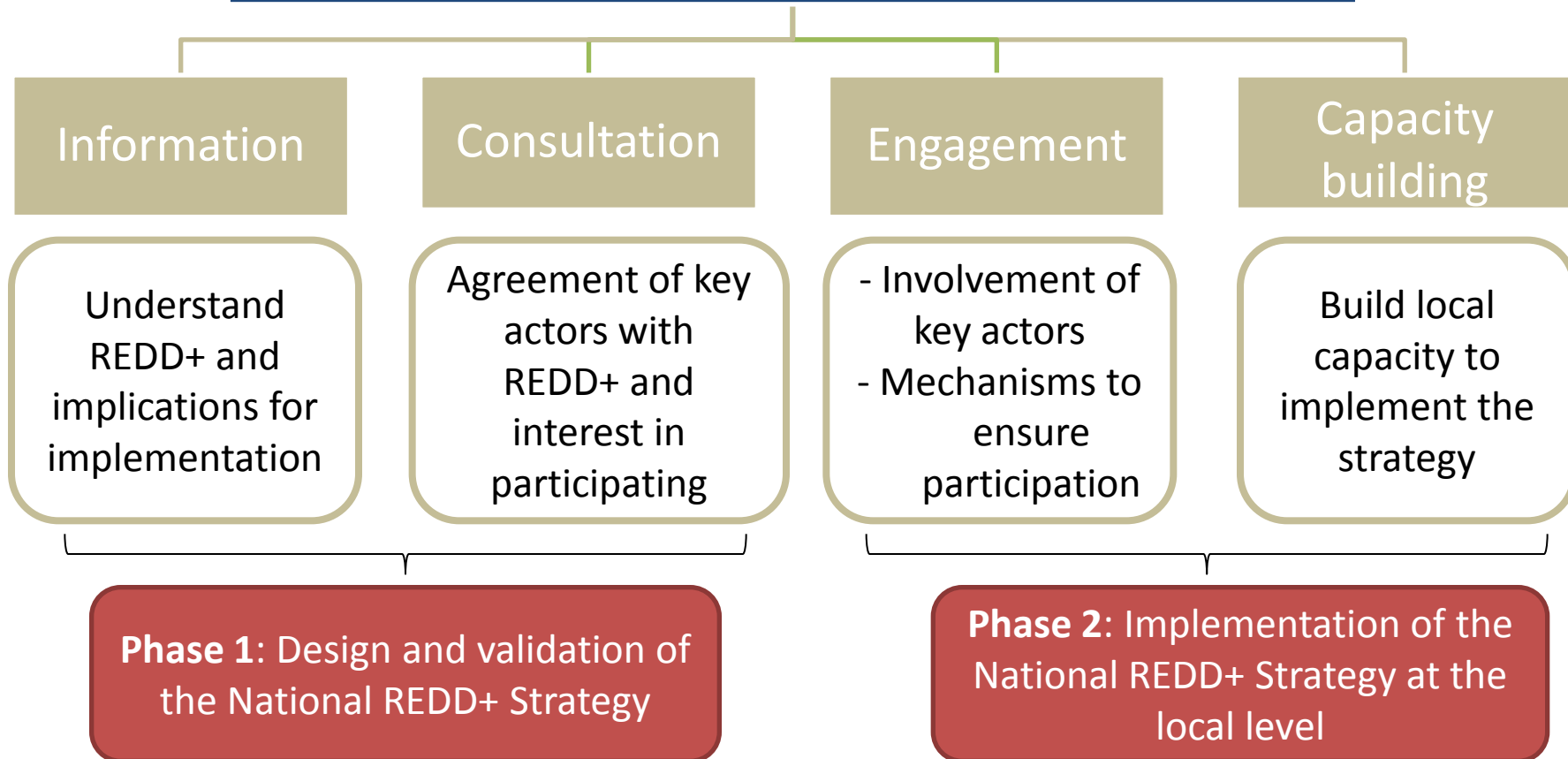
Setting up a Stakeholder Engagement Programme



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Including key stakeholders in REDD+ process...

Stakeholder Engagement Programme



National experience with biodiversity safeguards



REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards in Ecuador



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REDD+ SES

- Social and environmental safeguards to mitigate risks
- Generate significant social and environmental co-benefits
- REDD+ Program performance
- Mechanism for reporting on how safeguards are addressed

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
- Evaluation

Implementation of REDD+ SES in Ecuador



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NATIONAL INTERPRETATION

- Workshops with CSO and IPs
- Public consultation process
- Processing of comments by the facilitation team and revision by the Ministry's legal department
- Establishment of the National Standards Committee



IMPLEMENTATION

- Develop a monitoring plan: type and source of information to report on standards
- Consultancy to identify information needed to report on Standards in Ecuador
- Piloting in Socio Bosque
- Scaling up to the National REDD+ Strategy



EVALUATION

- Final report
- Assessment of indicators

Exploring co-benefits in Ecuador



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- ❖ The Ministry of Environment and UNEP-WCMC has started in March 2010 a **joint program** of work to **identify "multiple benefits"** related to environmental and social aspects that the implementation of REDD+ can bring to the country
- ❖ The initiative led to a report presenting the results of spatial analyses to **support the REDD+ planning process in Ecuador.**
- ❖ Report launched at **CBD COP10** (Nagoya 2010)
- ❖ Ecuador has proposed a **next phase of work** that will consist in carrying out analyses with **country updated information**

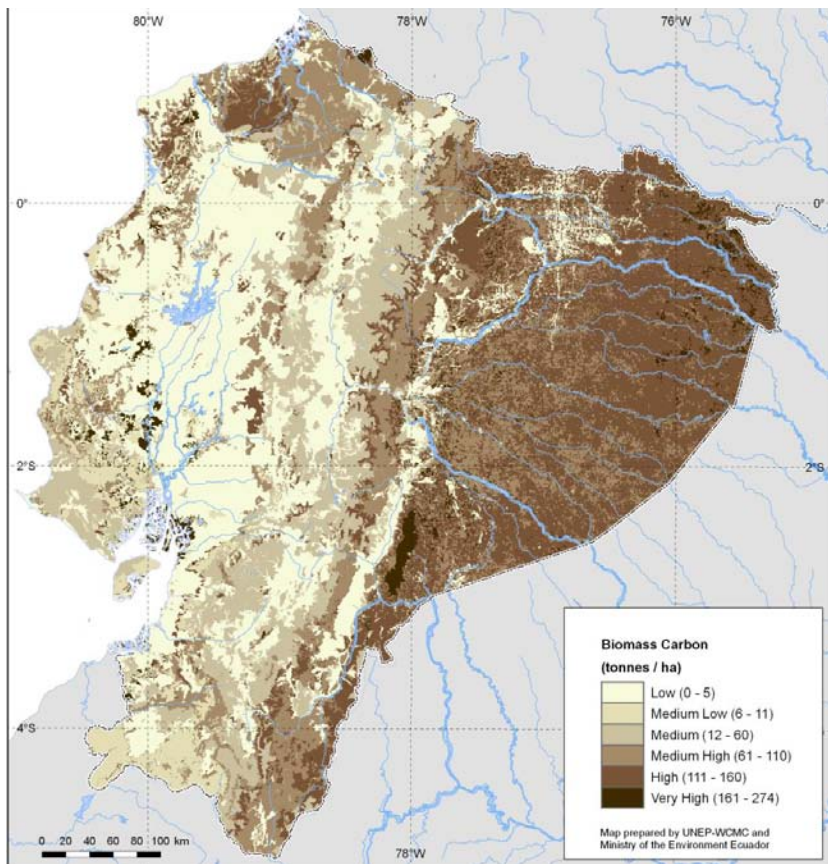
Report available at: www.ambiente.gob.ec or www.unep-wcmc.org

Some Results...

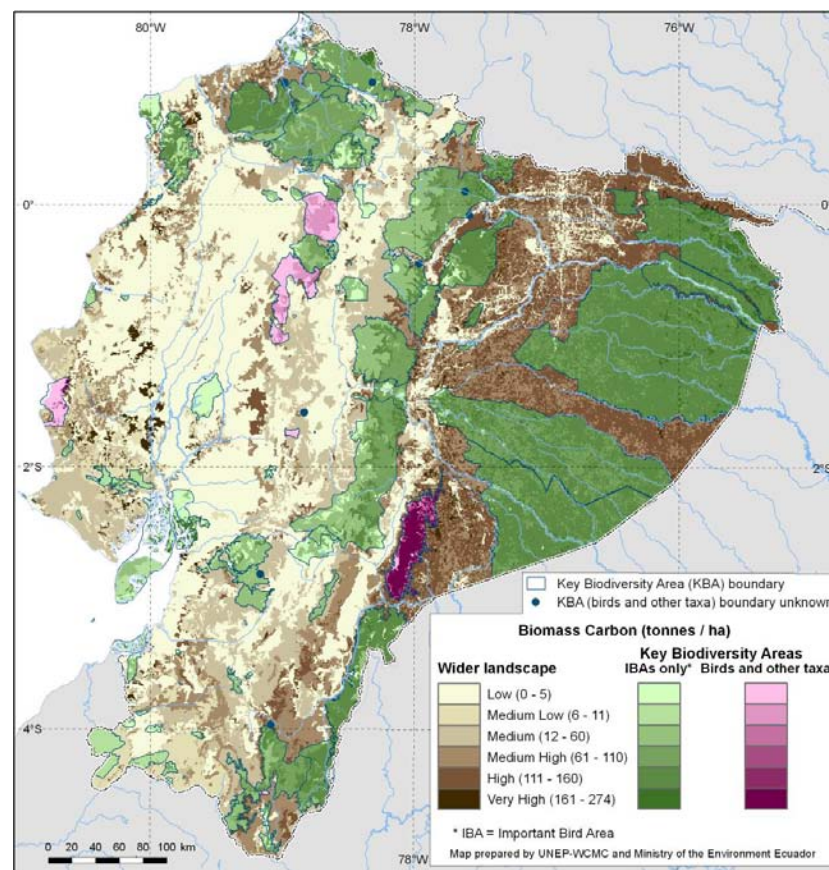


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Updated biomass carbon map of the Republic of Ecuador based on vegetation cover data and biomass estimates from national and international sources



In total, Ecuador's KBA cover about 36% of the mainland country



In Ecuador the Amazon region has the highest carbon density

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and biomass carbon in Ecuador.

Using UN-REDD tools in Ecuador



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- ✓ Joint National Document (JND) approved at the 6th UN-REDD Policy Board in March 2011
- ✓ Voluntary tools to address safeguards and ensure multiple benefits
- ✓ Planned activities in the JND

- Identify social and environmental benefits (UNEP-WCMC)
- Define a monitoring system

Multiple benefits
monitoring system

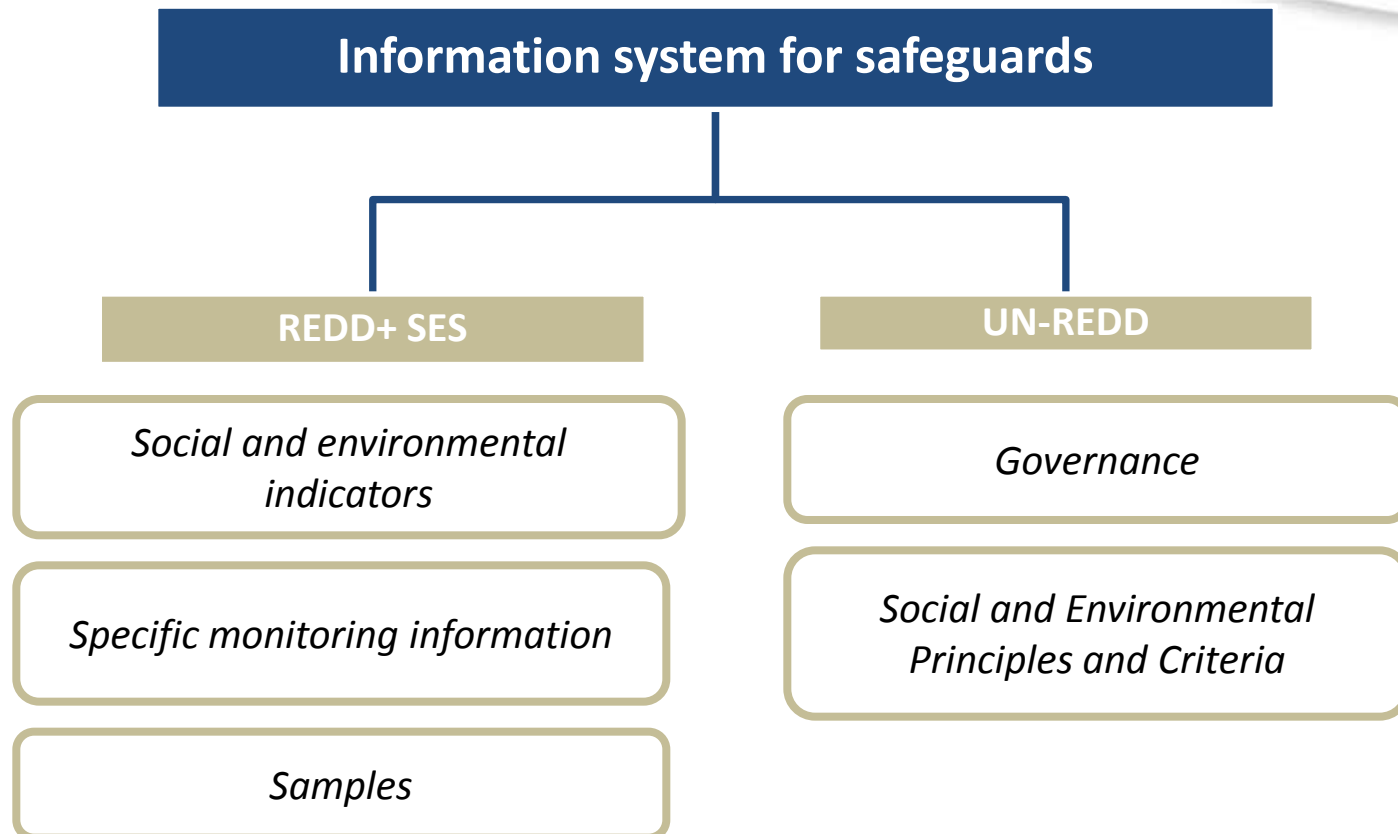
Multiple benefits
enhancement
strategy

- Define and implement mechanisms to enhance multiple benefits
- Develop and implement a MRV multiple benefit monitoring system
- Apply REDD+ SES harmonized with UN-REDD tools

Towards an information system for safeguards in Ecuador



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Ecuador is seeking to articulate both initiatives in order to set up an information and monitoring system to ensure the compliance of safeguards and assure multiples benefits from REDD+ implementation



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REDD-plus: Seeking synergies between the CBD and the UNFCCC



Seeking synergies between the CBD & the UNFCCC



CBD

Program of work on forests biodiversity

UNFCCC

REDD+ mechanism



- ❖ Compliance of Safeguards
- ❖ Ensure multiple benefits
- ❖ Links with adaptation to Climate Change

Challenges:

- ❖ Further work need to be done to find links between the CBD and UNFCCC and reflect them in the design and implementation of policies at a country level.
- ❖ Mobilize technical and financial resources to comply with the objectives of both Conventions.

Obstacles, Needs & Challenges



Main obstacles and Capacity Building needs to include biodiversity safeguards



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- ❖ REDD+ mechanism as an instrument to accomplish goals related to biodiversity conservation, improve human wellbeing, enhance ecosystem services
- ❖ High priority to ensure co-benefits from REDD+ implementation

Main Obstacles

Updated information regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services

Technical assistance and financial resources

Capacity Building Needs

The link between biodiversity and climate change at different levels

Setting up a national information and monitoring system

Main Challenges...



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Need to scale down the instruments developed at the international level

Need to constantly update information related to biodiversity and ecosystem services

Develop a monitoring system for environmental safeguards as part of the MRV system

Need for technical and financial resources

Strengthen coordination between the National Biodiversity Direction and the Undersecretary of Climate Change

Unlock the economic value of multiple benefits and enhance this potential at a country level link, and REDD+ with broader policies to ensure sustainable development



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Thank you for your attention

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