

INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP

CLIMATIC CHANGE (REDD) AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Workshop: Climatic Change/REDD and Indigenous Peoples	
Background and Justification for the Workshop	<p>Paraguay's government has had an active participation in the process of conversation and agreement regarding REDD (Reduction of Emissions due to Deforestation and Degradation) in the international arena, and is one of the nine pilot program countries of the UN REDD program.</p> <p>Participation of the indigenous peoples via their representative organizations is fundamental to this initiative, and their inclusion is among the expectations of rights guaranteed to indigenous peoples (free and informed consent). It should be emphasized that not only are the indigenous dependent on the forests, but also in most cases their understanding of the creation of the world, and indigenous rites and symbols, arise from resources which the forest provides.</p> <p>Among the activities of the UN-REDD program, those of the current phase encourage and strengthen indigenous culture, and may develop ideas and strengths by the inclusion of indigenous knowledge. A first step is to provide all information, and develop processes for participation, recognizing the indigenous experiential perception of time and place.</p> <p>The proposed workshop arises from this understanding, as a first and basic space for information, discussion, and construction with the indigenous peoples to recognize and eventually implement their participation in the UN-REDD initiative and the development of a proposal to prepare the country for responses to climatic change within the local context.</p>
Purposes of the Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Broaden understanding of the representative indigenous organizations and allied institutional technicians concerning climatic change – especially the UN-REDD program. ▪ <u>Design the consultation process – with the indigenous organizations so that knowledge of climatic/REDD change and related activities is brought to all indigenous communities, and are communicated in a timely and appropriate manner (in the local language) to ensure the reality of free and informed consent.</u> ▪ Develop a work agenda for mitigation of climatic change/REDD, coordinated with expedient and appropriate participation in various initiatives which arise. ▪ Learn of and support initiatives of the indigenous peoples to confront and/or mitigate climatic change.
Expected Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations gain basic information concerning climatic change/REDD, its effects in Paraguay, and its effects on indigenous communities. • Representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations develop an information timetable and consult with their associated communities concerning changes.
Target Audience	<p>Representatives of indigenous organizations and primary advisors who work with indigenous peoples. Number of expected participants: xxx in the eastern region and xxx in the western region (see Annex 1 for a preliminary list of participants).</p>
Dates and Duration	<p>Two workshops will be conducted, of three days each:</p> <p>October 14 -15 -16, 2009 – Eastern region workshop (Coronel Oviedo town).</p> <p>October 7- 8 - 9, 2009 – Western region workshop (Filadelfia town)</p>

Organizers	CAPI, INDI, SEAM, INFONA with support from PNUD, WWF
Contents	THEMES
	General information concerning climatic change, focus on REDD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Origen ▪ Causes ▪ Current situation
	Climatic change and REDD and its effects in Paraguay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities ▪ Challenges
	Climatic change(including REDD) and indigenous peoples of Paraguay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities ▪ Challenges

Workshop Characteristics

1. Invitation and methodology

Invitation to the workshop will be made by the representative indigenous organizations to their associates and allied institutions. The indigenous organizations will each select up to three representatives. Participation of the knowledgeable ("wise") men and women from the indigenous culture will be important in strengthening the workshop and indigenous spiritual experience.

The indigenous organizations should also indicate the number of persons who may participate on behalf of supporting institutions or as consultants to the workshop.

SPEAKERS

Representatives of SEAM, CAPI, INFONA, PNUD, WWF

On this topic, it should be mentioned that CAPI suggests that if possible an expert should participate who is an indigenous person from outside of Paraguay. Toward that possibility, contacts are being made, but it is uncertain at this moment.

LANGUAGE

For the workshop to be held in Cnel. Oviedo, Guaraní language will be used preferentially, although some situations may require Spanish, as well as specific words or usages of the Aché, Paí or Mbya peoples. In the workshop in the western region Spanish should be used.

MATERIALS

An informational bulletin will be provided as basic workshop material, which will include a general presentation of climatic change, its Origen, causes, and current situation, along with its effects on the country and on the indigenous peoples and communities. This will be developed jointly by SEAM y CAPI.

DURATION and PROGRAM

Regarding the workshop duration, two workshops of three days each is indicated above. With respect to indigenous people this does not signify three complete days; rather it would be a half day for arrival to the workshop site, begin the workshop with a lunch, and end with lunch on the final day.