



Ecuador

Ensuring Co-benefits through the implementation of a REDD+ mechanism

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- Ecuador is one of the 17 megadiverse countries
- 2 Hotspots: “Tropical Andes” and “Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena”
- Ecuador’s surface with less than 0.2% of world’s surface:
 - 18% of birds
 - 18% of orchids
 - 10% of amphibians
 - 8% of mammals
- 46 ecosystems represented

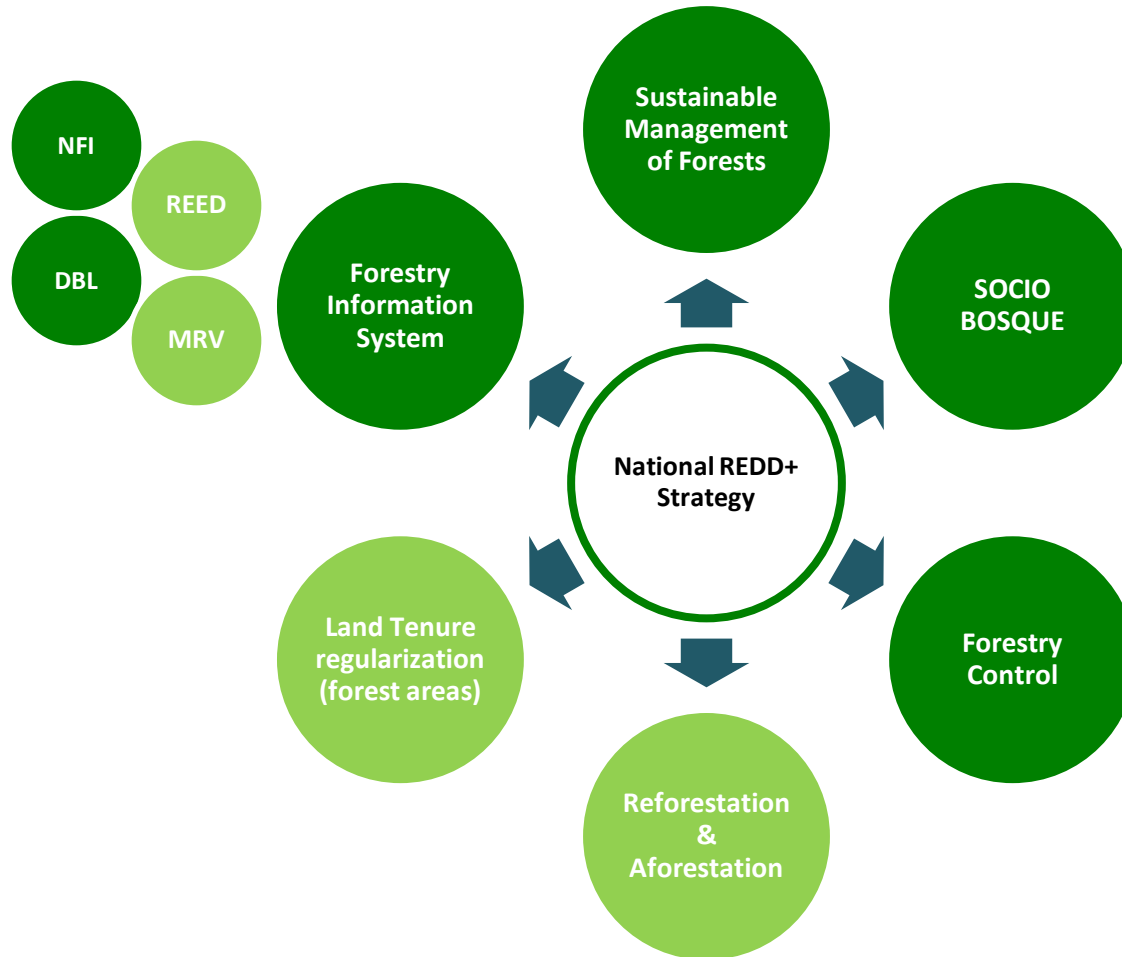


Forests in Ecuador are under threat



- 10 million hectares of forests including humid tropical forests, montane forests, high altitud forests, andean, dry forests, among others.
- Deforestation rate amongst highest in South America
- Yearly almost 200.000 hectares are lost
- CO₂ emissions caused by deforestation about 55 million tons per year

Elements of the REDD National Strategy



Legal & Institutional Framework

Funding

Social & Environmental benefits

Capacity Building

Cross-sectoral planning

Timber demand management

Participatory Process

... an incentive-based policy to tackle deforestation

- ✓ The Programme gives economic incentives to indigenous communities or forest dwellers that voluntarily want to conserve their forests

- ✓ Goals:
 - 4 million hectares in 7 years
 - 1 million beneficiaries
 - Reduce significantly GHG

- ✓ It represents a clear and transparent way of including indigenous communities

- ✓ There are some key elements of the programme such as:
 - Social Investment Plan
 - Prioratization of areas
 - Conservation agreements for 20 years
 - Monetary incentive up to 30 \$/ha per year

SocioBosque

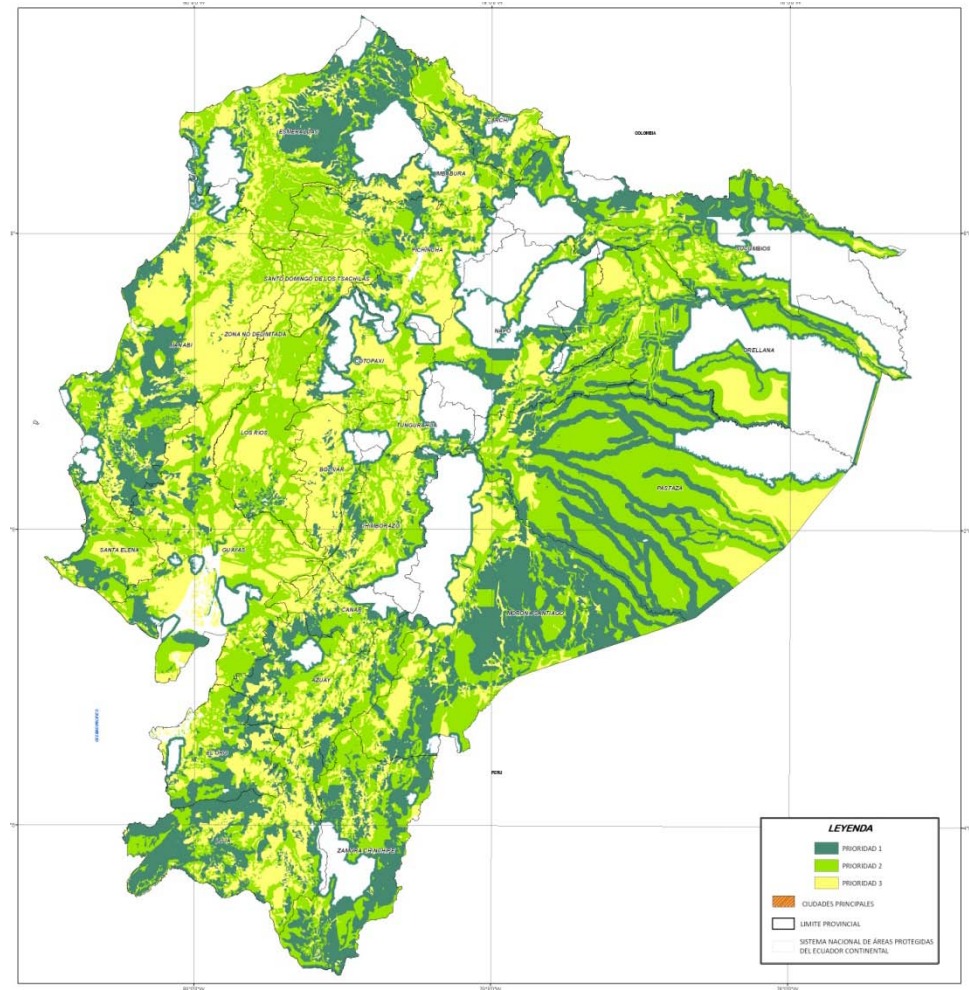


Programa de protección de bosques

Prioritization of Areas

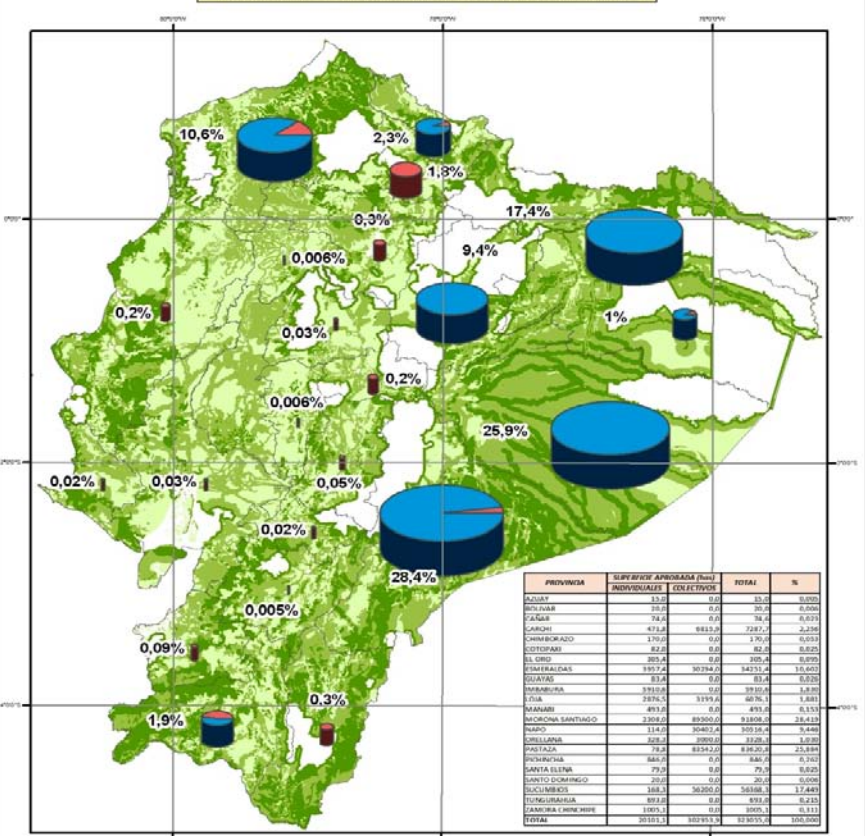
The prioritization scheme:

- ✓ Areas with high deforestation pressure (9) (**Middle priority**)
- ✓ Areas with high importance for ecosystem services (10) (**Highest priority**):
 - Carbon storage (3)
 - Water (3)
 - Biodiversity (4)
- ✓ Areas with high poverty (3) (**lowest priority**)

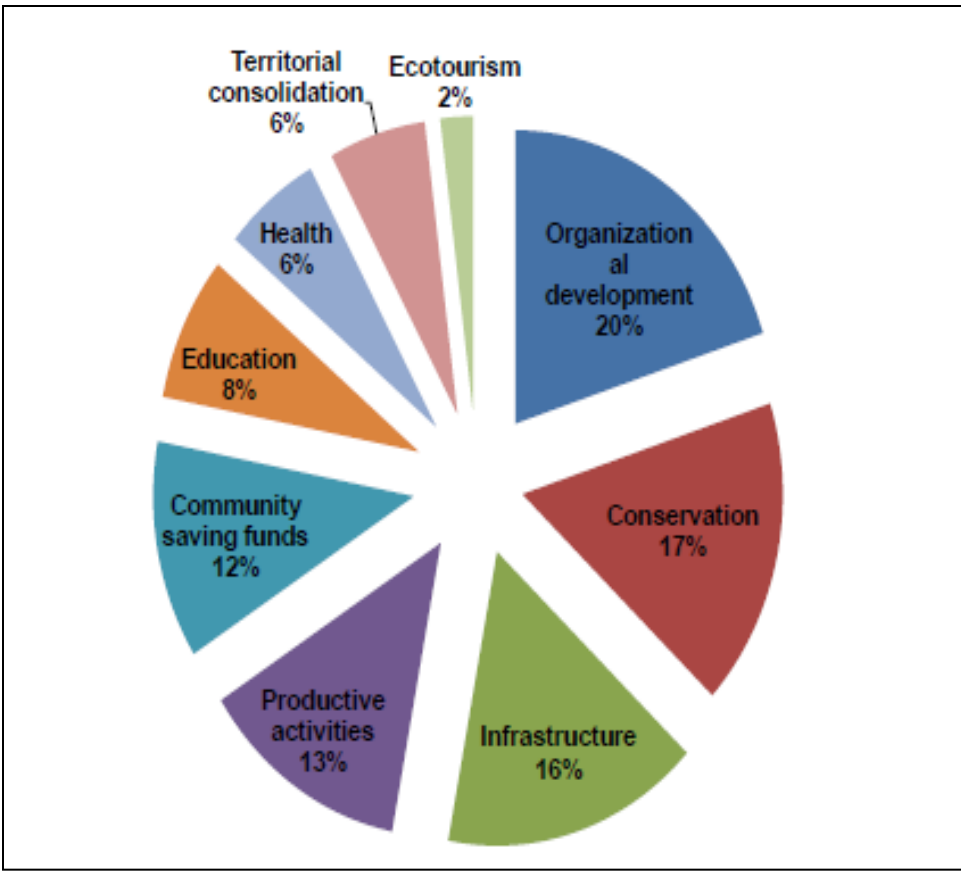


Socio Bosque's Results

COBERTURA BOSCOSA INCLUIDA EN EL PROYECTO SOCIO BOSQUE



✓ Social Investment Plan



- ✓ Programme Results:
- December 2009: conservation agreements by 416.000 hectares and 40.000 beneficiaries
 - Goal 2010: conservation agreements for 200.000 additional hectares

Why an standard to ensure the delivery of social & environmental benefits?

- For the Ministry it is high priority that REDD activities deliver both: social and environmental benefits in the short & long terms
- Already delivering those benefits with the implementation of Socio Bosque Program, therefore standards is a way to demonstrate success
- Bench-mark good practice guidance (principles, criteria, indicators) and lead the process of delivering social & environmental standards
- Demonstrate to the international community that REDD can deliver S&E benefits

REDD+ Standards

- ✓ Work program with CCBA- CARE to develop a REDD+ Standard that could be used at a national level.
- ✓ First phase: Developed the principles, criteria and indicators for the Standard
- ✓ Consultations workshops were conducted in Quito and in the Amazon region
- ✓ Second phase: National interpretation of the Standards, and pilot implementation



Social & Environmental Standards

- ✓ Rights to land, territories and resources are recognized and respected
- ✓ The benefits of the REDD+ program are shared equitably among all stakeholders and rights holders 'Equity' and 'equitable' are defined as just, impartial and fair to all parties.
- ✓ The REDD+ program contributes to sustainable livelihoods and poverty alleviation for forest-dependent peoples Forest-dependent peoples include Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- ✓ The REDD+ program contributes to broader sustainable development and good governance objectives
- ✓ Biodiversity and ecosystem services are maintained and enhanced
- ✓ All relevant stakeholders and rights holders are able to participate fully and effectively in the REDD+ program
- ✓ All stakeholders and rights holders have timely access to appropriate and accurate information to enable good governance of the REDD+ program
- ✓ The REDD+ program complies with applicable local and national laws and international treaties and agreements

Moving forward

How to support?

- ✓ Update information related to environmental services in the country
- ✓ Modify the socio bosque's prioritization scheme for applying it to the National REDD Strategy
- ✓ Include other ecosystem services in the analysis
- ✓ Develop and implement a monitoring system for ecosystem co benefits
- ✓ Full implementation of the standards to different elements of Ecuador's REDD+ Strategy.

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