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REDD+

Ecuador's approach to governance

Investing in Good Governance for REDD+ : UN-REDD Side Event



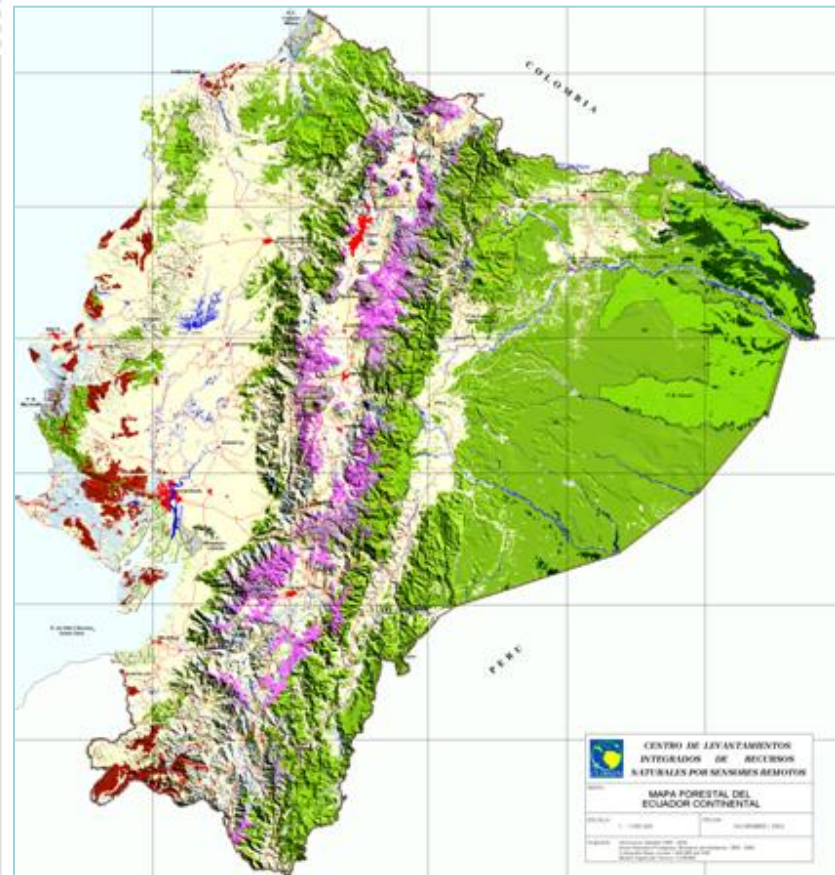
Marco Chú
Ministry of Environment of Ecuador
Bonn, August 2010

A photograph of a dense tropical forest. The scene is filled with various shades of green, from deep forest greens to bright, sunlit greens. In the foreground, several palm trees with large, feathery fronds are prominent. The background shows a thick canopy of trees extending into the distance, with some taller trees visible against a slightly hazy sky. The overall atmosphere is one of a vibrant, healthy ecosystem.

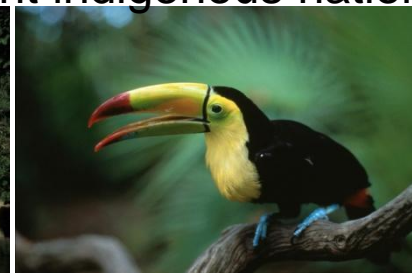
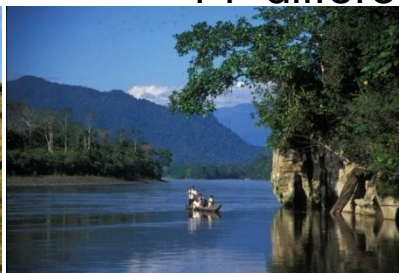
Background on Ecuador's REDD+



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- Ecuador is one of the 17 megadiverse countries
- 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
- 10 million hectares of forests including humid tropical forests, montane forests, high altitude forests, andean, dry forests, among others.
- 14 different indigenous nationalities





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- REDD+ is more than a mechanism to mitigate climate change
- In addition to securing carbon, REDD can deliver multiple benefits (social and environmental)
- Multiple benefits: conservation of forest biodiversity, maintenance of ecosystem services, improving well being...
- It is high priority that REDD activities deliver both: social and environmental benefits in the short & long terms
- “High Quality “REDD+ Mechanism



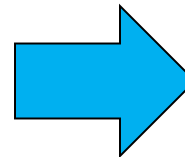
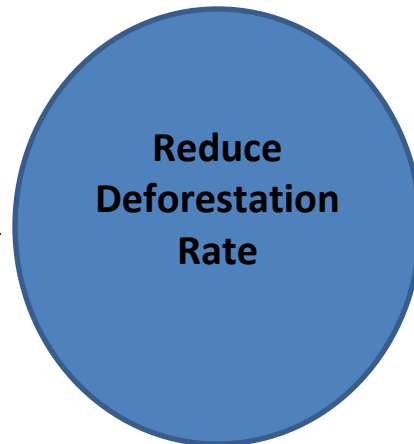
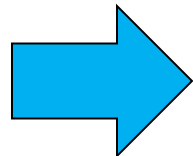
Ecuador's current situation

- Deforestation rate amongst highest in South America
- Yearly almost 200.000 hectares are lost



To change this trend...

- Constitution (2008)
- National Development Plan (2009 – 2013)



National Priority

REDD+ mechanism as part of the solution...

Forestry Governance Model

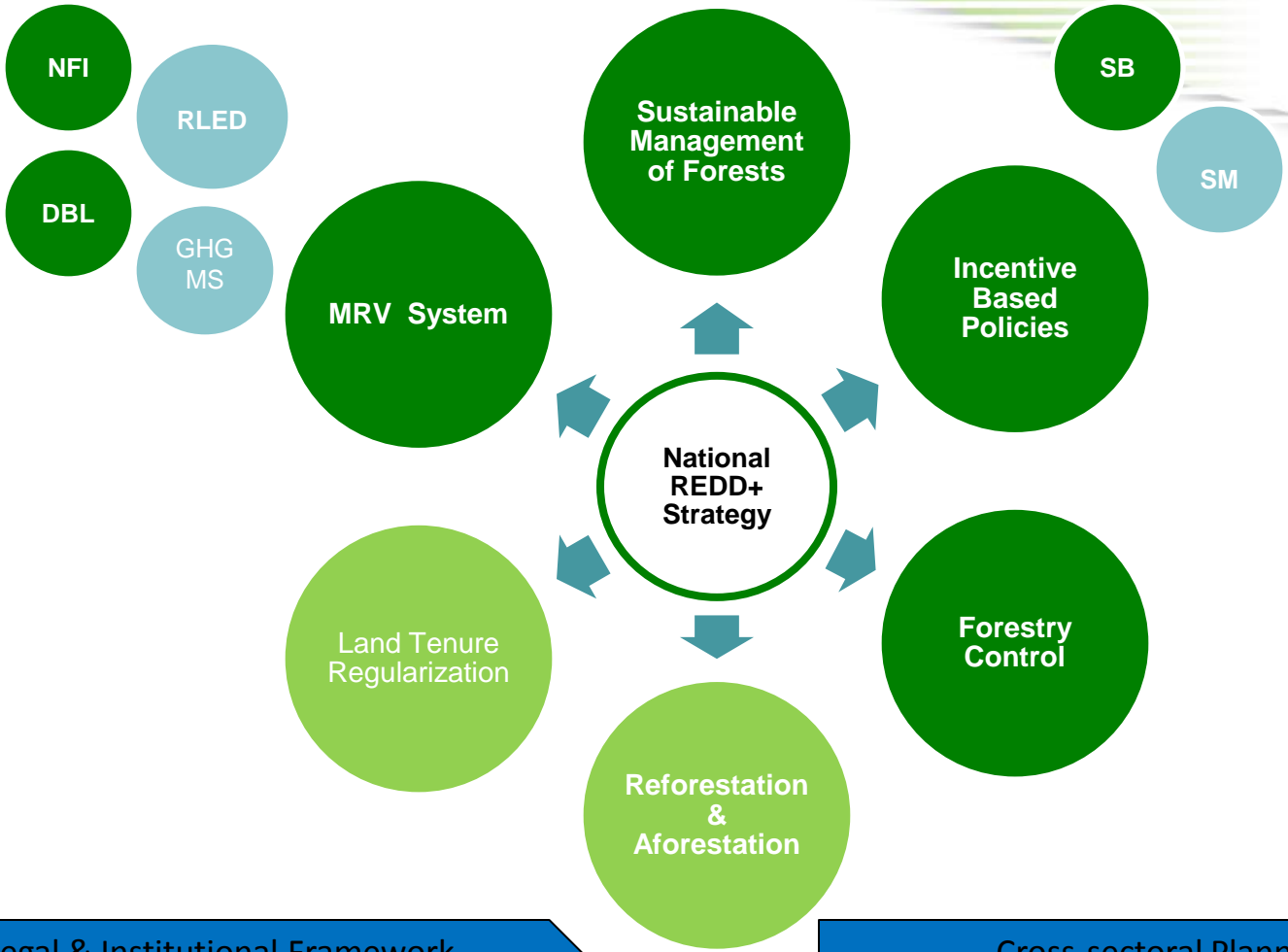


National Climate Change Strategy

Ecuador's National REDD+ Strategy



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Legal & Institutional Framework

Cross-sectoral Planning

Financial Sustainability

Management of timber demand

Social & Environmental co-benefits

Stakeholder Engagement



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**¿what elements should be
considered for “governance”?**

How to understand governance



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World Bank:

the exercise of political authority and the use of institutional resources to manage society's problems and affairs (World Bank, Managing Development - The Governance Dimension, 1991, Washington D.C.)

UNDP Latin America:

rules of the political system to solve conflicts between actors and adopt decision (legality). It has also been used to describe the "proper functioning of institutions and their acceptance by the public" (legitimacy). And it has been used to invoke the efficacy of government and the achievement of consensus by democratic means (participation).

Key Elements to consider:

authority / institutional resources / management / rules / decisions /

legality / legitimacy / participation



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Ecuador's approach on governance for REDD+ related activities

Authority – legislation (legality)



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Articles in the constitution

Art.14: Right of the population to live in healthy environment...

Art. 395: Environmental policies are cross-cutting and of mandatory compliance (Estate & civil society)

Art. 413: energy efficiency, clean tech., diversified & renewable energy, ...are promoted by the Estate

Art. 414: Estate will promote the implementation of measures to mitigate CC, by limiting emissions in the forestry and other relevant sectors

National development plan

Objectives and guidelines for adaptation and mitigation ... stresses the importance of institutional coordination and the provision of information on actions to key stakeholder groups...

Authority – legislation (legality)



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National Environmental Policy

P3: To manage climate change adaptation and mitigation in order to reduce social, economic and environmental vulnerability

Strategy 3: To reduce GHG emissions from productive sectors

Presidential Executive Decree 1815

Adaptation and Mitigation are declared as Estate Policy

Ministry of environment called to develop the Climate Change National Strategy

Authority – legislation (legality / legitimacy)

Institutional Arrangements

Amendment to Presidential Executive Decree 1815 (being signed)



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Inter-institutional Committee for Climate Change

National Secretary of Planning

Coordinating Ministry of Natural and Cultural Heritage

Ministry of Environment (President)

Coordinating Ministry of Estrategic Sectors

Coordinating Ministry of Production, Employment and Competitiveness

Coordinating Ministry of Social Development

Foreign Affairs Ministry

National Secretary of Water

National Secretary of Risk Management

The Undersecretary of climate change acts as the technical secretariat

Engaging CS in the design & implementation of a REDD+ mechanism (legitimacy / participation)



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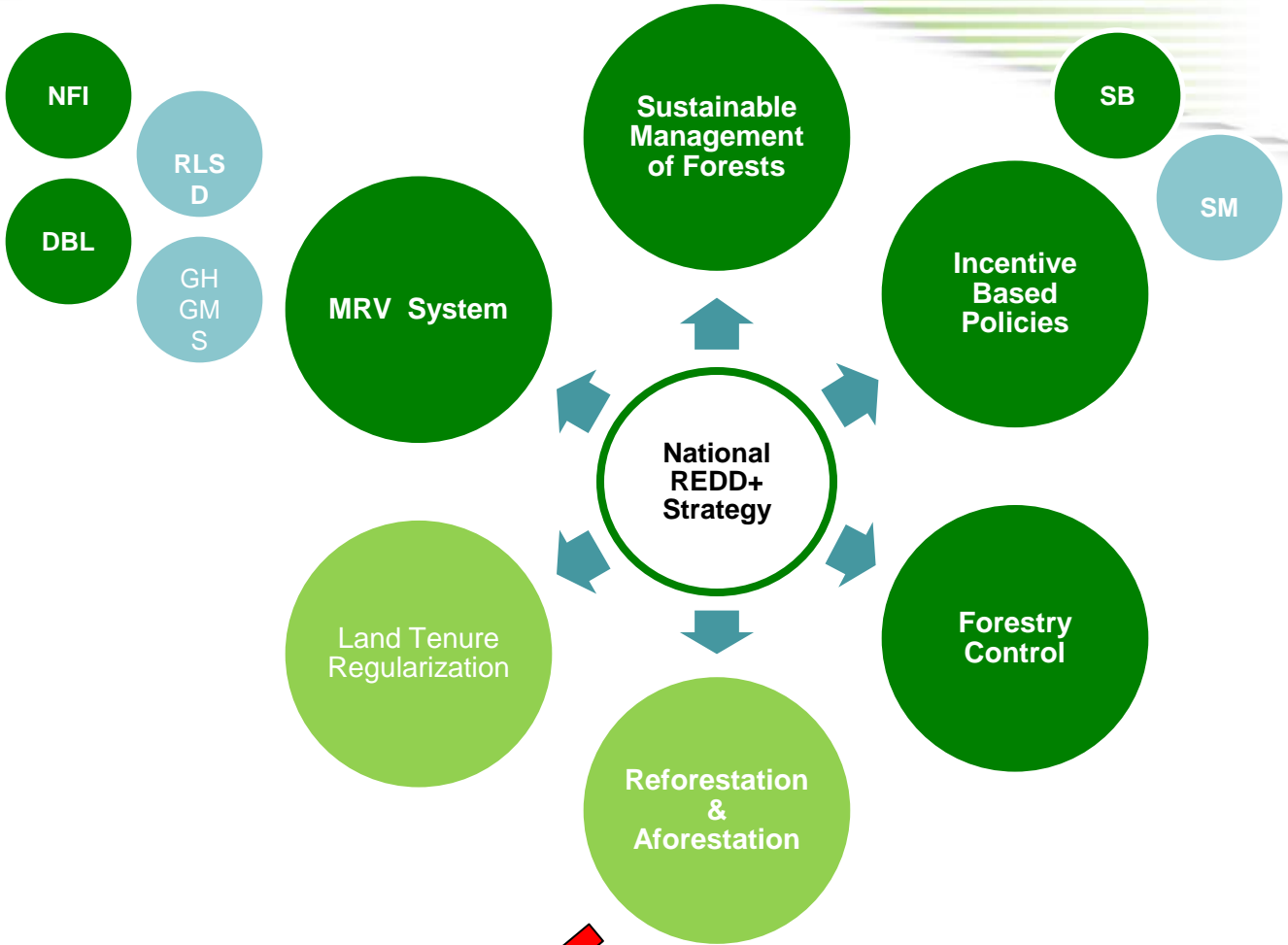
- Stakeholder engagement Program: aims to involve key stakeholders in the process of developing and subsequently implementing the National REDD+ Strategy and includes four components:
 - Information
 - Consultations
 - Engagement
 - Capacity Building
- It will start focusing on indigenous people with the first component this year
- For the implementation of the following 3 components an strategy will be developed
- Technical and financial support is needed for the implementation



Ecuador's National REDD+ Strategy



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- Legal & Institutional Framework ✓
- Financial Sustainability ✓
- Social & Environmental co-benefits

- Cross-sectoral Planning ✓
- Management of timber demand
- Stakeholder Engagement ✓

Some issues to bear in mind



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Generally speaking ... when discussing governance issues... the following remains difficult to manage

- Forms and modalities for decision making
- Ensuring legitimacy
- Building and maintaining trust
- Finding adequate platforms to secure long-term processes



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thanks for your attention

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www.ambiente.gob.ec