

The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

Fast fact flyer on Legal preparedness for REDD+

As of October 2013

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countries have developed subsidiary legislation to implement REDD+ (Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Indonesia, Philippines, Viet Nam) "Legal preparedness for REDD+" refers to countries' efforts to establish robust and coherent sets of national and subnational legislation for the implementation of REDD+

The Constitution of Ecuador

mentions that the State shall adopt measures for the mitigation of climate change and the conservation of forests (art. 414, Constitution of 2008)

The Democratic Republic of Congo

has adopted a Decree in 2009 establishing a structure for implementing REDD



Indonesia

adopted 10 decrees and regulations related to REDD+ between 2008 and 2011

Madagascar

The law 2006-31 formalizes the legal regime for non-titled private property rights of traditional users. To enforce the law, the government has adopted the Decree 2007-1109 specifying the modalities of the new certificate titling system.

Ecuador, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Paraguay

have assessed their forestrelated legal frameworks and analyzed the challenges and opportunities for REDD+ law reform and implementation.

Mexico

was one of the first countries to legislate to support REDD+, reforming the Environmental Law (1988) and the Forest Sustainable Development Law (2003)



DESCRIPTION

In preparing for REDD+, countries are looking at ways to use or adapt their existing legal frameworks to support the elements of their national REDD+ processes and strategies in line with the decisions of the UNFCCC, while taking into account their national circumstances.

This preparation should include the four elements mentioned in the Cancun Agreements: a national strategy; a national forest monitoring system; a national approach to safeguards and safeguards information system; reference levels/reference emission levels and any other arrangements the country might need.

UN-REDD Countries can receive support for legal preparedness for REDD+ under four broad categories to:

- assess existing legislation and draft new provisions when necessary;
- engage with parliamentarians and get new legislation adopted;
- enforce new and existing legislation;
- develop legal instruments required at project level.

Examples of legal preparedness issues include the establishment of REDD+ legally defined institutional arrangements for the elements mentioned above, strengthening environmental regulations to support the safeguards, the role of freedom of information laws in ensuring transparency, the harmonization of REDD+ terminology in forest-related laws, the inclusion of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) provisions into the existing laws, the adoption of legal provisions for stakeholder participation, the clarification and formalization of forest tenure systems and land rights, the regulation of benefit-sharing mechanisms and the integration of carbon rights under national legislation.









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