

# National Programme Document Summary– Panama

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UN-REDD PROGRAMME

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October 2009



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## Executive Summary

The increasing array of pressures on natural resources in Panama, in particular forests resources, is the reason an incentive-based approach to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD – as considered under the Bali Action Plan) is urgently needed. This proposal aims to establish the capacity for Panama to reconcile the promotion and financing of a change in the way forest resources are used, the creation of an environmental culture directed at conservation for sustainable development, and the opportunities that Panama offers to participate in the global effort to reduce emissions, achieving a competitive, low carbon economy.

The Government of Panama has identified a number of challenges to implement a REDD mechanism. These include fragmented data on the causes, dynamics and rates of deforestation in Panama (currently being assessed for the year 2008); a lack of capacity and investment for monitoring and protecting forests, in particular at the district level; a lack of cross-sectoral cooperation; institutional weakness at the regional and local level in implementing national policies; a lack of clarity in the legal framework; a lack of awareness on the benefits provided by forests; a limited understanding of the underlying causes of deforestation in certain regions; lack of clarity on rights to carbon on indigenous and non-indigenous lands; and insecure tenure.

For these reasons, the goal of the “*Panama UN-REDD Programme*” is to help in designing and organizing the necessary steps to initiate the “readiness” process that will allow a country to participate in a future REDD mechanism, by the end of 2012. The overall objectives are to recover or increase the forest cover, measured against a national baseline, so that forests provide ecosystem services and new revenue sources for communities ; and to strengthen overall environmental management in Panama.

The existing legal framework establishes that management of environmental issues be undertaken by the National Environmental Authority (ANAM), civil society and the Environmental Inter-institutional system acting as coordinating entity. COONAPIP, the National Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of Panama, will play a key role in coordinating and communicating on the REDD readiness process on indigenous lands, contributing to the efforts towards fully engaging indigenous populations in REDD initiative and ensuring that they benefit fully from them. ANAM and COONAPIP have entered into regular dialogues in nine fora across the country following the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

The *Panama UN-REDD Programme* will contribute to:

- a) The design of a valid legal framework for the implementation of the national REDD strategy that includes recommendations on carbon rights and clarity on land tenure
- b) The elaboration of an operational framework for implementing the national REDD strategy, including an analysis of the current and future causes of deforestation; an assessment of existing programmes, logistical, infrastructure and financial needs at the national and local level; the establishment a carbon registry mechanism for coordination and supervision; and planning for consultation with all Indigenous, civil society and private sector stakeholders

- c) Strengthening national capacities for the implementation of the REDD strategy, with a focus on MRV systems, financial models, legal framework, monitoring and evaluation, participatory management, information systems, conservation of biodiversity and local management
- d) The design of a transparent, valid and operational system of payments and benefit distribution;
- e) The design of a national inventory and monitoring system for forest carbon that allows for full participation of local experts in data collection as to build capacity
- f) The establishment of a reference emissions scenario, based on consolidation and harmonization of existing but discrete data, that presents several options
- g) The design of a system for carbon accounting and for generating information on emissions, exploring possible national synergies.

In effect, the *Panama UN-REDD Programme* defines a set of minimum requirements for preparation, and supports the country in establishing its path towards achieving REDD implementation.

## Results Framework

The **Objective** of the UN-REDD Panama Program is to “*Assist the Government of Panama in developing an effective REDD regime*”. This will contribute toward the broader **Goal** of ensuring that “*by the end of 2012 Panama will be REDD-ready and will have the capacity to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation nationally.*”

In order to ensure this objective, the following two outcomes will be pursued:

### ***Outcome 1: Institutional capacity established for the efficient coordination and execution of a REDD program in Panama***

This outcome is expected to contribute to capacity building at the national level in order to develop and implement the necessary measures and steps to establish a national REDD program capable of: i) generating and monitoring measurable and sustainable reductions in the deforestation and forest degradation rates; ii) being able to access the carbon markets, provided these markets are developed; and iii) receiving payment from the market or other funds established for this purpose based on performance and distributing said payments to the provinces and districts in a transparent and equitable manner. This outcome will take into account a series of elements within the UN-REDD program through the following outputs:

#### ***1.1. The legal framework for formulating a National REDD Strategy***

This output aims to facilitate a participatory approach in order to develop a legal structure for the implementation of the REDD National Strategy, including recommendations on carbon ownership and clarity on land possession. This component includes identifying gaps in the legal framework that could cause problems for the efficient implementation of the REDD National Strategy; and a proposal for harmonizing this strategy with the legal framework together with the specific financial and economic regulations. In this respect, a clear definition of the carbon property and transfer rights is essential to allow emissions exchange under REDD.

The component also includes strengthening the capacity to implement the legal framework within the key organizations and carrying out a consultation process with indigenous groups on the legal aspects of the implementation of the REDD strategy.

#### ***1.2. Operational framework established for the implementation of the REDD strategy***

Panama has placed a high priority on formulating the National REDD Strategy, to be completed before the critical date of December 2012. Consequently, the UN-REDD program will support the government in developing a framework that incorporates the viable components that are already available, and also in designing a plan to generate the other necessary components. Formulation of the National REDD Strategy (often referred to as a REDD National Program in some documents and as REDD Strategy in the R-PLAN World Bank format), will require periodic evaluations of the activities initially identified as viable during the UN-REDD program.

The following indicative activities that will contribute to achieving this output will be included:

- Analyzing the current and future causes of deforestation
- Carrying out a detailed evaluation of the strategies and programs, previous and existing, to manage threats and causes of deforestation in the country
- Identifying logistics and infrastructure needs at the local and national level related to the efficient implementation of the REDD National Strategy
- Identifying the financial needs for the long term implementation of the REDD National Strategy and develop a government investment policy
- Developing a national recording system for the production of carbon credits
- Establishing the coordination and supervision mechanisms for the implementation of the REDD National Strategy as of 2012
- Implementing a national consultancy plan with all the actors of the civil society, private sector, and indigenous sectors

With the assistance of UNDP, UNEP, and FAO, REDD's governmental focal point (ANAM) is responsible for ensuring that capacity building to implement REDD takes place through a coordinated, effective, and efficient process. This process needs to include all the stakeholders, particularly those who are often marginalized, but who are critical to REDD's success (indigenous communities and poor rural populations).

The efficient and transparent coordination will include preparing an action plan to implement all the elements for an effective national REDD system. Specific responsibilities will be defined within ANAM's units and departments as well as other legal entities for the implementation of the specific components of the action plan. Periodic revisions and evaluations of the implementation status are expected to be carried out, together with the incorporation of appropriate measures to address any shortcomings.

A key aspect will be to coordinate the action of the international partners. For this, it will be necessary to make sure that bilateral and multilateral funding is directed toward supporting the implementation of the specific components of the action plan in a manner consistent with the comparative advantages of said international partners and meets the financial needs of each component. ANAM's leadership is also critical in order for it to serve as the coordinating entity of the different actions to support REDD and its respective funds.

The following indicative activities to contribute to achieving this output will be included:

- Identifying the technical and institutional needs for an optimum coordination during the implementation of the REDD chain of activities
- Establishing a national coordination platform and action plan for its execution
- Organizing periodic meetings and workshops to review lessons learned through UN-REDD and other related programs

The long term REDD sustainability requires a commitment to policy transformation and its subsequent integration in the governmental sectoral plans. For this reason, it is essential that the REDD policies do not constitute an isolated element reflected in a strategy document financed by donors, but instead that the elements of this strategy are reflected in plans carried out by the government in key sectors to reduce deforestation, among them infrastructure, agriculture/cattle- raising, and tourism.

One sustainability aspect of a REDD program depends on its impact on the poor rural sectors. REDD's potential contribution to the reduction of rural poverty could be very significant, provided the pro-poor policies are adequately incorporated into the main topics, particularly socio-economic planning and land use at the local level.

The following indicative activities that will contribute to achieving this output are:

- Carrying out a mapping exercise to integrate REDD into the sectoral plans
- Identifying linkages between poverty and environment and fostering REDD policies that promote pro-poor economic growth
- Integrating REDD into the national development plans

Finally, the UN-REDD program in Panama will develop a national communication strategy as a framework to generate internationally relevant knowledge and to disseminate it through the UN-REDD global component.

### *1.3 Sectoral, institutional, municipal, and individual capacities strengthened*

This output intends to build and strengthen capacities at the different levels through awareness and training on specific REDD measures such as participatory monitoring and land use planning. The UN-REDD program will develop a training strategy with special focus on priority topics, including measurement and monitoring methodologies, financial models, legal framework, control and inspection plans, participatory administration, reporting system, biodiversity conservation, and municipal administration.

To support these activities, efforts will be carried out to establish REDD awareness activities focused on a broader audience and that will create support for REDD. This will imply evaluating the awareness needs and opportunities, preparing materials (such as posters, brochures, radio programs, etc.) and organizing educational events followed by a re-evaluation of the awareness level and additional needs.

The following indicative activities contributing to achieving this output include:

- Evaluating the current capacity building needs
- Designing and producing training modules and materials adapted to the stakeholders and the sector
- Conceptualize a training plan adapted to the selected pilot municipalities
- Delivering training modules and workshops
- Training future trainers ("train the trainers") and setting up a network and roster of experts

### *1.4. A transparent payment and benefit distribution system validated and operational*

This output will contribute toward putting in operation a transparent payment system, both nationally and locally. One important difference between payment for carbon storage and payments for other types of ecosystem services is that in the case of carbon the majority of buyers could be from abroad. One of the roles of the national government will be to organize and manage the marketing of carbon credits - provided an international REDD carbon market is created - and to receive payments, whether they come from the market or from funding. Therefore, it will be necessary that these payments be distributed according to a clear, transparent, and equitable system endorsed by the stakeholders. Some portions of the payment will be used for

managing the system and others could be used to support related initiatives to reduce deforestation and forest degradation (such as improving the forest law enforcement systems).

Such a payment distribution system must ensure transparency to avoid the risk of inappropriate diversion of funds, since future payments will depend on the buyers being confident that their money is being used to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. If this is not clear, buyers may seek to buy carbon credits from other countries and/or may decide to pay a lower price.

The following indicative activities contributing to achieving this output include:

- Analyzing existing payment systems and their relevance to REDD
- Identifying deficiencies and necessary modifications to the system(s)
- Establishing advisory groups on potential methodologies to estimate REDD costs
- Defining all cost categories and analyzing the cost-benefit distribution of the REDD strategy (social, private, etc.)
- Analyzing the evaluation of the opportunity cost of executing the REDD National Strategy and a comparative cost-benefit analysis of alternative land use
- Developing a detailed payment and investment plan based on benefits from the sale of carbon credits
- Organizing participatory workshops to discuss and certify cost evaluation methodologies and payment and investment mechanisms
- Defining and establishing a payment and benefit distribution system for a REDD program

***Outcome 2: Technical capacity to monitor, measure, report, and verify the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation***

This outcome aims to build the technical capacity to face the challenge of how to estimate and adequately monitor (i) changes in the forest cover, (ii) carbon stocks and greenhouse gas emissions, (iii) incremental changes due to sustainable forest management, (iv) reduction in emissions from deforestation, and (v) reduction in emissions from forest degradation. This outcome will address three key elements: establishing an inventory and monitoring system, developing a national reference scenario, and establishing a system for carbon accounting and for generating information on carbon emissions. This will be ensured through the following outputs:

***2.1 National inventory and monitoring system for forests and carbon***

Monitoring the progress in the implementation of REDD requires the capacity to monitor the forest carbon stocks. Because the payment and other benefits for local stakeholders (for example, indigenous communities and poor rural populations) are related to performance, said stakeholders need a transparent monitoring system.

In addition to meeting the standard methodologies internationally recognized by the IPCC, Panama's methodology must be designed to allow the wide participation of local data collection experts and thus favor effective capacity building; which is consistent with paragraph 9 of the Conclusion of the Subsidiary Body of Scientific and Technological Advise (FCCC/SBSTA/2008/L.23) in Poznan.



For the purpose of improving the quality of the data on wood volume and biomass, a national forest inventory will be carried out which will be designed strictly adhering to the needs of the REDD program and with technical and statistical criteria appropriate to the heterogeneity of the ecosystems in Panama.

Once the forest inventory has been completed and the biomass and carbon have been calculated by type of forest and development status, the carbon stock for each ecosystem can be estimated, as well as the national total.

The forest cover and land use studies will be carried out regularly. The difference in carbon stocks between periods will determine the carbon emissions and will make it possible to infer possible scenarios regarding the effectiveness of the REDD strategy in Panama.

The following are indicative activities contributing to achieving this output:

- Designing a national forest inventory and carbon monitoring system that meets IPCC Tier 2 or 3
- Define methods to measure biomass and carbon and establishing a protocol to estimate the stocks and carbon flows that meet the requirements of Tier 2 or 3
- Training national technical staff involved in the implementation and monitoring system applied to participatory carbon stock monitoring methods
- Training national technical staff in the implementation of the inventory and monitoring system
- Training local technicians and professionals (for example, the rural or indigenous population) so that they can participate in the forest and carbon inventory, monitoring, and evaluation

## 2.2. *A reference emissions scenario*

The preparation of a national reference scenario (supported by sub-national scenarios based on administrative and/or ecosystem divisions) is necessary in order to measure and show progress in the measures taken to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and to justify payments based on performance. Consequently, the reference scenario must be comprehensive and rigorous, as the magnitude of the payments will be related to the quality of the available data. The final reference scenario will require significant amounts of data, some of which may not yet be available. However, an interim reference scenario (or even a series of interim scenarios) could be developed based on currently available data. The benefits of generating an interim reference scenario include building the technical capacity and understanding required to calculate the final scenario and provide the basis for evaluating the need for future adjustments.

Existing data will be used when possible. For example, in Panama, efforts have already been carried out to estimate the forest cover at the national and regional levels and in specific areas. The results can be seen in historical data on the national forest cover for 1992 and 2000, the vegetation map (CBMAP 2000 and 2003) and regional maps, such as the Regional Development Plan for the Inter-oceanic Region of 1996, Bayano Basin Management Plan of 1998, Map of the Darien province produced by the Darien Sustainable Development project in 1998, and the map of forest cover in the Panama Canal watershed in 1999. All these maps were prepared using satellite information. Additionally, a map of forest cover for 2008 is being prepared, which will be published in 2010.

The indicative activities contributing to achieving this output include:

- Collecting and harmonizing required and existing data
- Preparing an interim Reference Emissions Level, preferably including various options
- Updating the Reference Emissions Level when new forest inventory data becomes available
- Training government officials and other stakeholders (for example, indigenous communities) in data analysis and developing reference scenarios
- Organizing workshops and other events to promote stakeholder buy-in, especially those who are often marginalized (indigenous communities and poor rural populations)

### *2.3. System for carbon accounting and generating emissions information*

As part of the carbon stock monitoring component, this output will support the creation of a system for carbon accounting and generating information on greenhouse gas emissions. As part of the institutional strengthening, the feasibility of establishing a National Office for Greenhouse Gas Inventory in Panama will be evaluated.

The UN-REDD Program will provide support to the government in assessing collaboration opportunities and exploring synergies with existing institutions, preferably residents in the country. Formulation of the Terms of Reference and guidelines will require sound and effective institutional support, rigorous technical advisory, and appropriate resource allocation to establish successful methodologies and verification means. The technical capacity of key actors will be strengthened through training programs and promoting knowledge sharing.

The following are indicative activities that will contribute towards achieving this output:

- Assessing collaboration opportunities and institutional synergies
- Establishing a carbon accounting system
- Establishing a system to generate emissions information
- Designing and implementing a training system for government officials and other stakeholders

UNDAF Outcome: <i>OUTCOME 8: Environmental Sustainability (biodiversity conservation, forest management, climate change mitigation, disaster risk management) is strengthened with the support of policy frameworks, national strategies and local actions.</i>							
Outputs	Participating UN organization	Implementing Partner	Indicative activities for each Output	Resource allocation and indicative time frame			
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Total
1.1. Legal framework for the implementation of the REDD national strategy validated	UNDP/UNEP	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary formulation of the legal structure to implement the REDD national strategy, including recommendations on carbon ownership</li> <li>• Identify legal gaps for the efficient implementation of the REDD national strategy and a legal framework harmonization proposal</li> <li>• Identify gaps regarding the application of the legal framework and specific oversight needs.</li> <li>• Develop a proposal to strengthen the capacity of key authorities to implement the legal framework.</li> <li>• Develop a plan to strengthen and share the experiences of COONAPIP and the Indigenous Congresses in order to participate in the REDD program</li> <li>• Organize consultations with indigenous groups and other relevant actors on the legal aspects of the implementation of the REDD strategy</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	320,000	175,000	110,000	605,000
1.2. Operational framework for the implementation of the REDD strategy	UNDP/UNEP	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed evaluation of previous and current strategies and programs to manage threats and causes of deforestation in the country</li> <li>• Analysis of current and future causes of deforestation</li> <li>• Develop a document on necessary policies to mitigate the causes of deforestation</li> <li>• Develop a Plan and Mechanisms for Indigenous Participation in REDD</li> <li>• Carry out analytical studies of the traditional practices and indigenous agriculture ("cosmovision indigena") and its impacts on environmental conservation</li> <li>• Develop a research and consultancy community protocol on indigenous lands.</li> <li>• Evaluate the institutional and political gaps for the efficient implementation of a REDD national policy</li> </ul>	335,000	210,000	181,000	726,000

Outputs	Participating UN organization	Implementing Partner	Indicative activities for each Output	Resource allocation and indicative time frame			
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Total
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify logistic and infrastructure needs at the local and central level for the efficient implementation of the REDD strategy</li> <li>Identify financial needs for the long term implementation of the REDD strategy and develop a government investment policy.</li> <li>Detailed definition of the national recording system for carbon credit production</li> <li>Establish coordination and supervision mechanisms for the implementation of the REDD strategy starting in 2012</li> <li>Implement a national consultation plan with all actors of the civil society, private sector, and indigenous sector</li> <li>Develop a national communication strategy.</li> <li>Identify the technical and institutional needs for the optimum coordination of the REDD strategy implementation</li> <li>Establish a national coordinating platform for the execution of the preparatory phase.</li> <li>Develop a plan to integrate REDD into the government's sectoral plans</li> <li>Identify linkages between poverty-environment and define REDD policies favorable to pro-poor growth.</li> <li>Integrate REDD into the national development plans</li> </ul>				
1.3 Sectoral, institutional, municipal and individual capacities strengthened	UNDP/UNEP	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate training needs by sector</li> <li>Develop a REDD training program to influence public policy regarding poverty reduction, food sovereignty, co-benefits, financial models, plans for inspection and control, participatory management, reporting system, biodiversity conservation, and municipal management.</li> <li>Develop training modules and materials adapted to relevant actors</li> <li>Develop and implement the national training program</li> </ul>	335,000	200,000	162,000	697,000

Outputs	Participating UN organization	Implementing Partner	Indicative activities for each Output	Resource allocation and indicative time frame			
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Total
1.4 Payment and benefit distribution system validated and operational	UNDP-UNEP	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of payment system (system 661 among others) and its relevance to REDD</li> <li>• Identify operative and financial needs in order to establish a payment unit and the equitable distribution of benefits</li> <li>• Establish an advisory group on potential methodologies to calculate REDD costs</li> <li>• Define all REDD cost categories and analyze the cost-benefit distribution of the REDD strategy.</li> <li>• Analysis and evaluation of the opportunity cost derived from executing the REDD national strategy and comparative cost-benefit analysis of alternative land use</li> <li>• Develop a detailed payment and investment plan based on benefits derived from the sale of carbon credits</li> <li>• Organize participatory workshops to discuss and verify cost assessment methodologies and payment and investment mechanisms</li> <li>• Define and establish a payment and benefit distribution system for a REDD program</li> </ul>	118,000	125,000	35,000	278,000

Outputs	Participating UN organization	Implementing Partner	Indicative activities for each Output	Resource allocation and indicative time frame			
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Total
2.1. National inventory and monitoring system for forest cover and carbon	FAO	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design a national inventory and monitoring system for forest cover and carbon</li> <li>Define methods to measure biomass and carbon and establish a protocol to calculate carbon stocks and flows</li> <li>Train national technical staff involved in the implementation of the inventory and monitoring system</li> <li>Train indigenous technicians and professionals and relevant others to participate in forest and carbon inventory, monitoring, and evaluation</li> <li>Procure equipment and materials</li> <li>Implement demonstrative pilot projects for forest inventory and monitoring</li> </ul>	310,000	650,000	454,000	1,414,000
2.2. A reference emissions scenario	FAO-UNEP	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a base line that takes into account historic emissions and future projections</li> <li>Prepare a tentative reference emissions scenario, preferably including several options</li> <li>Train relevant actors in data analysis and development of reference scenarios</li> <li>Proposals review by UNFCCC Secretariat experts</li> <li>Update the reference emissions scenario once the new forest inventory data becomes available</li> </ul>	290,000	310,000	200,000	800,000
2.3. A system for carbon accounting and information on emissions	FAO-UNEP	ANAM/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a carbon accounting system</li> <li>Establish a system to generate information on emissions</li> <li>Assess collaboration opportunities and institutional synergies</li> <li>Prepare terms of reference and regulations</li> <li>Develop a reporting and verification system</li> </ul>	300,000	320,000	160,000	780,000
<b>Sub-totals and Grand Total are inclusive of all support costs</b>				<b>2,008,000</b>	<b>1,990,000</b>	<b>1,302,000</b>	<b>5,300,000</b>

**Submission Note from UN Resident Coordinator**

**From:** [Jose Eguren](#)

**To:** [Tim Clairs](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** UN REDD Panama

**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2009 11:54:19 PM

**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

[Mr Jose Eguren.vcf](#)

**Importance:** High

Dear Mr. Clairs,

I am pleased to inform you that yesterday 13 October 2009, I facilitated a validation meeting in accordance to sections 2.3 and 2.4 of the rules of procedures and operational guidelines of the United Nations Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation Programme (UNREDD). Moreover, the above mention meeting was organized by the Government of Panama, under the leadership of the National Authority for the Environment (ANAM) and with an active participation of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) in its capacity as focal point for international cooperation in the country, the National Coordination of the Indigenous Peoples of Panama (COONAPIP) and United Nations agencies (UNEP, FAO and UNDP).

The UN -REDD National Joint Program Document presented in this meeting, reflects a genuine participation of the COONAPIP during its elaboration, as well as a methodical consultation throughout the whole process. It also addresses the main recommendations submitted by the independent reviewer and members of the UNREDD Coordination Team to the first proposal of this document. As a matter of fact, the current document takes into account the strengthening of capacities for intersectoral coordination in matters related to land ownership and infrastructure.

In this sense, it is with great satisfaction that I submit to you the UN-REDD National Joint Program Document and kindly request that it is considered in the next Policy Board to be held on 29 October 2009 in Washington D.C., United States of America.

Notwithstanding these efforts, it is worth mentioning that even if the COONAPIP is recognized by the Government of Panama as the traditional indigenous coordination and communication institutions for the preparation of the REDD Programme, not all the interests of the indigenous populations are reflected in this association. In this regard, I have called upon the President of the COONAPIP to redouble his efforts and focus on representing the interest of all indigenous populations in Panama, in order to assure an effective inclusion of key actors in the national REDD process.

Please note that an English version of the documents is enclosed, reports of the UN-REDD Coordination Team and a detailed budget will be submitted (as approved by the UN-REDD Secretariat) before 29 October 2009.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any outstanding concerns or wish to discuss the matter further.

Warmest regards,

Jose

## Translated Validation Meeting Minutes

[National Environmental Authority (ANAM) logo]

### Meeting Minutes UN-REDD Programme Panama Validation Meeting

In Panama city, at 3.50 pm today, the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2009, in the seat of the General Administration of the National Environmental Authority, located in building # 804 of the township of Ancon, Albrook area, represented by Mr. Epimenides Diaz, Sub-general Manager of the National Environmental Authority (ANAM), Mr. Betanio Chiquidama, representing the National Coordinating Body of Indigenous Peoples (COONAPIP) as its President, and Mr. Jose Eguren, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Panama, have presented themselves in the validation of the UN-REDD Programme Panama document.

#### Recommendations:

- The President of COONAPIP, Mr. Betanio Chiquidama requested to attach to the reference document the annexes relating to the technical assessment and the consultation with the regional authorities carried out by means of workshops and a working team, namely: Annex 1: Indigenous Peoples and REDD; Annex 2: Framework of Principles to Operate REDD and, Annex 3: “Balú Wala” Methodology
- The President of COONAPIP, Mr. Betanio Chiquidama, requested to organize a workshop of harmonization of concepts and work between ANAM, the World Bank, the UN and indigenous communities.

#### Comments:

- COONAPIP expresses its agreement with the validation process, noting that they have participated with the government and have been consulted by the United Nations in the preparation of the reference document.
- The Resident Coordinator, Mr. Jose Eguren, recognizes COONAPIP as an organization authorized by indigenous peoples in Panama to act as their representative; however, he requested the President of COONAPIP, Mr. Betanio Chiquidama, to double efforts to include and represent the interests of all the indigenous peoples and local communities of Panama, even when these are not represented in the abovementioned organization, to ensure the effective inclusion of all key actors in the REDD process in Panama.
- The Resident Coordinator, Mr. Jose Eguren called on the Government of Panama to recall its commitment to the international community, particularly in terms of the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by Panama on 13 September 2007 and ILO Convention 107, ratified 4<sup>th</sup> June 1971.

The government of Panama manifests its decision to submit, through the office of the Resident Coordinator, the reference document to the UN-REDD Secretariat.

Annex 1 includes the list of participants in this meeting.

For ANAM,  
Mr. Epimenides Diaz  
Sub-general manager



For COONAPIP,  
Mr. Betanio Chiquidama  
President

Receiving on behalf of the United Nations,  
Mr. Jose Eguren  
Resident Coordinator

For the Ministry of Economics and Finance,  
Mr. Luis Shockness  
International Affairs Directorate