



Independent Technical Review: Colombia R-PP document

UN-REDD PROGRAMME

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General comments to R-PP Document of Colombia (maximum 200 words):

The Colombian RPP is a well-developed and complete document, where all the components at this time provide enough information to satisfy the criteria. The Colombian proposal will require 27.5 million US dollars to be implemented from 2012 to 2015, from which GIZ has committed 15% followed by FCPF with 14% and UNREDD with 11%. There is a considerable financial commitment of the Colombian government of 8% of the budget along with other bilateral donors, foundations and international cooperation. The diversity of funders in the Colombian RPP can be evidence of the political commitment of the government and since there is no clear lead funder the implementation phase will require an excellent level of coordination among all donors but especially among the main 3 to be successful.

The UNREDD participation can be seen by analysing the structure of the budget where UNREDD support is required in 4 components. UNREDD will be leading the implementation in 4b as major donor but in the rest will require close work with BMU, Moore foundation and GIZ and a coordination leadership on behalf of the Colombian government.

Table 1.- Budget for UNREDD components

Sources/Components	1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements	3. Develop a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level	4a. Monitoring	4b. Design Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards	1a	3	4a	4b
BMU-ICI		819	450			27 %	7%	
Netherlands cooperation		326				11 %		
FCPF	300				8%			
Moore – GBMF Foundation			1,805				29%	

GEF			1000				16%	
GIZ	915				25 %			
Colombian Government	765	512	265		21 %	17 %	4%	
IDLO								
UNREDD	969	450	950	597	27 %	15 %	16%	65%
USAID		128		30		4%		3%
Others (no assignment)	662	844	1650	297	18 %	27 %	27%	32%
TOTAL	3611	3079	6120	924	100 %	100 %	100 %	100%

Source: Colombia RPP

All of these components will start in the first year and increase in budget until 2015. The technical character of 3, 4a and 4b will also require a clear agreement on methodological approach in line with the work the Colombian has already done, these approaches also will be part of the major consultation and information process that will be undertaken throughout the country at various levels and with the diversity of actors. The government actual structure and proposed readiness arrangements are ambitious and will need the support not only in financial resources but technical assistance to be ready to cope with the complexity of the Colombian actors and levels of implementation.

Assessing the draft R-PP against review criteria

1. Ownership of the Programme:

1.a Coherence with national strategies¹, policies and development planning processes

The Climate Change Colombian policy framework includes clearly adaptation and mitigation components as part of a low carbon development strategy, REDD is clearly situated as a key mitigation component, linkages with adaptation are also recognized and well established, regional strategic instruments are planned which provides a clear path towards implementation. The RPP organizational structure for REDD+ presents enough linkages with key ministries and high level management, as well as decentralized structure closer to stakeholders on the ground.

ENREDD + is consistent with other environmental policies like appropriate management of biodiversity and natural resources, National Policy for Integrated Management of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the National Plan for Forestry Development, and the National Strategy for Payment for Environmental Services under construction, among others.

At this time objectives of a REDD+ strategy are inconsistent with major development sectors strategies, like mining, petroleum and gas, energy sector and also the agriculture. It is the work of the implementation of the RPP to find common grounds with development sectors in the Colombian economy to include mitigation variable as part of their overall strategy.

The component met the standard

1.b Coherence with the UN Country Programme or other donor assistance framework approved by the Government

Based on the UN country programme assistance 2008-20012, the RPP is in line with 2 of the 4th expected results of the programme:

- 1) "Strengthened national, regional and local capacities for integrated land management to ensure sustainable development, "conservation and use of biodiversity and ecosystems, sustainable production and risk management "
- 2) "State institutions at national and territorial level recorded strengthening in its effective and democratic, operation and in accordance with the rules and principles of human rights, with differential and gender approach ".

1.c Government co-financing (cash or in-kind) or coherence with baseline funding

The Colombian government has committed 2.1 million dollars, 8% of the total funding that is required for 2012-2015 period for RPP implementation, has also secure and negotiated 8 other sources of funding additional to UNREDD which can be evidence of the political commitment of the government to REDD+.

Table 2. Sources of funding

Sources (expected and secured)	Amount (millions USD 2012-2015)
BMU-ICI	1.844
Embajada de los Países Bajos	0.326
FCPF	3.800
Fundación Moore - GBMF	1.805
GEF	2.180
GIZ	4.197
Gobierno Nacional	2.134
IDLO	0.9
UN-REDD	2966

USAID	0.488
Otros (sin asignar)	6.742
TOTAL	27.514

Source: Colombian RPP

2. Level of consultation, participation and engagement:

Based on the information provided by the ENREDD+ workshop that took place in May 2013, and the RPP description is clear that the consultation process has improved both in participation and reach since 2011 at least seven versions of the RPP were developed and the contributions of the main stakeholders were taken into account.

Among the contributions that were made in the May Workshop by afro-Colombian communities one seems to be relevant due to its urgency:

Regulation of early REDD + initiatives/projects to protect the rights of communities and collective territories. Spite the RPP describe this need in the RPP should be consider a priority when implementation starts.

A more extended consultation process is well planned, this will be executed when the resources are available, therefore is important this process is monitored by UNREDD in the implementation phase.

The component met the standard

3. Programme effectiveness and cost efficiency:

The RPP describes in detail the budget necessary to carry on all the activities until 2015, there is still 25% of the budget to be financed, nevertheless the diversity of the funders provide a solid platform for implementation and the Colombian government will have enough sources to continue raising the funds still needed to complete the 27.5 million US

The component met the standard.

4. Management of risks and likelihood of success:

The Logical Framework presented for the 4 components in which UNREDD will support the Colombian government provides enough detail and risk assessment for the planned activities. Some of the elements considered as risks were basically of technical nature, on how to aggregate the subnational approach at national level in reference levels and MRV. Others were related to the socio-politic context of Colombia, peace dialogue, political frictions among actors that can hinder participation in the process. The political commitment of the Colombian government along with a broad and sustained participation by stakeholders in the REDD process increase the likelihood of success.

The component met the standard.

5. Consistency with the UN-REDD Programme Strategy:

The Colombia RPP will receive the support of UNREDD in 4 main components, and the activities under each component are in line with 4 of the 6 work areas of the UNREDD Programme Strategy, MRV and Monitoring, National REDD+ Governance and Stakeholder Engagement, Transparent, equitable and accountable management. The Colombia RPP as a whole present elements which are in line with the 6 work areas of the UNREDD strategy.

The component met the standard.

6. Compliance with UN-REDD Programme Rules of Procedure and Operational Guidance:

The Colombian government has followed the rules and procedures for presentation of the RPP with a close coordination with the UNREDD Secretariat, and the technical support of the UN Agencies.
The component met the standard.

Assessing the draft R-PP by component

1. Component 1: Organize and consult

Component 1 as a whole provides enough information to comply with the criteria.

Element which deserves to be highlighted in the RPP are:

- Evaluation of risks and corruption in the process at early stages; this element could be considered in future RPPs as necessary.
- The gender approach is clear in the RPP where woman is considered as a key actor to be included in the process; this element adds solidity to the RPP.

The institutional structure is well developed providing enough participation mechanisms for stakeholders at different levels like the Mesas REDD+ tematicas, one way of improving its scope is to add the participation of the private sector to discuss major deforestation engines like mining, agriculture, among others.

The consultation process for the present document started in 2011 and has continue throughout the 7th different versions, during this process the government has improved and has extended the participation of the main stakeholders, among them the IPs, Afro-Colombian communities, peasants, which had been able to comment and to contribute to the various RPP versions.

The component met the standard

2. Component 2: Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy:

Component 2 as a whole provides enough information to comply with the criteria.

The component describes the engines of deforestation, provides measures to be further analyzed and incorporates studies that are needed, among them feasibility studies which include political, socioeconomic and institutional variables.

The component met the standard

3. Component 3: Develop a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level:

Component 3 as a whole provides enough information to comply with the criteria.

Colombia will develop 9 subnational reference emission levels considering basically deforestation, and will aggregate them to build a national reference level. The steps and activities, information necessary to accomplish this approach are well described in the RPP. However a technical risk is perceived in the aggregation process therefore is recommended to include resources for methodological discussion of this approach during and after implementation phase.

The component met the standard.

4. Component 4: Design Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards:

Component 4 met the standard.

5. Component 5: Schedule and Budget :

Component 1 as a whole provides enough information to comply with the criteria. Please review the information in relation to sources of funding there is a mistake since the numbers doesn't add up to

27.5 million US\$ and the figure are not in millions but in thousands. The same recommendation for all the budgets by component, review the figures.

The component met the standard.

6. Component 6: Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework:

Component 6 as a whole provides enough information to comply with the criteria. The logical framework presented is detailed enough and provide information to asses for risks and ambition, as well as the specific UN agency is needed to support the work.

The component met the standard

Suggestions for improving the technical design of the R-PP Document of Colombia

The recommendations are included in each component evaluation above.