



Ecuador UN-REDD National Programme - Third Monitoring Group Meeting Minutes

UN-REDD PROGRAMME SIXTH POLICY
BOARD MEETING

21-23 March 2011

Da Lat, Viet Nam



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MINUTES
THIRD MONITORING GROUP MEETING
ECUADOR UN-REDD NATIONAL PROGRAMME
10 February 2011

The third Ecuador UN-REDD National Programme Monitoring Group Meeting was held on 10 February 2011 in Quito, at the Ministry of Environment (MAE, Spanish abbreviation). The meeting was attended by delegates from the Government, the participating UN Agencies, Indigenous Peoples and forest-dependent communities, and the civil society.

The main purpose of the meeting was to review recently-modified Section 5.5 of the National Programme Document, which the Government of Ecuador will send as a proposal to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat. Later on, this document will be submitted to the Policy Board for consideration at its sixth meeting, to be held in Vietnam in March 2011. During the Monitoring Group meeting, the Delegates could examine and ascertain the way comments and suggestions that emerged during socialization and review workshops organized under the Programme were processed and included by MAE in the Document.

The Delegates of the Ecuador UN-REDD National Programme Monitoring Group assert that:

1.- The organization of socialization and review workshops on the National Programme in the provinces of Esmeraldas, Napo (2 workshops), Pastaza (2 workshops), Pichincha and Sucumbíos between September 2010 and February 2011 represents a significant progress in the socialization, participation and engagement process that involves the civil society, indigenous peoples and nations, and other forest-dependent communities in the country. This helps further defining the NP and is crucial for national REDD+ readiness in the future. MAE efforts will be increased and broadened making use of the National Programme resources, as stated in Outcome 2 of the proposal.

2.- The above-mentioned workshops – especially those which took place in Napo, Sucumbíos, Esmeralda and Pastaza – are a good example of how constructively topics can be developed in collaboration with local stakeholders. Likewise, the need to intensify activities on the ground became evident in those events.

3.- The National Programme document gathers comments and suggestions emerged during dissemination workshops held in Quito and other provinces. MAE has created a matrix that allows identifying comments and verifying 1) those that have been included in the Document to be submitted to the UN-REDD Secretariat; 2) those to be addressed during the implementation phase; and 3) those deemed non relevant considering the nature and scope of the Programme (with due justification). This tool increases transparency along the process.

4.- The Monitoring Group Delegates agree that – should the National Programme be approved – there will be a six-month period called “inception period”, during which all comments made by the Secretariat, the Policy Board and the UN participating agencies have to be included in the Document. The Monitoring Group also understands that, during this period, it will not be possible to make any further adjustments or gather local observations which were not processed by 15 February 2011 – submission date of the National Programme and these meeting minutes by the Resident Coordinator of the UN System in Ecuador as enabling documents to the Secretariat.

5.- MAE has expressed its decision to repeat participatory and consultation meetings during the inception period or sooner. It has also shown interest in involving indigenous peoples and nations,

African-Ecuadorian people, Montubio people and other communities in the development of participatory and engagement mechanisms during the same period. Also, MAE has communicated the Monitoring Group its will to maintain follow-up spaces such as the Group itself, among others, through all the phases of the UN-REDD Programme (should it be approved). In this respect, the creation of a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee has been considered in the Document. Programme resources will facilitate the creation of an active participation mechanism for indigenous peoples and nations, as well as other civil society stakeholders, as participation is a collective right acknowledged by the Constitution of Ecuador and other international instruments – and a crucial parameter within the UN-REDD Programme.

6.- The implementing agencies – FAO, UNEP and UNDP – and the Resident Coordinator’s Office, who are also members of the Monitoring Group, have confirmed their support to the implementation of the UN-REDD National Programme, as well as their commitment to foster the engagement of indigenous peoples and nations, and other forest-dependent communities in accordance with international standards.

These minutes are signed by the Monitoring Group Delegates having attended the event:

Belén Páez – CEDENMA

Patricia Gualinga – CONFENIAE

José Vicente Troya – UNDP

José Manuel Hermida – UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Representative

Firmin E. Matoko – FAO

Luis Fernando Torres – CONFEUNASSC-CNC

Dania Quirola – SENPLADES

Susan Poats – IUCN Ecuadorian Committee

Paola Rey – University Students Coordinator

Elías Tenorio – Red de Jóvenes frente al Cambio Climático (Youth Network for Fighting Climate Change)

Catalina Egas – Ministry of Peoples, Social Movements and Citizen Participation

Marco Chú – Ministry of the Environment