

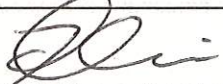
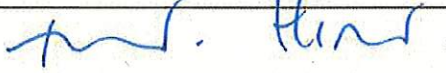


Empowered lives.
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Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Panama for the period 1 January 31 December 2017

United Nations Development
Programme

DATE: 28 MAY 2018

Approved by: 	
Tim Clairs, Principal Policy and Technical advisor	Fernando Hiraldo del Castillo, Deputy Resident Representative
UNDP	UNDP Office in Panama
DATE: 28/5/2018	DATE: 28 MAY 2018

DATE:

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Transfer Agreement was signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

The report has been prepared by UNDP and solely reflects the perspectives of UNDP as a Delivery Partner.

Summary

Country:	Panama
Project Title:	“Consolidation of the Preparedness Phase for The Reduction of Emissions due to Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) in Panama”
Implementing Partners:	UNDP
Responsible Parties:	Ministry of Environment
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	PC/14/2014/10	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	\$ 3,800,000.00 February 2016
Preparatory Grant	June 2014	Inception Phase	Launch: April 12, 2016 PMU Staffed: April 2016 First Board Meeting: 26 February 2016 Second Board Meeting: 6 December 2016 Third Board Meeting: 22 June 2017
Project Appraisal Committee	August 17, 2015	Mid-term Review	September 2017
Project Signature	November 11, 2015	No-Cost Extension:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Duration of Project	4 years	New End Date:	June 30, 2019

2017 Results

1. Achievements

a. Progress on how the project activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives, included those funded by others.

Throughout 2017, the REDD+ process in Panama was particularly complex and confronted with significant changes within the FCPF project management unit (PMU) and the Ministry of Environment (MiAMBIENTE). Two Project Coordinators resigned (Mr. Mariscal and Mrs. Gonzalez) and two technical specialists were dismissed. Further, the Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation specialist resigned in October 2017 and the Public Participation Specialist's contract was not renewed in December. With respect to MiAMBIENTE, the Minister of Environment resigned and was temporarily replaced by the deputy minister in April, until he was ratified as Minister in November 2017. During his term as interim Minister of Environment, he reshuffled the staff of the main Directorates, including those of Climate Change, Planning, Protected Areas, International Affairs, and Integrated Water Management. The new Director for REDD+ was previously the International Affairs Director and was therefore familiar with REDD+, FCPF, and United Nations matters. Despite her not being an expert in the thematic area, she organized and advanced the work of the Climate Change Unit based on her executive management skills. MiAMBIENTE's REDD+ Coordinator was also replaced as part of the institutional reorganization.

Apart from the appointment of Ms Elba Cortes as the new Director, a positive development for the REDD+ process has been Minister Emilio Sempris' continued support for the achievement of the government's five priorities: (i) environmental management modernization, (ii) integrated water management, (iii) ecotourism in protected areas (biodiversity); (iv) the Alliance for One Million Reforested Hectares (sustainable forest / land management), and (v) climate change.

Changes within the PMU include the appointment of five new junior technicians to support the day-to-day tasks and activities related to the FCPF project, i.e., one forestry engineer, two environmental engineers, one environmental lawyer, and one GIS specialist. These joined the finance technician as part of the team. Following the resignation of Project Coordinator No.2, between June and November 2017, the project was managed by MiAMBIENTE staff and with closer project supervision from the UNDP Programme Officer and the MiAMBIENTE Climate Change Director. This approach proved to be very time consuming.

The most remarkable achievement for 2017 is that, notwithstanding the challenges, Panama had by December completed its FREL process and submitted a national reference level to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) for review. It is also worth highlighting that development of the National REDD+ Strategy (ENREDD+), with the advice of national and international experts, has moved forward with technical consensus on the roadmap and the adoption of a consolidated vision regarding the Alliance for the One Million Reforested Hectares.

In October 2017, Panama passed a national law to boost sustainable investments for reforestation and related activities, as well as for forest conservation (*Ley de Incentivos Forestales*). The law includes a new national annual USD 15 million fund named *Reforesta Panamá* that will be managed through a trust fund administered by the National Bank of Panama. The law details five specific objectives that are correlated to REDD+ activities, i.e., reduce deforestation and forest degradation, foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

In June 2017, the FCPF Project's Board held the second meeting, in which direct beneficiaries participated with the right to speak and vote. These are two representatives of the indigenous peoples, appointed by the highest political authorities within their territories (Emberá and Naso groups); one representative of local farmers' communities; one representative of Afro descendants and Women (a local farmer from Central Panama is the principal and a woman from Western Panama is the alternate representative). The Board approved that a midterm evaluation be completed in 2017, parallel to the FCPF mid-term project report. Both analyses were completed by November 2017, in the form of the grant reporting and monitoring report.

The mid-term evaluation made 15 recommendations, the most relevant of which was the need for a no-cost extension to 2019 to enable Panama to complete the outputs / outcomes agreed with FCPF in the Project Document. Together with the Coordination Unit, MiAMBIENTE prepared and submitted to UNDP and the Project's Board, a road map reflecting the mandatory actions and steps to be finalised during 2018 to complete the REDD+ consolidation phase in Panama. The FCPF mid-term report was submitted and approved by the donor as recognition that REDD+ in Panama had achieved up to 55% of the goals.

In terms of coordinating with other REDD+ initiatives the FCPF project was closely coordinated with UN-REDD-SGP (UNDP's Small Grants Programme) Bosques de Vida (Community based REDD+), which is planned to be expanded in the next SGP phase, as well as with ANCON's forest projects in particular their work on the Alianza por el Millon de Hectáreas and a pilot REDD+ project in Punta Patiño financed by USAID and CAF.

- **Component 1: Organization and Consultation**

In 2017 33 workshops were delivered at national, regional and local levels, with the participation of 894 participants, of which 411 were women (46%).

The REDD+ Indigenous Technical Commission (ITC) includes representatives of the 12 indigenous peoples' structures and is comprised of seven commissioners from the Naso Tjerdi Council, Emberá Nation (Emberá-Wounaán Region, Emberá-Wounaán Collective Lands and Emberá de Alto Bayano Collective Lands), Ngäbe Territory, Bribrí Territory, Guna Nation (Madugandí, Wargandí, and Tagargunyala Territories), Buglé Territory, and Wounnán Territory. ITC's main function is to identify interinstitutional coordination mechanisms and propose actions that can be addressed in the short and medium term, within the context of the REDD+ aspirations of indigenous peoples, which must be incorporated in the

ENREDD+ before the national consultation. The various indigenous groups agreed on a work plan with MiAMBIENTE and UNDP provided technical assistance for the preparatory meetings. Once the indigenous groups had agreed on their 12 priorities and aspirations for REDD+ and had approved a joint work plan with MiAMBIENTE. MiAMBIENTE and other government entities, such as the National Authority for Land Management (ANATI) and the Vice minister for Indigenous Affairs, began holding meetings with indigenous groups to address land conflict demands following their own methodology and technicians.

Nationally, one thousand two hundred (1,200) surveys were administered regarding "Knowledge of the National Population on Climate Change, ENREDD+, and the Alliance for the One Million Reforested Hectares". The second set of surveys will be administered in 2018, to corroborate whether knowledge and understanding has increased public awareness.

A three-stage REDD+ gender roadmap was approved by MiAMBIENTE under the leadership of the new Climate Change Director: (i) preparing to incorporate gender in REDD+ process, (ii) developing capacities for gender equity under REDD+ process, and (iii) gender equality and REDD+ knowledge management.

MiAMBIENTE delivered the following capacity building activities for REDD+ key actors:

- 13 MiAMBIENTE Regional Directors and 26 REDD+ Technical Focal Points at the national and regional level were trained and their recommendations based on ground experience were incorporated to the Annual Work Plan for 2017.
- 6 women and 14 men (all technicians) from MiAMBIENTE were trained in forest reference emissions level (FREL) methodologies, technical evaluation, and correct presentation.
- 20 regional technicians from academia, NGOs, and governmental institutions were trained on how to collect data from land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) activities in 1990-2016 for construction of the Panama FREL and they actively participated in the MAPATON¹.
- Two technicians from MiAMBIENTE (one woman) were trained in Rome, Italy, by FAO on the application of Collect Earth to develop Panama's FREL.
- Five representatives of indigenous groups were trained in the use of SIBP2 software for the development of the forest and carbon sinks as part of the national forest inventory.
- 37 MiAMBIENTE park rangers were trained in methodologies for monitoring land use and land-use change at the regional and national level.
- 17 MiAMBIENTE public servants acquired new knowledge on monitoring forest and carbon sinks.

- **Component 2: National REDD+ Strategy (ENREDD+) preparation**

¹ "Collect Earth provides a framework for users to go beyond limited use of visual interpretation. Through augmented visual interpretation (...), users can simultaneously analyse imagery of multiple scales and base their entire assessment on the same activity that often underpins only training and the accuracy assessment portions of LULC studies".

MiAMBIENTE agreed on fundamental concepts regarding REDD+ and the Alliance for the One Million Reforested Hectares, which it considers are completely aligned; therefore, Alianza por el Millón (AxM acronym in Spanish) is the Panamanian REDD+ national policy instrument.

Regarding interinstitutional coordination, it was agreed that, at the territorial national level, for decision-making processes with multi-stakeholder local participants, REDD+ should be incorporated to all integrated watersheds local committees that should by law be created for each one of Panama's watersheds (52 in total, including the Panama Canal Watershed, which already has an interinstitutional commission and 15 sub-watershed committees). Fourteen of 51 integrated Local Watershed Committees have been established. By law, each governance structure is comprised of members from local authorities, the private sector, local environmental NGOs /CBOs, and government representatives.

The National Water Council (CONAGUA) was created at the highest political level to monitor the implementation of the National Water Security Plan 2015-2050. CONAGUA's Board is chaired by the minister of MiAMBIENTE and includes representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the Panama Canal Authority, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Health, and the National Public Services Authority. Based on the recommendations of MiAMBIENTE, this governance structure could also be used for monitoring ENREDD+ implementation.

In 2017 there was a public participatory process aimed at disseminating and validating the updated and renovated ENREDD+ among government institutions including the National Climate Change Committee that includes representatives of 27 key government actors. Initial exchanges took place with representatives of indigenous groups and with other local stakeholders, including women and men from all of Panama's provinces, local farmers, and afro-Panamanians. The formal public consultation process will take place in 2018.

In an effort to align national development with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Panamanian government sponsored a dialogue among various sectors and delivered the National Strategic Plan with State Vision Panama 2030 (PEN 2030), with UNDP's technical assistance. PEN2030 includes REDD+ as one of the national priorities, which are: A good life for all; Grow more and better; Environmental sustainability; Democracy, institutionality, and governance; and Strategic alliances for development.

In complement, Panama has been implementing activities to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation to boost progress and to start delivering tangible results, including the Establishment of the Legal Timber Network, which is intended to promote policies for the responsible purchase of forest products in the country. This undertaking is part of the Initiative to Strengthen Forest Governance in Panama. It has the support of FAO, under its FAO FLEGT Programme, and funding from the European Commission and Member States. The initiative is spearheaded by Panama's Ministry of the Environment, together with the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), FAO FLEGT's executing partner in the country, and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). Its goal is to promote responsible trade among

timber producers and purchasers, whose products should come from legal sources and sustainably managed forests.

- ***Component 3: Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL)***

The most notable achievement for 2017 was the completion of Panama's FREL submission to the UNFCCC. With FCPF funds a technical expert was hired early in 2017, who developed the conceptual approach, provided capacity building and training sessions and facilitated the consultations that led to the agreed methodological approach and final version of the FREL document that was submitted to the UNFCCC.

- ***Component 4: Design of the national forest monitoring system and information system on safeguards.***

A total of 54 sample units have been completed and systematized under the framework of the national forestry and carbon inventory. Land owners (local farmers) gave their approval and survey plots of the national forest and carbon inventory in the indigenous territories have been planned and duly coordinated with their traditional authorities.

In 2017, the Project Board approved a contribution of USD 50,000 to engage local communities in participatory forest monitoring through the GEF's Small Grant Program (SGP), which is being implemented via UNDP. SGP has a successful track record in support to "Forests of Life", with UN-REDD as a co-sponsor. UNDP and SGP signed an agreement on REDD+ in October 2017. In addition, the Blue Almanac Foundation was granted resources for "Strengthening the capacities of community-based organizations on priority REDD+ issues for Panama" as part of the consolidation of the REDD+ preparation phase in Panama, using FCPF funds. This initiative covers four geographical areas with four CBOs that had previously participated in "Forests of Life" with SGP: Bocas del Toro, Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé, Darién, and Comarca Emberá-Wounaan.

Based on various previous analyses of social and environmental issues and REDD+ safeguards developed by the UN-REDD Programme in Panama (including a conceptual framework and legal analysis, MiAMBIENTE), since mid-2017 Miambiente with FCPF support started to develop a first version of an operational Safeguards Information System (SIS) that will bring together all the elements of an SIS that already exists under a single web page, with links that will be ready in 2018.

- ***Component 5: Design of a program monitoring and evaluation framework.***

In compliance with the monitoring and evaluation plan in 2017, the following products and milestones were achieved:

- One (1) semi-annual report.

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- One (1) annual report.
 - One (1) Mid-term evaluation of the project, in a participatory manner with key stakeholders.
 - One (1) Project Board meeting held between the Miambiente, UNDP, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the reps of peasant, Afro, women and indigenous key actors.
 - A regional database completed in 2017 of the participation of key actors in REDD + Panama activities.
 - Five MiAMBIENTE and UNDP coordination meetings for monitoring the projects' progress, in addition to work meetings by component.

b. Important changes in the technical design or approach related to the project activities

No major changes in technical design have been put in place despite the time extension granted for the project to complete its activities and achieve outputs / outcomes, at no cost for the FCPF.

2. In Focus: Integrating community-based REDD+ within the national REDD+ framework

In June 2017, the *Bosques de Vida* (Forests for Life), a community-based REDD+ programme implemented by SGP / UNDP provided an analysis called "Impact of the Forests of Life Program on the ENREDD+: Lessons learned from the five REDD+ activities and social and environmental safeguards"², that concludes:

- REDD+ activities 1 and 2 (deforestation and forest degradation) were not targeted through the 15 projects because these activities were not defined at the country level in 2015, when the programme began.
- REDD+ activities 3 and 4 (conservation of forest carbon stocks and the sustainable management of forests), were targeted/addressed by 11 of the 15 projects. These two activities have in common reforestation with native species, the delimitation of areas for water reserve, and the conservation of forest cover.
- REDD+ activity 5 (increasing forest carbon stocks) was targeted/addressed by 12 of the 15 projects, with good practices in silvopastoral and agroforestry systems, organic agriculture, nurseries of native medicinal plants, or handicrafts.

In addition to the analysis and breakdown of each REDD+ activity for those projects, the Forests of Life Programme was examined by an independent consultant tasked to review the alignment of the *Bosques de Vida* community-based projects with the National REDD+ process including the seven REDD+ safeguards and evaluated per level of engagement by an expert panel that analysed whether or not these had an impact of these on programme development.

² Available in Spanish:

http://ppdpanama.org/files/publicaciones/Lecciones_aprendidas_PPD_2017_FINAL_WEB.pdf

Together with the technical staff of the FCPF project, the ITC developed a new proposal with 12 points and guidelines to be incorporated into the National REDD + Strategy:

- a. Territorial legal security guidance;
- b. Strengthening of the technical capacities of indigenous congresses and general councils;
- c. Training of indigenous professional technicians and traditional scientists;
- d. Participation of indigenous peoples in all REDD+ processes;
- e. Free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, using their own mechanisms;
- f. Forest management: forestry activities must be endorsed by their traditional authorities;
- g. Permanent monitoring and evaluation of REDD+ actions that are going to be designed with indigenous peoples;
- h. Value the collective rights to land and natural resources of the indigenous peoples in the ENREDD+;
- i. The development of good living / Equitable distribution of benefits;
- j. Environmental management / Protection of mother earth and natural resources;
- k. Give special attention to the topic of the Protection of Medicinal Plants; and
- l. Recognition and validation of Balu Wala's methodological instruments for the process of indigenous peoples.

3. Risks, issues and responses

Issues/risks	Mitigation measure	Proposed completion date	Responsibility
Difficulty in achieving engagement of key sectors needed to conclude the preparation phase and start the implementation of REDD+ in Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the inter-sectoral and multi-actor participation platform active for key stakeholders and improve the mechanisms to achieve effective engagement that leads to decision making in the preparatory phase of REDD+. Include actions that lead to the generation of conventions and inter-sectoral and sectoral agreements, as part of a validation process of the ENREDD+. • Use workshops and regional forums with technical liaisons and key actors in their territories. Institutionalize the REDD+ working group “National Development Plan for Indigenous people”, to improve the levels of integration and streamlining of REDD+ actions. 	December 2018	UNDP CO MIAMBIENTE
Delays in the activation of the national forest monitoring system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Monitoring System / GIS specialist was hired. There have been information exchanges for capacity building of technical staff in MiAMBIENTE. A workshop with international experts on reference levels was organized in January 2017. • In 2018, an expert will support MiAMBIENTE on 	December 2018	UNDP CO MIAMBIENTE

Issues/risks	Mitigation measure	Proposed completion date	Responsibility
	identifying the final elements to fully operationalize the National Environmental Information System that will host the NFMS.		
High turnover of MiAMBIENTE and project personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of a mechanism that facilitates the periodic documentation of progress and lessons learned. Undertake a complete induction of staff members to be hired (including a presentation of results and lessons learned under the UN-REDD Programme). High-level commitment to maintain stability of project-personnel until the project ends. 	December 2018	UNDP CO MIAMBIENTE
Conflict among/with indigenous peoples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP is monitoring issues related land titling and concessions relating to access to natural resources. A coordination mechanism at the technical level was established with indigenous people and this was approved by the 12 structures of indigenous people in Panama and a dialogue was opened. A principal and an alternate member were designated to participate in the Project Board meeting. A thorough revision was made of the recommendations made by an international consultant to improve the effectiveness of the complaint mechanism in Panama. Work is currently being undertaken at the legal and political levels with the Ministry of Environment to generate the protocols with which to address complaints and grievances made through the 3-1-1 platforms and to document and systematize Panama’s position on the issue of access to land and natural resources before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. The UNDP Country Office has also begun the process to establish a mechanism to handle institutional complaints. 	December 2018	UNDP CO MIAMBIENTE
Negative influence over the perception of citizens and key stakeholders vis-a-vis the FCPF Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of MiAMBIENTE, UNDP, and other key stakeholders. Define a mechanism to regulate and manage the discussion, differences, and potential conflicts among the National REDD+ Working Group and the position of this platform as an entry point for all those interested in sharing their points of view. Define the channels of communication and the venues for participation and consultation for 	December 2018	UNDP CO MIAMBIENTE

Issues/risks	Mitigation measure	Proposed completion date	Responsibility
	<p>decision making. Clarify how communication should flow between the indigenous traditional authorities, MiAMBIENTE, and UNDP. Ensure that the information is available to the public and is known and agreed to by key stakeholders and interested entities.</p>		
<p>Lack of consensus for the validation of a National REDD+ Strategy that is robust and achievable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make available all information related to new proposals for the elaboration and validation of the ENREDD+. • Keep the cross-sectorial and multi-stakeholder participation platform for decision making active in the preparatory phase of REDD+. • Put into practice the FCPF-UNREDD guidelines for interested parties, as indicated in the Participation and Consultation Plan for REDD+ in Panama. • Undertake the Strategic Social and Environment Evaluation (SESA) and develop an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). • With key stakeholders, design a safeguard information system. • Strengthen from the UNDP side the implication and elements necessary to validate a REDD+ strategy as part of the Project's quality assurance role and hire a high-level consultancy team for the project that has sufficient capacities to achieve the development of a ENREDD+ for Panama. 	<p>December 2018</p>	<p>UNDP CO MIAMBIENTE</p>

4. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project.

By the end of 2017, the Programme Management Unit was staffed with: five new junior technicians (one forestry engineer, two environmental engineers, one environmental lawyer, one SIG specialist, and a finance technician that was already with the team). A thematic coordinator, assumed managerial responsibilities as Climate Change Projects Coordinator for UNDP-MiAMBIENTE and is overseeing the REDD+ project. A process is in place to hire one procurement associate, one finance associate, and a specialist was initiated and will be completed in 2018. The PMU is now settled in MiAMBIENTE and has been integrated with MiAMBIENTE personnel. They all respond to the Climate Change Director. The entire team has undergone intensive training.

The project follows the UNDP National Implementation Modality (NIM), and it is in compliance with UNDP procedures. UNDP staff conduct periodic visits to the project unit to verify compliance with procedures and conduct hands-on training on procurement and financial management issues.

Capacity assessments were undertaken of three regional MiAMBIENTE offices in Darien (eastern), Coclé (central province), and Herrera (Azuero, southwest region). One of the main findings is that MiAMBIENTE lacks trained personnel and that the limited human resources are not familiar on how to align and sequence the implementation of different regulations (Executive Decree 57 and Law 38 of 2000).

5. Progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

In line with the Common Approach, UNDP, as an implementing partner, complies with its Social and Environmental Standards (SES) in project implementation. These standards provide detailed guidance on social and environmental assessment and project management, as well as on the evaluation of specific project types and impacts. In addition, UNDP guides the actions of REDD+ in Panama, so that they may comply with UNDP's institutional implementation standards through specific review meetings and close joint work and collaboration.

Based on various analyses of social and environmental issues and safeguards, MiAMBIENTE, with UNDP's technical guidance, is developing a first version of an operational SIS that will bring together elements that are currently scattered across different government services under a single web page, with links that will be ready in 2018. A consultant will be hired to develop a proposal for a SESA and ESMF for the ENREDD+ once the draft is validated through the participatory consultation process.

6. Progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the FGRM, related to this project

MiAMBIENTE commissioned an analysis on the implementation status of Executive Decree 57 of 2000 related to national, provincial, district and indigenous environmental consultation commissions in Panama, and that also establishes a grievance mechanism for all environmental concerns, including those linked to forest deforestation and/or degradation (art. 1).

Panama has a feedback and grievance mechanism for all environmental matters 3-1-1 (digital hub for citizens requests of information, complaints, grievances). This mechanism will be used for REDD+ with a specific area for filing REDD+ complaints. The mechanism includes a universal system with e-services, as well access to information on existing legislation, regulations, public policies and jurisprudence in relation to environmental matters, forests, indigenous rights, natural resources, and climate change.

The FCPF project has made advances in implementing a REDD+ coordination mechanism through advocacy processes, leading to the identification of indigenous peoples as one of the five differentiated groups that are considered to be key actors³ and strengthen the coordination of representatives of women and afro descendants. Discussions have taken place on how to engage with the private sector and other stakeholders from agriculture and forestry businesses.

7. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2016)	Year 2 (2017)	Year 3 (2018)
Number of institutions represented in steering committee	34	3	
Number of women represented in steering committee	3	4	
Number of civil society organizations engaged in different aspects of the project (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	10	285	
Number of people trained on REDD+, climate change, and related topics (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	459	894 (54% Men 46%/women)	
Number of people trained on the four WF elements (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	0	40	
Number of national consultation workshops held	136	33	
Number of CSOs trained on REDD+ and climate change	0	15	
Number of information notes produced	6	8	
Number of people actively engaged in advising on the development of the national strategy	470 (60% Men, 40% Women)	894 (54% Men 46% Women)	

³ Differentiated groups of key REDD + actors Panama: indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant populations, peasant communities, other owners and individual or collective users of the forest, women and men for gender equality and empowerment of women in the forest.

⁴ Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and United Nations Development Program, in addition to two representatives of the indigenous peoples designated by the highest authorities of the regions and indigenous territories, and one regional representative of the local farmers and afro-descendants stakeholders.

⁵ *Natura Foundation, ANCON, WWF, Smithsonian Institute, College of Forest Engineers, University of Panama- Deanship of Agricultural Sciences, Technological University of Panama - Deanship of Civil Engineering, Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture of Panama, Panamanian Association of Business Executives (APEDE), Almanaque Azul, CATIE, ACUDEBAH, ACUN, AMAACT, APRORENANB, ASDO, CENDA, COOBANA, FUNDAPLAN, GANE, PRODESO, SAVIN.*

⁶ *Three workshops with regional technical officers from MiAMBIENTE nationwide, and 10 participatory and consultation workshops also at a national level.*

8. Financial Delivery

The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the R-PP implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS				
OUTPUTS	Total Budget	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2017		
		Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
				(D) = B + C
Component 1: Organization and Consultation	883,800.00	36,600.00	613,423.66	650,023.66
Component 2: Preparation of the National Strategy REDD+	518,641.00	118,604.00	133,541.47	252,145.47
Component 3: Development of a national reference level for forest emissions and a national forest reference level	433,350.00	20,505.00	295,945.02	316,450.02
Component 4: Design of the national forest monitoring system and information system on safeguards	1,260,420.00	38,944.60	441,587.18	480,531.78
Component 5: Design of a program monitoring and evaluation framework.	703,789.00	4,230.00	573,652.37	577,882.37
Total	3,800,000	218,883.60	2,058,149.70	2,277,033.30

9. Picture and caption



Key Actors Workshop with Local Farmers and Afro Descendants Western Region: Chiriquí and Bocas del Toro: April 2017.



Key Actors Workshop Local Farmers and Afro Descendants Central
Region: Herrera, Los Santos, Coclé, and Veraguas: April 2017.

REDD+ Gender Workshop: July 2017



**Primer encuentro voluntario de
Representantes Provinciales en el marco
del Proyecto REDD+ Panamá**

