



**GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND**

**Meeting of the Board**  
18 – 21 August 2020  
Virtual meeting  
Provisional agenda item 11

**GCF/B.26/02/Add.06**

28 July 2020

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# Consideration of funding proposals - Addendum VI

## Funding proposal package for FP134

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### **Summary**

This addendum contains the following seven parts:

- a) A funding proposal titled "Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016";
- b) No-objection letter issued by the national designated authority(ies) or focal point(s);
- c) Environmental and social report(s) disclosure;
- d) Secretariat's assessment;
- e) Independent Technical Advisory Panel's assessment;
- f) Response from the accredited entity to the independent Technical Advisory Panel's assessment; and
- g) Gender documentation.

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# Funding Proposal

## REDD-plus results based payments

### Version 1.0

Accredited entities are expected to develop a funding proposal in close consultation with the relevant national designated authority and REDD+ entity/focal point, in response to the request for proposals for the Pilot Programme for REDD+ results based payments (Decision B.18/07). The funding proposal should follow the terms of reference of that Board decision and will be assessed per Stage 2 (sections 2 – 5) of the scorecard annexed to the same Board decision.

Programme Title: Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016

Country: Colombia

Results period in this proposal: 2015 – 2016

National Designated Authority:

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REDD+ entity/focal point

National Planning Department

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Date of first submission/  
version number:

[2019-10-21] [V.1.0]

Date of current submission/  
version number

[YYYY-MM-DD] [V.000]



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Please submit the completed form to [fundingproposal@gcfund.org](mailto:fundingproposal@gcfund.org)  
Please use the following naming convention in the subject line and file name:  
“**[Country] REDD-plusRBP FP-[Accredited entity]-yyyymmdd**”

## A. Proposed and projected REDD-plus results

Please provide the following information:

Total volume of REDD+ results achieved in the results period as reported in the country's BUR technical annex (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq):	19,365,884.7 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq. 2015 12,109,048.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq. 2016  Total: 31,474,933.5 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq.																														
A= Achieved volume of REDD+ results offered to the pilot programme in this proposal (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq):	<p><i>Indicate the volume of achieved results starting at the earliest 31 December 2013 that will be considered for the pilot programme.</i></p> <p>The total volume of REDD+ results offered to the pilot program is <b>8,574,690 (See Annex 9 “Description of the estimations) tCO<sub>2</sub>e.</b></p> <p>These amounts were calculated against the Amazon biome FREL, discounting payments received by Colombia from the REDD Early Movers (REM) Program, funded by the governments of Norway, Germany and the United Kingdom and one project of the voluntary market that is being implemented in the Amazon region. The calculations are:</p> <table><tr><td>Year</td><td>2015</td><td>2016</td></tr><tr><td>Total ER(tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)<sup>1</sup></td><td>19,365,885</td><td>12,109,049</td></tr><tr><td>Adjustment to ER available based in the FREL in order to not exceed 0.1% of the carbon stock - HFLD (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) (See Annex 9)</td><td>-166,184</td><td>-166,184</td></tr><tr><td>ER deactivated Paid by REM<sup>2</sup> (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</td><td>4,441,449</td><td>3,594,968</td></tr><tr><td>ER deactivated (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)<sup>2</sup></td><td>4,441,449</td><td>3,235,471</td></tr><tr><td>ER Paid voluntary market (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)<sup>2</sup></td><td>3,548,786</td><td>293,023</td></tr><tr><td>ER available (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</td><td>6,768,016</td><td>4,819,403</td></tr><tr><td>40%<sup>3</sup> ER deactivated interim mechanism to manage risk of reversals.</td><td>2.707.207</td><td>1.927.761</td></tr><tr><td>ER offered to GCF by year (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</td><td>4,060,810</td><td>2,891,642</td></tr><tr><td>Total ER offered to GCF (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</td><td colspan="2"><b>6,952,451</b></td></tr></table> <p>ER: emissions reduced, ERP: Emissions reduced paid.</p>	Year	2015	2016	Total ER(tCO <sub>2</sub> eq) <sup>1</sup>	19,365,885	12,109,049	Adjustment to ER available based in the FREL in order to not exceed 0.1% of the carbon stock - HFLD (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq) (See Annex 9)	-166,184	-166,184	ER deactivated Paid by REM <sup>2</sup> (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	4,441,449	3,594,968	ER deactivated (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq) <sup>2</sup>	4,441,449	3,235,471	ER Paid voluntary market (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq) <sup>2</sup>	3,548,786	293,023	ER available (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	6,768,016	4,819,403	40% <sup>3</sup> ER deactivated interim mechanism to manage risk of reversals.	2.707.207	1.927.761	ER offered to GCF by year (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	4,060,810	2,891,642	Total ER offered to GCF (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	<b>6,952,451</b>	
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B= Expected volume of REDD+ results to be achieved in the following years of the eligibility period (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq):	<p><i>Indicate the results that are expected to be achieved in each of the subsequent years of the eligibility period (until 31 December 2018) that may be offered to the GCF for payments. Explain how the indicative volume of results is a significant volume for each subsequent year for the remainder of the eligibility period</i></p>																														

<sup>1</sup> <https://redd.unfccc.int/info-hub.html>

<sup>2</sup> [http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro\\_interino2013-2016.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> See Annex 5 for explanation for set as 21% interim mechanism to manage risk of reversals.

	<p>In 2017 results were not achieved. Amazon annual deforestation increased from 70,074 in 2016 to 144,147 ha (IDEAM, SMBYC<sup>4</sup>). These figures imply an increment of 29,989,543.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in the gross emissions, above the assessed FREL<sup>5</sup>.</p> <p>By 2018 deforestation in the biome was 138,176 ha, implying a reduction of 5% with respect to 2017, however, the results will be assessed against the recently national FREL submitted by Colombia (2019) to the UNFCCC, which is currently under the Technical Assessment process.</p> <p>As mentioned in the FREL, the implementation of the peace agreements between the government and FARC was an important factor that could incentivize deforestation in the region. Numerous factors, such as the magnitude of State and private investment during the peace negotiations and the implementation of post-conflict policies, created enabling conditions that made the area more accessible and increased opportunity costs for lands enabling expansion of illegal and informal economies. The government has been working on improving forest governance, law enforcement in the region, improvement of security conditions and legalization of property rights.</p>	
A+B =Total volume expected to be submitted to the pilot programme (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq):	Total offered to the GCF = <b>6,952,451 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq</b>	

## B. Carbon elements

### B.1. Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL)

Please provide link to the FREL/FRL submission:

[https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20.10.15col\\_frel\\_english\\_clean\\_numbers.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20.10.15col_frel_english_clean_numbers.pdf)

Please provide link to the UNFCCC Technical Assessment Report:

<https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/tar/col.pdf>

#### B.1.1. UNFCCC Technical Assessment and Analysis process

*(i) Consistency of the FREL/FRL: Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the consistency of the FREL/FRL with the GHG Inventory, including the definition of forest used. If the report identifies inconsistencies, explain these inconsistencies between the GHG inventory and FREL/FRL, and describe how they will be resolved in the next GHG inventory or FREL/FRL.*

Colombia submitted in December 2014 its “Proposed Forest Reference Emission Level for deforestation in the Colombian Amazon Biome for results-based payments for REDD+ under the UNFCCC. The definition of forest used in the FREL is consistent with the one used in the EICDGB, the GHG-Inventory and other reports, which define a forest, for monitoring purposes, as a “Land mainly covered by trees which might contain shrubs, palms, guaduas, grass and vines, in which tree cover predominates with a minimum canopy density of 30%, a minimum canopy height (in situ) of 5 meters at the time of identification, and a minimum area of 1.0 ha. Tree cover from commercial forest plantations, palm crops and planted trees for agricultural production are excluded”.

<sup>4</sup> <http://smbyc.ideam.gov.co/>

<sup>5</sup> Colombia’s FREL for the reference period 2013 – 2017 is 51,612,072.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq

The Technical Assessment Report (TAR) of the FREL (2015) considers that the submission and the annexes provided by Colombia, together with the clarifications given during the TA, constitute for practical purposes, a complete, transparent and accurate description of FREL construction, including the data sets, approaches and methods used. Regarding consistency with the GHG inventories, the TA found that the historical emission estimates associated with the FREL exceeded the forest and grassland estimates in the published GHG inventories by a factor of about five. TA found insufficient information in the GHG inventories to assess the reasons for the differences, however it was not further considered because in Colombia a new and improved GHG inventory was being drafted under the first BUR and the third national communication.

Following a stepwise approach, Colombia has made efforts to ensure consistency between GHG-Inventories and FREL.

The GHGs inventory under BUR2 (2018) included i) improved and updated activity data (time series of AD based on remote sensing) from the subnational 2014 FREL (assessed against the NC2(2004)); and ii) enhanced Emission Factors (EF) from the preliminary results from the National Forest Inventory (which was 30% advanced).

The recently submitted National FREL (2019) included the Emission Factor (EF) improvements from BUR2 reflecting the preliminary results from the National Forest Inventory. The National FREL is currently under the technical assessment process and the report will be ready by December 2020.

ii.a) Data source of the FREL/FRL: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the data used for to the construction of the FREL/FRL, specifying whether the FREL/FRL is based on historical data and is equal to or below the average annual historical emissions during the reference period.*

The construction of the FREL for reducing emissions from deforestation (gross deforestation) in the Colombian Amazon Biome is based on the information generated by Colombia's Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC), operated by the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) with the guidance of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS).

Activity data (AD) were generated based on the use of images from the Landsat Satellite program (USGS, 2014). Deforested areas were calculated by comparing information between a Time 1 (T1) and a given Time 2 (T2) after phases of pre-processing, processing and validation of data. The methodology quantifies only those areas in which forest is detected on T1 and non-forest is detected on T2, so there is certainty that the event occurred during the analyzed period. Forest losses detected after one or several periods of time without information are not included in the calculation, in order to prevent overestimations during periods in which areas without information increase.

FREL was defined by using the historical average of deforestation for the period 2000-2012. The reference level also incorporates an adjustment for national circumstances estimated, according to the guidelines of the UNFCCC, as 10% over the value of average deforestation during 2000-2012. The adjustment was justified by the results of a qualitative analysis of the behavior of the deforestation drivers, as well as a possible post-conflict scenario, which suggested an increase of historical deforestation.

According to TAR, the methods used by Colombia are consistent with the Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC, 2006). Paragraph 10 of the TAR points out that "The FREL is based on the mean of historical carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from above- and below-ground biomass carbon pools associated with gross deforestation (defined as loss of forest cover) for the period 2000–2012." It also points out that "Colombia has adjusted its proposed FREL upward by 10 per cent compared with the historical average emissions for the period 2000–2012".

ii.b) If a country is considered HFLD: *Please provide the basis/justification for this classification.*

Following the rationale of the forest transition theory<sup>6</sup>, Colombia is considered a developing economy<sup>7</sup> that has consistently maintained high forest cover and low deforestation rates<sup>8</sup>, but that are facing increased pressure both from

<sup>6</sup> Angelsen A. and Rudel, T.K. REDD+ Policies: A forest transition approach, Review Environmental Economics and Policy 7(1): 91-113

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp\\_current/2014wesp\\_country\\_classification.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp_current/2014wesp_country_classification.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> The term High-forest Low-deforestation (HFLD) countries was first proposed by Fonseca et al in 2007

internal development needs as well as from international displacement of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, transitioning from a stage of low deforestation into a period of high deforestation. Some of the main drivers of deforestation in the Colombian Amazon since the signing of the peace agreement with the FARC are: the exponential increase in productive areas for illicit crops (UNODC 2018) and the suspension of aerial spraying operations of illicit crops with glyphosate. Also it is believed that the process of land titling may have triggered an increase in land speculation associated with land clearing. Ruiz-Soto (2017).

Colombia reported a natural forest area of 60,025,731 hectares in 2018, which represents 52.6% of the national territory. Average rate of deforestation in the last 18 years was of -0.24%, the lowest value was presented in 2013 (-0.19%) and the highest in 2017 (-0.36%). For the reference period the ratio was -0.23%, while for the accreditation period (2013-2017) it was -0.26%. In the Amazon biome FREL (2000-2012), for the reference period the ratio was -0.21%, while for the accreditation period (2013 - 2017) it was -0.20%. The 0.36 shows that, as foreseen in the subnational FREL, the associated post-conflict dynamics had substantial impacts on the deforestation rates reached during the years 2017 and 2018, mainly in the Amazon region.

The technical thresholds that are cited for HFLD countries are based on the forest transition theory but the numerical values used stem from global average deforestation rate values of 2005, with high levels of uncertainty, and have not been agreed under the UNFCCC nor the GCF so it is inappropriate to use these values.

In the Amazon biome FREL, Colombia applied an adjustment of 10% to the average annual historical emissions (2010 - 2012) to take into account national circumstances related to the impact of peace negotiations and the implementation of post-conflict policies, which underestimated future rates of deforestation or forest degradation during the eligibility period (see annex C<sup>9</sup> to the FREL submission, 2014).

The LULUCF experts noted the impact of peace negotiations and recognized that the average annual historical emissions during the reference period would underestimate future rates of deforestation or forest degradation during the eligibility period. Therefore, the LULUCF experts noted (paragraphs 19 - 20 of the TATR2015-2016, see link in B.2) that Colombia conducted successful negotiations with FARC in 2013-2016, which culminated in the signing of a peace agreement in 2016. The LULUCF experts also noted that the information provided by Colombia during the TA indicates that the post-conflict effects causing an increase in deforestation began with the start of the negotiations for a peace agreement in 2013, and thus the second period of results 2015-2016 is within the post conflict period. In addition, the LULUCF experts also consider that the data provided by Colombia indicate that the transition period preceding a decrease in or stabilization of the deforestation rate is likely to be longer than the five years reported in the FREL.

*(ii.c) FREL/FRL adjustments for a HFLD country: If adjustments made, please provide information that the adjustment does not exceed 0.1% of the carbon stock over the eligibility period in the relevant area and/or exceed 10% of the FREL/FRL to reflect quantified, documented changes in circumstances during the reference period that likely underestimate future rates of deforestation or forest degradation during the eligibility period*

Colombia submitted its FREL in December 2014, three years prior to the launch of the GCF's request for proposals (RFP) pilot program for REDD+ RBPs in 2017 in line with the existing UNFCCC guidance provided through the relevant COP decisions.

The carbon stocks in above- and below-ground biomass are 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> eq/ha (p24 TAR). The forest area (2012) is 39,973,700 ha (Fig 2, modified FREL submission [https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20.10.15col\\_frel\\_english\\_clean\\_numbers.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20.10.15col_frel_english_clean_numbers.pdf)), therefore the total carbon stock is 39,973,700 ha x 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> eq/ha = 22,629,111,570 tCO<sub>2</sub>.

The section 2.a (ii) of the Scorecard in the Terms of reference for the pilot programme for REDD+ results-based payments requires that the adjustment over the average annual historical emissions "does not exceed 0.1% of the carbon stock over the eligibility period in the relevant national or subnational area". Colombia's original FREL submitted to the UNFCCC, which precedes the publication of the Terms of Reference of the GCF's Pilot programme for REDD+ results-based payments marginally exceeds that amount. The table below provides a recalculation of the adjustment to the average annual historical emissions.

<sup>9</sup> [https://redd.unfccc.int/files/anexo\\_c\\_resultados.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/anexo_c_resultados.pdf)



**Table 1. Adjustment to average annual historical emissions, not to exceed 0.1% of carbon stock over the eligibility period (See Annex 9 “Description of the estimations”)**

Limit on the total adjustment (0.1% of carbon stock)	22,629,111.57	tCO <sub>2</sub>
Maximum adjustment to the average annual historical emissions	4,525,822.31	tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/year
Adjustment to average annual historical emissions with 0.1% carbon stock limit	51,445,889	tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/year

**Table 2. Emissions Reductions offered to the GCF using an adjustment to average annual historical emissions with a 0.1% Carbon Stock limit (See Annex 9 “Description of the estimations”)**

	2015	2016	Total
Results (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	19,199,700	11,942,865	31,142,565
ER deactivated Paid by REM (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	4,441,449	3,594,968	8,036,417
ER deactivated Mechanism Risk REM (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	4,441,449	3,235,471	7,676,920
ER Paid voluntary market (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	3,548,786	293,023	3,841,809
Total previously committed ERs	12,431,684	7,123,462	19,555,146
ER available for GCF	6,768,016	4,819,403	11,587,419
40% deactivated to manage risks of reversals	2,707,207	1,927,761	4,634,968
ER offered to GCF	4,060,810	2,891,642	6,952,451

(iii) FREL/FRL in accordance with 12/CP.17: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the quantified estimate of the FREL/FRL. Include whether the FREL/FRL was constructed in accordance with the guidelines in Decision 12/CP.17; specifically on the modalities for FREL/FRL and whether the raised issues were material or not material to the quantified estimate of the FREL/FRL.*

The construction of the FREL for reducing emissions from deforestation (gross deforestation) in the Colombian Amazon Biome follows the guidelines of UNFCCC and IPCC (2003<sup>10</sup>, 2006<sup>11</sup>). Colombia adopted a "step-wise" approach and a subnational scale to the development of the FREL according to the guidelines of the Annex to Decision 12/CP.17. *"This approach allows Parties to improve FRELs by incorporating enhanced information, improved methodologies and, when appropriate, new carbon pools and activities, and transition from subnational to a national FREL".*

Paragraph 43 of the TAR points out: *"The information used by Colombia in constructing its FREL is in overall accordance with the guidelines for submissions of information on FRELs (as contained in the annex to decision 12/CP.17)".* The TAR raises no issues on this topic, neither material nor immaterial ones to the quantified estimate of the FREL/FRL.

<sup>10</sup> IPCC 2003. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry. Edited by Jim Penman, Michael Gytarsky, Taka Hiraishi, Thelma Krug, Dina Kruger, Riitta Pipatti, Leandro Buendia, Kyoko Miwa, Todd Ngara, Kiyoto Tanabe and Fabian Wagner. Published by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) for the IPCC.12

<sup>11</sup> IPCC 2006. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. VOL. 4 Agricultura Silvicultura y Otros Usos de la Tierra. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), IPCC/OECD/IEA/IGES, 882 Hayama, Japan.



(iv) FREL/FRL transparency: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the transparency of the FREL/FRL and whether significant issues were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan on how to address and overcome issues that were not material to the transparency of the FREL/FRL raised in TA Report that couldn't be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

The TAR addresses: *"The documentation on methods, data and assumptions used, as well as the additional information provided by Colombia during the TA, generated a transparent and complete understanding of how the FREL was calculated. The four annexes of the modified submission provided a significant amount of additional technical material and increased transparency"*. The TAR raises no issues on this topic, neither material nor immaterial ones.

(v) FREL/FRL completeness: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the understanding of the FREL/FRL and whether significant issues were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan on how to address and overcome issues that were not material to the completeness of the FREL/FRL raised in TA Report that couldn't be resolved due to time and data restrictions. Include information that allows for the reconstruction of the FREL/FRL.*

Paragraph 44 of the TAR addresses the following: *"The documentation on methods, data and assumptions used, as well as the additional information provided by Colombia during the TA, provided a transparent and complete understanding of how the FREL was calculated. The four annexes of the modified submission provided a significant amount of additional technical material and increased transparency"*.

(vi) FREL/FRL consistency: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the consistency of the methodology used over the time series used for the construction of the FREL/FRL, and whether significant issues were raised in the report and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan to address and overcome issues that were not material to the consistency of the FREL/FRL raised in TA Report that couldn't be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

The TAR does not report issues related to the consistency of the methodology to construct the FREL/FRL. Paragraph 12 of the TAR highlights: *"The methods used by Colombia are consistent with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (hereinafter referred to as the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF) and the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (hereinafter referred to as the 2006 IPCC Guidelines), as applied to the construction of the FREL, and as discussed further below."*

Complementary to this, the Paragraph 44 reports: *"The AT believes that the FREL is calculated in a manner consistent with the methods described."*

(vii) FREL/FRL accuracy: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the accuracy of the FREL/FRL and whether significant issues were raised and resolved. This should include information on whether the data and methodologies used neither over- nor underestimate emissions and/or removals during the reference period. If applicable, provide a plan to address and overcome issues raised in TA Report that were not material to the accuracy of the FREL/FRL and that couldn't be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

According to the TAR, regarding the accuracy of the information used for the construction of the FREL/FRL, the AT understands that Colombia is starting to implement the use of reference data to improve the overall accuracy of area estimates and evaluate uncertainties. The AT noted that carbon densities that determine emission factors may have bias but values are used consistently over time and are within expected ranges on the basis of the IPCC data and other research data used for comparison. The report highlights efforts of Colombia to start the implementation of the National Forest Inventory (NFI) to increase accuracy and reduce possible bias.

Currently Colombia is implementing the National Forest Inventory since 2012 and for the BUR2 used preliminary results for the calculation of EF, reducing bias and increasing accuracy. Colombia will include a thematic accuracy assessment for the national forest cover change map and emission factors in its second FREL, this accuracy assessment will follow the GFOI method and guidelines as well Olofsson et al. (2004)

(viii) Sources of emissions: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to whether all activities listed in paragraph 70 of UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16 ('REDD-plus activities') that are a significant source of emissions were included. If they were not, justify whether activities that are significant sources of emissions were not included due to lack of data and/or whether the omission overestimates emissions or underestimates removals. Provide also a plan to include all data on all REDD-plus activities that are significant sources of emissions in future FREL/FRL submissions.*

The TAR pointed out that Colombia's FREL/FRL "covers the most significant activity (reducing emissions from deforestation)". The TAR also commends Colombia's plans to extend the FREL to include reducing emissions from forest degradation and points out that "the results are currently considered too uncertain for inclusion in the FREL". In spite of the methodological development for the estimation of emissions from forest degradation, the information and methods currently available do not reduce the large amount of uncertainty, then Colombia will not include emissions from forest degradation in its next submission of the national FREL.

Regarding this issue, technical skills need to be enhanced so as to understand how forest degradation performs in Colombia and how this would be embedded in the next FREL. Colombia needs to carry out more detailed assessments related to this topic so that it can be addressed from a more holistic approach, and bring about tools and procedures for monitoring and managing it. In order to understand dynamics related to forest degradation, Colombia considers the following as key issues for advancement:

- A multi-scale characterization of main drivers of degradation is required at different levels and goes hand in hand with key stakeholders of forest management.
- Achieving a deeper understanding about dynamics, synergies among degradation drivers and the relation of forest degradation as a preceding factor in the sequencing of the deforestation is an essential issue.
- Maintaining monitoring of both deforestation and forest degradation to identify interactions, timeframes, and assess dependence level between them.
- Assessing efficacy and impact of policies in both forestry and agricultural sectors as strategy to control and decrease forest cover loss and forest degradation.
- Strengthening information systems existing in the regional environmental entities concerning both structural issues and the inclusion of suitable time-scale variables.

One of the approaches for estimating degradation can be found in the following link:

[http://documentacion.ideam.gov.co/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=38262&shelfbrowse\\_itemnumber=39872](http://documentacion.ideam.gov.co/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=38262&shelfbrowse_itemnumber=39872)

(ix) Significant pools: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the inclusion of the most significant pools. If applicable, justify whether significant pools were not included due to lack of data and/or the omission does not overestimate emissions or underestimate removals. In addition, provide a plan to include all significant pools in future FREL/FRL submissions.*

Colombia, following guidance from decision 1 / CP.16, paragraph 70 and the decisions 12 / CP.17, paragraph 10; and paragraph C of Annex 12 / CP.17, reported in the FREL/FRL above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass pools, according to their existing national capacities, due to lack of information available and representative of other compartments and other activities for the Amazon natural region. Dead wood, litter and soil-organic carbon have not been reported due to a lack of data. The TAR raises this as an area for future improvement and recommended: "Use reference data for better activity data estimates, and NFI for better statistical sampling of biomasses and inclusion of additional pools".

In relation with the use of IPCC default value, Colombia considers that for the Amazon natural region, the default values suggested by the IPCC for calculating emission factors in other pools aside from above- and below-ground biomass could be not representative values of the distribution of biomass in these pools, given the level of aggregation of this information. Using these aggregated values would have an increasing effect on the reference level with higher levels of uncertainty. The rationale to include above- and below-ground biomass as significant pools is based on two criteria: (i) "should be accurate in the sense that they are neither over- nor underestimated as far as can be judged", and (ii) "and precise in the sense that uncertainties are reduced as far as practicable" (IPCC, 2006, Volume 1, Chapter 3, good practice for reporting activity data and emissions inventories).

Colombia clarified during the TA that an NFI planned for 2015-2017 was expected to generate data that would enable the inclusion of dead wood and soil-organic carbon pools in a future FREL/FRL submission, as well as the improvement of aboveground biomass estimates. Colombia clarified that, at the time of the TA, there were no plans to estimate the litter pool. The AT agreed that this was likely to be the least significant pool. However, the National FREL, based on preliminary results of the NFI, included above- and below-ground biomass and soil organic carbon, while other stocks such as litter and dead wood were not since there is no current available information to include such carbon stocks.

(x) Emissions from gases: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Assessment Report in relation to the inclusion of all gases that are significant sources of emissions. If not all of the gases were included, justify whether gases that are significant sources of emissions were not included due to lack of data and/or whether the omission overestimates emissions or underestimates removals. Provide also a plan to include all significant pools in future FREL/FRL submissions.*

The only gas emissions reported in the FREL/FRL are those of CO<sub>2</sub>, as a result of changes in carbon stocks in living above- and below-ground biomass due to deforestation. The TAR raised an area for potential improvement on this topic: "Emissions from non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases, using the methods developed for the GHG inventories to be published in association with the first BUR and the third national communication".

As part of the second BUR Colombia estimated emissions of non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases derived from fires in three land use categories: 3C1a forest lands, 3C1b Croplands, 3C1c Grasslands. The annual area burned between 2002 and 2014 was classified by type of land cover (IDEAM, 2016). Between 1990 and 2001, the surfaces were adjusted based on a logarithmic model, which takes into account extreme precipitation and drought phenomena (IDEAM, 2016). The main source of information of non-CO<sub>2</sub> gas emissions from fires in forest lands are quantified based on reports from regional environmental authorities, which are consolidated annually by IDEAM. As this information is coming from different entities and have different quality levels, the uncertainty tends to increase, so as an opportunity to improve the forest monitoring systems has been determining deforested areas associated to hot spots using MODIS images. It is expected that the estimates of emissions of non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases by natural forest burning for the periods 2015 and 2016 will be consistent with deforestation analysis and could be included in future reports.

(xi) IPCC guidance for FREL/FRL: *Please indicate if the whether the construction of the FREL/FRL (data, methodologies and estimates) was guided by 2003 GPGs or 2006 GLs.*

The methods used by Colombia are consistent with the Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2003) and the Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC, 2006).

Paragraph 12 of TAR highlights: *"The methods used by Colombia are consistent with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (hereinafter referred to as the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF), and the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (hereinafter referred to as the 2006 IPCC Guidelines), as applied to the construction of the FREL, and as discussed further below."*

(xii) Issues related to applying IPCC guidance: *Please mention any significant issues related to the application of IPCC GLs/GPGs as raised in the TA report. Include any significant issues that are material to the alignment with the methodologies of the IPCC GLs/GPGs that were raised in the TA report and whether significant issues were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan to address and overcome issues raised in TA Report that were not material to the application of IPCC guidance and that couldn't be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

The TAR raises no issues related to the application of IPCC GLs/GPGs. The TAR points out: *"The methods used by Colombia are consistent with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry [...] and the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories [...], as applied to the construction of the FREL [...]."*

#### B.1.2. Additional criteria related to FREL/FRL

(xiii) Reference period for the FREL/FRL: *Please indicate the reference period (number of years) applied for the construction of the FREL/FRL.*

The reference period for Colombia FREL/FRL is a **13 years period 2000- 2012**.

(xiv) If previous reference level submitted: *Please indicate whether a previous reference level applying to the same area was submitted. If so, describe the difference between the emissions and removals used for the previous one and the current one. Describe any adjustments made to the current FREL/FRL compared to the previous one, if applicable.*

N/A

(xv) Uncertainties: *Please indicate whether the country has provided information on aggregated uncertainties of the emissions or removals estimate, taking into account national capabilities and circumstances, and if so, indicate the percentage of aggregate uncertainties and provide information on assumptions and sources. If applicable, indicate the process implemented to minimize systematic and random errors.*

Colombia has not reported aggregated uncertainties for the emissions or removals estimates to the UNFCCC. In the first FREL uncertainties estimations were performed for AD and EF separately and as part of a stepwise approach and continuous improvement process.

During the process of elaboration of the National FREL (second FREL currently undergoing technical assessment) Colombia made progress in reporting uncertainties nationally and regionally using the propagation error methods. According to this analysis the uncertainty level is 20.4% for gross emissions at the national level<sup>12</sup>.

(xvi) Please indicate whether different FREL/FRLs have been used for different funding sources or other purposes, and if so, list and describe them.

All projects developed in the Amazon region received a number of ER based on the assessed FREL in order to avoid double counting and payments. This is further explained in sections A and B2 viii and ix.

## B.2. REDD-plus Results reporting

Please provide link to the BUR technical annex containing REDD+ results: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/47096251\\_Colombia-BUR2-1-2BUR%20COLOMBIA%20SPANISH.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/47096251_Colombia-BUR2-1-2BUR%20COLOMBIA%20SPANISH.pdf)

Please provide link to the UNFCCC Technical Analysis Report (TATR.): <https://unfccc.int/documents/208422>

### B.2.1. UNFCCC Technical Analysis

(i) Consistency of results with FREL/FRL: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Analysis Report in relation to the consistency of the reported results in the technical annex to the BUR with the FREL/FRL (including the inclusion of same pools, activities and gases).*

The TATR points out that Colombia has ensured overall consistency between the FREL and the estimation of results from the implementation of activities to reduce emissions from deforestation during the period 2013–2014.

LULUCF experts note that Colombia has ensured consistency between the FREL and the estimation of results from the implementation of the activity on deforestation in 2015–2016 by:

- Using consistent methodologies and data to generate AD on reducing gross emissions from deforestation, based on Colombia's SBYC with same area, forest definition, and the mapping unit of 1 ha;
- Using consistent methodologies and data to generate EF, in particular, by using the same above-ground biomass stock per hectare estimated for the FREL region and the same bioclimatic classification for stratification into the three forest types (tropical rainforest, wet tropical forest and west premontane forest) based on the Holdridge classification system (Holdridge et al., 1971);
- Including the same 2 carbon pools: above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass while noting that deadwood and soil organic carbon pools are not included due to lack of currently available information.

<sup>12</sup> [https://redd.unfccc.int/files/02012019\\_nref\\_colombia\\_v8.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/02012019_nref_colombia_v8.pdf)



- Including the same gas: CO<sub>2</sub> only;
- Covering the same area: Colombian Amazonia biome;
- Using the assumption that all carbon from the two carbon pools (above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass) is lost in the year of the deforestation event;

Differences in the estimations between FREL and BUR2 were reported in the NIR, highlighting the following:

- BUR2 uses losses and gains methodologies (IPCC, 2006), which includes estimations of deforestation and new land uses of areas previously deforested. FREL does not include this approach, as the methodology for typification of deforestation for the period 2000-2012 is not standardized yet. This improvement is in progress and is expected to include this in future reports.
- BUR2 estimated emissions derived from deforestation starting at 1990, while FREL estimation period begins in 2000. This difference determines a change in the annual estimation of gross emissions of the soil stock, because BUR2 included losses of soil carbon for the period 1990-2000.
- BUR2 includes calculation of dead organic matter based on the factors Tier 1 (IPCC 2006). This stock is not included in the FREL since the country has not developed its own factors Tier 2. It is expected to include this component in future reports, once Colombia is able to develop estimations based on the results of the NFI.

(ii) Transparency of the data: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Analysis Report in relation to the transparency of the data and information provided in the technical annex (i.e. whether information has been provided to provide an understanding of how UNFCCC guidance on results reporting has been addressed). Include information on significant issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report and whether these were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan on how to address and overcome issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report, that were not material to the transparency of the data on results and that could not be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

Colombia provides no additional information on this topic but considers this is exhaustively addressed in the technical annex of the BUR and the Technical Analysis Report (TATR). The TATR points out that Colombia provided relevant information regarding AD, EF, methods (protocols), examples of estimations of emission reductions and information on the implementation of actions related to REDD+ including relevant links where more detailed information could be accessed. Additionally, Colombia also provided a detailed spread sheets for calculations, databases, QA/QC procedures, analyses routines, carbon estimation at individual tree, plot and strata levels from field inventory data and the assumptions used in the estimation of the results, which are also available in the FREL and its annexes.

LULUCF experts conclude that Colombia provided the necessary information that would allow for the reconstruction of the results from the implementation of the activity on reducing emissions from deforestation. Hence, data and information provided in the technical annex are considered mostly transparent.

(iii) Completeness of the data: *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Analysis Report in relation to the completeness of the data and information provided in the technical annex (i.e. whether information has been provided that allows for the reconstruction of the results). Include information on significant issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report and whether these were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan on how to address and overcome issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report, that were not material to the completeness of the data on results and that could not be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

Colombia provides no additional information on this topic but considers this is exhaustively addressed in the BUR and TATR technical annex. TATR points out that: Colombia provided the necessary information allowing for the reconstruction of the results from the implementation of activities on deforestation emissions.

The Technical Annex for the results period (2015- 2016) provided by Colombia contains all the necessary data to reproduce the calculation of the results. During the process of TA, the Technical Team of Experts (TTE) was able to reproduce the same results presented by Colombia for the activity to reduce emissions from deforestation in the Amazon Biome as was previous explained in section 2 B (ii). During the TA, the TTE asked for additional information regarding the details of AD and EF used to estimate the results. Colombia responded by issuing the documents with all the requested details. The documents correspond to Annex A, B, C, D submitted with the assessed FREL.

(iv) **Consistency of the data:** *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Analysis Report in relation to the consistency of the data and information provided in the technical annex (i.e. data and methodologies were applied consistently over the results time series). Include information on significant issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report and whether these were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan on how to address and overcome issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report, that were not material to the consistency of the data on results and that could not be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

Colombia provides no additional information on this topic but considers it to be exhaustively addressed in the technical BUR and TAR annex. TATR points out that: *"The data and information provided in the technical annex are considered to be transparent, consistent, complete and accurate, to the extent possible."*

(v) **Accuracy of the data:** *Please provide any additional information that supplements the information contained in the Technical Analysis Report in relation to the accuracy of the data and information provided in the technical annex (i.e. whether it neither over- nor under-estimates emissions and/or removals). Include information on significant issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report and whether these were raised and resolved. If applicable, provide a plan on how to address and overcome issues raised in the Technical Analysis Report, that were not material to the accuracy of the data on results and that could not be resolved due to time and data restrictions.*

The LULUCF experts concluded that results are accurate to the extent possible. Consistent with the observations made in the TATR of Colombia's first set of results, LULUCF experts noted the provision of information on the uncertainty of results as an area for future technical improvement for the Party.

Colombia estimated the error separately for AD and EF as described in the Technical Annex report.

(vi) Indicate the number of years that took place between the last year of the FREL/FRL period, and the year corresponding to the results being proposed for payments:

Two years since the last year of FREL period (ending in 2012) until the onset of the period proposed for compensation (as of 2015).

### B.2.2. Additional criteria related to the achieved results

(vii) **Uncertainties:** *Explain whether the country has provided information on aggregate uncertainties of the results, taking into account national capabilities and circumstances. Include the percentage of aggregate uncertainties and provide information on assumptions and sources. If applicable, indicate the process implemented to minimize systematic and random errors.*

Consistent with the observations made in the technical report of Colombia's TA first set of results, the LULUCF experts noted the provision of information on the uncertainty of results as an area for future technical improvement for Colombia.

Colombia has made progress in estimating the uncertainty associated with AD and EFs and noted that Colombia's regional FREL' submission includes the information on the uncertainty of EFs, providing the information on AD uncertainty in terms of the measurement of error associated with results of deforestation monitoring for 2015 and 2016 of IDEAM (2018). Estimations of aggregate uncertainties were not included in TA of results for 2015 – 2016 (Colombia's technical team was still working on estimations during submission).

On this regard, IDEAM has made estimations of aggregate uncertainty using the methods proposed by IPCC (Eggleston H.S., L., Miwa K., & K., 2006). Method 1 uses simple equations of error propagation and Method 2 uses the Monte Carlo Technic. These simulations were made in the Amazon Biome assuming that each of the components of EF estimation are distributed normally, and making the product in each iteration to obtain the combined distribution. 10,000 (M) simulations were considered in this process. Table 2 presents the results of this simulation:

**Table 2. Estimations of aggregated uncertainty for the Amazon Region (2015-2016)**

Year	AD deforestation	EF	Aggregate uncertainty
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		Area (ha)	Error	cve %	CO <sub>2</sub> e (t/ha)	Error	cve %	Error propagation method %	Monte Carlo method %
	2015	69135	13759	19.9	566.1	10.19	1.8	20	19.7
	2016	72369	6760	9.3	566.1	10.19	1.8	9.5	9.5

(viii) Preventing double payments:

- *Provide information on payments that have been, or are expected to be received from other sources of funding for results recognized by the country for the same area for the same period, for which the country is applying for payments from the GCF.*

**REDD+ Early Movers RBP Project under the Amazon Vision Program (AVP)**

Colombia subscribed an agreement with the Governments of Norway, United Kingdom and Germany, which was structured as a Results-Based REDD+ financial cooperation program in the Colombian Amazon. This agreement is complemented by another specific agreement, which defines among other issues, the details of the assets and services to be financed by the program and the disbursement procedures for the implementation of the Program. This program is being implemented under the umbrella of the Amazon Vision Program <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/en-que-consiste-el-pago-por-resultados/>

The specific agreement, signed in February 2016, established that payments will be conditional to the report, verification, registration and deactivation of the Emissions Reduced (ER) of avoided deforestation referring to 5 years from 2013 to 2017 (section 8.11 of the agreement). Likewise, section 8.4 of this agreement establishes that the REM-VA Program will operate within the framework of the Forest Emission Reference Level (NREF) that Colombia submitted to the UNFCCC establishing that only ER will be remunerated below the historical average of gross deforestation (82,883 ha / year). For the carbon content, the NREF uses a value of 154.3 t C/ha for the forests of the reference region, which represents an emission factor of 566.1 t CO<sub>2</sub>e /ha.

The agreement included the implementation of a risk mechanism; this risk mechanism considered that for each ton of rewarded emission reductions, an additional ton had to be deactivated/cancelled. The government of Colombia and REM agreed on the step-wise and continuous improvement of monitoring systems to mitigate these risks and to review the mechanism. Thus, for 2016, following the successful implementation of a MRV roadmap to reduce the uncertainty in the estimations, the government of Colombia and REM agreed that for each ton of rewarded emission reductions, 0.9 ton will be deactivated/cancelled.

As established in the agreement, the Colombian government has reported emission reductions under REDD Early Movers (REM) initiative<sup>13</sup>, including results achieved by Colombia in the Emissions Reduction derived from Deforestation in the Amazon biome for the periods 2013 - 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

In order to ensure transparency with the emission reductions offered and paid, the Colombian government made public, all the emission reductions reports with their respective independent verification reports and the registry of the emissions reductions between 2013-2015 and the official communication payments of the REM program. These documents can be found in the following link:

- Emission reduction report 2013- 2014:  
[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2017/09/20160916\\_Reporte\\_REs-REM2013-2014\\_inclAnnex1.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2017/09/20160916_Reporte_REs-REM2013-2014_inclAnnex1.pdf)
- Emission reduction report 2015:  
[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/01/Reporte\\_REs-REM2015\\_09262018.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/01/Reporte_REs-REM2015_09262018.pdf)
- Emission reduction report 2016:

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/PDF/Entwicklungsfinanzierung/Themen-NEU/REM-Colombia-agreement-resumen\\_english\\_final.pdf](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/PDF/Entwicklungsfinanzierung/Themen-NEU/REM-Colombia-agreement-resumen_english_final.pdf)



[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/1.b.-Reporte\\_REs-REM2016\\_vFINAL.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/1.b.-Reporte_REs-REM2016_vFINAL.pdf)

- Verification report 2013-2014:  
[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2017/09/REM\\_Colombia\\_2013\\_14\\_InformeVerificacion.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2017/09/REM_Colombia_2013_14_InformeVerificacion.pdf)
- Verification report 2015:  
[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/01/GHG\\_REM\\_Colombia\\_2015\\_Ver\\_Report\\_03122018.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/01/GHG_REM_Colombia_2015_Ver_Report_03122018.pdf)
- Verification report 2016:  
[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/1.a.-SCS\\_REM\\_Colombia\\_2016\\_InformeVerificacion\\_vFINAL.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/1.a.-SCS_REM_Colombia_2016_InformeVerificacion_vFINAL.pdf)

- *Include relevant information regarding the payments paid or expected to be paid, including the year(s), results volume in tCO<sub>2</sub>e, quantities for which payments were received/are expected to be received, and entity/entities paying for the results as well as any type of agreement involved.*

### **Payments received:**

Additionally to the RBP from the REM Program that Colombia is implementing under the AVP umbrella for 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, Colombia has received payments from one project of the voluntary market that covers areas of the Amazon and Orinoquia regions. In the Table 3 are presented the payments received by Colombia for the emissions reduced in the Amazon region for 2015 and 2016:

**Table 3. Payments received by Colombia for emissions reduced in the Amazon (2015-2016)**

Year	2015	2016
ER Against FREL Amazon Biome (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	19,365,885	12,109,049
ERP – REM (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	4,441,449	3,594,968
ERP voluntary market project (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	3,548,786	293,023

Additionally, the amount of 7.676.921 ERs deactivated correspond to the implementation of a risk mechanism included in the agreement. It was calculated in the following way:

2015		2016	
ER Rewarded	ER for Risk Mechanism (1:1)	ER Rewarded	ER for Risk Mechanism (1:0.9)
4.441.449	4.441.449	3,594,968	3.235.471

Therefore, the ERs Rewarded and the ERs for the risk mechanism are both deactivated/cancelled in RENARE. Once ERs are deactivated /cancelled, the holder will not be able to transfer them in favor of any other natural or legal person, neither be used to opt for results based payments or for a similar compensation again (paragraph 1 article 17, Resolution 1447 of 2018, see section F.1.6 for further information on legal framework).

Colombia is not expecting other payments from the REM-AVP, as in the year 2017 there were no results and the ER agreement includes just the period 2013-2017. During 2017, deforestation in Colombia raised to 219,973 ha, an increase of 23% compared with the deforestation reported for the year 2016.

As referred in the FREL, the peace talks between Colombia's government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) would be an important incentive for deforestation in the region. In the FREL, Colombia warned potential negative consequences of the post conflict period on forests, mainly due to access to areas and the lack of planning for the sustainable development of these territories. In the last five years deforestation in Colombia has been concentrated in the departments of Caquetá, Meta and Guaviare, involving municipalities where the armed conflict

have had important consequences. This impact of post-conflict is also evidenced in other deforestation hotspots such as Serranía de San Lucas (Antioquia and Bolívar) and Catatumbo (Norte de Santander). According to the SMCYC deforestation is less in areas such as National Natural Parks and community lands.

Cabrera et al. 2019<sup>14</sup>, reported that areas with the greatest forest presence and threats of deforestation are located in small- and medium-sized municipalities (up to 100,000 inhabitants), where the end of the conflict would surely increase its development at expenses of the removal of vast areas covered by natural forests. Even in the most environmentally optimistic post conflict scenario, it can be expected that at least during a transitional period, the first economic benefits at the end of the conflict will come from the abundant natural assets available in the region. In this context of accelerated economic growth, forests will continue to be one of the most affected resources.

Information on payments received from the REM program are publicly available in the following links:

- <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/07/Oficio-KFW-desembolso-1.pdf>
- <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/05/Oficio-KfW-Emissiones-desembolso-2.pdf>
- <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/05/Oficio-KFW-Emissiones-desembolso-3.pdf>
- <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/05/Oficio-KfW-Emissiones-desembolso-4.pdf>
- **RENARE:** <http://renare.siac.gov.co/GPY-web/#!/ingresar>

- *Provide sufficient assurances that the results that have been paid, or are expected to be paid for by other sources (or are under any type of analogous agreement) been excluded from the volume offered to the GCF.*
- *Provide a description of measures to ensure that the results paid by the GCF will not be transferred, offered for future payment or otherwise used (for example for offsets) and information on how the results proposed for payment by the GCF will be treated or used.*

***Instruments and mechanisms to increase transparency and avoid double payment:***

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS acronym in Spanish) is the national government entity in charge to regulate the management of the environment and natural resources in the territory and as such represents the Government, by having the right to claim ER titles. According to article 1, Decree 3570/2011 - the MADS is in charge of the management of environmental and renewable natural resources, responsible for guiding and regulating the environment and management of the territory (...). The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is also responsible for directing the National Environmental System -SINA-, organized in accordance with Law 99 of 1993, to ensure the adoption and execution of the respective policies, plans, programs and projects, in order to ensure compliance of the duties and rights of the State and of individuals in relation to the environment and the natural heritage of the Nation. Article 2 states that in addition to the functions determined by Constitution, article 59 of law 489/1998 and other laws, the MADS will (...) exercise the inspection and surveillance of the Regional Autonomous Corporations (...).

By the Resolution 1447/2018 of the MADS, Colombia regulated the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System, specifically the instruments related to accounting of GHG emissions reductions and removals, and the National Registry of GHG emission reductions. This regulation applies to all those interested in registering GHG mitigation initiatives or projects, and claiming for results-based payments or similar compensations, as well as those interested in registering initiatives that contribute to the national goals of emissions reductions. The MADS has the right to opt for results-based payments by registering in the RENARE the emission reductions achieved on the Amazon biome for the period 2013 – 2016 against the sub national FREL assessed by the UNFCCC. According to the resolution 1447, the

<sup>14</sup> Cabrera E., G. Galindo, J. González, L. Vergara, C. Forero, A. Cubillos, J. Espejo, J. Rubiano, X. Corredor, L. Hurtado, D. Vargas, A. Duque. 2019- Colombian Forest Monitoring System: Assessing Deforestation in an Environmental Complex Country. DOI: 10.5772/intechopen.86143C

reduced emissions accredited by the MADS within the framework of national or sub-national GHG emission reduction programs will not have a competing claim by no other party

One of the instruments regulated by this legislation is the National Registry of GHG Emissions Reductions (RENARE), which is a technological platform (part of the MRV system) developed with the purpose of managing information of all GHG mitigation initiatives at a national level (<http://renare.siac.gov.co>). The Resolution states that all those mitigation initiatives being formulated or implemented in the national territory must be registered in the RENARE platform (More information about RENARE is included in the Annex 1). Initiatives that must be registered are:

1. GHG mitigation programs: NAMAs, REDD+ programs, low-carbon development programs.
2. Programs and projects implemented under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), low-carbon development projects, and REDD+ projects
3. Other initiatives of GHG mitigation defined by the MADS or under the GHG mitigations mechanisms of the UNFCCC.

Currently, RENARE is in the starting phase, thus in the meantime, Colombia implemented an *Interim Registry*, which was developed in order to report reduced ER as well as the payments received; both sources of information will be available while the starting phase is finalized. Below is the link for accessing this registry, which includes information of payments, received in the years 2013, 2014, and 2015. The report, including 2016 payments is already developed and in process of publication.

Interim accounting registry REDD+ results:

[http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro\\_interino2013-2016.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf)

RENARE:

<http://renare.siac.gov.co/GPY-web/#!/ingresar>

Following national regulations, payments received from GCF will be registered in the national registry (RENARE) for public access and as a measure of transparency. It is important to highlight that the Interim Registry is also the instrument that Colombia agreed to use with the REM to report emissions reduction and payments.

Regarding risks management, as part of the REM agreement Colombia agreed on a mechanism to address risks of leaks out of the reference area, non-permanence and uncertainties. Thus, in order to reduce these risks Colombia must deactivate for each unit of ER paid by the REM Program another verified ER unit of the same year, as an own contribution. Units of own contribution will also be registered to avoid double accountability. It was agreed that this arrangement would be revised every year during the implementation of the project, after the verification. If Colombia has implemented measures of the MRV improvement road to reduce uncertainty and improve data exactitude, Colombia could reduce its own contribution up to 15%. If measures taken are effective reducing uncertainty and improving exactitude the own contribution could be reduced up to 25%. According to this mechanisms Colombia's own contribution was 100% in 2015, which was reduced to 90% in 2016.

- *Provide information on how different financing contributed to the achieved results.*

### **Projects and programs contributing to achieve results**

During the process of developing of the EICDGB, Colombia received technical and financial cooperation from a number of international cooperation initiatives. These initiatives provided support in enabling conditions such as: formulation of the EICDGB and implementation of the consultation process, design and implementation of GHG monitoring systems and other instruments, development of regulations to support the implementation of REDD+ instruments and projects, formulation and implementation of projects aimed at reducing deforestation in the Amazon region, among other activities relevant to achieve results. Initiatives implemented include:

- 1- UN REDD Program implemented by UNDP, FAO and UN Environmental in close coordination with the MADS and national institutes.
- 2- Forest Carbon Partnership (FCPF) implemented by Fondo Acción.
- 3- REDD+ Forest and Climate Protection Program implemented by GIZ.

4. Amazon Vision Program AVP: As an umbrella program this initiative is negotiated by the Government of Colombia aimed at reducing deforestation in the Amazon Region. The program includes four relevant projects including this REDD+ RBP project.

4.1 GEF-Heart of the Amazon Project: funded with resources from the Global environmental Facility and managed by the World Bank (WB).

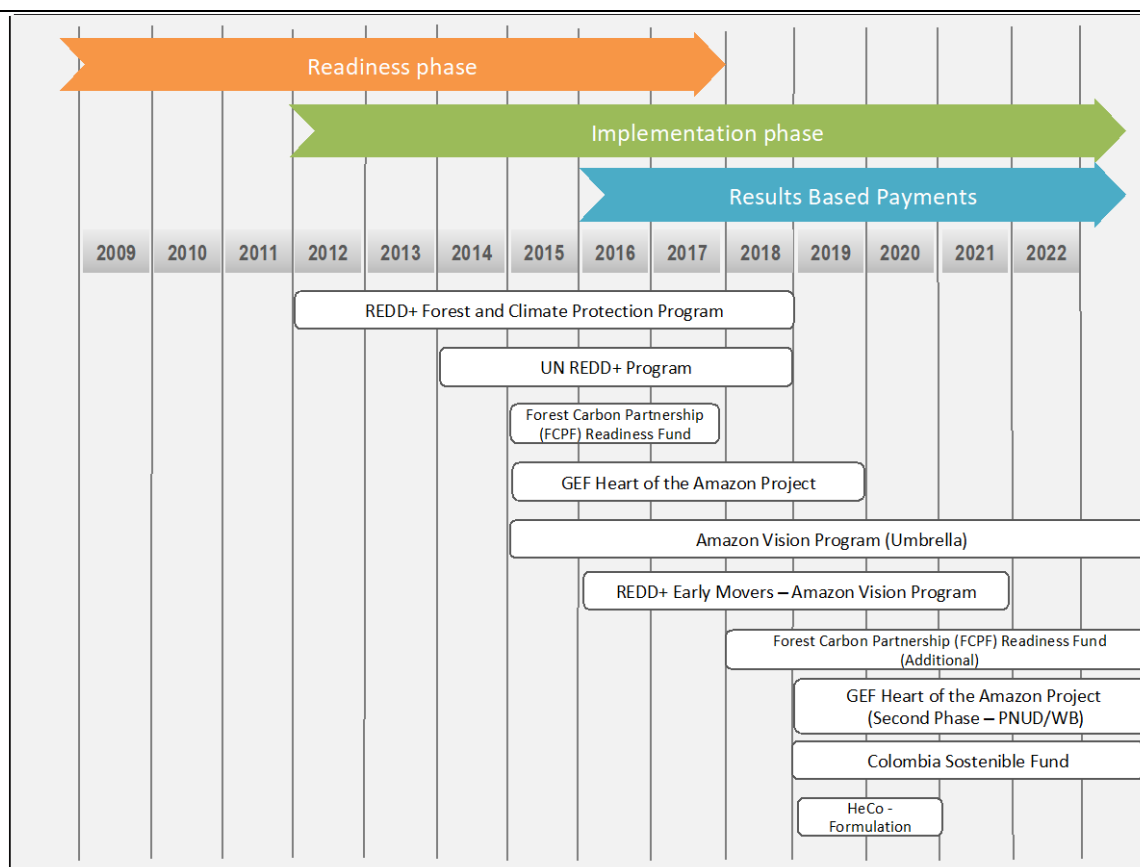
4.2 Connectivity and Biodiversity Conservation in the Colombian Amazon (child project): conceived as additional funding to complement activities of the Heart of the Amazon Project and to encourage specific strategies to promote low-emissions rural development in the Amazon. The project has two main components, the first targeted to improve governance and promote sustainable land use activities (implemented by World Bank), and the second to promote rural development with a landscape and peace building approach (being implemented by UNDP under the name of Amazonia Sostenible para la Paz).

4.3 REM – Amazon Vision Program (AVP): as described before this is a REM project funded by the Governments of UK, Norway and Germany and is the only Results-Based project that is being implemented in the Amazon.

It is important to highlight that under the umbrella of the AVP, Colombia has made efforts to align other international cooperation projects in order to ensure that sustainable development approaches are promoted in the region and that joint international cooperation actions contribute to the achievement of results.

Colombia Sustainable Fund: Funded by the international community, this mechanism was developed to support the execution of projects and the implementation of programs to consolidate peace in Colombia with environmental sustainability. The Fund is managed by the International Development Bank (IDB) and started implementation in 2019 through specific calls for projects that involve sustainable development objectives. It is expected that projects supported under this fund will also contribute to reduce deforestation and GHG emissions in the region.

Herencia Colombia (HeCo): A program designed with the objective of contributing to the achievement of Colombian goals to conserve and increase protected areas and guarantee their integration into landscapes and sectors. The Program will operate through the design and subsequent implementation of a long term financing model for the National System of Protected Areas- SINAP. This initiative is being executed with international cooperation resources and an allocation of Colombia's Carbon Tax. Under the umbrella of this initiative, Colombia proposed a project to the Green Climate Fund to generate significant mitigation and adaptation benefits based on establishing a sinking fund to be drawn upon for milestone-based payments tied to policy, institutional, and management reforms. During the design process, HeCo is prioritizing landscapes for intervention at the national level, including the Amazon Region with the objective of complementing efforts of the AVP and consequently align the investments that will be made with resources of the Green Climate Fund.



**Figure 1. Financial support sources along the different REDD+ phases.**

(ix) Tracking emissions reductions: *Indicate whether the achieved results are included in a registry or similar system that tracks emissions reductions and corresponding payments, and ensures that there is no past or future double payment or use of such results, including information to identify the area where the results were achieved, the entity eligible to receive payment, year(s) generated, source(s) of payments received, and identifying code, where possible. Provide the link or information where to find the registry or similar system*

As described above (viii), the achieved results are tracked in the interim registry prepared by the MADS with the technical support of IDEAM and in the RENARE platform. In 2015, Colombia (Article 175, Law 1753) has mandated the creation of the National Registry of Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions – RENARE (see section F.1.6 for further information on the legal framework). RENARE includes the national registry of REDD+ programs and projects as well as the provisions for result payments rights holders.

In order to track REDD+ Projects or Programs, the information that must be provided at each stage of the project (feasibility, formulation, implementation and closing) includes i) identification of areas where results were achieved; ii) the entity eligible to receive payment; iii) the year when ERs were generated; iv) the source of results-based payments received; and v) the identification number of the ER (see in the annex 10 the automated certification generated in RENARE for the Amazon Vision Program). MADS launched the technological platform in October 2019 to present and socialize the mechanism with potential users and the RENARE can be consulted in the following link: <http://renare.siac.gov.co/GPY-web/#/ingresar>.

The current status of the implementation of the RENARE platform can be summarized in two phases as follows:

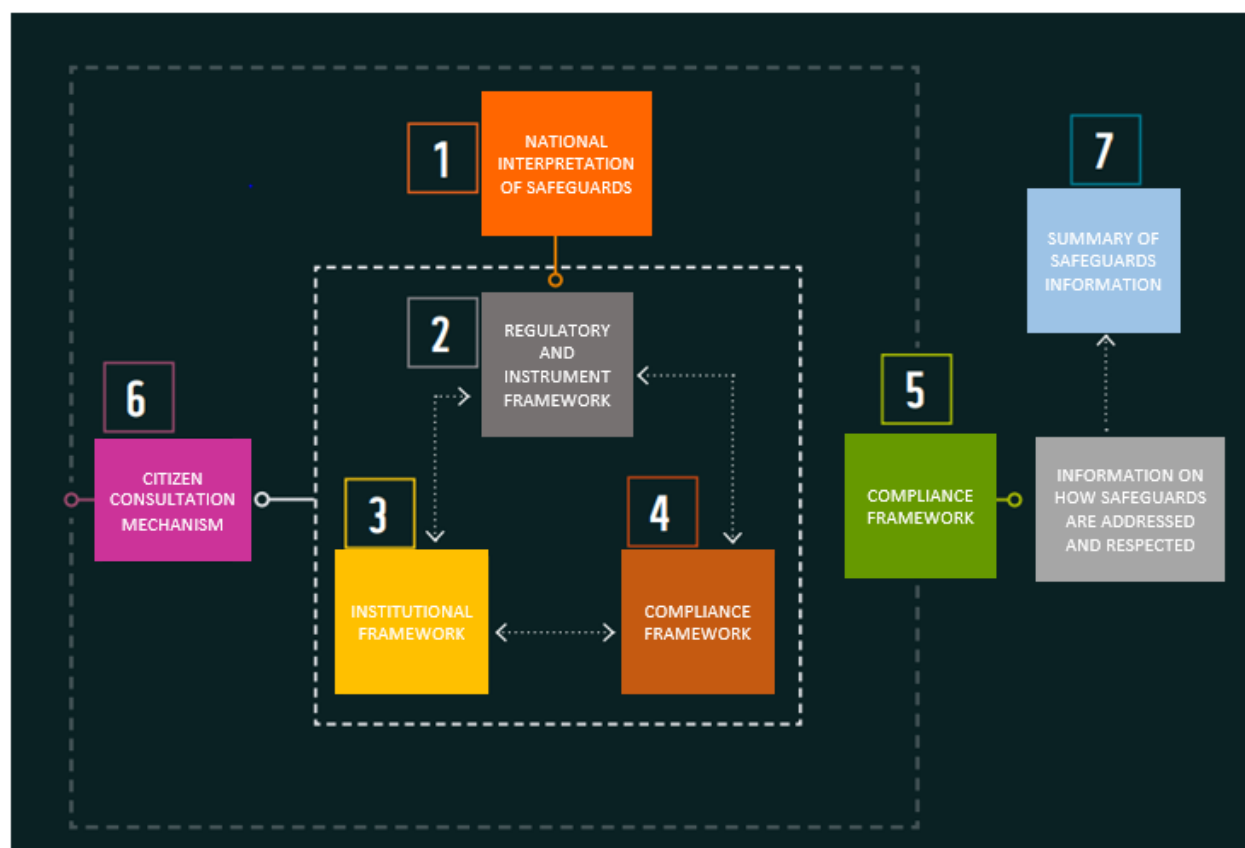
- A first phase of testing and stabilization, in which the RENARE technology platform is made available to the public, in accordance with the provisions of Article 53 of Resolution 1447 of 2018 and during which citizens are invited to request the creation of its registration users to start the registration of the initiatives.
- A second phase of the platform's entry into operation, in which users will be able to load the respective information, once they have obtained their users and passwords for the registration in the first phase. The

The achieved results and the quantity of ERs for which payment is already received along with the entity paying for results is included also in the UNFCCC REDD+ Info Hub (<https://redd.unfccc.int/info-hub.html>).

Please provide link to the summary on information on safeguards:  
[https://redd.unfccc.int/uploads/2\\_223\\_segundo\\_resumen\\_de\\_salvaguardas.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/uploads/2_223_segundo_resumen_de_salvaguardas.pdf)

**C.1.1. Compliance with Cancun safeguards.** Please provide any additional information that supplements the information included in the “summary of information on safeguards” that allows understanding how each of the safeguards below was addressed and respected in the full period during which results were generated in a way that ensures transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness:

- Colombia has created and implemented a [National System of Safeguards](#) (SNS in Spanish) that includes five essential aspects; i) understanding of the seven Cancun safeguards according to national circumstances; ii) consolidation of the national legal and institutional framework; iii) implementation of tracking tools; iv) engagement of the Safeguard Information System (SIS in Spanish) and; v) reporting mechanisms and continuous improvement.



**Figure 2. Diagram of the National System of Safeguards of Colombia**



In order to address this safeguard Colombia has accomplished as follows:

i) Understanding: From the seven Cancun Safeguards, Colombia has defined 15 elements adapted to the national context ([National Understanding of Social and Environmental Safeguards for REDD+ in Colombia](#)). Cancun's A safeguard refers to the element A1- Correspondence with forest, biodiversity and climate change international agreements signed by Colombia (letters correspond to the Cancun label and numbers to the consecutive national assignment).

The understanding of element A1 is based on the "[Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management](#)" (EICDGB in Spanish) launched in 2018 by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS), which represents the REDD+ National Strategy. The EICDGB constitutes a bridge between green growth and climate change national policies in support to implementation of the international agreements ratified by the country.

The EICDGB is consistent with the National Climate Change Policy (PNCC in Spanish), the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services (PNGIBSE in Spanish), the policy document of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP in Spanish) CONPES 3680, the Policy of Sustainable Soil Management (PGSS in Spanish), the National Restoration Plan (PNR in Spanish), and the National Forestry Development Plan (PNDF in Spanish).

ii) Legal and institutional framework: The legal baseline for REDD+ was prepared taking into account the national regulatory framework, where the scope of application and the subjects of rights were identified. This baseline was consolidated in a matrix and a document that contains the [regulatory framework for REDD+ social and environmental safeguards](#) in Colombia.

Under A1 safeguard and the EICDGB policy framework, the relevant international agreements signed by Colombia are:

- **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**, notably the Kyoto Protocol ratified by Law 629 of 2000;
- **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance**,
- **Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)** approved by Law 357 of 1997 and Nagoya Protocol approved by Law 1926 of 2018;
- **International Tropical Timber Agreement**, approved by Law 664 of 1998
- **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNCCD)**, approved by Law 461 of 1998;
- **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora** approved by Law 17 of 1981 and;
- **Andean Decision 391** adopted by Law 165 of 1994.

Every four years, the Government of Colombia agrees on a National Development Plan (NDP), which provides the strategic public policies guidelines formulated by the President and its government-team. The NDP also defines the environmental goals and provides an agenda for the national environmental policies for a four year period. The past National Development Plan 2014-2018 (Law 1753 of 2015) achieved the design and establishment of the EICDGB and developed the National Safeguard System (SNS). Both instruments recognize the environmental and social safeguards for Colombia as a means to materialize the Cancun agreements of the UNFCCC.

In order to **respect** this safeguard Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: Within the SNS Colombia has implemented the Tracking Protocol for Safeguards that addresses and tracks each safeguard. This protocol includes structural, process and result indicators for the design and implementation of REDD+ actions at national, regional and local levels.

Referring to this safeguard, the Protocol proposes three tracking mechanisms that aim to incorporate commitments and mandates from National environmental policies, especially the EICDGB. At the national level, the tracking mechanism 1.1 – “the EICDGB incorporates international commitments and obligations acquired by Colombia related to forests, biodiversity, land and climate change” and 1.2 “number of actions of the EICDGB that incorporates international commitments and obligations acquired by Colombia related to forests, biodiversity, land and climate change” are verified with:



- National reports elaborated to comply with international commitments.
- [EICDGB](#)'s action lines and goals in chapters 6 and 7
- Online repository of deforestation information in the [documentation centers of the Colombian Environmental Information System](#).
- Annual reports of monitoring and evaluation of National environmental policies.
- Annual reports of the entities of the National Environmental System (SINA in Spanish).

At the regional and local levels, the tracking mechanism 1.3 "Number of actions of REDD+ initiatives that contribute to the implementation of the EICDGB" is verified with the elaboration of regional plans, such as the Operative Annual Plans (POAs in Spanish) in municipalities, projects etc.

iv) Operationalization of SIS: The EICDGB includes a monitoring and evaluation component that is carried out through:

1. A results framework to monitor the progress of the proposed activities included in the lines of action. This is based on indicators and means of verification.
2. Existing instruments for Forest Monitoring; Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC in Spanish), National Forest Information System (SNIF in Spanish) and National Forest Inventory (IFN in Spanish); seek to assess the effectiveness of the implemented actions and to inform results in reducing deforestation.
3. The Measurement/Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (M/MRV), which was design to allow standardization of monitoring, measurement, collection, data management and results reporting processes, necessary to demonstrate compliance with national and international goals and commitments, as well as to ensure the quality and consistency of the reported data. In essence, the M/MRV depends on the SMBYC, SNIF, IFN and the National Inventory of GHG (INGEI in Spanish), tools that are operating and generate the information of national reports (NDC, National Communications, BUR, FREL, etc.).

On the other hand, during 2015 and 2016 the country designed the National Registry of Emissions of REDD+ Programs and Projects, included in the National Registry of GHG Reduction (RENARE in Spanish). It establishes clear accounting rules for public and private initiatives at the regional and national levels.

- (ii) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty.

In order to **address** this safeguard Colombia has accomplished the following:

i) Understanding: this safeguard integrates four elements (letter/number code corresponds to the Cancun safeguard label and the number, to the consecutive national assignment):

- **B2. Transparency and access to Information:** As far as possible, it must be ensured that REDD+ information is transparent, accessible, available (including open data) to every stakeholder, as well as complete, clear and easy to understand for local communities . Communication channels are workshops, dialogue forums, documents booklets, internet, radio, television or the Citizen Grievance Mechanism (MAC in Spanish, as part of the SNS); however the most suitable mechanisms must be defined for each particular case according to the information needs and circumstances.
- **B3. Tracking safeguards:** Institutions and actors must submit reports to stakeholders on their REDD+ initiatives, including information on how they address and respect safeguards. Stakeholders involved are committed to attending the informative sessions and reports must be public and accessible to all of them.
- **B4. Recognition of forest governance structures:** REDD+ actions must be developed according to the existing forest governance provided by the national (National REDD+ board), regional and local (forest boards) environmental policies. Weak governance structures must be strengthened to ensure an effective decision-making process. The national regulatory framework establishes hierarchies and functions in the National Environmental System (Law 99 de 1993), indicating the following descending order: Ministry of Environment, Regional Autonomous Corporations, Departments and Districts or Municipalities. At the national level there are other different coordination mechanisms and national, regional and local institutional arrangements, which support decisions-making related to forest governance and management, including measures and actions to reduce deforestation:

1. National Environmental Council

2. REDD+ National Board
3. Intersectoral Commission on Climate Change and Technical Committees (Currently Conaldef).
4. National Forest Board
5. Climate Change Regional Nodes
6. Regional Forest Boards: Putumayo, Caquetá, Amazonas, Guaviare
7. Regional Land Management Commissions
8. Territorial planning councils
9. Regional Environmental Councils of Macro-basins
10. Basin councils

Local and traditional systems are involved at the national level through the National Environmental Council, the REDD+ National Board, the Forest Board and the structure of the Conaldef. At the regional level local organizations, indigenous peoples and other ethnic groups or civil society participants are invited to participate in the regional nodes of climate, regional forest boards and other structures listed above (6 – 10). Additionally the National Safeguards System involves Community Action Meetings (JAC in Spanish) to facilitate the dialogue among stakeholders and establish mechanisms to strengthen forest governance at the local level, such as local forest working-tables or tracking action committees.

· **B5.Capacity building:** The strengthening of the technical, legal, management and governance capacities of all stakeholders must be guaranteed, so that the Parties can document and make informed decisions.

ii) Legal and institutional framework: Colombian legal framework for the elements B2 and B3 is comprised of the National Constitution of 1991 (Art. 2, 13, 20, 38 and 80), which grants the fundamental right of access to public information and other binding instruments such as: mechanisms of information request under constitutional rights, public procedures and expenditure auditing and third party intervention in administrative proceedings.

In addition, the forest governance structure (B4) is legally addressed firstly by the National Environmental System (SINA) led by the MADS. The SINA is comprised of 33 regional and six urban autonomous authorities and, five scientific research institutes. These institutions are responsible for the implementation of the national forest management strategies, which includes the forest policy, the forest resource management regime and consequently, the implementation of REDD+ initiatives. In compliance with the Colombian forest regulation, the Government defined the instruments for ecosystems planning and management and established participation and discussion spaces on national forest reserves and zoning of protected areas .

In Colombia the information on protected areas, such as management plans and geolocation/zoning characteristics, is publicly accessible and is compiled in the [National Protected Areas Registry](#) (RUNAP in Spanish) under the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP in Spanish), which includes public and private governance schemes for all the different protection categories.

Other communication instances between the government and local and ethnic communities have been established in the National Climate System (SISCLIMA in Spanish), the cross-sectoral Commission for Control of Deforestation and the integral management of the Permanent Consultation Board of Indigenous Communities, the Amazon Indigenous Board, the Environment and Rights board of Afro communities and the Environment and Climate Change Board of Indigenous communities (MIACC in Spanish).

Finally, the Capacity Building element (B5) is aligned to the national regulation of SINA's entities, which defines roles to strengthen capacities of communities through training and communication programs to promote greater knowledge of general environmental issues. Particularly, capacities on REDD+ are necessary to enhance and facilitate the informed, documented and analyzed decision-making processes of the local and ethnic communities. On this regard, the EICDGB has an action line focused on strengthening capacities for decision-making of local communities and institutional capacity building to respond in a timely manner to difficulties associated to monitoring and enforcement of deforestation prevention.

In order to **respect** this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: Within the SNS Colombia has developed procedures to measure and track safeguards, particularly the [AVP, which](#) established the following processes and tools to uphold this safeguard:

- Adoption of guidelines for the formulation and implementation of projects that include information and standard procedures for addressing risks. Local environmental authorities and other actors in the territories can apply these guidelines. The guidelines cover:
  - Guide to good governance for Projects;
  - Protocol to involve authorities and other local actors;
  - Free, Prior and Informed Consent Protocol;
  - Check-list for the application of the gender approach;
  - Possible measures to prevent leaks and non-permanence in REDD+ projects and programs;
  - Guide for addressing biodiversity and ecosystem services
  - Checklist for compliance with the legal framework
- Consideration of new criteria of good practices for the actions already carried out by the program.
- Implementation of new activities or complementary processes to those foreseen in the program.

To monitor the implementation of safeguards, Colombia combines checklist sheets, a set of risk management indicators, and a mechanism of complaints and grievances addressed by the dialogue platforms with civil society and other stakeholders.

The information provided by this monitoring system is consolidated to provide feedback on the annual operational planning, and adjust and improve its implementation. In cases where anticipated risks or unforeseen impacts have been manifested, a process of impact analysis and/or corresponding risks is applied, as well as re-definition, extension or refinement of safeguard measures.

iv) Operationalization of SIS: training was carried out during 2015 to 2016:

- The National REDD+ School: three courses were taught and 132 people from indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, rural organizations and public institutions at national and regional level were trained.
- 11 capacity building workshops and technical exchanges were carried out between IDEAM and indigenous, black and rural community organizations strengthened in community forest management, in which 18 community based organizations participated.
- Eight events of REDD+ actions and forest monitoring with 85 participants from indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, local organizations and public institutions of the national level were developed.
- 39 events contributed to improving the knowledge and capabilities of public institutions and spaces for capacity transfer and strengthening.
- Five expert meetings and six webinars promoted by the United Nations agencies.
- 19 training events aimed at indigenous and Afro-descendant organizations in the country in which 523 leaders participated.
- 44 Community Councils and territorial ethnic afrocolombian organizations of the Pacific improved their knowledge on climate change and REDD+.

- (iii) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Comments: In order to **address** this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

i) Understanding: In order to attain this safeguard in the Colombian context, the national government has defined four elements that fully guarantee its implementation in the territory (the letter/number codes correspond to Cancun safeguard labels, and numbers to the consecutive national assignment):

- C6. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (CLPI in Spanish): When an intervention may impact one or more ethnic groups the national consultation mechanisms such as, free, prior and informed consent, established in the legislation and jurisprudence, have to be applied. Implementation of REDD+ actions that involve ethnic communities must guarantee the rights of communities to effectively participate in decision-making processes, under the regulatory framework rights protection. This implies the generation of information and dialogue and joint construction processes. In addition, decision-making spaces must be created respecting the autonomy of people in the management of their territories..

· C7. Respect for Traditional Knowledge: traditional knowledge systems and visions of ethnic and local communities in territories are recognized, respected and promoted, in accordance to the national legislation and in compliance with international conventions. When any initiative to reduce deforestation is deployed, the cultures of inhabitants in the territories must be fully respected so that their traditions, uses and customary practices of the communities are not affected. The actions derived from the EICDBG must promote a differential approach that respect and promote their visions and customs. In particular, policies, measures and actions (PAM in Spanish) must be designed jointly with communities, incorporating, recognizing and respecting their knowledge, traditional practices and traditional knowledge systems.

· C8. Benefit distribution: The fair and equitable participation and distribution of the benefits generated by PAM to reduce deforestation among ethnic and local communities, and all those benefits derived from traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices, must be guaranteed. In practice, the implementation of REDD+ actions must integrate knowledge and understanding of all types of benefits -whether economic, social, cultural or ecosystem- in order to ensure they are fairly and equitably distributed. If necessary, rules or mechanisms should be created.

· C9. Territorial Rights: The collective and individual territorial rights of ethnic and local communities are respected as well as their uses and cultural, economic and spiritual significance. The development of PAMs must recognize and respect the communities' rights and their territories. Therefore it is necessary to identify the forms of land tenure in the areas expected to implement REDD+ measures and actions and make decisions accordingly. During the EICDBG formulation process ethnic communities highlighted that forest degradation and deforestation processes are related to land tenure and use conflicts, which affect governability of indigenous peoples, afro-descendant communities and community councils. Although it should be considered that PAMs will not solve the problems associated with land tenure, the EICDBG includes measures to promote harmonization of planning instruments of sectoral development and territorial planning and implement specific instruments to resolve and avoid conflicts of land use and tenure, specifically in protected areas, deforestation hotspots and forest management areas (e.g. multipurpose cadaster, zoning, and land planning, strengthen land formalization processes). The EICDBG also proposes elements to improve conditions of use and management of the territory in areas of deforestation and forest conservation, including specific provisions to recognize and strengthen governance in collective territories and respect traditional practices, uses, and cultural, economic and spiritual significance of the territories. In the specific case of overlap between protected areas and indigenous territories lands, the National Parks Unit is implementing a Special Management Regime, which was conceived as planning and management instruments for areas with overlap. The Regime is materialized in specific Use and Management Agreements between the National Parks Unit and indigenous authorities that recognize strategic principles and guidelines of the Policy of Social Participation of Indigenous Peoples of Colombia in Conservation.

ii) Legal and institutional framework: The four elements of this safeguard are recognized under 26 legal instruments (policies, laws, and international commitments, among others) to guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, regarding prior consultation, traditional knowledge and territorial rights. The main legal instruments are listed below:

1. "ILO Convention 169 and the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples", adopted by Law 21 of 1991, is the main reference of the current regulation on the protection of ethnic communities, and support of the special constitutional norms and legal in territorial planning, ownership and participation. This law recognizes and clarifies the close relationship of indigenous people with their lands as fundamental bases of their cultures, their integrity and their economic survival. In Colombia, under ILO Convention 169, the pronouncements of the Constitutional Court and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, it is clear the need to consult ethnic communities for the development of REDD+ projects in the extent to which these projects directly affect the communities in forests where the projects will be developed.

2. Political Constitution of Colombia "articles 2, 7, 63, paragraph article 330, article 93 and transitory 55" The rights to consultation and participation are related to the right to information, dialogue and joint construction, in addition to the generation of spaces for decision-making, where the autonomy of indigenous peoples and black communities in the management of their territories is respected. In this sense, information on REDD+ projects or initiatives and any participation process must be based on information guaranteed through this safeguard and the four elements that compose it.

3. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted in 2007, recognizes the spiritual relationship between indigenous peoples and their land; It also recognizes the right they possess to the lands they have traditionally occupied, and to own and control the resources they own. Colombia recognizes the high ethnic diversity of indigenous peoples with their different cultural expressions that contribute to the preservation and maintenance of knowledge, innovations and practices incorporating traditional lifestyles, which have also been fundamental for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. This has been recognized in the 1991 Constitution, which states that Colombia is a multicultural and multi-ethnic nation with particular norms for the benefit of indigenous people.

4. The Policy for the Safeguarding of the Cultural and Intangible Heritage seeks to guarantee and promote respect for the intangible cultural heritage of communities, groups or individuals; awareness at the local, national and international level on the importance of the recognition of intangible cultural heritage and international cooperation and assistance to make effective the safeguard, which has normative instruments that developed it as Decree 2941 of 2009.

5. Law 152 of 1994 regulates development planning in Colombia, which requires that afro-descendant and indigenous communities must effectively participate in planning processes as a mechanism for guaranteeing their rights. In addition, mechanisms are provided for afro-descendant and indigenous communities to carry out development planning in their territories, through life plans, ethno-development plans and internal management regulations. These territorial development and land management decisions must also be incorporated into the planning instruments of the territorial entities.

6. Jurisprudence (CCC, C-891/02) has also indicated that citizen participation has developed as a two-way issue between the offer of opportunities and the popular receptivity of spaces, scenarios and mechanisms of participation. The legitimacy of a REDD+ project depends on the decisions of the communities being based on the understanding of the project and respect for the deliberative and organizational instances (developers of REDD+ projects must guarantee these two) as part of compliance and respect for the safeguarding of forest governance.

7. Orders 004 and 005 of the Constitutional Court, define that prior consultation must be carried out when the design and implementation of the Program for the Guarantee of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is carried out and ethnic safeguard plans are established before the armed conflict and forced displacement, for each of the indigenous peoples indicated by the Constitutional Court. In the case of the Afro-Colombian population, the preservation of cultural heritage in areas inhabited mostly by this population must be guaranteed through the design and implementation of specific protection and care plans for each of the Afro-Colombian communities in a situation of displacement and confinement and the characterization plan of the collective and ancestral territories is carried out.

In order to **respect** this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: the management of benefits and risks of EICDGB implementation sustains the four elements of this safeguard. Colombia developed the National Safeguards System (SNS) and its components, which includes the national interpretation of the safeguards of the UNFCCC to the national circumstances, and the risk and benefit analysis tool. The EICDGB is also supported by a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA in Spanish) and the corresponding [Environmental and Social Management Framework](#) (MGAS in Spanish).

The MGAS was developed for the GEF Amazon Heart project (pilot of the AVP), which seeks to increase effectiveness in the management of protected areas, starting with the expansion in an area close to 1.5 million hectares of the Serranía de Chiribiquete National Natural Park. The MGAS establishes the principles, norms, guidelines and procedures for the environmental and social management of the project. In particular, this tool offers four relevant mechanisms for the protection of knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples:

- The [Procedures Framework](#) (Annex 5a) defines participation processes of members of rural communities in the i) design and planning of national and regional protected areas (Resolution 1125 of 2015); ii) identification and social assessment; and iii) definition of recommendations on assistance measures to improve livelihoods and environmental sustainability of the territory.
- The [Environmental and social operational policies](#) is a tool that identifies early possible environmental risks and human rights violations, proposing actions required to improve the planning, design and implementation of the project. The 11 policies were built through a rigorous application of the prevention/mitigation hierarchy and the informed participation of the affected people or communities.
- [Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework](#) establishes guidelines for the formulation and execution of the Action Plans within the World Bank's Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework. It incorporates strategies to ensure the



participation of local communities and indigenous authorities in the design and implementation of actions. The Action Plans within the Framework for Indigenous Peoples Policy of the World Bank are built based on life plans, existing safeguard plans and the agreements that indigenous authorities have signed with other public authorities, as guiding instruments for the identification of specific actions that comply with the safeguards.

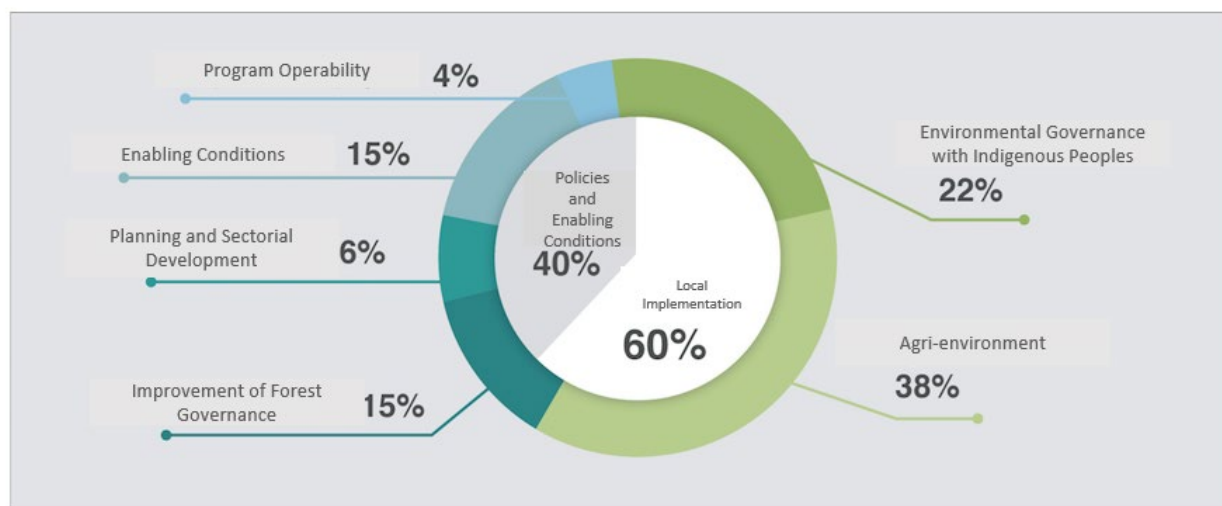
- Institutional Guide for the Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation or Initial Contact (Annex 4), includes the principles and guidelines for actions of Natural National Parks in territories of Serranía de Chiribiquete National Natural Park or adjacent areas, in which there are indications of the presence of people in voluntary isolation.

iv) Operationalization of SIS: Depending on the financial source, Colombia implements operational policies of the World Bank and the Green Climate Fund, and follows an adaptive management framework that includes procedures for the revision and updating of the EICDGB based on the lessons learned resulting from its implementation.

Based on results of the participatory process in the Pacific and Amazon regions of the SESA, it was initially possible to narrow down a list of 40 risks that integrate all the possible issues related to the implementation of REDD+ initiatives, according to the Cancun safeguards and its understanding defined for Colombia (Robayo, Mendoza & Castro, 2015; Camacho, 2016). Subsequently, in a process of alignment with the pillars of the AVP, 10 risks were consolidated to integrate the most relevant and effective social, environmental and cultural elements for the program. The results of this study were incorporated in the design of the [Integral Management of Socio-environmental Risk](#) (GIRSA in Spanish), which facilitates the identification, analysis and decision-making processes regarding the risks that may be caused by the implementation of the REM-AVP.

On the other hand, the AVP has established a scheme for the Distribution of Benefits and Investments based on its five pillars of intervention, which aims to achieve effective results in the reduction of deforestation and sustainable development for the region. This distribution scheme was agreed with the donors of the Program, and the indigenous pillar with the relevant IP organizations following a consultation process. The following figure shows the Distribution of Benefits and Investments Scheme of the program, which was considered to propose the scheme for the RBP Project that presents a different distribution.

**Figure 3. Scheme of Distribution of Benefits and Investments of the REDD+ Early Movers Project of Amazon Vision Program (REM-AVP)**



- (iv) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of 1/CP.16.

Comments: For **addressing** Cancun safeguard D, Colombia has accomplished the following:

- i) Understanding: In the Colombian context this safeguard is understood with only one element; D10. Participation (letters correspond to Cancun safeguard labels, and numbers to the consecutive national assignment). The right to full

and effective participation of all stakeholders is respected to ensure governance and adequate decision-making on REDD+ actions.

Implementation of REDD+ initiatives must ensure the effective, free, full and informed participation of stakeholders. To do so, adequate mechanisms of participation must be deployed in territories, their own existing participation structures must be recognized, especially those of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, according to national legislation and international agreements signed by Colombia.

ii) Legal and institutional framework: Colombia is a democratic, participatory and pluralistic social State of rule of law, organized in a unitary Republic, decentralized, with territorial entity autonomy. Law 1715 of 2015 regulates Citizen participation as a constitutional right, defines the obligations and responsibilities of public administration entities to guarantee citizen participation in decisions that may affect them by promoting specific citizen participation mechanisms.

Colombia has the National System of Citizen Participation, which seeks to articulate instances, deliberation spaces, financial resources, legal instruments and actions for the promotion and strengthening of participation rights. The National Council of Citizen Participation, jointly with the National Planning System leads the National System and articulates the participatory instances for agreement and deliberation at departmental, municipal, district and local levels. These instances include the youth council, afro-descendant peoples council and the culture council, among others..

In addition, SINA has instances and mechanisms for citizen participation in environmental matters that guarantee the right of citizens to be informed, intervene in decisions that affect them and request deliberation instances to discuss issues that affect their territories and communities.

At the local level, the entities of the department, municipal and district territories, have within their organizational structure, an area in charge of promoting citizen participation and responsible for a) Formulating local participation policies aligned with the national policies and all the deliberation instances at the local level; b) Tracking the compliance of the local participation policies; and c) Ensuring proper studies and integration of the recommendations made by civil society actors.

Finally, the EICDGB incorporates the plan for participation and involvement of stakeholders that recognizes all the instances and platforms for participation and decision-making of the communities and its stakeholders. All actors participate in the [REDD+ National Board](#).

The Regional Climate Change Nodes within the National Climate Change System (SISCLIMA in Spanish) is another national instance of participation created by Colombia in 2016. Its objective is to coordinate and implement climate actions with stakeholders of different regions of Colombia.

In order to respect this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: Based on the identified legal and governance instruments, the tracking tools used for this safeguard during the period of this proposal are:

- Participation through the National Environmental Council: National REDD+ Board was established and in this framework the participation of delegates has been guaranteed.
- The development of the annual work plan is socialized and adjusted based on regional workshops: Workshops for Pillar 1 Forest Governance work plan in early 2017.
- A participatory construction process with indigenous peoples through 13 workshops: supported by national interpretation element C6.
- Dialogue forums to be implemented every six months in the Amazonian departments: will be supported by national interpretation element B3 tracking safeguards.
- The holding of meetings of the Amazon Regional Board (MRA), instance that approved the PIVA document.

iv) Operationalization of SIS: During the elaboration of the EICDGB, the MADS started an early process of participation and dialogue with indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant communities, local organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, women organizations, academy and numerous governmental institutions.



Additionally, in 2015 with the support of the REDD+ program (supported by UN-REDD, Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank, GIZ Forests and Climate Program, and other non-governmental institutions), Colombia implemented a participatory strategy to improve the information on deforestation and forest degradation, and strengthen national discussions about reduction of emissions from deforestation and land degradation. As a result of this process, 35 workshops were held with the participation of more than 1690 people, mainly from the Amazon and Pacific region. Table 4 summarizes the numbers of the participatory processes during 2015 -2017.

**Table 4. Participation figures during the process of formulation of the EICDGB**

National						
Actor	Events	Men	Participation	Women	Participation	Total
Farmer	3	85	75%	29	25%	114
Indigenous	12	291	73%	105	27%	396
Multi-stakeholder institution	48	857	58%	629	42%	1486

The AVP's Grievance Redress Mechanism reports for the year 2016, that six requests (derechos de petición) were submitted including questions on general information of the program objectives and activities. To address this, the communications strategy developed a frequent questions and answers module and included general information on the procurement. The questions, complains and grievances received in 2016 and first half of 2017 are presented in Table 5.

**Table 5. Details of the questions, complains and grievances received by the AVP (2016-First half 2017)**

No .	Reception Date	Sender	Subject	Reply Date	Observations
1	27/12/2015	Red de Control Social y Asesoría a Veedurías -Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente	Information request (questions 1-5)	6/01/2016	Five questions were submitted and answered
2	27/12/2015	Red de Control Social y Asesoría a Veedurías -Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente	Information request. (questions 6 and 7)	6/01/2016	Two additional questions are submitted. Mr Alberto Contreras contacted MADS by telephone on 06/01/2016 with additional questions
3	6/01/2016	Red de Control Social y Asesoría a Veedurías -Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente	Mail Response Forwarding Request Id. 1	7/01/2016	N.A
4	25/01/2016	Maria Constanza Castaño	Clarification on the possibility of participation in the Programme (question 8)	25/01/2016	It is clarified that the particular initiative is not within the jurisdiction of the programme, since the coordinates provided correspond to the vicinity of El Tuparro NNP in Colombian Orinoco
5	3/02/2016	Fondo Patrimonio Natural - Red de Control Social y Asesoría a Veedurías -Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente	Request for referral of agreement with Norway and action plan 2016 (question 9)	3/02/2016	The document was originally sent to FPN on 7 December 2015. It was reported that the contractual documents are not public.
6	8/02/2016	Valentina Roza Angel	Information request (question 10)	8/02/2016	Existing program reports are requested for 2015. Go to public information on the web
7	23/02/2016	Camilo Riaño	Right of petition (question 11)	23/02/2016	Information on tenders for the sale and import of batteries is requested (reply indicating that the right of petition should be sent to the MADS citizen service mechanism)
8	30/03/2016	Red de Control Social y Asesoría a Veedurías -Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente	Information request. question 12-18)	5/04/2016	Seven questions are sent, which were answered
9	18/04/2016 y 26/04/2016	Alexander Serrano	Information request. (question 19-21)	5/04/2016	Three questions are sent, which were answered
10	23/05/2016	Angel Miguel Arcángel	Information request. (question 22)	23/05/2016	Representatives of the Bora people requested information on how to participate in the program. Their question is answered.
11	7/06/2016	Franci C Trajano Vargas	Resume submission (hoja de vida, curriculum)		No action is taken

12	12/07/2016	Corpoamazonia	Request for information and requirement to participate in an event (question 23)	12/07/2016	The requested information is physically delivered and we participate in the meeting on July 15, 2016 with the Corporation's directors
13	25/07/2016	Red de Control Social y Asesoría a Veedurías -Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente	Information request. (questions 24 and 26)	3/08/2016	Two questions are raised, which are resolved.

- (v) Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits.

In order to **address** the Cancun safeguard E, Colombia has accomplished the following:

i) Understanding: Colombia's interpretation of safeguard E comprises the following two elements:

- **E11. Forest and biodiversity conservation:** REDD+ initiatives contribute to the conservation of forests and biodiversity goals of Colombia. They must support the provision of ecosystem services and the access of communities that depend on them. REDD+ initiatives should not contradict forest and biodiversity strategies. PAMs must consider actual and future conservation processes in the territory.
- **E12. Ecosystem services:** REDD+ initiatives must benefit directly or indirectly of the provision of ecosystem services (supply, support, regulation and cultural).

ii) Legal and institutional framework: Colombia recognizes the benefits of environmental services to communities provided by the conservation and management of ecosystems and their biodiversity. To guarantee this, legal and regulatory provisions are aligned with coordinated actions of the environmental authorities and the territorial entities, through mechanisms that encourage the change of land use and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, due to deforestation and soil degradation. The EICDGB (REDD+ Strategy) includes specific action for conservation of natural forests and biological diversity and proposes sustainable forest management as a relevant instrument to promote conservation, generate local benefits and reduce risks of conversion of natural forests. At the national level there are other policy instruments to promote conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the associated ecosystems services:

- National Policy for Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystems Services (PGIBSE) – 2014.
- National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) – 2018.
- Forest Sector Planning, regulated by Law 2811 of 1874, Law 99 of 1993 and Decree 1791 of 1996.
- Manual of compensation for loss of biodiversity in terrestrial ecosystems, regulated by Resolution 1517 of 2011.
- Conservation planning on private lands regulated by Decree 196 of 1999.
- Management plans and zoning of forest reserves, regulated by Decree 2372 of 2010.
- Guidelines for planning and zoning of forest reserves created by Law 2 of 1959, regulated by resolutions 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926 of 2013.
- River Basin Management, regulated by Decree 1640 of 2012.
- Protected area management plans, regulated by Decree 2372 of 2010.
- Integral Assessment Tool for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services derived from National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystems Services (PNGBSE in Spanish).
- Forest Incentive Certificate, regulated by Decree 1824 of 1994 and Decree 2448 of 2012.
- Payment for Environmental Services, regulated by Decree 870 of 2017 and Decree 953 of 2013.
- Environmental and sustainable development sector, regulated by Decree 1076 of 2015.

Local environmental authorities guarantee the compatibility of REDD+ actions by implementing ecosystem management planning instruments such as the zoning and regulation of land uses which define actions to achieve the objectives of conservation, rehabilitation and recovery of ecosystems and environmental goods and services.

For **respecting** this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: The forest conservation and sustainability objective of the Heart of the Colombian Amazon Project is to improve governance and promote sustainable land use activities in order to reduce deforestation and conserve biodiversity in the Colombian Amazon forests. The project seeks to address the conservation of an area

of over nine million hectares of humid tropical forest in the Heart of the Colombian Amazon. The project direct intervention areas include the departments of Caquetá, Meta, Guaviare and Amazonas.

This project promoted voluntary conservation agreements implemented by the Amazon Institute of Scientific Research (SINCHI in Spanish). This model aims to transform production practices of the farmers of the Amazon region and promote their sustainable permanence in the territory. Agreements are implemented through three stages: 1) land planning, 2) establishment and evaluation of agroforestry systems, and 3) capacity building.

The conservation agreements recognize the direct relationship between the conservation and the sustainability of agriculture practices. As a result, the project interventions have focused on improving productivity and profitability of crops and pastures, reducing the demand for additional forest areas. The process included not only the improvement of existing activities, but also the promotion of more sustainable production systems, appropriate to the Amazon ecosystem and soils, such as agroforestry.

The REM-AVP categorized the risks associated to these activities as *Low Risk* (safeguards E and G of Cancun conservation/biological diversity and displacement of emissions, respectively) using its own system for management of social and environmental risks (GIRSA). These analyses took into account that the program was conceived with the objective of zero deforestation and promotion of forest and biodiversity conservation, as well as the articulation of all of its activities around this purpose.

Following experience of the Heart of the Amazon Project, the REM-AVP includes “conservation agreements” as a requirement for the beneficiaries of projects under the Agro-Environmental Pillar. These agreements considered aspects of environmental sustainability in productive systems, biodiversity conservation, consolidation of agricultural frontier among others, and will have to advance in the incorporation of community oversight.

iv) Operationalization of SIS: In Guaviare, a total of 67 farms were selected, 31 in Calamar municipality and 36 in San José del Guaviare, distributed in the different typologies of landscapes: lowland, mainland, midland and highland. In Caquetá, 64 farms of Cartagena del Chairá municipality in four types of landscape were selected, which are those referred to previously in Guaviare, and the landscape of Vega.

150 conservation agreements were signed in the department of Caquetá as a result of a process that involved socialization meetings with representatives of social, community and producer organizations. However, during the implementation of the project some signatories withdrew the agreements. Currently 141 conservation agreements remained active, representing 6,005 hectares of forest. Interventions in Guaviare were focused in the municipalities of San José del Guaviare and Calamar, where 150 conservation agreements were subscribed, representing a total of 5,415 hectares of forest and 702 hectares of a sustainable production under agroforestry arrangements. Although the majority of signatory farmers have complied with the conservation agreements, the REM-AVP has reported a 12% non-compliance in Guaviare and 6% in Caquetá. According to this experience, it was identified the need to improve farm level monitoring and strengthen capacities of IDEAM and local institutions to monitor and provide assistance and other incentives to generate opportunities for local farmers by using the forest sustainably.

(vi) Actions to address the risks of reversals.

For **addressing** the Cancun safeguard F, Colombia has accomplished the following:

i) Understanding: this safeguard is understood in Colombia in two elements:

- **F13. Environmental and territorial management:** Under a forest conservation and sustainable management approach, REDD+ actions support territorial and environmental planning of Colombia in accordance with the national legislation. REDD+ initiatives must recognize, respect, adapt and strengthen measures and instruments of territorial and environmental planning. Similarly, it is important to encourage citizens to participate in the formulation and adjustment of planning instruments according to land use. The territorial planning and organization of ethnic groups and local communities should also be recognized and respected so that their permanence over time can be supported.
- **F14. Sectoral Planning:** REDD+ sector-type actions must be implemented based on environmental and territorial management instruments, as well as national legislation of forests and biodiversity conservation. The trans-sectoral vision of forests is key to guarantee the accomplishment of the conservation and deforestation goals of Colombia.

To do so, the projections of sectoral development must be recognized to ensure the long-term sustainability of the PAMs in the territory. In particular, they must also be founded on respect and articulation with existing environmental and territorial planning instruments.

ii) Legal and institutional framework: The most appropriate instrument to address the risks of reversal are the existing territorial planning instruments at the municipal level, regulated by Law 388 of 1997. The territorial planning instruments integrate environmental planning of ecosystems, risk management and sectoral development. These instruments establish limits to sectoral development and provide obligations to prevent negative impacts on ecosystems.

Law 388 of 1997 establishes responsibilities to local environmental authorities to set guidelines for identifying environmental aspects in order to define land categories (rural, suburban and urban areas) and land use regulations, thereby granting environmental licenses. Urban and construction licenses (sectoral actions) are aligned to ecosystems management and territorial planning. This ensures long-term conservation and proper management of ecosystems, reducing the risks of reversal.

In order to **respect** this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: The Pillar 2 of Amazon Vision, Sustainable sectoral planning and development, seeks to articulate processes between the sectors of transport, infrastructure and mining, in the light of current and future development plans, and the vision and goals for reducing deforestation by 2020. It is structured in 4 interrelated components: i) harmonization of environmental management with land uses in the agricultural and livestock frontier of the Amazon Forest Reserve; ii) strengthening of environmental performance in prioritized sectors to guide the development of sectoral activities in areas of high environmental sensitivity; iii) strengthening of territorial entities responsible for the control of deforestation through the Incentive strategy for Green Municipalities; and, iv) Strategic activities and capacity development.

This Pillar has the challenge of going beyond good practices to ensure the deforestation activities adopt a deforestation-free development model. In 2016, the National Planning Department and REM-AVP jointly formulated the Regional Land Management Model for the Amazon, designed to favor the integration of actions related to mining and energy extractive activities, planning and construction of transport infrastructure, as well as conservation and protection of natural resources. Also, the REM-AVP supported the establishment of the Amazon Planning Administrative Region (RAP in Spanish) as a mechanism to contribute to the definition of the agricultural frontier, promote sustainable production and forestry, develop regional transport and environmental land management plans, and facilitate inter-sectoral agreements among other initiatives in the region.

On the other hand, based on the GIRSA the REM-AVP carried out a risk analysis carried out in 2016 and the first half of 2017 for the 41 activities implemented under the five pillars of the Project (11 of Forest Governance, 8 of Sustainable Sector Development, 5 of Agro-Environmental Development, 16 of Environmental Governance with Indigenous Peoples and 2 of Enabling Conditions). Results of the analyses showed that 94% of the activities foreseen in the REM-AVP generate low or no environmental and social risks, but the remaining 6% must be attended to avoid the medium and high-level risks identified and maximize the benefits associated.

Activities under Pillar 2, Sustainable Sector Development, presented the highest incidence (80%) of activities categorized as "no risk". For the actions that generate risks classified as medium and high, there is evidence that they are presented mainly by the imposition of policies, norms and mechanisms of territorial control, and decision making not consistent with the needs and expectations of the interested parties, low ownership of the processes in the territory, inadequate execution of resources, improper use of economic or other resources, as well as those related to corruption.

iv) Operationalization of SIS: In order to address the risks, in 2016 and the first half of 2017, the AVP reported advances in:

- Structuring an intermodal transport plan for the Amazon.
- Supporting the definition of the agricultural frontier as part of the Colombian Peace Accord, through the environmental zoning articulated from the Development Plans with a Territorial Approach (PDET in Spanish).
- Articulate the sectoral plans of different actors under the strengthening of the Administrative Planning Region of the Amazon - RAP held by the governors of Putumayo, Caquetá, Amazonas, Vaupés, Guainía and Guaviare.
- Detailed scale mapping of national protected areas that are in areas of high hydrocarbon contract dynamics.

- Work plan to exchange information and establish spaces for dialogue regarding projects of new National Parks in hydrocarbon blocks that are already in exploration and production activities.

For the pilot program, Colombia proposes deactivate 40% of ER available to GCF as an interim mechanism to manage risk of reversals (please refer to Annex 5 to see the details of the methodology used for estimations).

(vii) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

Comments: For **addressing** Cancun safeguard G, Colombia has accomplished the following:

i) Understanding: The interpretation of this Safeguard for Colombia's framework is one element:

- G14. Emission displacement: REDD+ initiatives must incorporate actions to reduce the displacement of emissions. The emission displacement takes place when the causes of deforestation spread throughout the territory. Risk of emissions leakage is monitored by IDEAM ([Colombian Forest and Carbon Monitoring System](#) - SMBYC in Spanish). Additionally, Colombia articulates the national early warning system of deforestation with community monitoring schemes for the activation of protocols to implement control procedures of forest loss and degradation and prevent expansion to other areas.

ii) Legal and institutional framework: Colombia has a robust Environmental Information System (SIAC in Spanish) that integrates the information of a set of actors, policies, processes, and technologies. To facilitate knowledge generation, decision-making, education and social participation for sustainable development, SIAC has several systems that respond to the environmental information needs of the country. The systems that contribute to the transparency of this safeguard are regulated by Decree 1277 of 2014 and Decree 1655 of 2017, which address organization and operation of the IDEAM and its information systems:

- National Forest Information System: Consolidates the information related to timber and non-timber products, main species endangered at the national and regional level; the current and potential use of forest species, the most commercial species, the storage of stored biomass and carbon, and the areas affected by forest fires.
- Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC in Spanish): Informs the current state, dynamics, causes and the magnitude of the changes in forest and carbon storage. It is an analytic tool of deforestation in Colombia, including Natural Forest (B) and Non-Forest (NB) areas, the quantification of gross / net deforestation, and the areas that regenerate during the period of analysis (changes from non-forest to forest), as well as changes in the amount of Carbon stored in different coverage.
- Forest Information System (SNIF in Spanish): Provides information on the state and dynamics of Colombian Forests, collecting information on harvesting, mobilization, seizures of forest products, and is an effective platform for consultation and forest resource monitoring. Processes that are complemented by community monitoring initiatives, in which communities have been advancing and training, and could play a role in the capture and reporting of information, as part of deforestation control strategies.

In order to **respect** this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the following:

iii) Implementation of tracking tools: The SMBYC satisfies the national and international requirements of information to report national goals and comply with international commitments. This system is closely linked to Pillar 1 and 5 of the REM-AVP through the activities focused on capacity building for effective control and surveillance of forest cover. In order to achieve the goals of Pillar 1, it includes the verification process and the analysis and information of the activity data (data sources of satellite image, coverage, treatment, change detection and validation).

iv) Operationalization of SIS: In 2015, the implementation of the first National Forest Inventory (IFN in Spanish) of the Country was performed, as well as the establishment of reliable and technical information and protocols to understand and address deforestation causes and agents. Throughout the implementation phase, the SNIF had strengthened overall with emphasis on the technical capacity of MADS and IDEAM teams. During 2015 and 2017 this safeguard was respected by the following results:

- Strengthened capacities of forest information collection at national, regional and local levels, including research institutions, environmental authorities and local communities.



- Strengthened technical capacities of MADS, IDEAM, IIA, and PNN professionals, as well as Regional Environmental Authorities. A technical event was held for the socialization of the 2015 and 2016 results in the lifting permanent plots and conglomerates of the IFN.
- A signed agreement with SINCHI for the IFN for the implementation of conglomerates and permanent plots of forest inventory in the Colombian Amazon.
- Technical activities of the IFN have been articulated with the Forest and land management plans especially the harmonization of methodologies for plotting and their spatial location, agreeing to establish plots under the IFN sample framework in order to reduce implementation costs.

The REM- VP established a mechanism to manage risks and uncertainties. According to this mechanism for each ton of rewarded emission reduction, an additional ton is retired. This seeks to address risks of shifting deforestation to areas outside of the accounting area or namely emission displacement; the reversal of emission reductions ('permanence'); and uncertainties associated to the estimation of emission reductions, e.g. with respect to activity data, emissions factors and reference levels. This mechanism uses the step-wise and continuous improvement of monitoring systems to mitigate these risks and to review it. Annual reports by the Government provide information on risks, including on their management and monitoring.

Complementarily, in 2016 Colombia attached a Technical Annex in the Second Biennial Update Report, with the NREF, whose evaluation by the UNFCCC experts resulted in April 2017, and concluded successfully complying with the transparency requirements of data and information provided by the Country, and in general, related to those established in decisions 1 / CP.16, 12 / CP.17 and 14 / CP.19 of the UNFCCC.

On the other hand, during 2015 to 2017, REM- AVP contributed to respect this safeguard through the following results of SMBYC:

- The quarterly Early Warning deforestation bulletins, corresponding to the fourth quarter of 2016 (October-December) and the first quarter of 2017, include information at the national level (eight cores of Early Deforestation Alerts), Regional, departmental, Regional Autonomous Corporations and Municipalities.
- Reduction Reports related to the Forest Emissions Reference Level of the Amazon biome were generated and validated by the UNFCCC.
- Improvement of the SMBYC technological platform through the acquisition of High Performance Stations for Digital Processing of Remote sensor images, and new data storage capabilities for the IDEAM Data Centre. Additionally, improvement of data processing capabilities of SMBYC and Regional Environmental Authorities, such as, Corporation for Sustainable Development of the North and the Amazon East (CDA in Spanish), Corporation for Sustainable Development of South of the Amazon (CORPOAMAZONIA in Spanish) and the Corporation for the sustainable development of Macarena (CORMACARENA in Spanish).

### C.1.2. Stakeholder involvement.

Please describe and provide evidence that the Cancun safeguards information was made transparently available to stakeholders.

#### **EICDGB: Participation and stakeholders involvement**

##### Participation in the process of construction

The construction of the EICDGB "Forests Territories of Life", stems from a process of participation and early dialogues, led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) since 2010, within the framework of preparing the country for the implementation of REDD+. This process opened spaces with actors that have an impact on the conservation of forests in Colombia such as the National Government, indigenous peoples, afro-descendant communities, farmer organizations, organized civil society (NGOs), the productive sector, women's organizations, and the academy.

This participation process, MADS as the leader of the formulation of the EICDGB opened dialogue spaces to discuss the importance of forests and the problems associated to deforestation and degradation and identify the main causes and drivers of deforestation, as well as the measures that could be taken to counteract this phenomenon, from the perspective of the different stakeholders. Additionally, the process contributed to the identification of capacity-building needs to promote further participation, strengthen dialogue and participation instances of community organizations, identify and evaluate the risks and benefits of the implementation of actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, as well as priority activities for forest conservation. Between 2010 and 2013, MADS held 191 workshops, with the participation of more than 5369 people.

In 2015, participation guidelines were implemented with the different actors of national, regional and local order with the support of cooperation programs for REDD +, such as the UN-REDD Program, the FCPF - World Bank, and the GIZ Forests and Climate Program, as well as non-governmental institutions. These guidelines, focused on improving the information of key stakeholders about global and national discussions on climate change and REDD+, generating and strengthening dialogue in national and regional spaces. As a result of this process, 35 workshops were organized with the participation of more than 1690 people mainly from the Amazon and Pacific regions. This process was initiated in the Andes, Orinoquia and Caribbean regions during 2017.

The described process resulted in the improvement of stakeholders' access and understanding of available information to face deforestation and its implications in climate change and generated greater awareness of their role in implementing the strategies and actions proposed. Participatory and community dialogues also strengthened organizational processes and articulation instances between indigenous and afro-descendant organizations and the National Government, regarding the issue of forests<sup>15</sup>. Likewise, this process allowed identification and exchange of local communities point of views on the main causes and drivers of deforestation, and the potential measures and actions that can be implemented to reduce emissions and forest threats.

The Amazonian Indigenous Board for Environment and Climate Change (MIAACC, Spanish) is one example of the spaces of coordination and dialogue that were consolidated at the national level between the national government and the indigenous peoples. The MIAACC was created with the purpose of socializing and providing feedback on the National Government actions and is currently working as a technical instance that addresses all issues associated to forests, deforestation and climate change. Other example is the strengthening of indigenous national organizations (e.g. ONIC, OPIAC, CTC, Senior Government) that are part of the Permanent Board of Indigenous Peoples (Mesa Permanente de Concertación con los Pueblos y Organizaciones Indígenas), which has improved capacities for information management, participation and understanding of national and international regulations related to climate change and forests..

With respect to institutional actors, the EICDGB formulation process promoted construction spaces (workshops, exchanges, trainings and meetings) with regional environment authorities (CAR) that present high deforestation rates to define work plans and identify action lines to reduce deforestation in their territories. As part of EICDGB capacity building efforts, the UN-REDD Program supported the REDD+ Academy, which was one of the best tools to involve afro-descendant and indigenous communities, as well as other national and regional institutions. Moreover, the training program developed under the REDD+ Academy was incorporated in curricula of the National Learning Service (SENA) –a Colombian public institution focused on professional formation, a government initiative to develop education and foment employment– to reach hundreds of apprentices throughout the country.

In 2016, Academic institutions were incorporated within the institutional arrangements to coordinate climate change actions, the National Climate Change System (SISCLIMA) and the Regional Climate Change Nodes (NRCC in addition to government to support national, regional and local authorities.

Regarding the national interpretation of safeguards, the National Government socialized in different spaces of participation and dialogue the detailed the EICDGB construction process led by MADS since 2009. For example, Colombia organized a panel and a working session on the national approach to safeguards in the 'X Congress of Latin American Forest Law' (Nov. 2016), with the support of the Agrarian Justice Discussion Board and the participation of delegates from indigenous peoples organizations, afro-descendant communities and experts from Brazil, Bolivia and Peru.

As part of the participatory process with indigenous peoples, the National Government organized a National Indigenous Safeguards Workshop on July 2016 with delegates from the Permanent Board of Indigenous Peoples (MPCI in Spanish), in the city of Bogotá. Participants included National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC in Spanish), National Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon (OPIAC in Spanish), Territorial Council of Indigenous Cabildos of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (CTC in Spanish), Indigenous Authorities of Colombia (AICO in Spanish) and the National Government. Additionally, the Government socialized the safeguards in the four EICDGB construction workshops that were carried out with afro-descendant communities and organizations in the Pacific region (Chocó, North of Cauca, Cost of Cauca and Nariño) during 2016.

<sup>15</sup> Mapeo, caracterización y análisis de los pueblos indígenas, afrodescendientes y campesinos para la construcción de la estrategia nacional REDD+ en Colombia. (<https://www.undp.org/content/dam/rblac/docs/Research%20and%20Publications/Repository/Colombia/UNDP-RBLAC-MapeoActoresEstrategiaREDD+CO.pdf>)



### Stakeholders involvement in the implementation EICDGB

At the regional level it is important to mention the operation of Forest Departmental Boards as an instrument of inter-sectoral and inter-institutional coordination and the work that MADS and IDEAM carried out to establish a technical proposal for institutional arrangements relevant to MRV. Finally, it is important to highlight the efforts of the MADS to address inter-sectoral coordination and optimize communication channels and spaces with other sectors such as agriculture, transportation, mines and defense.

The involvement of the aforementioned stakeholders is essential for the EICDGB implementation process in an integral way, recognizing the different conditions and needs of key actors and special subjects of law such as indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and the farmer population and promoting participation of the civil society reserve networks, and involvement of all other different complementary conservation and protection strategies of environmental areas. Based on this, action plans proposed under the EICDGB will seek to maximize environmental and social benefits for indigenous peoples, afro-descendant and rural communities, recognizing the conservation, restoration and sustainable forests management efforts already made by these stakeholders.

The EICDGB also recognizes the important role of the private sector in the sustainable management of forests. Therefore the MADS in close coordination with other relevant Ministries has led discussion spaces with sectoral organizations and companies (e.g. meat, milk, palm and wood) to identify measures that promote zero deforestation agreements (meat, milk, oil and wood production) and private sector commitment to reduce deforestation. Additionally, the Government is promoting a public-private coalition that invites partners to take voluntary actions individually and in collaborative schemes to reduce deforestation associated to commodities supply chains. Thus the EICDGB will promote market linkages to promote forest-based sustainable production models supported on the management of timber and non-timber forest products and the ecotourism. Similarly, the private sector will be involved in other national initiatives that support restoration and conservation processes, such as BanCO2, Payment for Environmental Services, and No Cause of Carbon Tax<sup>133</sup>, etc.

### **REM – Amazon Vision Program**

#### Stakeholders involvement

Framed in the country's commitment to develop a National Safeguards System for REDD+ in Colombia, and complying with the KfW principle of Risk-Free Action ("Do no harm"), the REM Amazon Vision Program has developed an [Integral Management of Socio-environmental Risk](#) (GIRSA), which is applicable to each of the Pillars and projects.

Under this system, each of the investments are reviewed and assessed applying a methodology created to evaluate implementation of safeguards and provide recommendations to the Program. The results are reported in the REM-AVP annual reports and national safeguards information reports. All the reports are available at the AVP web page: <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co>. The [annual report of 2016](#) is available for public consultation at the documentation module in the amazon vision web page.

For local activities the GIRSA established obligations to the implementing entities of the REM-AVP, which includes Patrimonio Natural Fund (FPN) as the financial mechanism. FPN was selected by the Government of Colombia as the entity that manages all funds derived from the PPR to facilitate implementation of activities under each of the Pillars of the REM-AVP, including the PIVA. FPM subscribe specific co-execution agreements or sub-agreements with other implementing entities that lead the implementation of specific activities. These entities include IDEAM, SINCHI, Corpoamazonia, Cormacarena, CIAT, ONF Andina, DNP and Finagro, as well as indigenous organizations or NGOs implementing projects under the Pillar 4 (PIVA). FPN and all institutions involved in the implementation of activities have responsibilities to perform the methodology and apply the tools and reporting mechanisms for the implementation of the identified safeguards measures. This responsibility is incorporated formally as a commitment in the sub-agreements and contracts. Agreements subscribed by the REM-AVP are of the public access in this link: <http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/documentos-contractuales-y-convenios/>.

The planning and reporting processes of GIRSA are fundamental to ensure the accomplishment of safeguards. In this sense the REM-AVP has created a set of tools that allows identifying, documenting and publishing the safeguard measures and its application. For the investment planning, the PMU defines the lines of intervention for each Pillar, and based on these the disbursement investment planning cycle (PID) is elaborated and analyzed for the compliance with the legal framework at the Program level and its pillar. Results of the analyses are socialized in a workshop with the participation of focal points, implementing and strategic partners to identify environmental and social risks and define the safeguard measures to be involved in the planning instruments. This process is documented in a standard

form that summarizes risks and prioritized safeguard measures, which is included as an annex in the PID and uploaded for public access in the AVP web page.

At the project level, the leader of each Pillar jointly with the rural and indigenous communities benefited by the Program, leads the analysis of compliance with the legal framework and agrees on a set of measures that need to be executed by the implementing organization. This process is carried out once the Project was selected and approved by the selection committee and prior to signing the sub-agreement for its implementation. During the project's start-up phase, the Implementing Entities, with technical assistance of the focal points, must perform a workshop for the analysis of social and environmental risks and the prioritization of the safeguard measures. The outcomes from this participatory analysis are incorporated as a product of the project. In case that this workshops is held prior to the signing the contract, it will be included in the Co-execution Agreement or sub-agreement of each project. Progress made by each project in the application of the measures must be reported in each Annual Report and the Safeguards Information Summaries - RIS that the Colombian Government reports under the UNFCCC, which are also uploaded in the AVP web page.

#### Indigenous participations: (Pillar 4 - PIVA in Spanish)

Pillar 4 of the AVP aims to promote indigenous environmental governance respecting traditional practices, guaranteeing cultural diversity and conserving forests in their territories. This Pillar recognizes the fundamental role of Indigenous Peoples in the conservation of forests, values their knowledge systems as a fundamental tool for understanding the territory and its ecological dynamics and guarantees the conservation of their cultural and environmental values during the processes of construction, definition and implementation of specific policies and actions. Applying the Colombian constitution, the AVP recognizes and protects the ethnic and cultural diversity as the foundation of nationality and supports specific instances and mechanisms that have been built to promote and guarantee the participation of Indigenous Peoples in decisions that could affect their territories and cultures. Under the PIVA, AVP supports activities in various topics that were defined in close coordination with the indigenous authorities and peoples. This topics include: own government, territory and environment, economy and production, women and family, health and traditional medicine, own education, support for strengthening languages, among others.

Activities and priorities of the PIVA were defined in a participatory process agreed and developed jointly with the Amazon Regional Board (MRA in Spanish) and the MIAACC, which comprised 13 meetings in the six departments of the Amazon. The National Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon (OPIAC in Spanish) and the National Government agreed upon creating the MRA in 2005<sup>16</sup> as mechanism to consolidate the participation of the Amazonian Indigenous Peoples at the national level. Under the MRA and with the purpose of build the foundations of the REDD+ National Strategy, the MRA created the Indigenous Board on Environment and Climate Change (Mesa Indígena Amazónica Ambiental y de Cambio Climático - MIAACC)<sup>17</sup>.

Results of workshops and other participatory activities resulted in a proposal of structure, scope and activities for the implementation of PIVA, which was presented to the MIAACC in its meetings session held in November 2016. The MIAACC approved the preliminary structure of the PIVA document and provided recommendations on technical lines, sub-projects selection criteria, map of actors and IPs priorities for each one of the six departments of the Amazon. The final version of the document was approved by MRA in May 2017 after additional technical workshops carried out in coordination with IPs organizations and MIAACC representatives. Table 6 summarizes the milestones of this participatory process.

**Table 6. Milestones of the participatory process of construction of the PIVA**

PERIOD	AGREEMENTS ACHIEVED AND ADVANCED ACTIONS
2015 – 2016	i) The financial amount to support the PIVA up to 20% of the resources allocated to the Amazon Vision program; ii) PIVA resources would be managed in a special sub-account in the Natural Heritage Fund; iii) PIVA resources would be implemented in initiatives proposed directly by indigenous organizations and associations; taking into account that for its

<sup>16</sup> This participation instance was formalized by decree 3012 of 2005 as a space for consultation with the Amazonian Indigenous Peoples to give recommendations to the Government for the formulation, promulgation and execution of sustainable development public policies and participate in the evaluation and monitoring of its execution.

<sup>17</sup> The MIAACC was created with the purpose of designing and building bases, which help the process of preparing and implementation of EICDGB. Its objective is the joint coordination between the Ministry of Environment and the indigenous Amazonian peoples of the formulation and implementation of environmental planning and management guidelines to be developed in Amazonian territory.

	execution the agreements and alliances that may arise must be considered; iv) The places where the 13 participatory workshops of the indigenous people for the construction of the PIVA would be held are defined by the delegates of the MIACC.
2016 April to December	i) Creation of the technical formulation team; ii) Participatory construction process by conducting the 13 planned workshops; iii) Analysis of life plans, safeguard plans and other planning instruments; iv) Holding expert meetings, general recommendations; v) Preliminary document formulation; vi) MIAAC review and definition of 4 technical feedback workshops.
2017	i) Feedback workshops; ii) Presentation of document PIVA before MRA.

### Colombian Environmental Information System - SIAC

The Colombian Environmental Information System (SIAC) is conceived as the integrated set of actors, policies, processes, and technologies involved in the management of environmental information in the country, to facilitate the generation of knowledge, decision-making, education and social participation for sustainable development. The SIAC ([www.siac.gov.co](http://www.siac.gov.co)) has been structured and developed based on an inter-institutional, intersectoral and interdisciplinary consultation process, led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and the Environmental Research Institutes, including IDEAM as the one in charge of the administration of its associated public technological platforms. SIAC integrates platforms in five main areas: forest and natural ecosystems, water, air, biodiversity, soil and human beings: socio-economy. SIAC also offers the platform to articulate information related to forest monitoring and the national MRV such as:

- Forests management: Information on forest, timber and non-timber products (exploitation, mobilization, seizures, production and protection plantations, timber referrals from commercial or production plantations and fires from plant cover) is managed through the National Forest Information System –SNIF (<http://snif.ideam.gov.co>), which is the set of processes, methodologies, protocols and tools to integrate and standardize the capture, storage, analysis, processing, dissemination, management, verification and consultation of data, databases, statistics and documentary material. In order to guarantee the efficient, timely and quality flow of forest information (MADS-Decree 1655 of 2017).
- Deforestation: The platform of the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (<http://smbyc.ideam.gov.co>) platform offers information of natural forest reports, early deforestation warnings and a geo-viewer service. Since first semester of 2013 IDEAM publishes deforestation warnings for public access, which have been reported quarterly since 20016.
- Hotspots monitoring: This platform complements the forest monitoring system since provide information of the dynamics of hotspots associated with natural ecosystems, especially forests, which are detected by satellite sensors. This tool is decisive to guide strategic intervention actions in the territory and reduce the impact of environmental degradation processes. Information is accessible in the platform <http://puntosdecolor.ideam.gov.co>

## C.2. Use of proceeds and non-carbon benefits

### C.2.1. General description:

*Provide a description on how the proceeds will be reinvested in activities consistent with the country's NDC, national REDD-plus strategy and/or low carbon development plans and policies. The description should also include how the proceeds will be used in a manner that contributes to the long-term sustainability of REDD-plus activities, including non-carbon benefits.*

The proceeds of the RBP will be used in a consistently with the provisions of the paragraph 14 of the terms of reference for the REDD+ RBP Pilot Program adopted by Decision B.18/07. As set out in this section the proceeds will be invested in supporting the action lines of the EICDGB (National REDD+ Strategy) and consistently with the objectives of the GCF.

### National Context

Since 2009, as part of the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the National process for the Reduction of Emissions derived from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) was launched with the support from by various international cooperation partners (including Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation, GIZ, FCPF, UN-REDD program and others).

As a result of this process the National Government formulated the Forest Management and Integral Deforestation Control Strategy (*"Estrategia Integral de Control a la Deforestación y Gestión de los Bosques-Bosques Territorios de Vida"*<sup>18</sup>- EICDGB), which represents the National REDD+ Strategy. The EICDGB is a trans-sectoral policy instrument founded on the multi-sector co-responsibility of the Colombian State. The purpose of the EICDGB is to curb deforestation and forest degradation by addressing the complexity of drivers and causes. The strategy recognizes the socio-cultural, economic and environmental importance of forest ecosystems, as well as their potential as a development option that contributes to the ongoing peace building process.

This public policy document establishes the actions required to reduce deforestation, forest degradation and associated GHG emissions, through an integrated approach to managing forests as the country's development alternative. The objective of the EICDGB is to reduce deforestation and forest degradation through **promoting and establishing forest management in the Colombian territory, under a sustainable integrated rural development approach**. This approach contributes to the wellbeing of local communities, improves local development and increases ecosystem resilience by fostering adaptation and mitigation of climate change through:

- 1) Consolidation of the territorial governance of ethnic groups
- 2) Promotion of forest economy
- 3) Reduction of degradation and deforestation
- 4) Development of reliable, consistent, timely and quality information on the supply, status, pressure and dynamics of forest resources, in support of decision-making processes at national, regional and local levels
- 5) Institutional, regulatory and financial adjustments that provide the State with the necessary instruments for forest management and the effective reduction and control of deforestation.

The EICDGB establishes the following five Action Lines to reduce deforestation, forest degradation and associated GHG emissions, through an integrated view of the forests and their role in the country's development: (1) Sociocultural management of forests and public awareness; (2) Development of a forest economy for the closure of the agricultural frontier; (3) Cross-sector management of territorial planning and of environmental determinants; (4) Permanent monitoring and control; and (5) Generate and strengthen legal, institutional and financial capacities. Each of these Action Line (AL) encompasses a group of measures and specific actions needed to achieve the objective of each AL.

The EICDGB envisions a complete reduction in deforestation by the year 2030, with forest management evolving into a fundamental axis in sustainable integral rural development, from a differential, sectoral and territorial approach, improving the well-being and livelihoods of local communities and the society in general, while promoting the conservation of biodiversity and the ecosystem services, including adaptation and mitigation to climate change. Specifically, by the year 2030 Colombia shall:

- Have a positive trade balance of the forestry sector.
- Have zero gross deforestation.
- Have been reduced 32.4 Mton of CO<sub>2</sub>eq emissions from avoided deforestation.
- Have strengthened the territorial governance of ethnic groups, rural and urban communities that live and depend on forests; and.
- Have increased the quality of life of the local population in forest areas.

In line with the EICDGB and considering reduction of deforestation as a mean to achieve its national mitigation goal of 4,6 Ton CO<sub>2</sub>eq/hab by 2030, Colombia ratified in its NDC<sup>19</sup> its commitment to reduce deforestation in the country and preserve important ecosystems such as the Amazon, given its enormous potential of contributing to stabilize de GHG emissions in the atmosphere. Colombia also proposed for the period 2013 – 2030 a reference level of deforestation of 304 thousand hectares, which correspond to the historical average of the period 1990 – 2010 plus a 10% of national circumstances associated to a post-conflict scenario.

<sup>18</sup> English: Comprehensive Strategy for the Control of Deforestation and Management of the Forests – " Forests Territories of Life"

<sup>19</sup> Colombia presented to the UNFCCC its NDC in In September 2015, in which the country states a mitigation goal is reducing 20% of national GHG emissions with respect to a baseline projected in 2030 unilaterally, with options to reach 30% with international funding.

The implementation of the EICDGB is included in the National Development Plan 2018-2022, specifically within the chapter **“The Pact for Sustainability: produce conserving and conserve producing<sup>20</sup>”**, which has the following main areas of action: 1) Implement strategies and economic instruments for the productive sectors to be more sustainable, innovative and with lower environmental impacts, within a circular economy approach, (2) halt deforestation and environmental offences based on territorial control and new sustainable economic opportunities at the local level, (3) Foster the knowledge of the community about disaster risks and climate change for improved decision making on the territory and, (4) Strengthen environmental institutions, research and public sector in line with dialogue and environmental education within the territories .

Within its strategies and instruments, the NDP considers actions to close and stabilize the agriculture frontier<sup>21</sup> , improve environmental zoning and implement a Community-Based Forestry Program. These instruments would be mainly focused in areas belonging to the 170 municipalities where previous armed conflict with FARC and other illegal agents had higher incidence (PDET municipalities). Also the NDP includes specific responsibilities to the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture to promote a forest economy by: (i) making institutional and regulatory adjustments, (ii) consolidating financial mechanisms and promoting sustainable forest enterprises involving schemes for community use of forests, plantations with native species and value chains, (iii) development of a forestry research agenda including a community forestry program, project portfolios, (iv) promotion, formulation and implementation of sustainable forest business plans, and (v) build a strategy to guarantee the integrity of the productive value chain of legal timber and its manufactures.

The NDP defined specific activities to strengthen capacities for governance, financial management and administration of national funds for development, recognizing that indigenous authorities, afro-descendant communities and local smallholders as strategic allies for conservation and environmental management in the territories and taking into account that indigenous territories represent important areas of forest and have a traditional experience in agroforestry, Specifically the NDP includes dispositions for supporting indigenous peoples' technical, administrative and financial organizations and authorities for the conservation and sustainable management of forests and other strategic ecosystems. These include differentiated actions to close and consolidate the agricultural frontier in ethnic territories, the implementation of regional forest - restoration portfolios, green businesses and other mandatory investments related to land formalization.

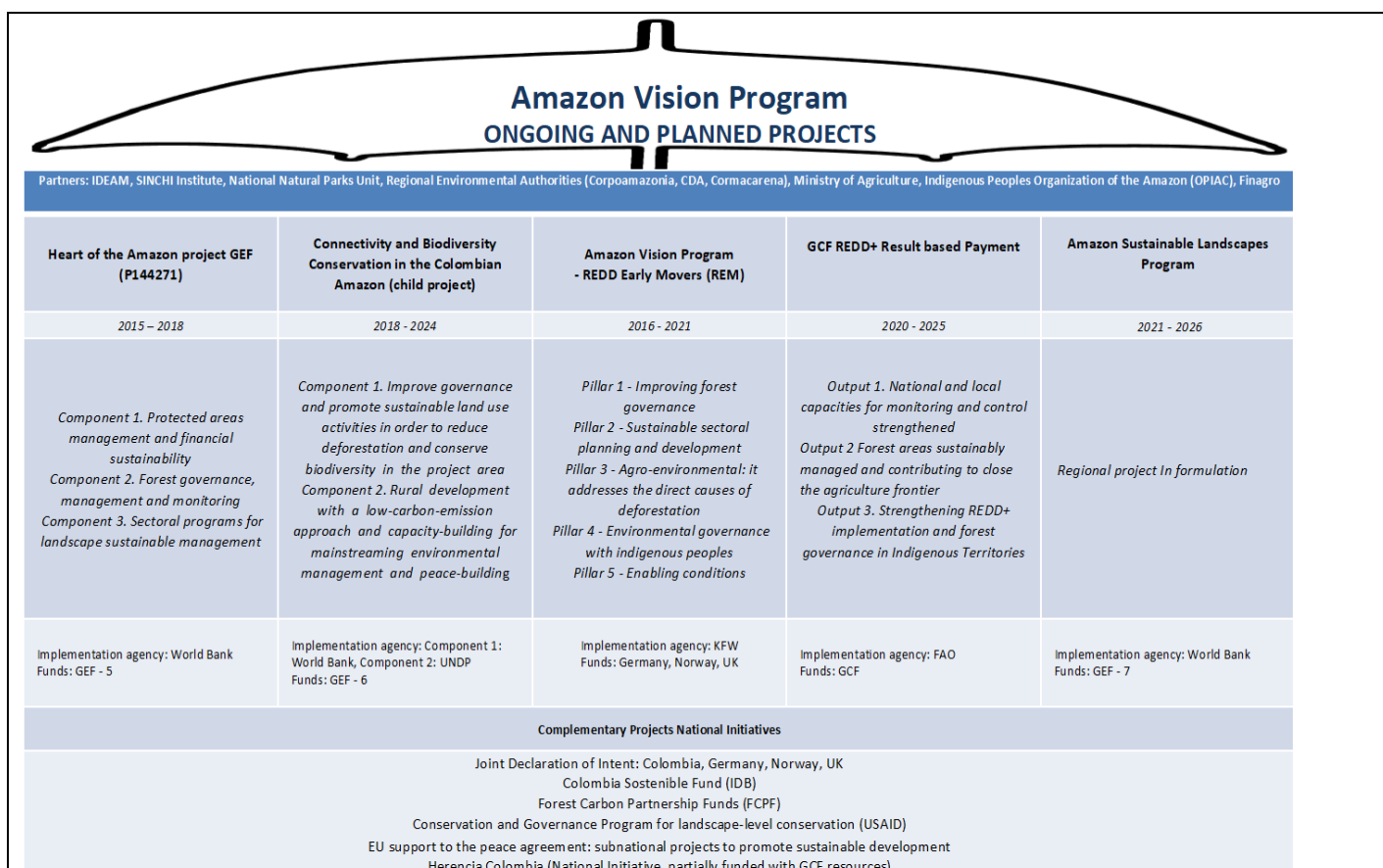
To achieve the objectives and action lines of the EICDGB, the strategies of the NDP and the NDCs, Colombia is implementing the AVP, an umbrella program formulated by the national government that seeks to reduce emissions from deforestation in the Colombian Amazon. As described in previous sections, the AVP promote a sustainable development model, which involves strategies for forests and natural resources protection and sustainable use, while empowering local communities and indigenous peoples and generating zero-deforestation productive alternatives. If successful, the Amazon Vision strategy could reduce significant amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> released in the atmosphere, accompanied by substantial co-benefits in the form of improved smallholder farmer livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and forest governance.

At the regional level, The AVP represents the prime mechanism to support regional implementation activities to reduce deforestation in the Amazon biome and constitutes an umbrella for the operation of other international cooperation projects and initiatives. Under the AVP, there are several on-going projects from bilateral/multilateral cooperation as presented in the Figure 4. These projects have made important investments in strengthening the management effectiveness of the national parks and their buffer zones, increase forest governance, enhance capacities of local communities, indigenous peoples and authorities, support the national forest monitoring system, promote sectoral programs to involve the private sector and enhance sustainable land-use and natural resources management practices that contribute to reduce pressure on forests and reduce deforestation. Experiences of these projects have supported the achievement of results proposed in the EICDGB and provided the country with national capacities, instruments and tools.

<sup>20</sup> See also <https://www.dnp.gov.co/DNPN/Plan-Nacional-de-Desarrollo/Paginas/Pactos-Transversales/Pacto-por-la-sostenibilidad/Sostenibilidad.aspx>

<sup>21</sup> The agricultural frontier (Res 000261 of 2018, Ministry of Agriculture) is the limit of the rural land that separates (i) areas where agricultural activities are being developed, (ii) conditioned/restricted and protected areas, (iii) areas of special ecological importance, and (iv) the other areas in which that agricultural activities are excluded by law.





**Figure 4. Projects under the umbrella of the Colombian Amazon Vision Program**

Specifically the AVP REM project is the first Results-Based Payments scheme that is being implemented with the objective of reducing deforestation in the Amazon Region. The strategy of the REM AVP considers five areas of work as presented in the Box 1.

BOX 1. Short Description of the Pillars of the Amazon Vision Program – REM Project
<p><b>Pillar 1</b> - Improving forest governance: this pillar focuses on the institutional strengthening of management of forest resources and effective land use planning.</p> <p><b>Pillar 2</b> - Sustainable sectoral planning and development: it is oriented to articulate processes with the transport infrastructure and energy mining sectors, which have an impact on current and future land development and planning.</p> <p><b>Pillar 3</b> - Agro-environmental: it addresses the direct causes of deforestation through two strategies that include i) zero net deforestation agreements with local associations and ii) the promotion of instruments for forest conservation and sustainable agro-environmental practices adoption.</p> <p><b>Pillar 4</b> - Environmental governance with indigenous peoples: it seeks to strengthen indigenous communities in the conservation and sustainable use of the forest in their territories, by strengthening their capacity for territorial governance and their traditions, knowledge and sustainable productive practices.</p> <p><b>Pillar 5</b> - Enabling conditions: this transversal pillar aims to develop a set of activities that facilitate the implementation of the other four, including the strengthening of the SMBYC and INF.</p>

A recent evaluation of the REM-AVP provided recommendations and opportunities associated with the program operations management and changes of national circumstances, such as the implementation of the peace agreement. The evaluation identified opportunities for improvement and made the following recommendations:

- Prioritize the forestry approach in the interventions of the Program where aspects of forests, community and economy are jointly worked, framed within a concept of sustainable forest economy. (EICDGB - Action line 2: Development of a forestry economy and closure of the agricultural frontier).
- Promotion of business plans focused on financial viability to structure projects implemented in the AVP.
- Improve and re-enforce actions on deforestation fronts in aspects such as monitoring, control and forestry and ethnic focus.
- Incorporate monitoring and evaluation components of action impacts.

Regarding local investments, the REM-AVP evaluation found that a proportion of just 2% is a very low amount of resources and does not allow the country to promote a forest economy model, which could be replicated in other areas. In view of this weaknesses, the evaluation recommended to take into account the importance of this Pillar within the program, the limited scope to promote sustainable supply chains and the fragility of the current approach to strengthen control and surveillance capacities of environmental authorities.

In line with the recommendations of the REM-AVP evaluation and according to the national context, the proceeds from GCF will be reinvested in activities that contribute to the implementation of the EICDGB, the strategies of the NDP, and the achievement of the NDC goals. In this context the national government has prioritized for this project the execution of activities that contribute to promote a forest economy and strengthen indigenous territories governance in the region.

#### **Project outputs and activities – use of GCF proceeds**

Taking into account progress of projects implemented under the umbrella of the AVP, the priorities of the National Development Plan and lines of the EICDGB, the REDD+ Results Based Payment Project funded by GCF will contribute to the reduction of deforestation in the Colombian Amazon by strengthening local capacities for forest sustainable management and monitoring.

In line with the NDP and the action lines of the EICDGB and the contribution of forest management to climate change mitigation, this project will promote **a forest economy that contributes to deforestation reduction** by implementing **a community-based forestry program for the Amazon region**, strengthening environmental governance of indigenous peoples, and supporting enabling-environment conditions, focusing mainly on consolidation of the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMByC) and the strengthening of capacities for monitoring and control at national and local levels.

The objective of the REDD+ RBP project is to support the national, regional and local Governments of the Colombian Amazon Biome to implement the EICDGB with emphasis on the lines consigned in the PND 2018-2022: Legality, forest economy and land tenure, and permanent monitoring. To achieve its goals, the Project will implement activities to accomplish three main outcomes that will support the implementation of the National REDD+ strategy (EICDGB) and complement actions of the AVP (Table 7). Local authorities, smallholders, farmer associations and indigenous peoples of the Amazon region will be the main beneficiaries of this project. The Theory of Change is presented in Annex 6.

**Table 7. Links between the REDD+ RBP Project Outputs and Activities with the Action Lines of the EICDGB and the Pillars of the Amazon Vision Program**

Action Lines and Goals of the EICDGB	AVP REM Program Results - Pillars	REDD+ RBP Project Outputs and Activities
<p><b>Action Line 1. Sociocultural management of forests and public awareness</b></p> <p>M.1.1. Optimize coordination between ethnic groups with institutions for the harmonization of their sector development planning instruments and territorial planning with a gender and differential approach.</p> <p>M. 1.2. Strengthen self-government systems and traditional knowledge of ethnic groups for territory governance and sustainable forest management.</p> <p>M. 1.3. Strengthen the instruments that consolidate the territorial rights of ethnic groups in deforestation foci and strategic forest conservation areas.</p> <p>M. 1.4. Implement own conservation and restoration systems in territories of ethnic groups.</p>	<p><b>Result 4 Improved environmental governance of indigenous peoples</b>  <i>Pillar 4: Environmental governance with indigenous peoples</i>            Objective Promote mechanisms that recognize traditional indigenous practices that guarantee the permanence of natural coverage and the great cultural and ecosystem diversity existing in their territories</p>	<p><b>Output 3. Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation</b>            Activity 3.1 Strengthening REDD+ implementation and forest governance in Indigenous Territories            Activity 3.2 Empowerment and participation of indigenous women</p>
<p><b>Action Line 2 Development of a forest economy and closure of the agricultural border</b></p> <p>M.2.1. Development and implementation of a community forestry program based on the associativity and value chains of forest goods and services.</p>	<p><b>Result 2: Forest and territorial governance implemented and consolidated.</b>  <i>Pillar 1. Improvement of forest governance</i>            Objective: Strengthen institutional capacity for the conservation of natural forests through law enforcement in the areas of the Amazon Forest Reserve, forest areas, and institutional coordination for forest monitoring and control.</p>	<p><b>Output 2 Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier</b>            Activity 2.1 Support local community-based organizations in the design and establishment of sustainable forest management units in eight areas<sup>22</sup>            Activity 2.2 Implementation of training programs for sustainable forest management            Activity 2.3 Market access and strengthening of product value chains of timber and non-timber forest products            Activity 2.5 Design of incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management            Activity 2.6 Implementation of long-term community-based monitoring systems in forestry units</p>

<sup>22</sup> Criteria to select forestry units to be supported by the Project will be agreed with the MADS taking into account intervention areas of the AVP and other government priorities. Some criteria that could guide the selection are: Areas of high deforestation and/or socio-environmental conflicts, high potential of generating benefits for avoided deforestation, communities interested in forest management, existing community processes.

<p><b>Action Line 2 Development of a forest economy and closure of the agricultural border</b></p> <p>M. 2.2. Integration of sustainable forest management associated with forest goods and services and the closure of the agricultural frontier in the National System of Agricultural Innovation SNIA (Law 1876 of 2017) and its instruments.</p>	<p><b>Result 3. Consolidated and expanded sustainable agri-environmental activities in the intervention areas</b> <i>Pillar 3. Agro-environmental.</i> Objective: Reduce deforestation and poverty through the implementation of sustainable productive processes that improve the quality of life of local populations, the conservation of Amazonian biodiversity and the achievement of the goal of zero net deforestation in 2020</p>	<p><b>Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened</b> Activity 1.3 Support the implementation of rural environmental cadasters as a measure to monitor deforestation at farm level.</p> <p><b>Output 2 Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier</b> Activity 2.3 Market access and strengthening of product value chains of timber and non-timber forest products and other sustainable products derived from forestry units</p>
<p><b>Action line 4. Permanent monitoring and control</b> M. 4.1. Strengthen existing instruments for Forest Monitoring and Monitoring (SMBYC + SNIF + IFN).</p>	<p><b>Result 5: Consolidated Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC).</b> <i>Pillar 5: Enabling conditions.</i> Objective: Consolidate the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC)</p>	<p><b>Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened</b> Activity 1.1 Strengthening of the existing national forest monitoring of early warning reports in deforestation hotspots.</p>
<p><b>Action line 4. Permanent monitoring and control</b> M. 4.2. Promote forestry legality. M. 4.3. Implement comprehensive actions for immediate response.</p>	<p><b>Result 2. Forest and territorial governance implemented and consolidated.</b> <i>Pillar 1. Improvement of forest governance</i></p>	<p><b>Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened</b> Activity 1.4 Implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol (monitoring, forest traceability, operational and administrative) - including the reinforcement of deforestation control actions and other associated crimes</p> <p><b>Output 2 Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier</b> Activity 2.4 Strengthening regional environmental authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments to ensure sustainable forest management in selected forestry units</p>
<p>Action Line 5. Generation and strengthening of legal, institutional and financial capabilities M. 5.2. Financing and allocation of resources.</p>	<p><b>Result 2. Implemented forest and territorial governance and consolidation</b> <i>Pillar 2 Planning and Sustainable Sector Development</i> Objective: Address the causes of deforestation through intersectoral planning and the development, execution and strengthening of agreements for the sustainability of the sectors productive, from the</p>	<p><b>Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened</b> Activity 1.2. Support the implementation of a strategy for Green Municipalities</p>

	general level of planning to the level of local decision making on the use of the territory.	
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## Description on the use of GCF proceeds, by Output and activities

### ***Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened***

Under **Output 1**, the project will use GCF funds to support the implementation of the Actions Lines 4 and 5 of the EICDGB. The Line 4, Permanent monitoring and control has the objective of generating reliable, consistent, timely and quality information on the status, pressure and dynamics of the forests, as support for decision-making processes at national, regional and local levels. The monitoring systems are conceived as an instrument to support Environmental Authorities for an efficient administration of forest resources, and follow up on the application of social and environmental safeguards. The Action Line 5: Generation and strengthening of legal, institutional and financial capacities, is targeted to promote institutional, regulatory and financial adjustments that provide the State with the necessary instruments for forest management and the effective reduction and control of deforestation in Colombia.

Activities will complement those being implemented under the Pillars 2 and 5 of the AVP. Pillar 2 aims to support intersectoral agreements and public-private partnerships, encourage good practices in economic sectors and promote instruments to help prevent. Pillar 5 has the objective of monitoring deforestation and carbon stocks in the Amazon, supporting the generation of national and regional deforestation reports, early warnings, estimation of emissions, and the generation of information to support making decisions processes, control deforestation, report results and monitor conservation agreements in place.

Specifically, the REM-AVP has supported the regional environmental authorities to increase their capacities for monitoring forests in their jurisdictions, having supported the development of seventeen national deforestation early warnings and having provided local stakeholders with information on deforestation, carbon stocks and other relevant data. Also the program has supported the National Government to strengthen its capacities for regional planning and zoning, design and implementation of instruments to reduce deforestation and manage the national forest and carbon monitoring system (SMBYC).

#### **Activity 1.1 Strengthening of the existing national forest monitoring of early warning reports in deforestation hotspots.**

GCF funds will be used to support the national forest monitoring system led by IDEAM to generate reports and more frequent early warnings in deforestation hotspots of the amazon region, according to the implementation plan defined for Measures 4.1 and 4.2 of the EICDGB. Investments will also support training and capacity building activities to support local governments, regional environmental authorities, indigenous peoples organizations and resguardos, village associations, and land owners to analyze and use information derived from the forest monitoring system and actively participate in the development of strategies and initiatives to reduce deforestation.

Taking into account that activities under Output 2 will be focused in promoting a forest economy, investments under Output 1 will invest in the implementation of monitoring protocols to measure fluxes of GHG in for managed forests. This activity will support the SMBYC in improving methodologies for monitoring carbons stocks in managed forests.

#### **Activity 1.2. Support the implementation of a strategy for Green Municipalities**

As defined in the Measure 5.2 of the EICDGB and building on previous efforts of national government and the AVP, GCF funds will support the design and implementation of a green municipalities program targeted to those municipalities that possess big areas of forest and need support to strengthen their capacities (technical and financial) to reduce deforestation. The REM-AVP has made progress in the conceptualization of incentives for green



municipalities that include payments per results from the national government and mechanisms to attract private sector partners that maybe interested in sourcing from municipalities committed to zero deforestation. Building on that, GCF funds will be used to provide technical support to municipalities in the formulation of projects to access financial resources for fighting deforestation drivers (e.g. royalties, international cooperation, private partnerships) and promote private sector investments as a market incentive, by involving companies and enterprises signatories of the Legal Timber Pact and the zero deforestation agreements that are operating nationally for milk, beef, coffee and cocoa. The arrangements to provide this support to the municipalities will be executed through consultancies, while other activities that would support specific zero-deforestation work plans will be formulated through participatory activities with the municipalities and other relevant stakeholders. Investments will be prioritized in the 15 municipalities with the biggest areas in natural forest and highest deforestation rates in the Amazon Biome (Table 8).

**Table 8. List of municipalities with higher deforestation rates and biggest forest areas.**

Department	Municipality	Area of forest stable (ha)	Area of forest lost (2010-2017)
Caquetá	Solano	3,854,337	99,155
	San Vicente del Caguán	1,164,802	217,498
	Cartagena del Chairá	925,828	183,722
	Puerto Rico	196,996	29,394
Guaviare	San José del Guaviare	1,343,448	115,751
	Calamar	1,243,587	66,456
	Miraflores	1,165,262	37,749
	El Retorno	1,060,926	62,639
Meta	La Macarena	506,149	200,822
	La Uribe	483,554	58,471
	Vistahermosa	324,148	30,314
	Puerto Rico	177,889	31,408
Putumayo	Puerto Leguizamó	939,100	71,091
	Puerto Guzmán	288,945	18,312
	Puerto Asís	170,152	24,111

**Activity 1.3 Support the implementation of rural environmental cadasters as a measure to monitor deforestation at farm level**

As identified in the EICDGB, land tenure conflicts are a relevant deforestation driver. Measures 3.2 and 5.1 of the EICDGB define the need of implementing the multipurpose cadaster as a tool to reduce pressures on the forest and provide solutions to land tenure conflicts and implement regulations to include climate change and zero deforestation in the cadaster process. Colombia is already implementing the cadaster nationally and the AVP is supporting the National Lands Agency to define its strategy of regularization of rural property in the Amazon, which will benefit 500 thousand hectares. In line with these measures the project will support monitoring of forest conservation activities and zero-deforestation commitments of landholders by promoting rural environmental cadasters for small landholders. This instrument will be complemented with benefits to strengthen capacities of landholders for forest management, agroforestry and recovery of degraded areas. Investments of the project will include strengthening of the National Forest Monitoring System to support the management and administration of a specific monitoring system for rural environmental cadaster, taking into account existing national initiatives such as the National Multipurpose Cadaster.

**Activity 1.4 Implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol (monitoring, forest traceability, operational and administrative) - including the reinforcement of deforestation control actions and other associated crimes**

In line with Measures 4.3 and 5.1 of the EICDGB related to the strengthening of local capacities for implementing integrated actions to address deforestation drivers, GCF funds will be used to support National Government in the

operation of the National Council to Combat Deforestation (CONALDEF), led by the MADS and conformed by other government's institutions such as the Ministries of Agriculture, Transport, Justice, Mines and Energy, among others, the Attorney General's Office, Attorney General's Office Nation, the General Command of the Colombian Military Forces and the National Police. Activities will be oriented to facilitate meetings of this Council and the generation of relevant information for making decisions and develop strategies targeted to control deforestation.

### ***Output 2. Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier***

GCF funds will support the implementation of the Action Line 2 of the EICDGB (Development of a forest economy and closure of the agriculture frontier), specifically the Measure 2.1 aimed to promote a forest economy based on forests' goods and services in order to boost integrated rural development and close the agricultural frontier (Res 261/2018).

Taking into account the contribution of a forest economy to reduce emissions, mitigate climate change and support the strategies of the National Development Plan (NDP), under **Output 2** GCF proceeds will support the implementation of a community-based forestry program targeted to design and establish at least six community-based forestry units (60,000 ha)<sup>23</sup>. A Community-Based Forestry Unit will be considered as a unit managed by a local association of farmers or indigenous peoples that develop sustainable forest management activities involving the commercial use of several species of timber and non-timber forest products and agriculture products derived from the transformation<sup>24</sup> of existing conventional agriculture areas into more sustainable and low-carbon production systems. These units will implement a landscape management approach that integrates forest management and agriculture systems, and provides other services such as ecotourism.

As the forestry units are conceived as a tool to stop deforestation in areas where there are some risks of expansion of the agriculture frontier, it is expected that forest management activities be complemented with forest conservation agreements in the natural forest surrounding areas, which could multiply the impact of forestry units in terms of avoided deforestation.

It is expected that labour force to develop forest management activities come from the local communities benefited by the Project, avoiding migration of new actors into the forest areas. In this sense, GCF funds will support existing producers associations, Communal Action Groups<sup>25</sup>, indigenous peoples organizations or other community-based organizations as main beneficiaries of the operations of forestry units. Activities of the project will prioritize the support to those areas where community organizations are in place, however, based on national experiences it is expected that the project invest in supporting processes to create new organizations or strengthen the weaker ones, in order to ensure sustainable forest management in areas that contribute to closing the agriculture frontier. Activities of design and implementation of forestry units will be developed in close coordination with regional environmental authorities, which are responsible of granting forest management permits and provide specialized guidance to those persons interested in managing natural resources in their areas of jurisdiction.

This output will support community-based forestry units in line with the Pillar 1 of the REM-AVP: Improving Forest Governance and Pillar 3: Promotion of instruments for forest conservation and adoption of sustainable agro environmental practices. The Project will build on the previous efforts of Pillar 1 to promote the sustainable forest management as a mechanism to strengthen the local and regional economies. To achieve its objective, one of the Pillar's goals is to support the regional environmental authorities in the elaboration of "Planes de Ordenamiento Forestal" – POF<sup>26</sup> covering 2.400.000 ha, which guide the identification of areas for promoting sustainable forest management. Up to know REM-AVP is supporting POFs for 1.582.075 ha of forests in Putumayo, Meta and Guaviare and has made progress in supporting management plans for five community-based forest units that cover 75 thousand

<sup>23</sup> Size of forestry-units will consider areas that Regional Environmental Authorities historically have defined for granting management permits, which areas about 10,000 ha.

<sup>24</sup> Transformation of conventional agriculture systems include promotion of sustainable food security models, implementation of good practices in agri-food systems, conversion of traditional agricultural and livestock production systems to sustainable systems, establishment of agricultural production models with forestry component (e.g. agroforestry, silvopastoral, etc.), recovery of soils and degraded areas, among others.

<sup>25</sup> Community Action Groups (Juntas de Acción Comunal) is a figure promoted by the State that operated as a non-profit civic corporation composed of the neighbors of a given place, who work together and combine efforts and resources to seek the solution of the most relevant community needs.

<sup>26</sup> POFs are studies that are elaborated by the Regional Environmental Authorities (CAR) to ensure that those persons interested in using forest resources develop their activities in a planned way in order to guarantee proper management and sustainable use of the resource. CARS are responsible of the elaboration of the POF based on description of the biotic, abiotic, social and economic aspects in areas under their jurisdiction.

hectares and will start operation during 2020. The Pillar also seeks to support centers for the transformation of timber and non-timber products that allow a more dynamic forestry sector, seeking to reduce illegality and give greater added value to timber and non-timber forest products. The REM-AVP also has designed a capacity building strategy for local communities (Escuela de Selva) and has made effective the implementation of conservation agreements, benefiting 2.834 families and covering 96.925. In this context, activities of the Project will also be aligned with investments of the Pillar 3, which has been promoting conservation agreements with local community-based associations in 96.876 ha of natural forests and has been supporting sustainable supply chains of cocoa, rubber, milk, beef and amazon fruits and funding 16 community projects that combine sustainable production and zero deforestation agreements.

Based on the preliminary results of the REM-AVP, GCF investments will be focalized to support the establishment of community-based forestry units, prioritizing those located in areas where POFs are being formulated. Also the program will consider as a priority those areas relevant to close the agriculture frontier, preferably those included in conservation agreements or located in PDET municipalities with little investments from other projects being implemented under the AVP umbrella.

Criteria to identify intervention areas will be agreed with the MADS taking into account intervention areas of the AVP, other government priorities and the following criteria that have been used for supporting forestry units in other areas of Colombia:

1. Areas of high deforestation, with high deforestation and / or socio-environmental conflicts.
2. Areas with high potential of generating benefits for avoided deforestation
3. Communities interested in forest management that require sustainable production alternatives to avoid/control deforestation.
4. Communities' interests in forest management with unsatisfied basic needs (e.g. food security).
5. Existing community processes but that must consolidate associativity bases.
6. Sites/communities where there is informality or unfair trade of timber products.
7. Areas of high biodiversity.
8. Regional Autonomous Corporations with interest in promoting sustainable community forest management.
9. Potential community initiatives that are under forest reserve areas of Law Second (Áreas Forestales de Ley 2da de 1959<sup>27</sup>. In this case, the Associativity figure can be implemented to access the use rights of these areas, especially for rural communities<sup>28</sup>.

GCF funds will also be used to increase market access and identify potential incentives for sustainable forest management building on previous efforts. The REM-AVP is implementing an incentive for forest conservation in order to support families interested in being part of sustainable forest management units. The project will evaluate this instrument and identify other complementary incentives according to the characteristics of each Community-Based Forestry Unit.

### **Activity 2.1. Support local community-based organizations in the design and establishment of sustainable forest management units in eight areas**

GCF funds will be used to support local associations in the design of community-based forestry units including identification of timber and non timber forest products with market potential as well as other income generation activities (e.g. sustainable agriculture, fishing and ecotourism). The design will include the elaboration of business plans and market strategies for each unit, involving participatory methodologies and trainings to create local capacities for the operations of a community-based forestry unit. Products and services provided by a forest unity may include timber and non-timber forest products (e.g. acai, canagucha, palms leaves for handicrafts and construction), sustainable agriculture products (milk, cocoa, rubber) and ecotourism. Forest management activities will be complemented with forest conservation agreements that will cover natural surrounding areas.

Forestry units may include agriculture areas, taking into account that currently livelihoods of farmers living close to the agriculture frontier are based on cattle ranching and other extractive activities with no value added, nor sustainable

<sup>27</sup> <http://siatac.co/web/guest/productos/ordenamiento-territorial/zrf>

<sup>28</sup> Guía Técnica Jurídica sobre la aplicación de la normatividad forestal actual en el marco del manejo forestal sostenible basado en comunidades.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qPnxACiWfQXVI1gg8V3XBRgWOmmEgqvq>

practices. In this context forest units will be designed including an integrated landscape management approach that combines agriculture and forest areas, promote sustainable practices to generate local benefits and provide market-based incentives.

The project will build on existing experiences resulting from the implementation of the Project "Technical Assistance Model for the implementation of the community forestry model in Colombia"<sup>29</sup>, which is being implemented in several areas of the country (e.g. departments of Antioquia, Cauca, Valle del Cauca, Tolima, Bolívar, Huila, Putumayo), and that has a differential (ethnic generational) and gender approach. According to this, the establishment of forestry units includes:

- a) Use of timber and non-timber forest products.
- b) Restoration actions in deforested areas for conservation, use and management.
- c) Enrichment actions of native species in degraded natural forests.
- d) Nursery activities for restoration and enrichment.
- e) Participatory community monitoring and control and surveillance actions.

Under this activity, GCF funds will also support local associations in the elaboration of integrated management plans for each forestry unit to ensure sustainable management of species and habitats. These plans will include forest inventories, analysis of biological information of managed species and monitoring systems to be implemented.

Business plans and financial analysis will guide operation of the forestry unit in a term of 25 years, identifying the risks and strategies to ensure financial, social and environmental sustainability of the forest management activity. These instruments will also provide information to identify the need for investments in logistic, timber products facilities, market access mechanisms and others needed to make feasible the business in the long term.

#### **Activity 2.2 Implementation of training programs for sustainable forest management**

GCF funds will be used to design and Implement tailored training programs to strengthen capacities of local community-based organizations for sustainable forest management. Training programs will include those aspects that are key for long-term economic, social and environmental sustainability such as: good practices for harvesting and processing of forest products, monitoring activities and traceability, financial management, entrepreneurial capacities, market access and other relevant areas that could be identified during the design process. Given the importance of generating local capacities and transfer learned experiences to other forest areas, GCF resources will also be used for promoting learning exchanges among organizations supported by the project, other associations interested in implementing forest management projects, and other more experienced associations or projects. Implementation of training programs will involve community associations, youth groups, local and regional environmental authorities, national and regional universities and the National Service of Learning (SENA).

#### **Activity 2.3 Market access and strengthening of product value chains of timber and non-timber forest products and other sustainable products derived from forestry units**

GCF funds will be employed in conducting market assessments to identify market opportunities for the products and services provided by the forestry units and support stakeholders along the supply chain in improving their capacities to meet market requirements. Resources will also be used for market development, facilitation and strengthening of market linkages and other activities to incentivize private sector investments beyond the project lifetime. Special consideration will be given to economic opportunities and small-derived businesses led by women (management of native species nurseries, harvesting, monitoring, etc.). Implementation of market strategies will include participation of the green markets offices of the Ministry of Environment and the National Environmental Authorities, as well as the Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce.

Supply chains and forestry units will be supported through the application of the methodology Market Analysis and Development (MA&D) implemented by FAO in several countries, including Colombia. This methodology guides communities to a process of identification of promising products and services that could be derived from their forests, and support the development of market studies and business plans to analyze together with the communities the feasibility of the management of identified products and services such as timber and not timber forest products,

<sup>29</sup> Community-based forestry: achievements and learnings <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1c-PLVaUttRyFYfL7N-hIM3KVFJj3n89G>

sustainable agriculture products, amazon fruits, ecotourism, provision of seedlings of native species, restoration of degraded lands, among others.

**Activity 2.4 Strengthening regional environmental authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments to assure sustainable forest management in selected forestry units**

Building on previous national efforts to increase traceability and forest governance, the program will invest in the formulation of a capacity building program, to strengthen regional environmental authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments to assure sustainable forest management. The program will be aligned with the activities for the establishment of the eight community-based forestry units in such a way that procedures, capacities and information systems that promote sustainable forest management are improved and adjusted to the need of the forestry units.

**Activity 2.5 Design of incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management**

Investments of the program will support the design of a set of incentives that will continue operating after the project, attracting other international cooperation or private sector funds and providing funding for future communities interested in establishing Community-Based Forestry Units. Incentives will be designed based on experiences of national institutions such as the Fondo Acción (FA), who is implementing financial mechanisms targeted to support communities implementing REDD+ projects such as Carbon Unit AFOLU (CUA) that is currently supporting 19 local communities in the Pacific region of Colombia. Based on existing experiences, the Project will invest GCF proceeds to support the design of mechanisms to assure mid-term financial sustainability of the forestry units established under Activity 2.1.

**Activity 2.6 Implementation of long-term community-based monitoring systems in forestry units**

GCF funds will support establishment of long-term monitoring systems following and adaptive management approach to preventing negative effects of forest management on the natural resources of the managed forests and the surrounding natural areas. Monitoring systems will be designed according to the characteristics of each forestry unit and will include specific science-based methodologies for assessing and monitoring managed species and evaluate the impacts of forest management activities on natural habitats and relevant species. The design and implementation process will follow forest stewardship and traceability criteria in such a way that communities benefited by the project will have the capacities for accessing forest certification in the near future.

***Output 3. Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation.***

The NDP recognizes the importance of indigenous territories governance as a strategy to reduce deforestation, therefore its objectives include to consolidate in a concerted way an indigenous strategy to counteract deforestation, promote restoration in indigenous territories, advance an update assessments to identify the causes, agents and impacts of deforestation and facilitate the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions in the context of the EICDGB.

In line with this mandate, Measures 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of the Action Line 1 of the EICDGB and the progress made by the AVP, this output aims to consolidate indigenous peoples' governance capacities by supporting subprojects formulated by IPs organizations and communities. According to the objective of the Project, this Output will prioritize support to subprojects that contribute to the creation of a forest economy as an instrument to improve local governance, knowledge and management of forests.

Activities of this output will be aligned to the procedures of Pillar 4 of the AVP: Environmental governance with indigenous peoples (PIVA). As described previously, those procedures applicable to the projects implemented under the umbrella of the AVP were approved by IP authorities (MIAACC<sup>30</sup>) after the AVP followed a consultation process agreed upon and driven by MADS and OPIAC.

**Activity 3.1 Strengthening REDD+ implementation and forest governance in Indigenous Territories**

In line with the objective and activities being implemented under the PIVA, the project will support sub-projects targeting indigenous peoples' organizations and communities in five priority areas:

1. Territory and environment

<sup>30</sup> Indigenous Board on Environment and Climate Change -Mesa Indígena Amazónica Ambiental y de Cambio Climático (MIAACC)



2. Indigenous self-government
3. Economy and production
4. Strengthening of indigenous women
5. Cross-cutting issues:

The selection of sub-projects to be supported will be undertaken through public calls that include the following steps:

- Definition of terms of reference and conditions to support projects.
- Calls for project proposal and dissemination activities.
- Reception of projects.
- Selection and prioritization of projects.
- Support of formulation and restructuring of selected projects.
- Definition of implementation arrangements.
- Evaluation of results and design of new calls.
- Support to the execution of selected projects and technical support.

According to the previously agreed procedures, activities will be defined in close coordination with IPs organizations and authorities (MIAACC) and specific terms of reference and procedures for each public call will be agreed with the IP's authorities designated to this end. The subprojects selected will begin an implementation route previously agreed with the beneficiaries. Each route will include legal procedures, strategies for the generation and strengthening of capacities in indigenous organizations in administrative and accounting matters, improvement of the proposal and a following-up and technical assistance plan for the execution of the project.

In order to complement activities for the support of IPs projects', a specific strategy will be designed to ensure participation of women in the process of formulation, selection and execution of projects, and define specific activities to provide additional support to projects implemented by women groups.

PIVA has developed two public calls and supported 36 projects proposed by indigenous communities. In the first call PIVA approved 10 projects, which finished execution in 2019. Investments of this call reached approximately 2 million dollars (6 billion pesos) and were implemented in Amazonas, Putumayo, Caquetá, Guainía and Vaupés, plus a regional project. In the second call, PIVA selected 26 projects that are being implemented and represent investments of approximately 5.5 million dollars (18 billion pesos) in Amazonas, Guainía, Guaviare, Putumayo, Vaupes and Cauca, besides some projects with a regional scope. The third call for projects was launched beginning 2020 and expects to invest around 20 billion Colombian pesos, the selection criteria for this last call are:

- Initiatives contributing to the objectives of Vision Amazonia in reducing deforestation, forest conservation and biodiversity.
- Initiatives responding to local situations identified as priorities directly related to general problems of the Amazonian peoples.
- Projects that contribute to existing processes in legally constituted indigenous organizations and to capacity building in communities and their organizations.
- Proposals incorporating technical and social criteria aimed at promoting sustainability of existing processes.
- Initiatives that have broad territorial and thematic coverage generate efficiency in the implementation and cover the largest number of beneficiaries.
- Initiatives that contemplate strategic alliances with private and public actors, with contribution of technical and financial counterparts.
- Initiatives that are inclusive and enhance the participation of women and the elderly.
- Initiatives that include actions that strengthen the culture of indigenous peoples.
- Initiatives that complement existing initiatives, functions of competences of the State
- Implementing entities must meet minimum experience requirements, transparency, capacity and administrative efficiency and are not aligned to political interests private individuals

### **Activity 3.2 Empowerment and participation of indigenous women**

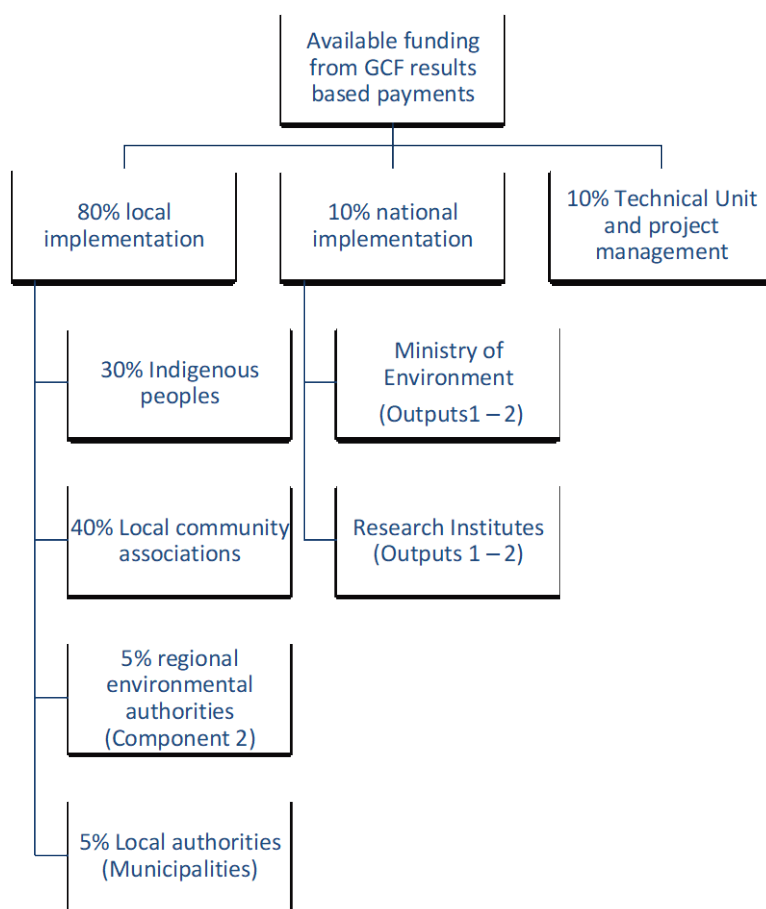
In line with Activity 3.1 GCF resources will be invested in supporting projects that directly impact on indigenous women's wellbeing and livelihoods. Following procedures of Activity 3.1, the project will particularly target projects presented by women's groups that have specific impact in strengthening woman participation in sustainable management and conservation of forests, restoration activities, generation of small businesses that support forest conservation and other activities that bear education potential involving youth groups and children.

### Benefits distribution and non-carbon benefits

In line with the advancements of Colombia, **the proceeds of the results based payments are expected to be used to continue the long-term vision of AVP**, especially with the activities that have been evaluated as effective within the framework of the EICDGB, and which has been the subject of public consultation. Payments received from GCF will be distributed in such a way that each output contributes to the measures proposed by the action lines of the EICDGB. Resources that will be invested in Output 1 will complement activities to assure implementation of monitoring and control activities included in the EICDGB. Investments of Output 2 will support the process of transformation to a forest economy in the region as a measure to close the agriculture frontier according to the EICDGB and contributing to achieve the goals of the NDP. On the other hand, the resources allocated to Output 3 (environmental governance with indigenous peoples) will support implementation of short-term measures to increase forest governance in indigenous lands and generate local livelihoods and capacities for reducing deforestation and promote sustainable forest management. Investments are expected to generate non-carbon benefits in environmental and socio-economic areas. Environmental benefits of the project include conservation of biodiversity associated to manage forests and neighboring forest areas that will not be affected by deforestation. Maintaining forest areas will assure the provision of environmental services, protection of genetic resources of forest ecosystems, watershed integral management and maintenance of vital cycles (N, P, H<sub>2</sub>O).

A direct environmental benefit derived from the project is the provision of timber, non-timber and sustainable agriculture products that offer additional social and economic benefits. These benefits will improve local livelihoods, strengthen local economies, generate opportunities of employment, enhance local capacities of participation and strengthen forest governance and management at the national and local levels.

In this context, the benefits distribution is founded in the importance of promoting forestry and strengthening of indigenous peoples' governance in the National Development Plan as actions that could generate multiple benefits at the national and local levels. According to this, proceeds will be distributed taking into account beneficiaries of each of the three project's outputs as shown in the following figure:



**Figure 5. Proposed scheme of distribution of benefits under the Colombian REDD+ RBP Project**

10% of the resources will be directed to the national level in supportive and enabling activities to strengthen national activities to enhance governance, improve forest monitoring and promote rural cadasters, as proposed in Output 1. 80% of the proceeds will be invested in activities implemented at the local level such as indigenous peoples' subprojects, establishment of community-based forestry unities and strengthening of capacities of environmental and local authorities for forest governance (Outputs 1, 2 and 3). As agreed with the National Government, the remaining 10% will be used to cover project implementation costs associated to the Project Management Unit and other administration expenses.

Beneficiaries will include local communities, indigenous peoples, environmental authorities, national research institutes and local governments. The Amazon Biome includes 10 departments (Amazonas, Caquetá, Guaviare, Guainía, Putumayo and Vaupés, as well as part of Meta, Nariño, Vichada and Cauca), including 58 municipalities and 20 villages<sup>31</sup>. In this region, 31% of protected areas outlined by the National System of Protected Areas of Colombia are grouped as follows: 14 Natural National Parks, 2 Natural National Reserves, one Sanctuary of Flora and Medicinal Plants, and one Sanctuary of Flora and Wildlife<sup>32</sup>. Investments of the project will benefit:

- Rural and urban population of 15 municipalities of three Departments that will implement mechanisms to promote green municipalities programs.
- Indigenous populations of the 6 departments of the Amazon Region (Amazonas, Caquetá, Putumayo, Guaviare, Guainía and Vaupes).
- Rural populations of municipalities located in forest areas where Community-Based Forestry Units will be established.

<sup>31</sup> Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe – CEPAL. 2015. Visiones Regionales en la Amazonia Colombiana. En: Serie de estudios y perspectivas No. 29. Naciones Unidas. Santiago de Chile.

<sup>32</sup> Sistema de Información Ambiental Territorial de la Amazonia Colombiana – SIAT-AC. 2015. Región: Amazonia Colombiana. En línea: <http://siatac.co/web/guest/region>.

- Local governments that improve their capacities for monitoring and implementing local strategies to reduce deforestation as part of a green municipalities programs.
- Regional Environmental Authorities that increase their capacities for forest control and support Community-Based Forestry Units.
- National Government institutions that increase capacities for monitoring, control deforestation and lead strategies and programs to reduce deforestation.

According to the general national census of 2018<sup>33</sup> the Amazon Region has a very low population density of about 2% of the national population (998298), which increased less than 4% since the last census in 2005 (Table 9). Population is mostly settled in the department of Caquetá (42% of the total population) and Putumayo (299,286 inhabitants over 31% of the total population)<sup>34</sup>. Regarding indigenous people, the census figures indicate that 50% of the indigenous people of the country inhabit in the Amazon, representing 17% of the inhabitants of the region. Vaupés has the largest indigenous population (75.5%), followed by Guainía (69.2%), Amazonas (49.8%), Putumayo (14.6%), Guaviare (8.3%) and Caquetá (2.2%). With respect to the number of self-recognized inhabitants, such as afro-colombians, raizal and palenquero peoples, the amazon region presents a total of 19,574 inhabitants that correspond to 2% of the total population in the region. The greatest populations of NARP (Spanish acronym: afro-colombians, raizal, and palenquero peoples) were registered in Putumayo (52%), followed by Caquetá (26%), Guaviare (15%), Amazonas (2.5%), Guainía (2.4%) and Vaupés (1.5%). NARP population for the region is considered a minority in comparison to indigenous population.

**Table 9. Population distribution in the departments of the Amazon Region (DANE, 2018).**

Department	Total population (No. Inhabitants)	Indigenous population (No. Inhabitants)	Relative indigenous population (%)
Amazonas	76589	38130	49.8
Caquetá	401849	8825	2.2
Guainía	48114	33280	69.2
Guaviare	82767	6856	8.3
Putumayo	348182	50694	14.6
Vaupés	40797	30787	75.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>998298</b>	<b>168572</b>	<b>16.9</b>

Table 10 describes the main actors and organizations that would benefit from GCF investments:

**Table 10. Types of beneficiaries of the REDD+ RBP Project**

Type Beneficiary	Description
Local governments	Technicians of the Agriculture, Planning and Environment Secretaries of Departments and Municipalities governments Governors and Mayors part of the green-municipalities program.
Indigenous Peoples	Indigenous communities and organizations in the 8 departments of the Amazon Region Indigenous territories (187 resguardos indígenas of 63 different ethnic groups that owned more than 26 millions has <sup>35</sup> ) Associations of traditional authorities and community councils.
Small and medium landholders	Owners of forests and agricultural lands located in Community-Based Forestry Units.

<sup>33</sup> Departamento Administrativo de estadística, Dane. 2018. Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda. En línea:

<https://www.dane.gov.co/index.php/estadisticas-por-tema/demografia-y-poblacion/censo-nacional-de-poblacion-y-vivienda-2018>

<sup>34</sup> Instituto Amazónico de Investigaciones Científicas Sinchi. 2007. Balance anual sobre el estado de los ecosistemas y el ambiente de la Amazonia colombiana 2006. Bogotá, D.C.

<sup>35</sup> <http://siatac.co/web/guest/productos/territorios-ancestrales/resguardos-indigenas>

	Farmer organizations, farmers and producers involved in the management of forest Units Women's associations Community Action Boards (JAC in Spanish) of the areas that will be included in the establishment of sustainable forest management Representatives of producers associations and other actors involved in the implementation of green municipalities program.
Environmental institutions	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development Regional Environmental Authorities: Corpoamazonia, CDA, CORMACARENA, CRC, Corponariño. National Parks Unit National Research Institutes: IDEAM, SINCHI Institute.

Although, the detail of the beneficiaries and the selecting criteria will be identified during the initial phase, it is important to highlight that rural populations in the Amazon located in areas that are part of the Amazon Reserve (Law 2, 1951) are not recognized as land-owners, but are able to access forest resources through community associations as stated in the Decree 1791/96. Taking into account this condition, the project will support community organizations that would be responsible for the management of forest areas according to national regulations. In the Amazon Region, Corpoamazonia has developed specific procedures for community association and the MADS is structuring specific procedures applicable at the national level.

According to the current regulations, forest management activities are not allowed in areas of national natural parks. However areas that are overlapped with resguardos indígenas have a special regimen of management, represented in agreements between indigenous peoples and the National Parks Unit. Thus, in case that indigenous projects supported with GCF funds are located in areas with this overlapping the project will apply the national regulation and will respect existing agreements under the mentioned special regime.

Thus, the proceeds of the results based payment are expected to be used as set out in this section, but in any event will be used in a manner consistent with the restrictions set out in paragraph 14 of the terms of reference for the REDD+ RBP Pilot Program adopted by Decision B.18/07."

### Impacts of COVID-19 on and how to respond

The negative impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on the production and trade of forest products, as well as the disruption of value chains to towns, cities for goods and services will put important livelihoods at risk, on which depend members of forest communities to meet income needs. Food insecurity and a decrease in household incomes tend to increase the reliance of smallholders on forests and forest products for subsistence, including medicinal plants and wildlife, which can result in overharvesting of natural resources. Following the COVID-19 outbreak, the use of wild plants and other herbal-based medicinal products, is anticipated to increase. However, turning the crisis into an opportunity for the implementation of the project, the following actions will be reinforced in the project:

- to promote more legal and sustainable products and nature based solutions to counter any short and longer-term shocks to livelihoods, particularly for more vulnerable people in rural societies who depend on income from land use.
- design interventions combining poverty alleviation and environmental protection such as employment in forest restoration and monitoring, expand cash transfer options through a combination of payments for ecosystem services, and facilitate improved access and use of wild/indigenous/local foods that are readily available.
- Maintain a focus on legal and sustainable production for national industry incentive packages and ensure that sustainable production is economically viable (i.e. requirements are not so costly that Forest Communities are forced into illegal practices).
- strengthen national and regional markets for forest products, in order to maintain access to legally harvested wood and technology (technical assistance, training, equipment), and create channels of commercialization.

### C.2.2. Expected outputs and outcomes:



Project development objective: To support the National, Regional and Local Governments of the Colombian Amazon Biome to implement the EICDGB with emphasis on the lines consigned in the PND 2018-2022: Legality, forest economy and land tenure, and permanent monitoring. The theory of change is included in the Annex 6.

**Table 11. Components, outputs and outcomes of the REDD+ RBP Project**

Component	Output	Outcomes
Implementation of the Colombia's National REDD+ strategy (EICDGB)	Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened (AVP Pillars 2 and 5)	Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for low-emission planning and development
	Output 2 Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier (AVP Pillars 1 and 3)	Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions
	Output 3. Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation. (AVP Pillar 4)	

#### C.2.3. Timeframe of implementation (for monitoring and reporting purposes):

Please provide the following information:

**Table 12. Timeframe of implementation of the Colombia REDD+ RBP Project**

Outputs	Expected year to be achieved
Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened	<b>Year 5</b>
Output 2 Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier	<b>Year 5</b>
Output 3. Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation	<b>Year 4</b>

If needed, provide any additional comments/explanations: N/A

#### C.2.4. Budget estimate (for monitoring and reporting purposes):

Following the procedures of the Terms of Reference for the REDD+ pilot programme for Results-Based payments, the iTAP recommended that the Board consider the following:

1. Total score achieved 38/48
2. GCF volume of ERs: **5,504,024 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq**
3. Additional 2.5 per cent for use of proceeds and non-carbon elements
4. Proposed REDD+ results-based payments (USD 5/tCO<sub>2</sub>eq): USD 28,208,123 .

The Table 13 provides a detailed budget for the project at the Output level.

**Table 13. Estimated budget of the Colombia REDD+ RBP Project**

Output	Indicative cost	GCF proceeds
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	(USD)	Amount
Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened	2,820,812	2,820,812
Output 2 Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier	14,104,061	14,104,061
Output 3. Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation	8,462,437	8,462,437
Project Management Costs (see section G for further details)	2,820,812	2,820,812
<b>Indicative total cost and currency (USD)</b>	<b>28,208,123</b>	<b>28,208,123</b>

#### C.2.5. Implementation arrangements:

*List and describe the institutions involved in the activities that will be funded with proceeds from this pilot programme, and explain their anticipated roles and interactions with one another, including the flow of funds.*

The Government of Colombia, through the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) requested to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations -FAO's to provide technical assistance for the design and implementation of a REDD+ Result Based Payments Project framed in the GCF REDD+ Pilot Program and act as executing entity for this project. Responding to this request, FAO is leading the formulation of this Project and will serve both as Accredited Entity (AE) and Executing Entity (EE).

GCF and FAO will enter into a Funded Activity Agreement (FAA), under which FAO shall administer the relevant GCF Proceeds to be used for the financing of this Project, in accordance with the Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) entered into by the Parties on 8 June 2018 and effective as of October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. As Executing Agency, FAO shall spend the GCF Proceeds in the project directly and will be implementing this under FAO's Direct Implementation modality.

In its role as the unique EE, FAO may also enter into agreements with other organizations and entities (Implementing Partners), which may carry out project activities and produce project outputs on behalf of EE. These arrangements seek to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness of the implementation of the project, therefore these Implementing Partners are accountable directly to EE and will be selected by FAO and the MADS, as per FAO Rules and Regulations.

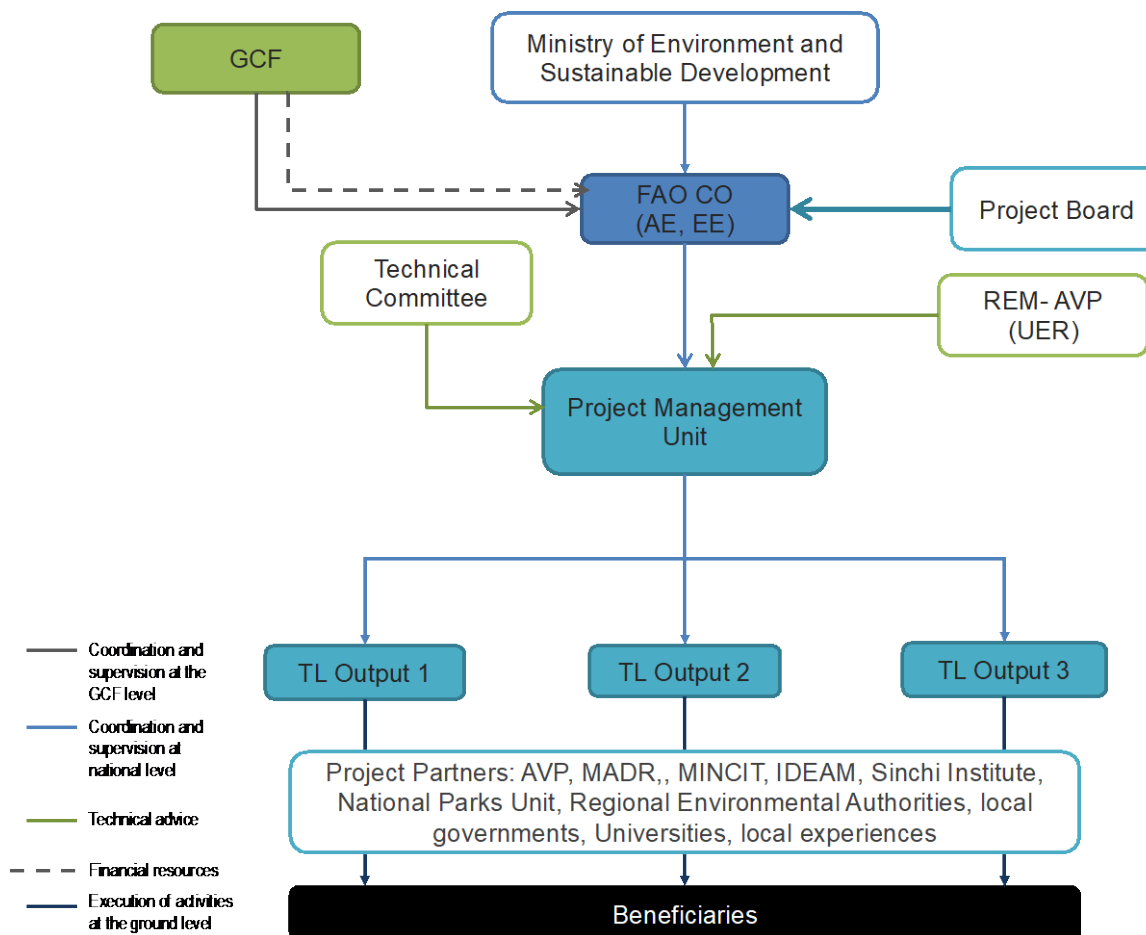
FAO may use the following instruments when entering into agreements with other partners:

- UN to UN Agreement, used when a need exists of transferring funds from FAO to another UN Agency for the purpose of programmatic activities.
- Letter of Agreement: It is a contractual arrangement with academic or non-profit organizations to obtain specific technical services that cannot exceed US\$500,000 - and ruled by the Procurement regulations of FAO.
- Contracts: a contractual arrangement with private institutions to purchase goods or specific technical services ruled by the procurement regulations of FAO.
- Operational Partner Implementation Modality (OPIM): After mid-term review, the opportunity to amend the implementation arrangement to of agreements with national institutions to be partners in the implementation of specific activities would be assessed.

As the Green Climate Fund and the FAO shall enter into a FAA in due course, the FAA shall (A) incorporate the relevant terms and conditions of the Terms of Reference for the REDD+ RBP Pilot Programme adopted by Decision B.18/07 ("TOR"), and (B) the terms of the Accreditation Master Agreement, (AMA). The arrangements to be entered into by the

Accredited Entity with the Host Country are described in more detail in the term sheet and will be reflected in the project agreement.

The implementation arrangements proposed for this project are summarized in the following graph:



**Figure 6. Scheme of the proposed implementation arrangements under the REDD+ RBP Project**

### Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - MADS

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) is responsible for the general management, and technical guidance of the Program and will be responsible for articulating projects implemented under the AVP and other multisectoral and territorial activities as well as support coordination and participation of territorial authorities. MADS will not be responsible of executing financial resources as an executing agency, therefore, FAO shall not transfer any financial resources to the MADS under this Project, instead FAO will directly use the proceeds to implement activities and make payments to procured parties, which are selected and engaged under FAO procurement rules.

### FAO (AE – EE)

As stated above, FAO will have roles as AE and EE. As an AE of the GCF, FAO's overall role is to provide oversight and quality assurance through its Headquarters and the Chilean Regional Office. FAO will carry out both operational and administrative support activities, as well as advisory and technical support functions during the implementation of the Project. As EE, FAO Colombia Country Office will carry out operational and administrative support activities which include the provision of the following services:

- Establishment of the Project Management Unit (PMU).
- Payments, disbursements and other financial transactions.
- Recruitment of staff, project personnel, and consultants.
- Procurement of services and equipment, including disposal.
- Organization of training activities, conferences, and workshops, including fellowships.

- Travel authorization, visa requests, ticketing, and travel arrangements.
- Shipment, customs clearance, vehicle registration, and accreditation, among others.

FAO will require certification of the completed Environmental and Social Risk Management training Module, with the aim of ensuring project staff is in the capacity to identify and evaluate environmental and social risks, as well as promote the improved environmental and social performance of the project.

Upon request of MADS implementation will be through FAO's Direct Implementation modality with FAO providing direct project services, such as procurement and hiring of consultants following best value for money, transparency and effective competition. These will follow current FAO policies and procedures including those for cost recovery. Upon request of the Government, FAO will also provide technical backstopping during the implementation of the project. The costs corresponding to this technical support towards project execution will be recovered following FAO's policy.

Following the structure of the AVP, FAO as Executing Entity could involve community associations, local institutions, NGOs and national government entities in the implementation of activities or sub-projects as well as the development of specific products required by the Project.

### **Project Board**

The Project Board is the government body that will provide overall guidance and direction to the project and approve the Annual Work Plan (AWP). The Board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus or majority, including recommendations for FAO approval of project plans and revisions, as well addressing any project level grievances. To ensure FAO's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. The specific responsibilities of the Project Board include:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
- Address project issues as raised by the project manager;
- Provide guidance on new project risks, and agree on possible countermeasures and management actions to address specific risks;
- Agree on project manager's tolerances as required;
- Analyze and discuss the development of the Project activities and recommend changes as required based on project monitoring and evaluation processes and products and in line with FAO policies;
- Discuss and approve the Annual Work Plans ensuring that required resources are committed;
- Appraise the annual project implementation reports, including quality assessment rating reports; and make recommendations for the work plan;
- Provide ad hoc direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Discuss and approve the Progress Reports and Final Report of the Project;
- Analyze Project achievements and assure their use for performance improvement, accountability and learning
- Settle controversies arbitrating on any conflicts within the project or negotiating a solution to any problems with external bodies.

Following the structure of other projects implemented in the region, the Board shall be composed by MADS, IDEAM, Sinchi Institute, the National Parks Unit, the Regional Environmental Authorities and a representative of Indigenous Peoples Organizations. FAO will participate of the Board as its technical secretariat, supported by the Project Manager. FAO will support the organization of the Board meetings at least once a year or at the request of either Party. The MADS as President of the board may consider the inclusion of other relevant actors, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Trade and Tourism and other Ministries and agencies that are already part of the Intersectoral Committee to Control Deforestation.

### **Technical committee**

The project will be supported by a Technical Committee (TC) comprised by representatives at a technical level of the same institutions that are part of the Project Board, Sectoral Ministries and National Agencies (DNP, Agriculture, and Trade), the Project Manager of the AVP and Project Managers of other relevant programs being implemented in the region. The Project Team, the leaders of the AVP Pillars and relevant technical agencies could be also invited. The TC will provide more regular and periodic guidance to the implementation of the Project Outputs assuring articulation with existing initiatives and complementarity of actions. The TC will also advise FAO and the Project Board about the planned activities to facilitated making decisions.

### **Project Management Unit (PMU)**

Under the overall guidance of the Project Board and following FAO procurement rules, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will be responsible for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Project activities. The PMU will be in charge of, among others: (i) operational planning, managing and executing the project including the direct supervision of project activities subcontracted to specialists or implementing partners (ii) coordinating the management of financial resources and procurement; (iii) reporting on the application of resources and results achieved; (iv) preparing management reports for the Project Board, GCF, NDA and FAO including annual reports and any proposals for the adaptive management of the Project, if required and based on inputs from the Project M&E plan; (v) promoting inter-institutional linkages; and (vi) disseminating project results.

The Project Manager will lead the PMU and be responsible for reporting to the Project Board. Three Technical Leaders (TL), one for each output, one Gender Specialist, one Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist and one Administrative clerk will also compose the PMU. Salaries, travels and other expenses for the operation of the PMU will be funded with GCF resources. The TL of Output 3 will be the Project Safeguards Specialist and will be responsible to oversee the implementation of the ESMF and the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF).

The Project Manager (PM) will be responsible for the overall management and implementation of the project's activities and requesting disbursement of the Project's resources for their execution. The PM is recruited by and reports to the Budget Holder (FAO Representative in Colombia) on operational and managerial matters. The PM leads the management of the project activities as per approved AWP, including financial, budget and human resources. It also prepares detailed project annual work plans in collaboration with the project management unit and according to logical framework. The PM is a full-time position continuing for the duration of the Project, reporting directly to FAO.

The Project Manager has the authority to run the project on a day-to-day basis for management and decision-making on behalf of the Project Board. The Project Manager's prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and costs.

Under the Project Manager's lead and guidance, the PMU team will head up the preparation of the Annual Work Plans (AWP) for the effective and efficient implementation of the project activities to achieve stated objectives, will prepare and/or oversee the development of Terms of Reference for consultants, subcontractors and partnerships, ensure consistency between the various project elements and activities provided or funded by other donors, and develop progress reports for the PB, technical meetings and other appropriate spaces.

The TL will lead the implementation of activities under each of the proposed Outputs, channeling technical inputs and guidance into the planning and execution of project activities and taking into account the advice of the Technical Committee. To this purpose the PMU will keep close coordination with MADS, IDEAM, Sinchi Institute and other partners as needed, to assure inter-institutional articulation and ensure consistency between the various project elements and activities funded by other donors.

TLs will be supported by a team of professionals that will work locally leading implementation of activities in the territories. In the case of the Output 2, a group of professionals will be hired to support local communities in the design and establishment of the community-based forestry units and will follow up and accompany the intervention during the life of the project. For the Output 3, following PIVA's procedures, it is expected to hire a group of consultants that will support formulation and implementation of the projects according to the needs of each project. These consultants may include indigenous peoples representatives and organizations to facilitate training, formulation and implementation processes at the local level.

### **Implementing partners**

Implementation of project's outputs need the participation and support of partners that are related to each of the areas of work of the project and may support implementation of specific activities according to the previous experience in the region or the opportunity to strengthen on going processes. Thus Implementing Partners are those entities that will collaborate with FAO in the provision of services needed to achieve the Project's objectives and goals. These partners may include institutions such as IDEAM, Sinchi Institute, National Parks Unit, Regional Environmental Authorities, Fondo Acción, Fondo Patrimonio Natural, local governments, indigenous peoples organizations, Universities, NGOs, private sector companies, and local communities experiences. The associations, institutions, organizations and entities mentioned in this paragraph shall be engaged by FAO in accordance with FAO's procurement rules..

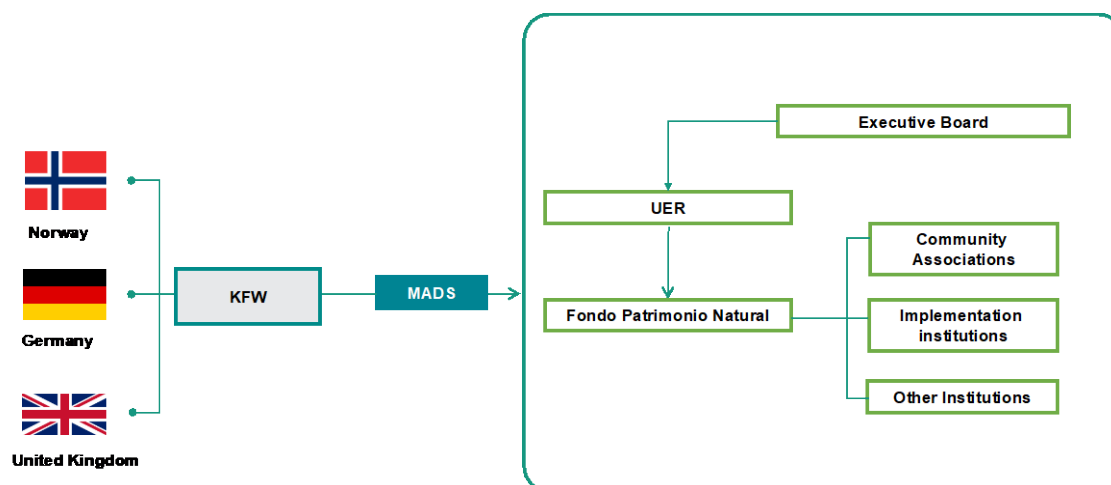


## Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are all those institutions and people that would be benefited by the implementation of project activities as explain in the section 2.1.1.

## Articulation with the REM-AVP

As presented in the Figure below, the AVP funds coming from the REM Program are paid by the Governments of UK, Germany and Norway, and administered by KFW. The government of Colombia receives the financial resources, coordinates and oversees the implementation of the Program. Implementation arrangements consider the establishment of an Executive Board that provides recommendations and approves the operative plan. The implementation of activities is responsibility of the Regional Execution Unit (UER), which is headed by the Program Manager and composed by technical leaders for each of the Pillars, International Advisers and other professionals. The Fondo Patrimonio Natural, support the UER and the Program in general with the financial administration, procurement and overseeing contracts, agreements and legal instruments needed for the proper implementation of the Program.



**Figure 7. Implementation arrangements of the REDD Early Movers project of the Amazon Vision Program**

In line with the implementation arrangements of the AVP, MADS as the leader of the AVP will head the Project Board. And oversee the implementation of this GCF funded project. To assure coherence and complementarity of actions, all the institutions that are part of this REDD+ PPR Project Board are also part of the AVP Executive Board, additionally The AVP Project Manager will have a seat in the Project Board in order to assure close coordination among the AVP programs. Regarding implementation of activities, FAO as Executing Entity will coordinate financial and administrative arrangements with the relevant institutions in the framework of the project to assure coherence and complementarity of activities and may subscribe agreements with those institutions for the implementation of some activities. Also the Project Management Unit of the REM Program will support the REDD+ PPR Project by providing technical advice and guaranteeing articulation and complementarity of activities to be implemented under each of the outcomes.

## C.2.6. Non-carbon benefits:

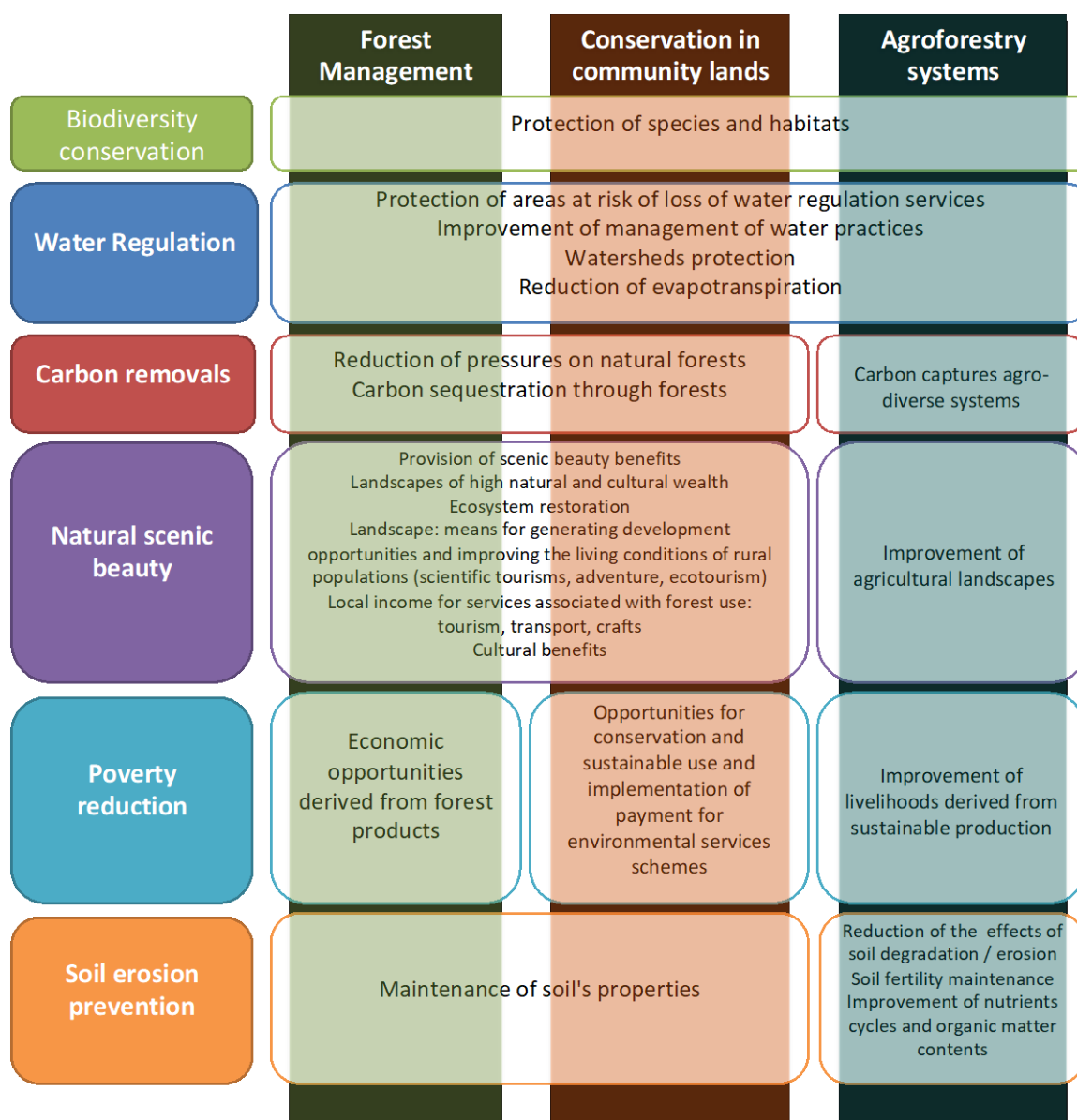
*Provide information on the non-carbon benefits associated with the implementation of REDD+ activities, explaining their nature, scale and importance for the long-term sustainability of REDD-plus activities and providing evidence to this regard.*

Colombia's EICDGB was formulated with the objective of maximizing the environmental, social and institutional benefits associated to sustainable forest management and those activities contributing to reduce and control deforestation. In this context, the set of measures prioritized for each Action Line of the strategy generates a set of environmental benefits beyond carbon, which involve different aspects related to conservation and sustainable use of natural forests such as: (i) regulation of vital cycles that occur in the soil, (ii) services provided by biodiversity, (iii) potential uses of timber and non-timber products, (iv) regulation of water resources (quantity and quality), (v) prevent environmental degradation processes and (iv) favor landscape and connectivity related benefits. All these benefits not only generate an improvement in the quality of life of the communities according to their availability and quality, represent a cultural and economic importance.

The identification of multiple benefits in the EICDGB construction process involved a differential approach, which considered and recognized existing views of relevant stakeholders, ethnic groups and communities. Results of the process evidenced the importance of forests for indigenous peoples, afro-descendant, rural communities and institutions. Indigenous peoples highlighted the relevance of the existing relationship between biodiversity conservation and production based on traditionally used forest resources and the significance for their culture and health. Under this perspective, the social and environmental benefits for indigenous communities are strongly linked to cultural aspects and environmental services of forests services.

In the case of afro-descendant communities, multiple benefits of forests go beyond carbon-associated services, and are related to the use of timber and non-timber products, and others associated to cultural practices. On the other hand, rural communities perceptions about multiple benefits are focused on those related to the contribution of forests for local sustainable development, gender equity, ancestral knowledge, improvement in the quality of life and governance (territory). For regional entities, such as CARs and sectoral ministries, the benefits are focused on the development of alternatives in clean energy and restoration with timber and non-timber forest products, transparency in project execution and increased civil participation and local governance.

In the context of EICDGB multiple benefits were identified and mapped as a tool for driving decisions in the territories. A summary of the benefits identified of forest management, conservation in community lands and agroforestry systems as measures to reduce deforestation are presented in the Figure 8.



## Figure 8. Non-carbon benefits identified in the context of the EICDGB

In this context, the implementation of the REDD+ project activities will seek to maximize benefits beyond the mitigation of climate change due to the reduction of emissions by preventing deforestation in the Amazon region and the generation of collateral benefits associated to social, environmental and institutional areas.

In relation to the positive social impacts of the Project, it is expected that the promotion of a forest-based economy will have a great impact on the generation of incomes to complement local economies. Regarding Output 1, zero-deforestation supply chains of milk, beef, rubber, cocoa and other products that are part of the current local economy will be improved increasing local incomes and generating institutional and communities capacities. Currently the AVP have reported important impacts on strengthening of agro-productive chains such as cocoa, rubber, non-timber forest products and sustainable livestock will improve the local community's incomes and thereby help to reduce pressure on forests. Other benefits derived from Output 1 are those related to the generation of local capacities and strengthening of participation of all the relevant stakeholders in making-decisions to reduce deforestation and promote low-carbon rural development strategies.

Investments under Output 2 will generate benefits by offering other forest-based economic alternatives for local communities, contributing to diversify the offer of products and services that involve forests and agriculture production systems within an integrated approach. These activities will also generate benefits in terms of biodiversity conservation, water regulation, soil protection and increasing of the nature scenic beauty, which also generate opportunities for the generation of biodiversity-based products and services. Expected social benefits are related to the increasing of local communities capacities for forest management and monitoring, besides the benefits derived from the impact of participation of local communities in making-decisions processes, replicating lessons learned and increasing territorial governance.

The activities related to building local capacities especially on indigenous communities would strengthen territorial governance through the Output 3. The Indigenous Peoples will gain greater influence when addressing decisions that affect their means of life and increase the negotiating capabilities, which will allow a better distribution of the benefits generated by the Project. Also IP organizations will strengthen their capacities for formulating and implementing projects related to forest management and social development, in general.

As the Amazonian biome is a strategic ecosystem rich not only in biological resources but also genetic information, threatened by deforestation processes of the region, general environmental benefits are associated to the conservation of the Amazonian biodiversity favoring the conservation of forests that serves as a habitat for a wide variety of species of both flora and fauna. According to the SINCHI Institute, 1625 useful plants, 1158 species of birds and 193 species of amphibians have been reported in the region.

Finally, the strengthening of forest governance is foreseen as a result of the REDD+ RBP project, given expected results in improving management of forest areas, strengthening capacities of local communities and indigenous peoples, providing better conditions to access information, fostering effective and efficient use of monitoring systems, consolidating institutional frameworks and promoting wider participation of relevant stakeholders in making-decisions processes.

## D. Investment Framework

*Describe in this section how the proposed REDD-plus results-based programme aligns with each of the criteria of the Investment Framework for the activities that lead to the achieved results for the full period over which the results being submitted in this proposal were achieved.*

### D.1. Impact potential

*Describe the potential of the programme to contribute to the achievement of the Fund's objectives and results areas.*

To be consistent with the programmatic approach of the AVP, the proposed Project will contribute to a shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways in the Colombian Amazon Region, as it will make a substantive contribution to the National and Territorial Governments to implement the EICDGB within the AVP programmatic approach, with emphasis on the PND 2018-2022 lines of i.) Legality, ii.) Forest economy and land tenure; and iii.) Permanent monitoring.

The power gap that emerged after the Peace Treaty with the FARC has to be urgently filled with legitimate local governance and law-enforcement structures to which Project Output 1 and its activities will make a significant contribution.

The recent evaluation of the AVP showed that activities to promote sustainable forest economies have a much smaller financial allocation in relation to other productive activities, although its benefit is relatively higher given the smaller costs per unit of area. Therefore targeted investments that will be done through this project to close these financial gaps to foster a sustainable forest economy will have an important impact. In this regard, a scenario without GCF investment will represent less impact of national strategies implementation to promote a forest economy and achieve the national goals included in the EICDGB. Colombia needs this support taking into account that sustainable forest management is probably the most effective productive alternative to reduce pressure on the amazon forest and generate economic and social benefits to the local communities located in forest areas. Currently these communities depend mainly on unsustainable agriculture and extensive livestock systems, as illegal logging and other illegal economic activities that also constitute to deforestation. In consequence promoting the sustainable use of timber and non-timber forest products and services as eco/ethno tourism; and their insertion into certified, fair trade markets would generate substantial social, economic and environmental benefits that will complement those that are being achieved within the AVP. The transformation of extensive degraded pastures in to sustainable, low carbon silvopastoral systems and agro-forestry within the forestry units will benefit local livelihood resilience and food security.

Once the eight forestry units have been implemented successfully by farmers and communities and show positive financial returns and livelihood improvement they will be replicated at bigger scale and spill-over to change the development paradigm in the whole Amazon Region. The innovative approach applied by the Project could also be applied to other areas of tropical rain forest and indigenous territories in the Amazon Basin where deforestation, event in some protected areas, is advancing.

In order to create an enabling environment to promote a forest economy in the Amazon Region, a significant portion (45%) of the proceeds will be invested in strengthening forest governance, and an additional 30% to environmental governance in indigenous territories. Moreover, enabling conditions will also be supported in areas such as forest governance, tenure, monitoring and policy evaluation.

For the years 2015 and 2016, Colombia reported REDD+ results associated to avoided deforestation, of a total of 31,474,936.5 tCO<sub>2</sub> eq., which is a significant contribution to the mitigation objectives (Table 14). The AFOLU sector is included in Colombia's NDC as the largest source of GHG emissions in the country due to activities of conversion from forest lands to pastures and crops. Thus, the project will contribute to the country's efforts to implement activities to reduce emissions from forest lost by reducing existing pressures on these ecosystems and generating production alternatives for local smallholders and IPs. Although the potential mitigation benefits associated to the project activities have not yet been calculated, Colombia is currently gathering field data from sustainable forest management activities to estimate its mitigation potential benefits, area that also the project will contribute with.

**Table 14. Annual reduction in emissions per REDD+ Activity (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year)**

	Avoided deforestation
Avoided emissions in 2015	19,365,884.7 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq.
Avoided emissions 2016	12,109,048.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq.
Total	31,474,936.5 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq.

## D.2. Paradigm shift potential

*Describe the degree to which the REDD-plus activity catalysed impact beyond a one-off programme investment.*

GCF resources will allow the Government of Colombia to meet national goals for reducing emissions from deforestation and boost a forest economy at the national level while realizing paradigm shift in managing forests and promoting sustainable models to address deforestation risks and improving local livelihoods for local populations located in post-

conflict areas. The Government of Colombia through the EICDGB has developed an ambitious action plan which envisions a transformation from unsustainable and inefficient development models that have generated profound changes in land uses without addressing the social and economic needs that local populations face daily. In this context the EICDGB seeks to encompass forest governance, comprehensively, and make a long-term commitment to move to a forest-based sustainable rural development, which contributes to improving the quality of life of rural communities, guaranteeing the multiple benefits derived from forest conservation and contributing to the reduction of GHG emissions and climate change mitigation.

For this purpose, the Government of Colombia with the financial support of the Governments of Germany, Norway and the UK has been leading the implementation of the AVP, as an instrument to support implementation of the EICDGB in the Amazon Region. AVP has invested more than USD90 million benefiting 7.400 families, transforming 14.183 ha of sustainable agriculture systems and conserving 96.177 ha through agreements with local communities. REM-AVP also has made significant efforts to support key enabling conditions for national and local governments to address the deforestation drivers in the region. Forest governance activities under REM\_AVP has been focused in supporting forest planning at the regional level, strengthening regional environmental authorities capacities for forest control and supporting community-based management plans in 18 thousand hectares.

Despite the progress made by the REM-AVP addressing deforestation drivers in areas close to the agriculture frontier, as presented in the Evaluation of AVP, forest management activities have not had the public budget allocation expected to develop a real transformation at the local level. Given this situation and the goals of the EICDGB and the NDP, the Government of Colombia has identified the need to complement ongoing efforts by consolidating a forest economy based on the goods and services from the forest, integrated to low-carbon rural models. In this context, the paradigm shift potential of this project lies in implementing a comprehensive approach that complements a strategy for addressing deforestation drivers based on reducing impacts of agricultural production, land use change and other high impact activities, with an strategy based on promoting a forest economy that, building on AVP efforts, integrates sustainable forest management, provision of sustainable agro-commodities and services, monitoring and information management and capacity building for territorial governance. This represents a new strategy to address deforestation drivers in the region while generating local benefits, increasing participation of local communities and civil society, strengthening national and local government capacities for control and management of forests and promoting a more pro-active private sector involvement.

This integrated model will mean complementing ongoing efforts in forest monitoring involving relevant stakeholders at the local level, increase capacities of municipalities to address deforestation and promote a forest-based economy, support institutional arrangements to improve deforestation control, support community-based forestry units, increase capacities of regional environmental authorities for forest management and control, develop and access specialized markets for products derived from a forest economy (timber and non-timber forest products), increase indigenous governance and increase participation of all relevant actors.

The implementation of this strategy will provide lessons and experiences to scale-up forest-based models at the national level, specifically in forest areas as those of the Colombian Pacific region, which face similar economic and social problems that represent a risk for the conservation of natural forests. Also the strategy will build on experiences and lessons from the implementation of pilot initiatives currently underway in the country, some of which are supported by FAO, entity that will assist in the implementation of this scaled up action in the Amazon region.

It is expected that this model will have a significant impact on income-generation at the local level through the development of products and services derived from the management of timber, non-timber forest resources, as well as the provision of services such as ecotourism, cash and release fishing, scientific tourism, among others. Achievement of income generation goals would require the development of a set of financial and market incentives to assure feasibility of forest-based business, thus the project will need active participation of private sector companies interested in generating value added and consolidate supply chains of sustainable products. Thus the project strategy will have a strong financial component that will allow local communities and supporting institutions to analyze the most feasible products and businesses taking into account market opportunities, costs of production, logistics, human resources available, as well as other factors that could determine the economic, environmental and social feasibility of the forest-based business.

Another key feature of the holistic approach is the integration of actions at various levels, from forestry units to local, regional and national institutional levels. The proposed strategy will involve participation of stakeholders at all decision levels. Local communities and indigenous people will lead projects at the local level, specifically those related to forest management, establishment of sustainable production systems, executing ecotourism initiatives and promotion of local



participation in making decisions in their territories. Local governments will lead strategies to reduce deforestation, improve planning instruments and promote forest-based economic alternatives for their municipalities, in close coordination with national government and environmental authorities. Regional Environmental Authorities will support all activities related to the design and establishment of forestry units in their jurisdictions, including activities of market access and implementation of incentives. Private sector will be involved in the implementation of market incentives such as business-to-business programs, market linkages, strengthening of supply chains and others needed to assure market access of forest and sustainable agriculture products and services. Universities and technical assistance services will be involved to support training and monitoring programs and other activities targeted to strengthen capacities of the project beneficiaries. National government, headed up by MADS, will lead the implementation of the whole strategy involving participation of other Ministries and agencies such as Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism and the National Planning Department.

Therefore, the use of the proceeds under this proposal, while contributing to the implementation of the EICDGB, will complement activities being implemented under the AVP, which will further strengthen and increase its efficacy in terms of promoting a forest economy in the region. As indicated in the distribution of the proceeds, a significant portion of investments will aim to trigger a forest economy based on community management, which has the potential to contribute to the local economy and creates incentives for forest conservation. As presented in the Evaluation of AVP forest economy activities have not had the budget assignation expected to develop a real transformation at the local level, so it is expected that a dedicated approach in this proposal will help trigger a much needed sustainable economic alternative for communities that currently resort to agricultural activities despite their forest potential. Sub-project developed by indigenous communities will trigger community driven development initiatives to further develop community business and enterprises that capitalize the rich natural assets of which indigenous and afro-descendant peoples are owners and custodians, to benefit their livelihoods and culture. In this context the notion that forests and biodiversity are an enormous asset still needs to be put into concrete practice to benefit those that nowadays own it, but live in relative poverty.

Experiences and lessons from the implementation of pilot initiatives currently underway in the country, some of which are supported by FAO, will be scaled-up by this proposal in the Amazon Region. The territorial targeting of the activities under this program will further create a paradigm shift in areas currently under agricultural expansion.

### D.3. Sustainable development potential

*Describe the wider benefits and priorities, including environmental, social and economic.*

By supporting the implementation of the EICDGB, the overall use of the proceeds will have significant sustainable development potential:

#### a) Environmental co-benefits:

- Strengthening forest and land governance, including enhanced environmental and forest law enforcement, will translate in avoided negative impacts on forests and biodiversity.
- Land planning will further reduce pressures on natural ecosystems.
- The promotion of sustainable agricultural practices will result in reduced pressures and demand for additional conversion of natural ecosystems
- Increased resilience of ecosystems, the reduction of land degradation, fires and drought, improvement in the provision of environmental services, the reduction of pollution, as well as the reduction of natural risks, among others.
- Increasing value of forests will generate economic alternatives to reduce pressure on forests fragments, reduce deforestation and promote restoration/reforestation activities.

#### b) Economic co-benefits:

- The support for markets access for sustainable sourced forest products and sustainable agriculture will contribute to a more resilient source of income for the local communities, improving their economy.
- Training of forest owners/managers with technical knowledge, allowing them to be better qualified for the productive-sustainable management of their forests and lands
- Generation of jobs for the implementation of the action measures that the owners decide to execute within the framework of the EICDGB, being common that for forestry activities that are implemented at the level of small owners and of small scale, it is they who carry out them.
- Increase in the share of the legally harvested and commercialized timber and non-timber forest products through sustainable forest management generating higher economic benefit for the owners.

- Contribute to generate economic alternatives to reduce local dependence of crops of illegal use, one of the deforestation drivers identified.

c) Social co-benefits:

- Contribute to improving the quality of life of the rural population in the long term by increasing the sustainability of the natural resources of the territories through the implementation of action measures of the EICDGB that ensure the permanence, conservation and use of said natural resources by part of the next generations.
- The emphasis on supporting and incorporating indigenous peoples and their worldview in the development of the land plans as well as in the productive choices will result in social benefits related to cultural appropriation and the respect for local practices and traditional knowledge.
- Gender targeting throughout the implementation of the project will result in greater inclusion and visibility of women.
- Strengthening community associations will generate capacities to replicate lessons learned and mainstream sustainable forest management approaches as an incentive to reduce deforestation.
- Improvements in environmental and social performance -due to improved public participation processes, transparent approaches and integrated assessment and mitigation of environmental and social risks and impacts.

#### D.4. Needs of the recipient

*Describe the vulnerability and financing needs of the beneficiary country and population.*

Colombia is one of the countries that presents higher vulnerability to climate impacts worldwide, which implies social development of differential measures -political and institutional- to meet the particular needs of each territory, to promote equality, resilience and prioritize measures available to each region or sector, including forests in the Amazon region<sup>36</sup>.

In that sense, Colombia has made progress in recent years in the management of climate change in terms of adaptation and mitigation, through the articulation of strategies both at the sectoral level and at the national and territorial levels, which have allowed the management of shared and coordinated information for decision-making, to integrate them into the processes of public and private planning and investment in the territories and sectors, such as the development of the EICDGB. These advances have led Colombia to stand out as one of the leading countries in the face of climate change management in the region.

Despite these great advances and the recognition of the problem regarding the future of the country, there are still some needs and challenges to overcome in terms of financing, capacity and technical assistance for forest management and control, local governance enhancement, strengthening of local communities and indigenous people capacities and technology in the different areas of management of climate change. Facing these challenges will increase the installed technical and financial capacities, the generation and implementation of public policies and the generation of technical capacities, which will improve the performance of the institutions in charge of managing the processes associated with climate change, of the most vulnerable populations, territories and sectors.

Reducing the vulnerability of fragile ecosystems as well as increasing resilience based on the implementation of the action measures of the EICDGB, avoiding degradation, deforestation and establishing new forests, is directly related to and contributes to the provisions of the 5th Evaluation Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that highlights for the country the severe impacts it faces on its resources and ecosystems, in particular for fisheries and aquaculture, water resources, biodiversity, the forestry-agricultural sector, temperature and rainfall. These vulnerabilities and impacts have also been documented in national communications to the Secretariat of the UNFCCC and are being internalized in the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

Colombia has managed to mobilize significant financial resources, including the REM-AVP and other projects. However, they do not manage to cover all needs to fully address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the Amazon Region.

<sup>36</sup> IDEAM (2017) Análisis de Vulnerabilidad y Riesgo por Cambio Climático en Colombia. Tercera Comunicación Nacional Cambio Climático Colombia. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-2hGpPxLp5PdkRubTM0UFZ2ZzQ/view>

As described in B2, the post conflict has had important impacts in increasing deforestation in the Amazon Region, in part due to the lack of economic alternatives for local communities, which see exploitation of natural resources and the establishment of extensive pasturelands for new cattle ranching as an alternative to improve livelihoods. This lack of opportunities and the presence of illegal economies based on illegal mining; land grabbing and illegal crops create a scenario that generates social conflicts around forest areas. In this context the national government is pursuing the implementation of a community forestry program that generates local alternatives and promotes a transformation process from illegal and informal economies to a more sustainable model based on the sustainable management of forests. The post-conflict has also increased threats on indigenous lands, these areas have been affected by deforestation and environmental conflicts, both associated to activities such as illegal mining, crops of illegal use and land grabbing.

Although deforestation rates increased significantly in 2017, during 2018 Colombia experienced a reduction of deforestation that indicates that the investments in the Amazon region are generating results, despite the influence of the post-conflict dynamics. In this context, the country needs to reinforce the current AVP strategy by enhancing forest governance and generating alternatives based on the forest, as well as strengthen IP governance to reduce existing threats on indigenous lands.

#### D.5. Country ownership

*Describe the beneficiary country ownership of, and capacity to implement a funded project or programme (policies, climate strategies and institutions).*

The project is consistent with national environmental policies, and the agreements acquired by the country with instances such as the UNFCCC and UNCCD. The project, in turn, contributes to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by avoiding deforestation, committed by the country in its NDC. In 2016, at the technical committee of the CICC, the forest emission budget was established within the compliance of the NDC commitment. An agreement on the commitment of the reduction of 32,4 Mton CO<sub>2</sub> eq. by 2030.

The EICDGB, to which this Project contributes, is part of a broader vision of the country for the peace process and sustainable agrarian development. The long-term vision includes four main goals by 2030 to reduce emissions from deforestation and contribute to increasing the benefits of biological diversity and ecosystem services; i) register a positive trade balance of the forestry sector; ii) zero gross deforestation; iii) reducing 32.4 Mton of CO<sub>2</sub>eq emissions of avoided deforestation and; iv) strengthening territorial governance of ethnic groups and rural communities that live and depend on forests.

Complementarily, the current National Development Plan 2018-2022 issued by Law 1925 of 2019 established within the "Pact for sustainability: produce conserving and preserving producing" seven targets to be accomplished by 2022. Therefore, the investments and interventions of the Government will continue to focus on the following areas: i) cumulative reduction of GHG emissions with respect to the national reference scenario; ii) areas under Payment for Environmental Services schemes and conservation incentives; iii) participation of the forest economy in GDP; iv) areas under sustainable conservation systems; v) reduction of the growth trend of deforestation projected by IDEAM; vi) zero deforestation agreements for the productive chains of the agricultural sector under implementation; and vii) percentage of implementation of the National Climate Change Information System.

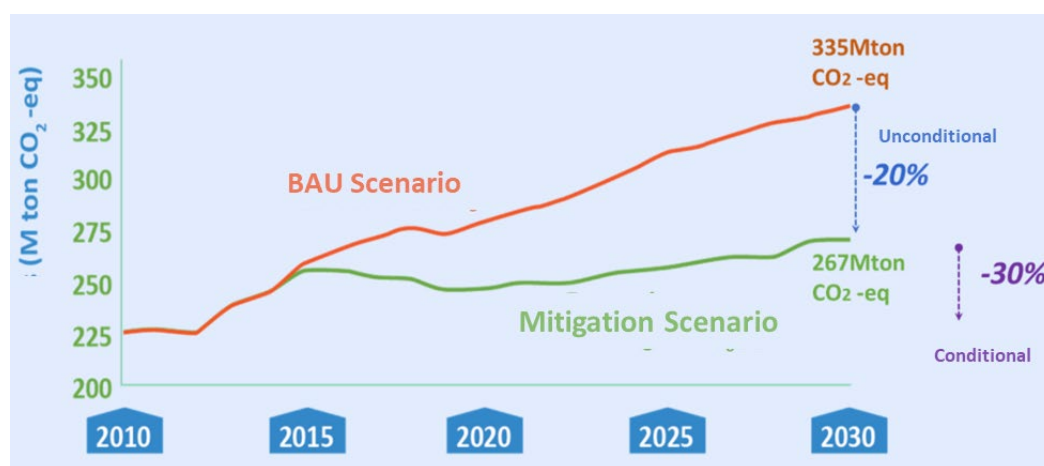
On the other hand, the NDA has been directly involved, along with the MADS, as REDD+ Focal Point Entity and IDEAM in the definition of the project components and its strategic approach. These institutions have led the development of this funding proposal by providing feedback to the definition of the institutional arrangements for the Project execution and providing technical recommendations through the GCF Collegiate Body<sup>37</sup> reviewing the draft proposal, as per their internal procedures to review proposals to be sent to the Green Climate Fund. After reviewing the proposal, the Collegiate Body recommended that the NDA issue a non-objection letter (Annex 1). As the approach of this proposal is framed under the Amazon Vision Program, the thorough consultation of the Program and the recent mid terms evaluation supports the prioritization of the proposal activities, thus the coordination and Pillar leaders of the REM-AVP

<sup>37</sup> <sup>37</sup> The Collegiate Body established in Colombia for matters of the Green Climate Fund is formed by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Presidential Agency for Cooperation and coordinated by the National Planning Department.

were involved to assure consistency and complementarity of activities proposed under each of the Outputs of the Project. These institutions and actors, as well as, other national and local partners supporting the REM-AVP execution will continue to be involved in the project's implementation through their participation as active members of the Project Board.

### Contribution to the Colombian NDC

In September 2015, Colombia presented to the UNFCCC its NDC, which contains goals in terms of mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation. Colombia's mitigation goal is reducing 20% of national GHG emissions with respect to a baseline projected in 2030 unilaterally, with options to reach 30% with international funding. Under the SISCLIMA and CICC governance, the MADS and the National Planning Department (DNP in Spanish) are coordinating the process of mitigation sectoral distribution of the NDC goal, within this process the sectoral Ministries (articles 170 and 171 of Law 1753 of 2015), as sector leaders, are consolidating the mitigation actions that under their respective sector (see approval of emissions) would fulfill the commitments agreed in the NDC<sup>38</sup>.



**Figure 9. BAU and Mitigation Scenario of Colombia for the period 2010-2030**

Due to, the complexity of causes and drivers of deforestation (e.g. direct cause: deforestation by the road building and indirect deforestation: derived from socio-economic dynamics, such as, agricultural colonization and expansion from the agricultural frontier), the distribution emissions was based on the premise that the productive sectors are co-responsible and have the capacity to contribute to reduce GHG emissions (Energy and Mining, Agriculture, Transport, Household and Industry and Environment). Thus, different sectors are able to develop actions to contribute to the reduction of deforestation and its associated emissions, within the Colombian NDC framework.

In 2016, the CICC established a preliminary distribution of the unconditional NDC target between the sectors; in the case of deforestation it was assigned an overall budget of 22% from the NDC target. Since the country is currently updating its NDC, a formal allocation of mitigation goals by sector has not yet been made. Part of this process included improving of estimations on how much the reference scenario will vary, with respect to the first proposed NDC. The actions that will contribute to the emission reductions of 22% include activities that have a direct impact on forests, targeted to prevent deforestation. The budget of 32.4 Mton CO<sub>2</sub>eq, works as a "reduction bag" that will be fulfilled by sectoral mitigation actions. In this sense this project contributes to the achievement of GHG reductions of this multi-sectoral budget, consequently the proceeds will support the accomplishment of the Climate Change National Policy goals and the sectoral low carbon strategies of the country.

It is important to note that with regard to the AFOLU sector, the mitigation options contemplated by the national government to achieve the goal of reducing emissions by 2030 include:

- Implementation of 554 thousand hectares of intensive silvopastoral systems.

<sup>38</sup> The base information for the NDC construction was the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory, which distributes its emissions in the IPCC categories, however, the Colombian sectors do not coincide directly with these categories, so it was necessary to redistribute the emissions of the national GHG inventory in the Colombian sectors, according to their administrative nature and governance.

- Stabilization of the cattle herd.
- Rehabilitation of 50 thousand hectares of pastures in the Orinoquia.
- Establishment of 1.21 million hectares in forest plantations and fruit crops with a value chain approach.
- Ecological restoration of 1 million hectares.
- Deforestation avoided in the Colombian Amazon.
- Promotion of better practices in the fertilization of rice in 147 thousand hectares of crops.

An additional 10% to the goal set by the national government will imply greater international cooperation, whose resources will be used to achieve zero net deforestation at the national level and increase areas under restoration by 3.5 million hectares.

### **Project contributions of the Integrated Strategy for Control of Deforestation and Forest Management- EICDGB**

In 2016, the government of Colombia built the EICDGB, aiming to reduce deforestation and forest degradation by promoting forest management under a sustainable integral rural development approach, in the Colombian territory. This strategy constitutes the main guidance instrument for implementing REDD+ activities at the National Level.

The EICDGB established four main goals, which are nested in the general goal of reducing emissions from deforestation within the framework of the NDC, and articulates the lines of action of the Strategy, which contains measures that pose specific goals and actions. In addition, the following main goals contribute to increasing the benefits of biological diversity and ecosystem services.

- By 2030 Colombia registered a positive trade balance of the forestry sector.
- By 2030, Colombia has zero gross deforestation.
- In 2030, 32.4 Mton of CO<sub>2</sub>eq emissions have been reduced from avoided deforestation.
- By 2030, territorial governance of ethnic groups, rural and rural communities that live and depend on forests has been strengthened.
- By 2030, the quality of life of the local population in forest areas has increased.

The project contributes to the achieving of these goals and the established activities in the EICDGB's action lines, as follows:

#### **Strengthening forest monitoring at the municipality, village and properties levels/Pillar 5 - Enabling conditions:**

It is aligned with EICDGB Action Line 2. Forest economy development and agricultural border closure, measures: 2.4 Developing zero deforestation agreements with agricultural and forestry production chains, Action Line 4. Monitoring and permanent control, measures: 4.1. Strengthen the instruments of Forest information and monitoring (SMBYC + SNIF + IFN), 4.2. Promote forest legality, 4.3. Implement comprehensive actions for rapid response and, Action Line 3. Cross-sectoral management of territorial ordering and environmental determinants, measures: 3.1. Resolution of land conflict use and tenure focus on protected areas, deforestation cores and threats. 3.2. Ensure the articulation of national, regional and local visions to reduce pressures on forest and sustainable models of land occupation.

#### **Strengthening the establishment of sustainable management forest nuclei, as a strategy to reduce deforestation in amazon hotspots /Pillar 1- Forest Governance:**

this line supports the implementation of Action line 1. Sociocultural management of forests and public awareness, measures; 1.5. Strengthen the participation and interlocution of local farmers, social, solidarity and non-governmental organizations in the conservation and sustainable management of the forest, Action Line 2. Forest economy development and agricultural border closure, measures: 2.1 Development and implementation of a Community-Based Forestry program based on the associativity and value chains of forest goods and services, 2.2. Integration of sustainable forest management associated with forest goods and services and the closure of the agricultural frontier in the National System of Agricultural Innovation SINA (Law 1876 of 2017) and its instruments, 2.3. Cross-sectoral management for the stabilization of the agricultural frontier, 2.5. Develop and implement agro-environmental models, 2.6. Promotion of reforestation commercial forest production initiatives and, Action Line 3. Cross-sectoral management of territorial ordering and environmental determinants, measures, 3.3. Generate cross-sectoral guidelines for sectoral development that harmonize regional competitiveness bets and respect territorial planning.

#### **Strengthening the indigenous communities in the conservation and sustainable use of the forest in their territories/Pillar 4 - Environmental Governance with Indigenous Peoples:**

it is aligned to Action line 1. Sociocultural management of forests and public awareness, measures, 1.1. Optimize coordination between ethnic groups with



institutions for the harmonization of their instruments for sectoral development planning and territorial planning with a differential and gender focus, 1.2. Strengthen self-government systems and traditional knowledge of ethnic groups for territory governance and sustainable forest management, 1.3. Strengthen the instruments that consolidate the territorial rights of ethnic groups in areas of deforestation and strategic areas of forest conservation, 1.4. Implement own conservation and restoration systems in territories of ethnic groups, 1.6. Generate and promote education and research processes to strengthen the sustainable management of forests and their biodiversity, 1.7. Strengthen communication proposals that, from an intercultural perspective, contribute to increasing the positive perception of citizens in general and decision makers, on the importance of forests and their role in the sustainable development of the country.

### **Project contributions to the National Development Plan 2018-2022 -Law 1955 of 2019**

Furthermore, this project will contribute to the National Development Plan 2019-2022 by implementing the strategy to reduce and control deforestation, promoting comprehensive environmental interventions with communities and supporting the implementation of incentives for conservation and payments for environmental services to maintain natural capital. Within its “Pact for sustainability: produce conserving and preserving producing”, this project contributes to seven goals to be accomplished in 2022, among them; i) cumulative reduction of GHG emissions with respect to the national reference scenario; ii) participation of the forest economy in GDP; iii) areas under sustainable conservation systems; iv) reduction of the growth trend of deforestation projected by IDEAM; vi) zero deforestation agreements for the productive chains of the agricultural sector under implementation; and vii) percentage of implementation of the National Climate Change Information System. The Project will also support the Government objectives of consolidating the indigenous strategies to counteract deforestation and promote restoration in indigenous territories, taking into account the importance of these territories in terms of climate change mitigation and the need for generating sustainable alternatives for the local communities.

### **D.6. Efficiency and effectiveness**

*Describe the economic and, if appropriate, financial soundness of the programme.*

In the design of the programme for the use of the proceeds, recommendations made from a review of the strategy and operations of the REM - AVP were taken on-board for the design of this project. These added elements are specifically designed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency. These elements include: <sup>39</sup>

- A more forest-based approach to program interventions in which aspects of forests, community and economy are worked together, framed within a concept of sustainable forest economy. By doing this, the choice of land use option for communities is expanded and the possibility to choose the most efficient option is improved.
- By promoting business plans with a focus on the business case (economic viability) to structure the projects that are part of the development of program interventions, thereby enhancing the efficiency of the funds used.
- Improving the targeting of actions on deforestation fronts, increasing the efficacy and efficiency of the available resources.
- Incorporating monitoring and evaluation components of the impact of the actions, enabling learning from implementation experience.

### **E. Compliance with GCF policies**

*Describe how the REDD-plus results-based programme that generated the results submitted in this proposal or will be supported with the proceeds earned by them aligns with GCF policies for the activities that led to the achieved results and for the use of proceeds.*

#### **E.1. Environmental and social safeguards**

##### **E.1.1. For the period of the achieved results**

*Summarize the main findings of the environmental and social assessment (ESA) report describing the extent to which the measures undertaken to identify, assess, and manage environmental and social risks and impacts, in the context of the REDD-plus proposal, were consistent with the requirements of the applicable GCF ESS standards. This supplements information about the country's own assessment as to how the Cancun safeguards were addressed and respected in the REDD-plus activities.*

<sup>39</sup> Cost estimation of EICDGB, effectiveness, funding sources available to be provided.

Focusing on evaluating the consistency between FAO's ES standards and the measures undertaken to prevent environmental and social risks and impacts associated with activities implemented in the proposed regions during the years 2015 and 2016, the Colombian Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) (See Annex 2) highlights:

- The assessment covers the policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) applicable to the Heart of the Amazon Project, which initiated in March 2015 and continues to operate (in its second phase with additional funding) until 2022.
- FAO's Environmental and Social Standards were adopted in 2015. At the Project and field level, nine ESS standards were designed to help manage and improve FAO's environmental and social performance through a risk and outcome based approach. Projects approved and supported by FAO must meet these environmental and social standards. Table 15 shows the equivalence of IFC and FAO standards.

**Table 15. Equivalence of IFC performance standards with FAO environmental and social standards**

IFC - Performance Standards	FAO Environmental and Social Standards
PS 1: Assessment and Management of environmental and social risks and impacts	ESS 1: Natural Resource Management ESS 8: Gender Equality
PS 2: Labor and Working conditions	ESS 7: Decent Work
PS 3: Resource efficiency and pollution prevention	ESS 5: Pests and pesticides management
PS 4: Community health, safety and security	ESS 7: Decent Work (partially)
PS 5: Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement	ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement
PS 6: Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources	ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats ESS 3: Plant genetic resources for food and agriculture ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
PS 7: Indigenous Peoples	ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage
PS 8: Cultural Heritage	

- The policy, law and regulations analysis (PLR) was performed using a matrix to verify that the Heart of the Amazon Project was designed in order to meet UNFCCC safeguards, Colombia's legal framework and FAO's Environmental and Social Standards. The PLR review results that the Amazon Heart project was structured to meet the relevant environmental and social requirements as set out in REDD+ safeguards, Colombia's legal framework, and FAO's ES standards.
- The project alignment review consisted of creating a matrix, using FAO's project implementation questions to guide the assessment of the project activities and its safeguards instruments in order to verify consistency with FAO ES standards. The review concludes that the social and environmental approach of the Heart of the Amazon project is well aligned with FAO's ES standards.

- The dissemination and interaction with stakeholders of the project included 4 areas: i) social diagnosis and consultation for the design of the project; ii) disclosure of MGAS, PPI and MP; iii) information exchange, dialogue and consultation for the implementation of project activities; and iv) answer to requests, complaints and conflict resolution. Beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders in the project had and continue to have access to an effective grievance redress mechanism.
- The ESA demonstrated that the Heart of Amazon Programme was implemented within legal and policy framework that provided an enabling environment for achieving alignment with FAO's ESS.

As recommendations the ESA underlines three elements:

- Carrying out a gender analysis to understand the contribution of equal opportunities and perceived gender differences in interests and needs, and to anticipate threats or risks.
- Identify gender dimension be included in all forest-related interventions and identifying opportunities to empower women.
- The Colombian legislation should be analyzed regarding provision of property land title to both members and implement affirmative actions for property rights formulation of female-headed households.

### E.1.2. For the use of proceeds

*Provide adequate and sufficient information describing how environmental and social risks and impacts will be identified, screened, assessed and managed in a manner consistent with the GCF's ESS standards, including the determination of the relevant environmental and social risk category of the proposed activities and the appropriate environmental and social assessment tools and management plans.*

The environmental and social risks and impacts will be identified, screened, assessed and managed using the created instruments i) FAO guidelines for the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and ii) the risk management instruments of the AVP.

#### **FAO's ESMF guidelines**

According to FAO Environmental and Social Management Guidelines screening to identify specific environmental and social risks at the project level is the process of identifying and classifying E&S risks associated with individual projects. For each project, at the project identification stage, FAO uses its own Environmental and Social Screening Checklist that has a number of questions intended to guide the user in classifying project risk. Based on the project activities and on the nature and significance of potential environmental and social impacts, three categories for field projects are given: low, moderate, and high.

As a result of the assessment, the project was classified as moderate risk, the following key FAO's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies were identified:

- ESS2 – Biodiversity, Ecosystems, and Natural Habitats
- ESS4 - ESS4 – Animal (livestock and aquatic) Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- ESS7 – Decent Work
- ESS8 – Gender Equality
- ESS9 – Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage

Based on the screening process carried out and its results the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) was developed, in which the potential social and environmental risks identified were addressed, as well as the measures to avoid, reduce and mitigate risks and impacts that will be incorporated in the project activities.

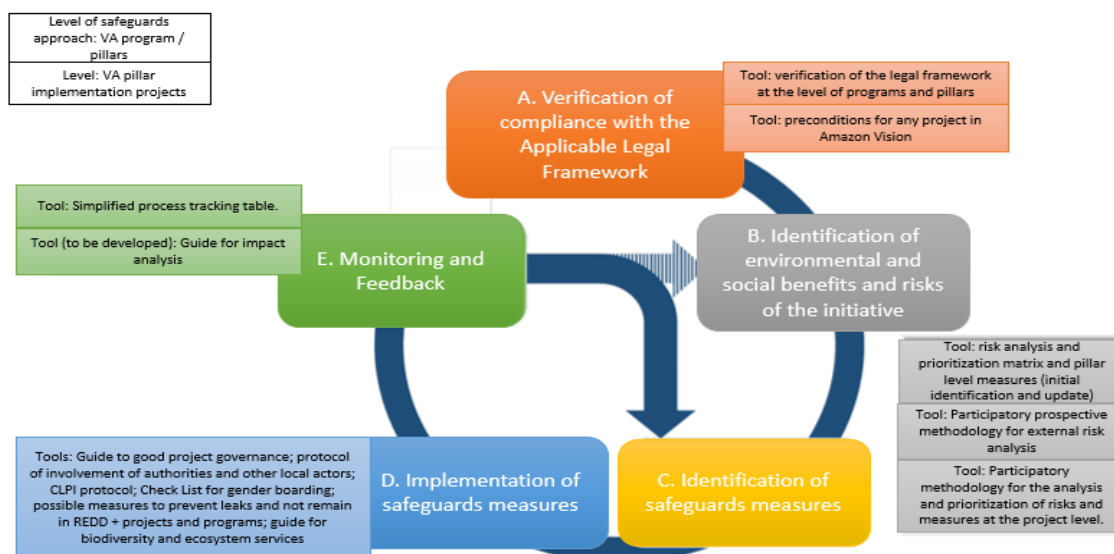
Annex 3 contains the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) elaborated to provide information on how the environmental and social risks identified will be addressed in consistency with FAO ESS and GCF/IFC Performance Standards. The management of environmental and social risk is integrated into the development cycle of the project, however the ESMF is considered as a living document that needs to be updated during project implementation based on potential new risks and impacts might arise. Thus, the ESMF is intended to serve as a practical tool to guide identification and mitigation of potential negative environmental and social impacts of proposed investments, and serve as a platform for consultations with stakeholders and potential project beneficiaries.

### Risk management of the Amazon Vision Program

The AVP addresses risk management as a strategic component for achieving its objectives. The five Pillars of the program comprises social and environmental dimensions that must be considered comprehensively and systematically to avoid possible negative effects. Also the socio-political change scenario of Colombian post-conflict generates a different risk management approach to better guide the actions and the performance of the Program. That is why the AVP created a tool to manage social and environmental risks, called [Integral Management of Socio-environmental Risk](#) (GIRSA in Spanish).

This tool seeks to facilitate the identification, analysis and decision-making regarding the management of the risks that may be generated by the implementation of the different actions considered in the program. In this context the risk management for the AVP is based on a broad conception of the concept of risk and is addressed in three approaches:

- **External and internal risks:** includes the external elements that affect the program performance and the risks of possible damages/affections generated by the program activities in the social, cultural and environmental dimensions. GIRSA gathers the results of a set of participatory spaces with regional and local stakeholders of the possible negative impacts that could occur due to the interventions of the program.
- **Multi-level Risks:** risk management is initially addressed at the program level (each pillar), however, the implementation of activities and projects in the territories requires a further detail in the risk analysis and the definition of safeguards measures considering the particular dynamics of the territories. Therefore, the risk approach has two levels, program and project.
- **Step by step:** a scheme based on five strategic steps was designed for the analysis of the two level of application. Although the steps are applicable to the different levels, the tools applied are differentiated between program and projects.



**Figure 10. Scheme of the Integral Management of Socio-environmental Risk of the REM-AVP (GIRSA in Spanish).**

Based on the GIRSA scheme created and implemented by the REM - AVP the environmental and social risks will be managed in accordance with the established mechanism, tools and procedures of GIRSA, further detail in the extended document.

The System of Safeguards of the GCF is based on the Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability of the International Financial Corporation of the World Bank Group. The social and environmental evaluation implements as a starting point the design and use of REDD + policies in the period prior to the work of the WB FCPF (years 2014, 2015 and 2016). The identification and evaluation of the main impacts is based on the cabinet study of the main documents associated with the REDD+ implementation process, the consultations with the parties involved, the applicable national legislation, and interviews with representatives of the government, civil society, indigenous peoples and NGOs.

*Provide adequate and sufficient information describing how environmental and social risks and impacts will be identified, screened, assessed and managed in a manner consistent with the GCF's ESS standards, including the determination of the relevant environmental and social risk category of the proposed activities and the appropriate environmental and social assessment tools and management plans.*

### Results of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

According to the ESMF, the level of risk may not always be immediately apparent or may change during project preparation when projects are being implemented. The project therefore needs to be systematically screened during identification and preparation of activities and frequently monitored during implementation in order to identify indirect, cumulative and associated impacts, as relevant. An initial risk assessment of the implementation of project outputs resulted in the following identified risks. Table 16 describes the identified risks for each activity of the Proposed project and the level of risk considered.

**Table 16. Environmental and social risk analysis at activity level.**

Project activities	Risk description	Level of risk (Screening)
<b>OUTPUT 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened</b>		
Activity 1.1 Strengthening of the existing national forest monitoring of early warning reports in deforestation hotspots.	Access to information about forests, threats and deforestation is inequitable. Limited capacities of local authorities and stakeholders to participate in making-decisions processes  Stakeholders do not take adequate or pertinent decisions about forest management because of the limited information available	LOW RISK
Activity 1.2. Support the implementation of a strategy for Green Municipalities	No recognition, respect or inclusion of the mechanisms of government and decision-making  Little applicability of institutional instruments  Institutional gaps for decision making and implementation of activities to reduce deforestation	LOW RISK
Activity 1.3 Support the implementation of rural environmental cadasters as a measure to monitor deforestation at farm level	Registry systems may create expectations on land ownership and generate an incentive for new colonization processes or displacement.	LOW RISK
Activity 1.4 Implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol (monitoring, forest traceability, operational and administrative) - including the reinforcement of deforestation control actions and other associated crimes	Inadequate capacity of stakeholders to participate in decision-making and negotiation processes  Low ownership of the processes in the territory  Inequality in information access  Little participation of local stakeholders in dialogue spaces  Decision-making processes not consistent with the needs and expectations of the interested parties	LOW RISK
<b>OUTPUT 2. Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier</b>		
Activity 2.1. Support local community-base organizations in the design and establishment of sustainable forest management units in eight areas	Legal procedures are not in place to promote integrated management of forests and facilitate community access to natural resources.  Dependence on a single source of income and reduction of economic income obtained by current unsustainable productive activities	LOW TO MODERATE RISK



	<p>Land ownership limitations might constitute difficulties in assuring long-term forest management activities.</p> <p>Local communities lack knowledge about forest management practices as they have been depending from agricultural systems</p> <p>Forest management activities may incentivize intervention in natural ecosystems and protected areas or their buffer zones</p> <p>Forestry units may operate in areas with low labor and gender equality standards</p>	
Activity 2.2 Implementation of training programs for sustainable forest management	<p>Forest ecosystems are impacted negatively by the lack of knowledge on the appropriate management practices.</p> <p>Lack of knowledge on the managed species and their populations drive the depletion of the species at local level.</p> <p>Dependence of few species makes the production system economically unsustainable and generates overexploitation practices.</p> <p>Little participation of women in new forest-based businesses</p>	LOW RISK
Activity 2.3 Market access and strengthening of product value chains of timber and non-timber forest products and other sustainable products derived from forestry units	<p>Limited access to target markets.</p> <p>Exclusion of local communities and/or women groups.</p>	LOW RISK
Activity 2.4 Strengthening regional environmental authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments to assure sustainable forest management in selected forestry units.	<p>Incidence of external agents in decision making and control of the territory (e.g. armed groups and illegal activities)</p> <p>Local authorities lack capacities (human resources and financial resources) for law enforcement and support community-based forest management units</p>	LOW RISK
Activity 2.5 Design of incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management	<p>Lack of clear rules on the participation and distribution of benefits</p> <p>Institutional instruments are not applicable and local communities lack the capacities for accessing financial incentives</p> <p>Exclusion of community lands.</p>	MODERATE RISK
Activity 2.6 Implementation of long-term community-based monitoring systems in forestry units	<p>Lack of incentives for people to engage and maintain monitoring initiatives.</p> <p>Monitoring systems are not appropriate to assure that forest management is sustainable.</p>	LOW RISK
<b>OUTPUT 3. Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation.</b>		
Activity 3.1 Strengthening REDD+ implementation and forest governance in Indigenous Territories	<p>No recognition, respect or inclusion of the mechanisms of own-government and decision-making</p> <p>Scaling-up of internal political and philosophical conflicts of the communities</p> <p>IP organizations and communities have no capacities for the formulation and implementation of projects</p>	MODERATE RISK

	Lack of access to information excludes organizations or communities and parties interested.	
Activity 3.2 Empowerment and participation of indigenous women	Lack of capacities and access to information exclude women or reduce participation of women in the project's activities	MODERATE RISK

Subsequently, a set of initial risk measures were identified, consistent with key potential social and environmental risks and impacts identified through the application of the FAO's Environmental and Social Risk screening checklist (Table 17), therefore the GCF's ESS standards. Details are shown in chapter 6 of the ESMF -Annex 3:

**Table 17. Initial mitigation measures identified at activity level**

Project activities	Mitigation measures
Activity 1.1 Strengthening of the existing national forest monitoring of early warning reports in deforestation hotspots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National carbon and forest monitoring system will be strengthen to generate warnings more frequently in amazon hotspots</li> <li>• Provide the basis for developing technological applications and other information mechanisms that generate information in real time for local people.</li> <li>• Alternative communication/information instruments will be designed to assure that all relevant stakeholders have access to forest monitoring information in languages and formats that they can manage. Specific instruments will be designed to assure indigenous peoples and women participation.</li> </ul>
Activity 1.2. Support the implementation of a strategy for Green Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support local authorities in the design and implementation of strategies to reduce deforestation by increasing access to financial resources and promoting wide participation of all relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>• Identify institutional gaps and define with the relevant stakeholders the mechanisms needed to strengthen articulation among national, regional and institutions around green municipalities strategies.</li> <li>• Support the mechanisms identified to strengthen institutional joint action at local level.</li> <li>• Strengthen of institutional capacities of local producers, women groups and local associations or representative institutions in order to raise awareness of deforestation and promote local commitments to support green municipalities efforts.</li> <li>• Promote local commitments of municipalities and production sectors.</li> <li>• Setting up mechanisms to monitor green municipalities progress against deforestation and low carbon development goals</li> <li>• Develop strategies to support municipalities and put in place institutional policies to track sustainability efforts of development sectors and municipalities.</li> </ul>
Activity 1.3 Support the implementation of rural environmental cadasters as a measure to monitor deforestation at farm level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design a system to implement rural registers, defining sound and clear guidelines including aspects such as the objective of the registers, the use given to the information recorded on each land, information management methods, types of reports to be generated and data to be disseminated.</li> <li>• Inform local beneficiaries about the scope of this register and implement mechanisms to solve doubts about the application</li> <li>• Design specific mechanisms to inform women and vulnerable groups.</li> <li>• Identify and apply the instruments needed to promote voluntary register of local communities and their commitment to conservation agreements.</li> </ul>
Activity 1.4 Implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol (monitoring, forest traceability, operational and administrative) - including the reinforcement of deforestation control actions and other associated crimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support National Government in the operation of the National Council to Combat Deforestation (CONALDEF), led by the MADS and conformed by other government's institutions</li> <li>• Identify and apply mechanisms to assure that interested parties have equal access to all relevant information needed for making decisions,</li> <li>• Implement communication and coordination mechanisms for involving local stakeholders more effectively and promote participation of all interested parties, including the design and implementation of specific tools to involve indigenous peoples and women.</li> <li>• Implement training programs address local stakeholders needs of information and capacities to increase participation and ownership of national processes at the regional and local level.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.1. Support local community-base organizations in the design and establishment of sustainable forest management units in eight areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support national government and regional authorities in the establishment of procedures to assure the economic, social and environmental feasibility of the sustainable forest management nuclei.</li> <li>• Forestry units will promote diversity of products, to reduce dependence economic dependence of one or two single products and diversify the local economy</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The project and the government will consider schemes to guarantee that local communities holding a forest management permit are allowed to manage the resources of the surrounding area in a sustainable way.</li> <li>•Implement training programs, involving a gender perspective, to create capacities for local forest management including (see Activity 2.2).</li> </ul> <p><b>MODERATE RISK:</b> The Project will develop an Environmental and Social Analysis for Moderate Risk Projects (ESA) including specific assessments of the risk and measures to reduce and monitor impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The National Park Unit will be informed about activities to be developed in neighboring areas and will be invited to participate in monitoring activities of the ESA</li> <li>•Forestry Units will subscribe forest conservation agreements to avoid impacts in natural forest areas surrounding the forestry units.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.2 Implementation of training programs for sustainable forest management	<p>To reduce risks, the project will design a specific training program to generate capacities for sustainable forest management at a local level. This program will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of species with market potential and analysis of economic feasibility.</li> <li>- Analysis of population's characteristics (abundance, density, distribution, productivity) to identify potential harvesting, non-detrimental management practices and other habitat management considerations.</li> <li>- Design of management systems: non-detrimental harvest practices, management conditions (individual size, characteristics of raw materials to be collected, etc.).</li> <li>- Development of local inventories and implementation of monitoring systems</li> <li>- Support of monitoring systems application, including analysis of resulting data and recommendations to adjust management conditions, if necessary.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•To promote women participation, the project will assess women capacities and interests related forest management and will design training programs to promote women initiatives and integrate them into the training programs promoted and implemented by the project</li> </ul>
Activity 2.3 Market access and strengthening of product value chains of timber and non-timber forest products and other sustainable products derived from forestry units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Support the development of market studies for identified products of sustainable management forest nuclei and will support tailored market strategies for each forestry unit</li> <li>•Build on existing experiences in the promotion of private sector partnerships.</li> <li>•Support a strategy to raise awareness on the products derived of sustainable forest management nuclei by highlighting the production conditions considered in those systems, and their contribution to conservation of forests, climate change mitigation, local community well-being, among other relevant messages.</li> <li>•Implementation of market strategies and support to local supply chains and market linkages, in a way that local communities are included and capacities are generated to continue marketing activities once the project ends.</li> <li>•Support communication strategies to make it visible the traditional activities of local communities and women that contribute to reduce threats of forest ecosystems and promote sustainable forest management.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.4 Strengthening regional environmental authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments to assure sustainable forest management in selected forestry units.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Promote articulation of local and national actions and facilitate the joint work with the CONALDEF and other authorities.</li> <li>•Assess institutional gaps capacities of environmental authorities for control practices and support a strengthening capacities program</li> <li>•Identify the support needed to monitor forest management units and identify resources, procedures and instruments needed to improve capacities of regional environmental authorities.</li> <li>•Implement a capacity building program in parallel to the establishment of forestry units,</li> <li>•The project will address the legal and capacity loopholes that limit activities to control and monitor forest management systems by supporting environmental authorities in the definition of norms and regulations on legal procedures and the monitoring to its implementation.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.5 Design of incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Design a set of incentives aligned with the needs local communities, women groups and indigenous peoples interested in participating in forest management activities. In addressing the risks, the project will identify feasible and novel incentives that consolidate forest management units, including instruments that promote responsible tenure of forestlands.</li> <li>•The project will identify specific instruments suitable for involving and incentivize indigenous communities and women groups interested in establishing sustainable forest management units.</li> </ul>
Activity 2.6 Implementation of long-term community-based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•To reduce the risk that monitoring activities are not implemented because of the lack of incentives, the project will guarantee that those activities and its costs be included as part</li> </ul>

monitoring systems in forestry units	<p>of the management system. In this way, the management system would define specific budgets to keep monitoring systems working.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring systems will be tested and data analysed with a participatory approach in order to made adjustments at local level and assure the these systems provide the information needed for making future decisions to improve the sustainability of the management and reduce risks on the survival of the managed species.</li> <li>• In addition, market strategies will highlight the value added of monitoring activities to assure sustainability of products derived of the management system.</li> </ul>
Activity 3.1 Strengthening REDD+ implementation and forest governance in Indigenous Territories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In close coordination with the Amazon Vision Program and the relevant stakeholders involved in the implementation of the PIVA, the project will define specific mechanisms to support IPs in the formulation of sub-projects and facilitate broad dissemination of the call promoted by the project.</li> <li>• Project activities will be built on the lessons learned from previous calls developed by the Amazon Vision Program, and will adjust procedures and practices in order to support IPs in the implementation of selected projects.</li> <li>• The project will conduct a gender-sensitive stakeholder analysis to ensure equal opportunities for women and men, and assess the gender sensitivity of planned activities. In this context the project may need to implement specific activities to strengthen women participation and support women organizations in the formulation and implementation of projects that contribute to increase governance in indigenous territories</li> </ul> <p>MODERATE RISK: The project will develop an Environmental and Social Analysis (ESA) and agreed on an Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) that would take into account Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework and will assess the impacts and guide implementation and monitoring of mitigation measures to assure that this activity in general and the supported sub-projects involve the necessary measures to foster full respect, promotion, and safeguarding of IPs rights so hat they (a) benefit from activities and projects in a culturally appropriate manner; and (b) do not suffer harm or adverse effects from the design and implementation of GCF-financed activities</p>
Activity 3.2 Empowerment and participation of indigenous women	

### Risk management for project implementation

The management of the social and environmental risk of the implementation of the project comprises a set of tools and established mechanisms that ensure that the environmental and social issues are addressed properly in accordance and in compliance with the FAO and GCF Policies. Likewise, the grievance redress mechanism and the Gender Action Plan are taken to help the project culture of transparency with built-in feedback systems and implementation units in identifying and developing activities for greater environmental and social co-benefits. The project activities shall undergo a screening, assessment, review, and clearance process before and during the execution of the projects. GIRSA framework and ESMF mechanisms will be implemented for monitoring and reporting risks.

Within the ESMF, the FAO's environmental and social screening checklist was applied to identify possible environmental and social risks in the project sub-activities. As the Project was classified as Moderate Risk, according to FAO guidelines the Project will develop an Environmental and Social Analysis (ESA) and agreed on an Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP). The sub-activities of the project will be identified during the inception phase in Year 1. For each sub-activity, implementing sites will be identified along with activities, including capacity building and stakeholder engagement information specific to each site. The ESCP will include a set of mitigation measures with monitoring and institutional arrangements to be taken during the implementation phase to correctly manage any potential adverse environmental and social impacts that may have been identified.

Once the ESM unit in FAO Headquarters endorses the pre-implementation documents with ESCPs, the safeguards specialist from the PMU will ensure ESCPs are included and reported upon, along with stakeholder engagement in the context of the monitoring plan. Field staff will be responsible for monitoring the progress, as well as identifying any potential risks that may emerge through the implementation phase. This information will be compiled in progress reports and templates will include a section on E&S risk management, where the above information will be reported.

#### E.1.3. Consultations with stakeholders

*Provide adequate and sufficient information on the consultations undertaken with all the relevant stakeholders, describing who are the identified stakeholders, what the issues and concerns raised and how these are responded to and considered in the proposed activities. Information on the stakeholder engagement plan or framework will also need*

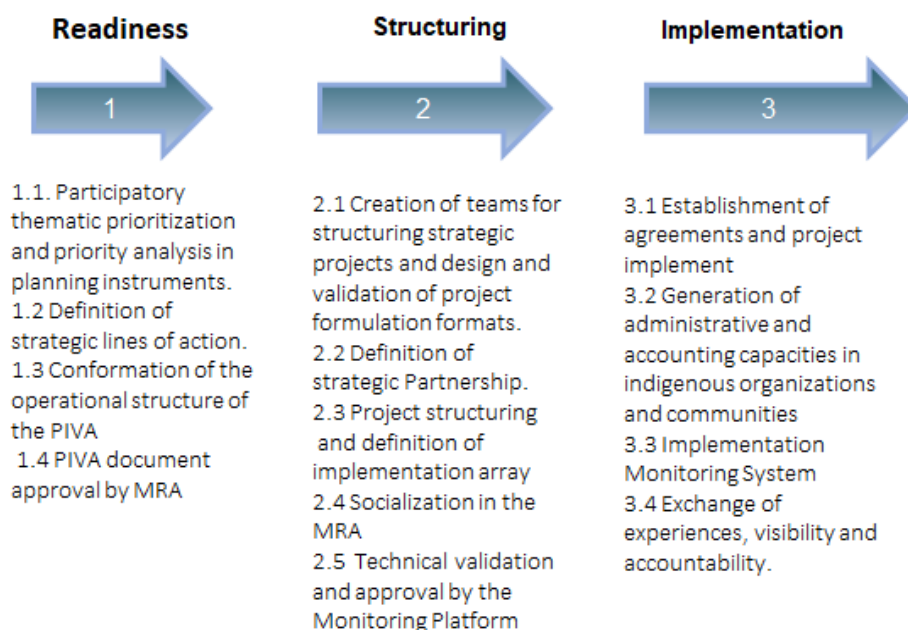
*to be provided, describing how the activities will continue to engage the stakeholders, further consultations, communication and outreach, and process for grievance redress.*

The Project will build on the previous consultation activities of the REM-AVP and the progress made in involving relevant stakeholders through diverse participatory strategies implemented under each of the Program's Pillars. The formulation of the AVP was led by the MADS involving research institutes (IDEAM and SINCHI), regional environmental authorities (CDA, Corpoamazonia, Cormacarena), territorial governments, local communities' representatives, sectoral organizations and NGOs. These processes were also supported by donors such as the UK, which supported the formulation of Pillar 3, separately involving participation of relevant actors that were interviewed and consulted to identify the activities to be supported by the AVP and identify strategies to promote private sector commitments.

Pillar 4 of the AVP (PIVA) required a specific consultation process in order to bring and increase interlocution scenarios and capacities between natives and the government institutions, promoting commitment and responsibility of the parts in the decisions to reduce, mitigate and prevent deforestation and degradation of the Amazonian forest.

### PIVA's consultation process

The PIVA encompasses three phases that include the cycle of construction and implementation of the Indigenous Pillar. The Readiness phase seeks to determine the action lines and sub-activities jointly with the Indigenous people and legitimizes the participatory process by the MRA approval; the other two phases correspond to the structuring of the projects for each of the investment lines, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects.



**Figure 11. Scheme of the participatory process of construction of the Pillar 4 of the REM-AVP (PIVA).**

For the consultation with stakeholders, a three step methodology was designed: i) to collect and analyze information of background, ENREDD, Amazonia Vision and Safeguards; ii) to work with Indigenous Peoples in meetings or workshops in each department according to the previous criteria identified and; iii) to socialize the results, prioritize subjects and feedback the final document. Within the construction process of the PIVA 13 workshops were held in the departments of Caquetá, Guainía, Amazonas, Vaupes, Guaviare and Putumayo with 950 people from 54 ethnic groups. Table 18 shows the broad participation of Amazonian Indigenous Peoples:

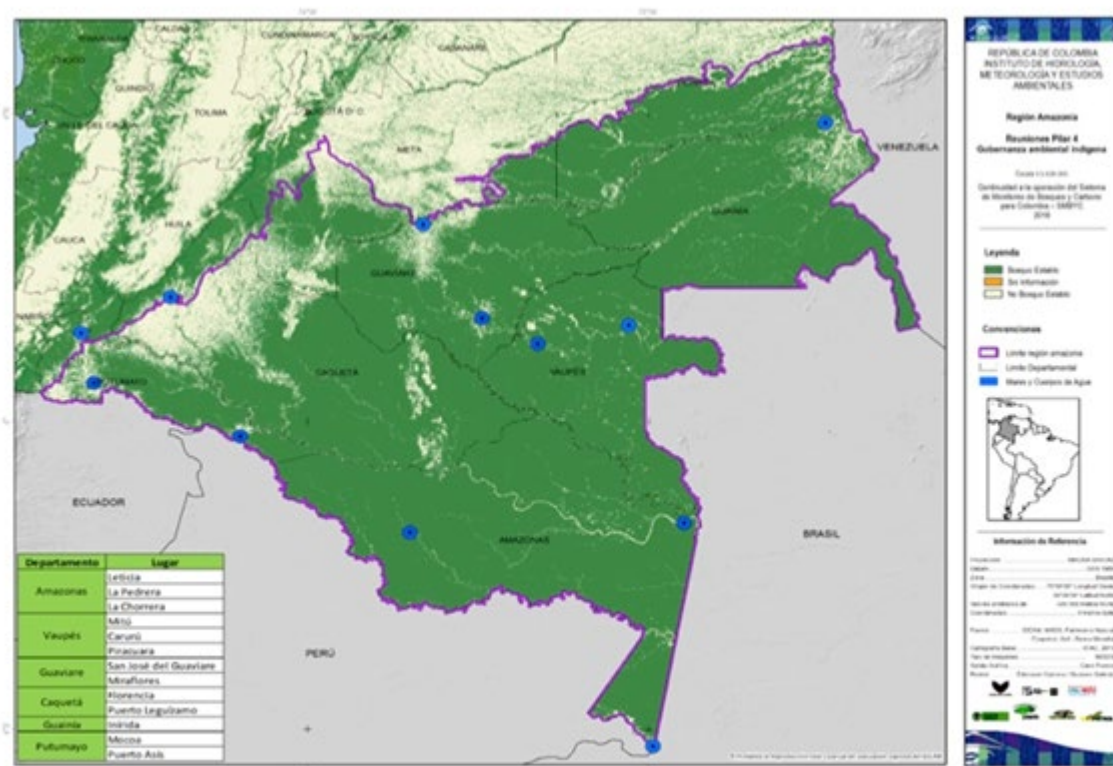
**Table 18. Details of participants in the process of construction of the PIVA**

Workshop place	Participants by Gender	Total
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		Women	Men	Number of ethnicities	
	Miraflores	20	35	9	55
	San Jose	11	46	9	57
	Florencia	25	34	10	59
	Puerto Leguizamo	40	106	8	146
	Puerto Asis	36	37	12	73
	Mocoa	48	59	14	107
	Caruru	21	50	13	71
	Monforth	20	82	11	102
	Mitu	14	58	17	72
	Inirida	12	53		65
	La Chorrera	10	59	7	69
	Leticia- La Pedrera	5	25	12	30
	Leticia- Trapecio	9	35	2	44
	<b>Total</b>	271	679	124	950

The following map presents the location of meeting places within the participatory construction process of the PIVA



**Figure 12. Map of the Amazon Biome and localization of areas where participatory activities were developed as part of the construction process of the PIVA**

In November 2016, for the first step, results of the workshops with the documentation analysis<sup>40</sup> were consolidated, as well as the arising proposals from the meetings of experts and the contributions of the Amazonian Indigenous Environmental Board of Climate Change - MIAACC. The first draft of PIVA resulting from this process was confirmed by feedback in 4 workshops, in which the delegates of the MRA, MIAACC, some leaders of each department analyzed the final proposal and presented recommendations for its adjustment. The four thematic areas of intervention defined for PIVA actions are: 1) Territory and environment, 2) governance, 3) economy and production and 4) cross-cutting issues such as gender, education, among others.

As foreseen in the participatory construction route, the [PIVA document was approved](#) in March 2017 by the MRA. In addition, the MRA has committed to guarantee coherence and harmonization between the investment guidelines and the political decisions required for projects to have an impact on the exercise of the rights of indigenous peoples, the constitutional purposes and the objectives of the AVP.

### Addressing challenges

In 206 during the PIVA's construction phase, it became clear that the success of the actions depends on the concurrence of political decisions and efficient orientation of financial resources. In this sense, six fundamental conditions were identified aimed at promoting synergistic impacts in the implementation of the PIVA, regarding the challenges the Indigenous Peoples and the Colombian government face:

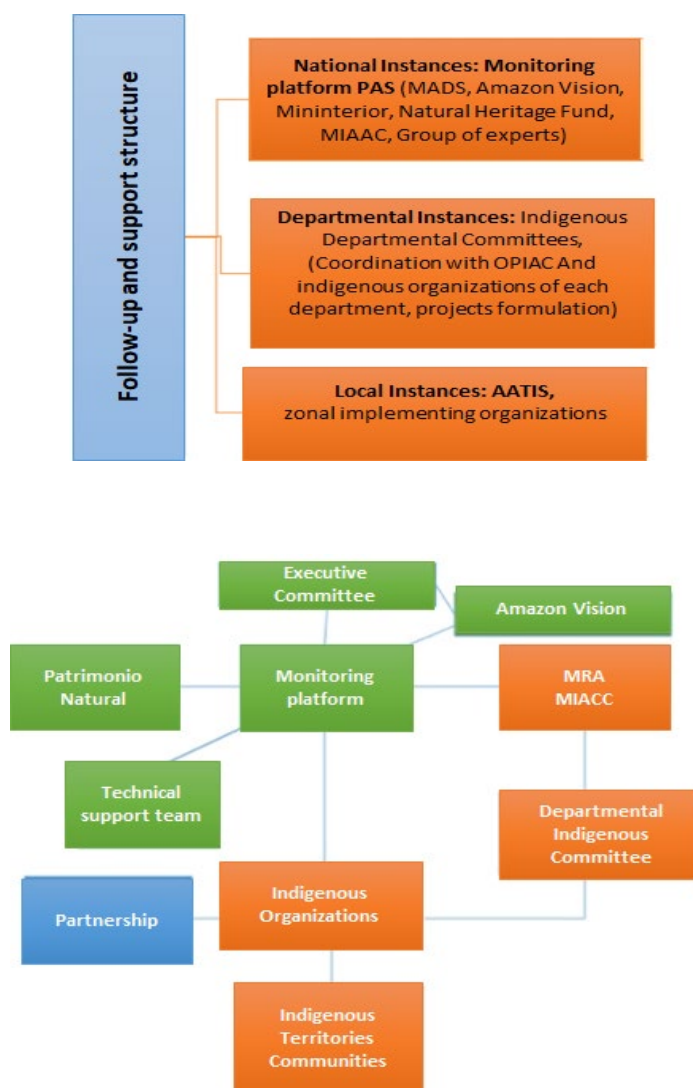
- The implementation of the PIVA should promote the articulation of state institutions, so the investment, decisions and orientations of the public policy concur to effectively achieve the program objectives.

<sup>40</sup> 65 documents of Comprehensive Plans for Indigenous Life and Ethnic Safeguard Plans, 6 Agenda 21 plans, 2 Action Plans of the Amazonian CARs, PARBSAC, and 6 Departmental Development Plans were compiled and analysed, drawing the relevant information regarding the priorities.

- b) AVP must guarantee the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the other 4 Pillars of REM - AVP (Improving Forest Governance, Sustainable Development and Planning, and Agro-Environmental Sector), in order to incorporate the Indigenous knowledge systems and government structures in coherence with the program actions and results.
- c) Social and environmental safeguards implementation, in accordance with the fundamental rights for Indigenous peoples and the international instruments adopted by Colombia. In any case, the application of safeguards will be aimed at promoting progressivity in the exercise of rights.
- d) In the case of indigenous peoples who, due to their special cultural characteristics and/or their condition of vulnerability are in a situation where their organizational level is not officially recognized, the indigenous pillar will have to generate the necessary technical and financial mechanisms for their communities to effectively access the projects' actions and benefits.
- e) The presentation of projects for the implementation of the PIVA is exclusive to the indigenous institutions.
- f) The PIVA implementation actions will guarantee the integral protection of Indigenous Peoples in their natural state.

### Stakeholder engagement framework

The identification of relevant stakeholders, their roles and relationships resulted in a governance structure that integrates IP's organization consistently. Seeking to share responsibilities at all levels, to improve the interlocution with National Government and to keep a transparent and effective participation process of the Amazon vision actions, the PIVA's governance scheme involves, the Amazon Vision Executive Committee, as well as the Government and Organizational Institutions of Amazonian Indigenous Peoples. In line with this structure, the project will continue to use this stakeholder engagement framework.



**Figure 13. Stakeholder engagement framework of Pillar 4 of REM-AVP (PIVA)**

Commitments agreed in the PIVA document assure continuous involvement of stakeholders. The activities that will be carried out are:

**1. Territory and environment**

- Indigenous Territorial Planning.
- Planning and Management of the territory based on indigenous knowledge systems and articulation with territorial planning and management instruments that are prioritized.
- Establishing and implementing inter-cultural agreements between indigenous communities, Afro-descendant communities and farmers for the control and management of natural resources.
- Supporting the construction of the Amazon Indigenous REDD initiative.
- Community bio-cultural monitoring.
- Guarantees and legal security of the territory.
- Alignment, extension and constitution of safeguards.
- Supporting the implementation of measures for the integral protection of sacred sites, occupied or ancestral territories.

**2. Indigenous Self- government**

- Strengthening of self-government systems, indigenous institutions and spaces and instances of participation, coordination and consultation at all levels.
- Formulating and/or updating the Indigenous Life Plans and supporting the development of the environmental component of the Indigenous Safeguard Plans and their articulation with public policy.
- Capacity building in the area of prior consultation and prior, free and informed consent

**3. Economy and production**

- Supporting local Production, Sovereignty and Food Security.
- Strengthening and promotion of knowledge and practices that ensure food autonomy.
- Implementing the income-generating economic initiatives that are culturally, environmentally and productively sustainable.
- Strengthening capacities in issues related to conservation incentives.

**4. Strengthening of Indigenous women**

- Strengthening and empowering indigenous women to make their contribution visible in the resolution of specific problems in participation, governance, improvement of their livelihoods and differential development

**5. Transversal Lines**

- Strengthening of Education, Transmission and Conservation of Indigenous Knowledge
- Recovering and exchanging of the research and transmission of traditional knowledge and its practices
- Strengthening of own languages and support for own education processes
- Strengthening of traditional medicine systems.
- Strengthening of skills and knowledge of politics, administration, indigenous legislation to indigenous authorities and local and regional institutions.
- Supporting the regional exchange of experiences and learning.

**Process for grievance redress mechanism**

The grievance redress mechanism for this Project will implement similar mechanisms to those used by the National Government. The design and implementation of the mechanism is framed in the national policy of citizen service, part of the Open Government Model that manages three fundamental principles: transparency, participation and citizen collaboration. The MAC manage questions, complaints, grievances, suggestions and observations (PQRSD in Spanish) of citizens at national level and are applied by all government entities. At the National level operated the Citizen Grievance Mechanism (MAC in Spanish), which is an element of the National Safeguards System. Specifically the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is applying this mechanisms with the objective of informing how the safeguards defined by the UNFCCC for REDD+ in Colombia are being addressed and respected and address all PQRSD related to the application, respect or omission of safeguards during the design and implementation of REDD+ projects and programs. Following the existing procedures the Project will also define a platform to complied all all PQRSD received regarding the project.

Currently PQRSD of the REM-AVP are managed through a [citizen assistance module](#) that is available on the Amazon Vision Program website and addressed by [pqrvisionamazonia@minambiente.gov.com](mailto:pqrvisionamazonia@minambiente.gov.com) email to Deputy Minister office. The PQR treatment process consists in, once received, the Pillar Leader prepared the response, which is then sent to

the Deputy Minister offices to be written and officially sent. The PQR responses are monitored to consolidate a file for frequent PQR and responses in order to facilitate and expedite the delivery of responses. Since the PQR mechanism is a source of feedback on the management of the AVP, a qualitative analysis of the treated PQR is carried out on a quarterly basis, where it is decided on possible pertinent measures to improve communication mechanisms or adapting management procedures. A synthesis of these analyzes, both quantitative (number of requests processed) and qualitative, and the measures taken in response to the PQR are included in the respective quarterly report.

During 2015-2016, the requests related to the Amazonia Project were received by the different government agencies collaborating in the Project through the MAC (PQRSD). The Project Coordination Unit consolidated all requests. As stated in Annex B of the Environmental and Social Assessment of Colombia's RBP (Annex 1), between 2015 and 2017 the Heart of the Amazonia grievance mechanism through PQRSD received nine information requests and each of these were resolved. Table 1, Annex D, ESA describes the requests/complaints and how they were resolved.

On the other hand, FAO is committed to ensuring that its programs are implemented in accordance with the Organization's environmental and social obligations. In order to better achieve these goals, and to ensure that beneficiaries of FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with these obligations, the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level.

FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards<sup>41</sup>, applied to all FAO programs and projects.

Concerns must be addressed at the appropriate level, i.e. at the project management/technical level, and if necessary at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the Office of the Inspector-General (OIG) in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

The principles to be followed during the complaint resolution process include: impartiality, respect for human rights, including those pertaining to indigenous peoples, compliance of national norms, coherence with the norms, equality, transparency, honesty, and mutual respect.

### **Project-level grievance mechanism**

The project will establish a grievance mechanism at field level to file complaints during project inception phase. Contact information and information on the process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops and other related events throughout the life of the project. In addition, it is expected that all awareness raising material to be distributed will include the necessary information regarding the contacts and the process for filing grievances.

The project will also be responsible for documenting and reporting as part of the safeguards performance monitoring on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

The mechanism includes the following stages:

1. In the instance in which the claimant has the means to directly file the claim, he/she has the right to do so, presenting it directly to the Project Management Unit (PMU). The process of filing a complaint will duly consider anonymity as well as any existing traditional or indigenous dispute resolution mechanisms and it will not interfere with the community's self-governance system.
2. The complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism. This will be sent to the Project Manager to assess whether the complaint is eligible. The confidentiality of the complaint must be preserved during the process.
3. Eligible complaints will be addressed by the Project PMU, which will prepare an answer in close coordination with project's partners and FAO and other implementation agencies.

<sup>41</sup> Compliance Reviews following complaints related to the Organization's environmental and social standards: <http://www.fao.org/aud/42564-03173af392b352dc16b6cec72fa7ab27f.pdf>



4. If the situation is too complex or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the Project Manager will consider consulting the Project Board for recommendations to address the complaint and define the need to send it to a higher level, until a solution or acceptance is reached.
5. For every complaint received, a written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days.
6. In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint, may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the reasons.
7. All received complaints, responses and resolutions, must be duly registered.

#### Internal process

1. Project Management Unit (PMU). The complaint could come in writing or orally to the PMU directly. At this level, received complaints will be registered, investigated and solved by the PMU.
2. If the complaint has not been solved and could not be solve in level 1, then the Project Manager elevates it to the Project Board (Board).
3. FAO Representative. The assistance of the FAO Representative in Colombia is requested if a resolution was not agreed in levels 1 and 2.
4. FAO Regional Office for Latin American and the Caribbean. FAO Representative in Colombia will request if necessary the advice of the Regional Office to resolve a grievance, or will transfer the resolution of the grievance entirely to the regional office, if the problem is highly complex.
5. The FAO Regional Representative will request only on very specific situations or complex problems the assistance on the FAO Inspector General who pursuits its own procedures to solve the problem.

#### Resolution

Upon acceptance a solution by the complainer, a document with the agreement should be signed with the agreement.

**Table 19. Description of responsibilities for the implementation of the project-level grievance mechanism**

Review Level	Responsibilities
Project Management Unit (PMU)	Project Manager must respond within 10 working days with support of the PMU team, partners and implementation agencies
Project Board	Complex response/ complainer does not accept the resolution: Project Manager must send the information to all Project Board members and call for a meeting to find a solution. The response must be sent within 5 working days after the meeting of the Project Board.
FAO Representation in the Country	Complaints that Project Board considers must be addressed at a higher level: Project Manager send request and FAO must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. FAO Representative in Colombia. Alan Bojanic H. Alanjorge.bojanic@fao.org Phone: (57 1) 346 5101
FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	Complainer does not accept resolution from FAO representation in the country: FAO-COL sends to FAO regional officer, which must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. FAO Representative: Julio Berdegue RLC-ADG@fao.org; Julio.Berdegue@fao.org Tel: (56 2) 2923 2100
Office of the Inspector General (OIG)	To report possible fraud and bad behavior by fax, confidential: (+39) 06 570 55550

By e-mail: [Investigations-hotline@fao.org](mailto:Investigations-hotline@fao.org)  
By confidential hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333

## Future Consultation to stakeholders

During the inception phase in Year 1, the sub-activities of each activity will be identified, likewise the sites of intervention and its communities. As a starting point, the Project development team participated in a meeting of the MRA (March 4, 2020) to ensure that this instance were duly informed, in a transparent and impartial way, about the project activities being proposed and the proceeds allocated under Output 3, which will be targeted to strengthen territorial governance in line with the activities of the PIVA. The indigenous delegates of the MRA endorsed the REDD+ RBP Project to be presented by the Colombian government before the Green Climate Fund (FVC). The MRA agreed that a team of seven technical experts (1 per department and one delegate from OPIAC) would provide comments and enrich the technical document. The technical team will meet between March 30 and April 3 and will present their recommendations to the MRA meeting that will be held during the week of 13th April. It is expected that during this meeting the MRA, as legitimate representatives of indigenous peoples of the Amazon Region, will agree on the route of implementation of the activities included in the REDD+ RBP Project. Participants of the meeting included the Vice-minister of Planning and Environmental Normalization (MADS), the Director of Indigenous and minorities issues of the Ministry of Interior, the Director of the CDA (Regional Environmental Authority for Guanía, Guaviare and Vaupés), the Project manager and PIVA Technical Leader of the REM-AVP, indigenous delegates of the six departments of the Amazon, delegate from the Sinchi Institute, Corpoamazonia, the Ombudsman's Office of Colombia, the Comptroller General of Colombia and professionals of MADS and Ministry of Interior (Secretariat). The Minutes of the meeting are included in the Annex 8.

## E.2. Risk assessment

### E.2.1. For the period of the achieved results

*Provide adequate and sufficient information that allows for an assessment of the historical performance of the activities undertaken and their track record against the risk tolerance levels specified in the Risk Appetite Statement and the criteria outlined in the Risk Guidelines for Funding Proposals.*

*Please note that you should consider only the applicable and relevant parts of the two above documents to the feedback you provide.*

## Environmental and Social Risks

It was applied the FAO's corporate Environmental and Social Guidelines that detail the mandatory requirements for managing environmental and social performance of FAO field programs, projects and sub-projects throughout the life of a project and optimizing sustainability and equity post project.

The FAO ESS checklist was used in the analysis (see Annex C in Annex 2). The approach was to look for the indirect impacts of policies, strategies and legislation undertook in the pass. Once the analysis of the risks and impacts was made, it was assessed that the safeguards have been complied with during the implementation of these policies, strategies etc.

- The ESA concludes that there is strong confidence and substantiation in the assessment of the consistency with the GCF REDD+ RBP pilot program requirements (Annex 2). The ESA presented concrete evidence focused on policies laws and regulations existing at the moment of the evaluation and during the time frame and regions included in the proposal. Each FAO ESS as well as each of the Cancun Safeguards presented national and international regulations applicable for the activities performed during 2015 - 2016.
- The ESA not only found information that pointed out in that direction but also find out that in many cases the participation of stakeholders was proactive and transcended to participation improving the ownership of the decision agreed.
- Prior to the implementation of REDD+ related activities in Colombia, the country had already its own Grievance and Redress.

- The analysis of the pilot project demonstrated that activities were implemented within legal and policy framework that provided an enabling environment for achieving consistency with the FAO ESS and in practice, the pilot project were implemented with alignment with the FAO ESS.

### Project execution risks

With regard Colombia's governance structure, low risk is also addressed by national laws and by the ratification of international instruments, such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) on 27 October 2007, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption of the American States on 25 November of 1998. At national level, in 2011, the Colombian Congress approved the Law 1474 of 2011, which dictates rules aimed at strengthening mechanisms for prevention, investigation and punishment of acts of corruption and the effectiveness of public management control in Colombia, besides, the CONPES 167 established in 2013 (National Strategy for comprehensive public anti-corruption policy) was adopted to ensure that accountability becomes part of the culture of public and private organizations.

Colombian law establishes mechanisms to enable citizens to be part of accountability exercises such as Veedurías Ciudadanas (citizen oversight) and citizen control councils (Law 849 of 1998, Law 850 of 2003 and decree 1714 of 2000.)

### E.2.2. For the use of proceeds

*Provide adequate and sufficient information that details how the plan for the use of proceeds does not violate the risk tolerance levels specified in the Risk Appetite Statement and allows for performance monitoring and evaluation against the criteria outlined in the Risk Guidelines for Funding Proposals.*

*Please note that you should consider only the applicable and relevant parts of the two above documents to the feedback you provide.*

### Environmental and Social Risks

In order to accomplish the mandatory requirements for managing environmental and social performance of FAO field programs and the GCF Risk Guidelines for Funding Proposals, it was applied the FAO's corporate Environmental and Social Guidelines to look at the key potential social and environmental impacts and risk of the project. As a result, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (Annex 3) reports that the project has been classified as moderate risk (Category "B") and it is expected that the project activities will trigger five out of the nine FAO's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies:

- a) ESS2 – Biodiversity, Ecosystems, and Natural Habitats;
- b) ESS4 – Animal (livestock and aquatic) Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- c) ESS7 – Decent Work;
- d) ESS8 – Gender Equality; and
- e) ESS9 – Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage.

In the implementation phase, the Management of the Social and Environmental Risk will be carried out to ensure that the environmental and social issues are addressed properly in accordance and in compliance with the FAO and GCF Policies. The ESMF incorporates FAO's environmental and social screening checklist to identify possible environmental and social risks in the project sub-activities and determine Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). It is also considered the GRM and the Gender Action Plan to help the project in culture of transparency with built-in feedback systems and implementation units in identifying and developing activities for greater environmental and social co-benefits.

### Project execution risks

The Table 20 shows the assessment of the Project specific execution risks, which includes operational and country-specific risks including mitigation measures

**Table 20. Risk assessment of technical and operational project activities.**

<b>Risk Factor 1</b>
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Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Lack of capacities of stakeholders and local authorities to managing information and making decisions	Technical and operational	Medium	Low
Mitigation Measure(s)			
The project will implement training programs targeted to local authorities and relevant stakeholders to manage forest information and will provide technical advice to support implementation of actions to reduce deforestation.			
<b>Risk Factor 2</b>			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Capacity of smallholders and producers associations to manage forest units	Technical and operational	Medium	Low
Mitigation Measure(s)			
Based on its experience in supporting forestry programs, FAO will provide technical assistance to develop management and financial capacities for local smallholders and will provide specific technical assistance and management support to local authorities. The following mitigation measures will be implemented: i) training programs; ii) support to market development activities; iii) involvement of local communities in monitoring and management activities of forest units; iv) tailored technical advice to increase entrepreneurial capacities.			
<b>Risk Factor 3</b>			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Long term sustainability of forest management units	Technical and operational	Medium	Low
Mitigation Measure(s)			
FAO, based on its experience, will develop in close coordination with the national government, a plan to assure sustainability of management units and assure the involvement of local authorities to monitor forest management sustainability and provide continuous technical assistance to local communities. Activities of the project also include the formulation and implementation of business plan for each forest unit, which will assure long-term sustainability of management units.			
<b>Risk Factor 4</b>			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Environmental risks associated to the spreading of illegal activities, including illegal logging	Social and environmental	Low	Medium

Mitigation Measure(s)			
These risks will be mitigated through preparation of risks assessments in the areas where activities of the project will be undertaken. According to these assessments the project will implement activities to reduce risks including conservation agreements with local communities, early warning reports, community-based forest monitoring and other activities targeted to strengthen capacities of local communities to reduce risks related to the development of illegal activities in their territories.			
Risk Factor 5			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Limited awareness and preparation of communities to implement projects and good practices promoted by the project	Technical and operational	Low	Low
Mitigation Measure(s)			
The AVP program has made significant progress involving local communities and IPs in the implementation of projects and activities to reduce deforestation in the region. Building on this experience the following mitigation actions will be taken: i) As part of the project design, there will be a training program for community members, community leaders, and civil authorities will raise awareness about the importance of promoting a forest economy and increase territorial governance as measures to reduce deforestation and increase local livelihoods; ii) training program will directly involve a network of local extension workers who will provide technical assistance and facilitate information to local communities.			
Risk Factor 6			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Security issues in the region disrupt project activities	Other	Low	Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)			
The Project will work closely with local communities and organizations to promote project ownership and involvement in the implementation. FAO as UN agency will keep informed the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) protocols, and adjustments made to work plans as appropriate.			
Risk Factor 7			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Accessing market and low interest of private sector	Other	Low	Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)			
The Project will support activities to generate value-added to forest products in accordance with market requirements and characteristics of demand and will support development of producers' skills and strengthening capacities in processing/transformation, according to business plan designed for forest management units. FAO and national government will also support activities to promote private sector involvement and raise awareness at the national level to support market access of forest products.			



Risk Factor 8			
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring
Sanitary issues disrupt project activities	Other	Medium	Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)			
The Project will monitor the impact of sanitary issues such as Coronavirus (COVID-19) or other diseases and will define protocols to made adjustments to work plans as appropriate. If field activities need to be postponed, the Project will evaluate mechanisms to reduce the impact and increase velocity of implementation by adding staff or accelerate investments, as needed.			

### E.3. Gender considerations

#### E.3.1. For the period of the achieved results

*Provide adequate and sufficient information in the assessment describing the extent to which the measures undertaken complied with the GCF gender policy.*

FAO's Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) were adopted in 2015. At the project and field level, nine ES standards were designed to help manage and improve FAO's environmental and social performance through a risk and outcome based approach. A project alignment review was conducted to assess the extent in which activities implemented by the Heart of the Amazon Project were consistent with FAO ES standards, and consequently with REDD+ safeguards.

The ESS 8. Gender Equality analysis comprised in identifying the advances and actions in regards to:

- Providing equal access to and control over productive resources, services and markets.
- Strengthening women and men's participation in decision-making in rural institutions and policy processes.
- Ensuring that all stakeholders benefit equally from development interventions and that inequality is not reinforced or perpetuated.

In compliance with The ESS8 the Heart of the Amazon Project achieved during 2015 and 2016:

- The women participated in specific workshops to address their needs and aspirations with regards to food security and productive alternatives in the *chagras* in Mirití Paraná.
- 504 women and 568 men in project areas benefited from improved access to conservation-friendly livelihood activities.
- The Project supported traditional food security systems (*chagras*) managed by women.
- Women were strengthened in the entire process around the *chagra* that include their traditional planting systems, promoting environmental conservation and sustainable land use. Through this process, communities are maintaining their crops, but also their traditions, passing knowledge from one generation to another and conserving the environment.

The EICDGB gender approach takes a center focus on identifying the role of women as producers and conservation agents, identifying knowledge with women's productive potential and observing the differential effects of programs from a gender approach. The gender approach is mainstreamed as a guiding principle of the EICDGB, and highlighted through its action lines:

- The active participation of the Platform of Black Women/Afro-Colombians, considered as key actors in the conservation of forests and biodiversity, as well as the implementation of the national forest policies. This Platform seeks to develop a gender approach taking into account the differential relationship of Afro-women with the causes and impacts of climate change, deforestation and the EICDGB's measures and actions.
- The inclusion of girls and women in capacity building and research activities, especially with emphasis on gender-related studies.
- Promotion of gender approach that recognizes the capacities and contributions of different population groups according to their gender and age towards the generation and consolidation of community forestry models.

- Promotion and developing community participation in environmental protection, sustainable development and adequate management of natural resource programs, taking into account the differential and gender approach, generating participation of women and youth.
- The monitoring and evaluation indicators of the EICDGB include gender differentiation.
- The EICDGB implementation and the map routes are developed jointly with indigenous peoples, black and rural communities under a gender focus.

During the EICDGB formulation process, women took a special role in participatory processes. In order to generate conditions of equality in access to knowledge and capacity building processes organizations were asked to include women in their work teams since usually the leadership positions are exercised by men. In this way, in the different calls to the spaces, there was one specifically for the participation of women to identify the different needs, both from the perspective of men and women and promote their empowerment. The gender approach was mainstreamed in participatory spaces. At the National Indigenous Workshop on Safeguards, a women's delegation was invited by each organization. 26 men and 14 women participated. In national scenarios such as the National REDD+ Board (now the National Forest Board) the participation of men was 56.3% and women 43.7%.

Within the process of construction of the EICDGB strategy (UN-REDD Program) a total of 58 participation spaces were organized, with 2132 participants, in, 68.4% men and 31.6% women. During the eleven events of Dialogue and Coordination, women participation reached a 34.7%. 730 people participated in 24 capacity building events, 31% women and a total of 866 people participated in the 23 events of information and dialogue events, 30.3% women.

Especially in the participatory process of indigenous peoples in the construction of the EICDGB, promoting participation in dialogues, capacity building activities and the decision-making process strengthened women's organizational processes. In general, women participation was active, through proper institutional platforms such as secretaries, dialogue boards or departmental assemblies of indigenous women. Participation rates disaggregated by sex in the developed spaces with indigenous peoples in each region are the following:

- 29 workshops on dialogue, information and capacity building, men participation 75% (769) and women 25% (256).
- Amazon Region: 8 events with a 78.4% participation of men (211) and 21.6 women (58).
- Caribbean Region: 7 events with a participation of 82.6% of men (209) versus 17.4% of women (44)
- Pacific Region: 8 events with a percentage of 63.8% of men (166) and 36.2% of women (94)
- Orinoquia Region: 1 event with 94.1% of men (32) and 5.9% of women (2).
- National: 5 events with a percentage of men of 72.2% (151) and 27.8% of women (58).

### E.3.2. For the use of proceeds

*Provide adequate and sufficient information on how the AE will undertake activity-level gender assessments and action plans once the details of the activities become known.*

The goal of the FAO Policy on Gender Equality is "to achieve equality between women and men in sustainable agricultural production and rural development for the elimination of hunger and poverty." As it is central to FAO's mandate, gender equality is integrated into the Strategic Framework as a Cross-cutting theme (CCTGe) to support the achievement of the strategic programs (SP) at two levels: within each SP and across all of them. Specifically in Colombia, the implementation of this approach has generate important lessons learned:

- The gender approach in indigenous communities goes hand to hand with an ethnic approach, which builds on intercultural dialogue and the needs expressed by women (understanding that mediation there involves major authorities).
- There is no harmonious transformation of gender roles without men involvement. Work with male farmers and/or producers is relevant to gender equity. In the area of sustainable rural development, gender-sensitive masculinities and inclusive leaderships need to be considered as a mean to facilitate adoption of differential quotas and opportunities (in the form of affirmative actions) that Projects may provide to women.
- Project investments must reach the women of the communities directly. Even when projects are working with organizations such as resguardos, cabildos or community councils; It is essential that the projects define specific strategies and methodologies to assure a tangible and measurable benefit for women.
- Local technical teams must be sensitized and trained to implement project activities with a gender perspective so that mainstreaming becomes a practical fact, which can be traced and technically measured. Training technical teams and partners involved in the project implementation needs to be part of the gender action plan.

FAO's work will systematically examine, assess locally and address women's and men's needs, priorities and experiences as part of the development of the project and knowledge/capacity building activities. This is done to ensure women and men equal benefits from interventions. To integrate gender equality and women's empowerment into planning and implementation processes on various levels for gender-equitable outcomes and ensuring a gender-sensitive monitoring and reporting system, a Gender Team consists of gender experts from the Social Policies and Rural Institutions Division (ESP), regional gender officers and a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) working at Headquarters and in Decentralized Offices (DOs) has been established. The GFP Network in Decentralized Offices consists of Gender Officers stationed in Regional gender offices and GFPs in sub-regional and country offices plays a central role in ensuring that FAO's Gender Equality Policy is implemented at a global level.

At a project level, to mainstream the gender perspective (as the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action), prior to project implementation two actions will be developed:

1. Conduct a baseline survey and local assessments in the early stage of project implementation, including gender-related questions and integrating the gender dimension in the log frame / results framework as indicators of outputs, outcomes and impact to be tracked through the monitoring and evaluation system
2. Establish a participatory and gender-sensitive monitoring framework to assess progress and impact on men and women, identify constraints encountered during the implementation and make suggestions for changing certain activities or adding new ones, with a self-evaluation by participants.

Box 2. Gender dimensions in FAO's technical areas that will be taken into account during the project's execution phase

<p><b>FORESTRY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Men and women have different and changing roles in forestry management.</li> <li>• Men and women often differently use and depend on non-wood forest products, with women disproportionately relying on these products.</li> <li>• Women and men have differential access to and control over trees and non-wood forest products: gender patterns in forest tenure are often based on customary law.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women and men have differential access to the natural resources (land, agricultural technology, etc.) needed to cope with the impacts of climate change.</li> <li>• Climate change can exacerbate existing inequalities between and among women and men intensifying gender-specific experiences of poverty.</li> <li>• Gender-responsive climate-smart agricultural practices help make agricultural systems more resistant.</li> </ul>
<p><b>VALUE CHAINS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women and men participation in value chains is shaped by their access to and control over factors of production (e.g. land, labor, etc.).</li> <li>• National laws and regulations may directly or indirectly hinder women's participation in value chains.</li> <li>• Unequal gender relations and gender asymmetries in allocation of household resources may mean that women may benefit less from economic returns derived from value chains.</li> </ul>	<p><b>EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOODS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An economic activity is not empowering if the benefits are diverted away from women, or the returns are not equal for women and men.</li> <li>• Women represent the largest share of unpaid workers and there is often a higher prevalence of women in casual employment.</li> <li>• Rural and indigenous women and men may have different entry barriers to agricultural employment and rural livelihoods.</li> </ul>

### Global activities for implementation of the Gender Action Plan

According to their objectives and goals, this Project will promote women's active participation and will propend for addressing men and women differentiated needs. Activities of the project will include participatory assessments and methodologies to identify women's needs and roles, strategies to promote women participation, programs to increase women capacities, and actions to strengthen the women's role in the implementation of forest management activities, monitoring activities, territorial governance and making-decisions processes. Thus, in order to achieve objectives and goals of this project, activities under each output include:

- A gender analysis to understand the contribution of equal opportunities and perceived gender differences in interests and needs, and to anticipate threats or risks (e.g. violence against women).
- Inclusion of gender dimension in all forest-related interventions and identification of opportunities to empower women.
- Analysis of the Colombian legislation regarding provision of property land title and implementation of affirmative actions for property rights formulation of female-headed hosts.
  - Application of participatory methodologies to identify production activities developed by women and men, strengthening needs and prioritization of areas of work and roles.
  - Identification of women's role in decisions making processes related to deforestation reduction, forest management and indigenous governance.
  - Develop assessments and strategies to address strengthening needs of women to participate actively in local monitoring and making-decision processes, benefit from the implementation of sustainable forest management activities and increase capacities for local governance.
  - Identify and implement strategies to promote active participation of women in production activities associated to sustainable forest management activities.
  - Identify barriers that women face for project formulation and management.
  - Design technical assistance programs taking into account women's empowerment needs.
  - Methodologies to guarantee women participation in the definition and implementation of conservation agreements.
  - Development of strategies to ensure women's access to training programs, technical assistance activities and other lessons learned derived from the implementation of the project.
  - Execution of strategies to guarantee participation of women in the design of sustainable forest management nuclei, support participation, and empowerment of women, as part of associations and producers groups.
  - Identify women's needs to strengthen their capacities for entrepreneurial development and sustainable forest management.
  - Design and implement strategies to raise awareness on women strengthening needs, knowledge on forest management and their role in governance.

The expected results for gender equity can be categorized as follows:

- *Instruments:* The Project will monitor sex-disaggregated indicators to identify women's participation in activities such as Forest Monitoring, development of country's Annual Reports; implementation of Deforestation Control Protocols; local Zero Deforestation Agreements, elaboration of Forestry Units' Management Plans, implementation of projects and leadership of local initiatives and others related to planning and management and governance of land and resources.
- *Women farmers:* The Project will implement specific activities to strengthen women's knowledge and capacities related to the sustainability and implementation of the forest-economy model promoted by the Project such as implementation of good forest management practices and other environmental sustainability actions, design and implementation of commercial strategies for their production systems and local businesses, increasing access to financial instruments and incentives that promote environmental sustainability, among others.
- *Indigenous women:* In order to recognize and enhance women's traditional knowledge in forest management, productive projects and sustainability, the Project will support formulation and implementation of projects formulated by women and women groups, and will undertake other activities to strengthen capacities related to the formulation and implementation of these projects, participation and leadership of local initiatives (with special attention to the collective ethnic context) and access and participation to IPs decision-making bodies.
- *Gaps:* In order to significantly reduce the gender gaps, the Project will develop specific assessments in the areas of intervention in order to identify the specific causes of gender inequity and the potential risks of the project's activities. Based on this assessment the project will adjust the gender plan for each area of intervention and execute activities accordingly.

Regarding the Gender Action Plan, the Project will strengthen women's participation in two perspectives: peer participation and incident participation. To this end, differential quotas of 40 per cent will be adopted in the most relevant processes and activities, depending on the context; women's capacities will be strengthened in terms of self-esteem, confidence, gender-sensitive leadership and assertive communication, among others, in dialogue with their own cultural dynamics; and methodologies with gender content and women's empowerment will be incorporated. Women take

advantage of the spaces generated by the differential quotas, only when there is a previous understanding of their importance and they feel empowered and capable to express ideas and assume proposals for change

In addition, after the raising awareness work, a series of institutional arrangements should be addressed that are related to equal opportunities and the eradication of gender-based violence, whose scenarios are impacted by the project are the institutional and community ones. In this regard, the project proposes: training and capacity building for officials responsible for the issues at the level of national government counterparts; ensuring the participation of young women and heads of household in strategic processes; design and incorporation of methodologies with gender content and recommendations; promotion of the transformation of roles in forest conservation, transcending stereotypes; market strategies, marketing and value addition for women in the project; capacity building according to the identified gender gaps; financial instruments and mechanisms that reach women directly; recognition of indigenous women's own knowledge and traditional good practices; a route for women's participation in traditional conservation practices and natural resource governance systems; and a dialogue table for project improvement.

Following national experiences, the Project will create a working table with female farmers and/or producers' leaders and indigenous women, who, together with the team's gender referent and the Ministry of Environment's delegate, will make decisions to improve the project's implementation according to women's particular needs and conditions. This will be in place from the first moment of project implementation and will meet at least once a year, guaranteeing one of the indispensable requirements for a gender approach and this is the dialogue with the women who receive the impact of the project.

#### **E.4. Interim policy on prohibited practices**

##### **E.4.1. For the period of the achieved results**

*Provide appropriate and sufficient information to demonstrate that no Prohibited Practices occurred during the implementation of the activities that lead to the REDD-plus results, such as: undisclosed Prohibited Practices, including money laundering and the financing of terrorism, which occurred during the implementation of results-based actions; and double payment or financing for the same results achieved.*

The Financial Information and Analysis Unit (UIAF in Spanish) is an intelligence agency of the Colombian State, created by Law 526 of 1999 and regulated by Decree 1497 of 2002, which seeks to prevent, detect and fight money laundering and financing of terrorism, being the body responsible for the country's financial intelligence, complying with international standards on the subject, specifically recommendations from 29 to 40 of the Financial Action Task Force – FATF. The UIAF have an intelligence unit with operational, technological and human capacity to identify and prevent threats of a criminal nature in matters of terrorist financing and money laundering.

The UIAF has the Suspicious Operation Reports System (ROS in Spanish) to identify and manage information of money laundering and terrorist financing activities in Colombia. The private sector and government entities report information to the UIAF and evaluate possible vulnerabilities. In 2016, the UIAF jointly with the Rosario University elaborated the National Risk Assessment where the level of vulnerabilities of private and public financial resources and good practices were identified.

On the other hand, in 2015 and 2016 the REM AVP was implemented jointly by KfW Development Bank and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), therefore the financial management and expenditure accomplished the standards and transparency requirements of this entities and the ones in the Financing Implementation Agreement signed in August 2016 between the Government of Colombia and the KfW Development Bank.

The Financing Implementation Agreement contains the requirements, procedures and rules for the financing implementation of REM-AVP, regarding the prohibited practices, this agreement require the elaboration of the General Working Plan and the Annual Working Plan, which include in detail the execution schedule, costs and financing of activities, these documents must have no objection by the KfW, in order to guarantee the efficient and correct distribution of resources. Additionally, annual external audits were covenanted according to recognized international standards on financial management and the KfW.

##### **E.4.2. For the use of proceeds**

*Provide appropriate and sufficient information including on control measures that assures that the proceeds will be used in a manner compliant with the Interim Policy on Prohibited Practices, such as: undisclosed Prohibited Practices,*



*including money laundering and the financing of terrorism; improper subsequent use of GCF proceeds in the Prohibited Practices; and double payment or financing for the same results achieved, etc.*

As per article 9.03 par. (a), of the Accreditation Master Agreement between FAO and GCF, FAO will apply its own fiduciary principles and standards relating to any 'know your customer' checks, anti-corruption, AML/CFT, fraud, financial sanctions and embargoes to comply with the Policy on Prohibited Practices.

The Policy on Prohibited Practices of FAO establish:

Fraud and other corrupt practices pose a grave threat to the effective implementation of the Organization's policies and objectives. The Organization is entrusted with significant resources and commensurately significant responsibilities in their proper administration. With the Organization's overriding mandate of ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger, it is imperative that all resources allocated for this purpose, both human and financial, are not diverted from their ultimate goal. The Organization is therefore committed to ensuring that its resources are used solely for their intended purposes, that all operations are free from fraud and other corrupt practices, and to being held accountable to donors and beneficiaries for the implementation of its programs. To this end, the Organization has adopted a zero-tolerance policy in respect of fraud and other corrupt practices in all their manifestations. The policy recognizes the role of the Organization in the United Nations' efforts to combat fraud and corruption and is aligned with the principles contained in the United Nations Convention Against Corruption and the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.

The policies and procedures outlined herein are to be read and understood in conjunction with the following documents:

- Staff Regulations and Rules;
- Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service (Appendix A to Manual Section 304);
- Manual Section 502 - Procurement of Goods, Works and Services;
- Manual Section 507 - Letters of Agreement;
- Charter for the Office of the Inspector General (Appendix A to Manual Section 107);
- Guidelines for Internal Administrative Investigations by the Office of the Inspector General Administrative memorandum 2011/04);
- FAO Vendor Sanctions Policy (Administrative Circular 2014/27); and
- Whistle blower Protection Policy (Administrative Circular 2011/05).

#### Scope of the policy

This policy applies, regardless of their location, to all activities and operations of the Organization, whether funded by Regular Programme or Extra-Budgetary Funds; administrative, technical or operational in nature; or implemented by the Organization and/or an implementing partner, including any government agency. This policy applies to all FAO personnel 1 and all contractual arrangements between the Organization and implementing partners, suppliers or other third parties for administrative, technical or operational purposes.

#### Measures to avoid double payment or financing

As a guarantee of transparency and exhaustively in the GHG accounting emissions and mitigation initiatives in the Colombian territory, RENARE (created by the Resolution 1447, see F.6.1 for complementary details) has a mechanism for identifying overlapping initiatives and mitigation projects that allows respecting the ownership and the entitlement to claim for the results to be paid for REDD+ initiatives and other mitigation projects.

According to Resolution 1447 of 2018, the following is established for manage the overlapping of initiatives:

- The overlap can occur when an initiative intends to register in RENARE activities of GHG reduction or removals in execution periods and/or geographical areas for which there is an initiative previously registered in implementation phase with the same objective and mitigation activity.
- The types of overlapping are: 1. Compatible type when there is no overlap between different initiatives in the implementation phase for the same period, geographic areas of intervention and GHG mitigation activities; 2. Non-Compatible type when there is an overlap of initiatives in the implementation phase for the same period, geographic areas of intervention and GHG mitigation activities.

Specifically the Resolution 1447 of 2018 and the RENARE accounting rules are prudent in regards REDD + projects, in the event in which a REDD+ project intends to be included in the feasibility phase, in the same geographical area, period and mitigation activities of other REDD+ program enrolled in the feasibility phase, the overlap will be non-compatible, in any case the project will not be able to verify and cancel GHG emission reductions or removals.

The cancellation of GHG emission reductions or removals refers to the deactivation of the GHG tons reduced and/or removed in RENARE by the holder of the initiative. Once cancelled, the GHG reductions and/or removals the holder will not be able to transferred in favor of any other natural or legal person, neither been used to opt for result based payments or a similar compensation again (paragraph 1 article 17, Resolution 1447 of 2018).

### E.5. Indigenous peoples

*Provide adequate and sufficient information on how the activities to be implemented with the use of proceeds, will meet the requirements of the GCF environmental and social safeguards standards and policies relevant to indigenous peoples and guided by the prevailing relevant national laws and/or obligations of the countries directly applicable to the activities under relevant international treaties and agreements.*

Project activities under outputs 2 and 3 will be directly implemented in indigenous lands involving local communities. Other activities related to forest monitoring and strengthening of local capacities will additionally include indigenous peoples' representatives, organizations and communities, as well as promote indigenous women participation.

In this regard, and based on previous agreements between MADS and OPIAC, the project will follow methodologies and procedures for the implementation of the fourth pillar of the REM - AVP - PIVA, designed after a consultation process and approved by the Amazon Indigenous Board of Environment and Climate Change (MIAACC); an environmental chapter of the Amazon Regional Board (Mesa Regional Amazónica - MRA).

MIAACC will be the technical instance for the monitoring of activities and its evaluation carried out under this project, developed in indigenous lands or involving indigenous representatives, organizations or communities. Under this arrangement and following the GCF indigenous peoples' policies, FAO indigenous safeguards and national policies, the Project will employ the following good practices:

1. **Consultation:** In line with national regulations and the guiding principles of GCF indigenous peoples' policies, the project will develop free consultation and application, with prior and informed consent, specifically for those activities that could affect indigenous peoples' lands, territories, resources, livelihoods and cultures. Considering Output 3 of the project will be focused on supporting indigenous peoples' proposals, consultation activities will be carried out following procedures previously agreed between indigenous peoples representatives and the national government for the implementation of the AVP.
2. **Governance and self-government:** Interventions of this project aim to strengthen local governance by empowering local communities in the management of information, promoting sustainable forest management, supporting indigenous peoples' initiatives and strengthening the role of women. Recognizing the importance of strengthening indigenous peoples' governance capacities, activities of the project will respect and support indigenous peoples rights related to land, territories, resources, as well as cultural and spiritual heritage, values, traditional knowledge, resource management systems and practices, occupations and livelihoods, customary institutions, and overall wellbeing. The project will involve indigenous peoples' representatives in the planning of activity execution in order to understand and properly address indigenous peoples' issues and rights, including developing the capacity of indigenous representatives and leaders. Indigenous projects under Output 3 will be selected taking into account the right of indigenous communities to freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development and their right to autonomy or self-government, their livelihoods and financing means.
3. **National and international regulations:** According to the national policy framework, project activities that involve indigenous peoples and local communities and/or are developed in indigenous territories will be executed respecting the national laws and international agreements, including the National Constitution,

Law 21 of 1991 that approves the ILO Convention No. 169, the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and Decree 2941 of 2009.

4. **Indigenous peoples under voluntary isolation:** Activities of the project will also be implemented in close coordination with local valid representatives, following the procedures agreed in the framework of the AVP. In the case of indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation, or remote groups with limited external contact, the project will take the appropriate measures to recognize, respect and protect their rights to remain isolated and to live freely according to their culture.
5. **Participation and traditional knowledge:** The project will promote active participation of indigenous peoples and their representative organizations recognizing, respecting and valuing their contributions to the implementation of activities and promoting leadership of traditional knowledge holders in the definition of work plans, strategies and instruments promoted by the project. Output 3 specifically will be targeted to support activities proposed by indigenous peoples' organizations that would be selected under a set of criteria that include the respect and recognition of traditional knowledge as well as the improvement of local livelihoods.
6. **Capacity building:** Activities will be designed and agreed upon according to the procedures implemented by the AVP meeting the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples to strengthen local capacities of deforestation monitoring, project formulation, implementation of conservation agreements and improvement of forest management, among others. In order to facilitate access to resources and capacity building for indigenous peoples, activities under Output 3 will provide technical assistance for the formulation and implementation of projects, including financial and management capacities for local leaders, organizations and communities.

The use of proceeds will be in line with the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy as well as FAO's Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and FAO's Environmental and Social Management Guidelines, in particular subject to FAO Environmental and Social Safeguard 9 (ESS 9) on Indigenous Peoples and Cultural heritage as indicated in the ESMF. Hence, activities implemented with GCF funds will also ensure respect and compliance with national and international policies, applicable laws and regulations as referred below:

- Respect the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Promote the right to self-determination and development with identity of indigenous peoples (right to decide the kind of development that takes place among their people and on their lands and territories, in accordance with their own priorities and conceptions of well-being).
- Ensures the application of the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of indigenous people affected by the project.
- Recognize, respect and preserve the rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, and governance systems of Indigenous Peoples.
- Protect cultural heritage and avoid its alteration, damage or removal.

ESS 9 recognizes indigenous peoples' traditions and knowledge present opportunities for many of the challenges that humankind will face in the coming decades. This is of particular significance in relation to indigenous food systems in the face of increasing food demand and traditional knowledge with respect to climate change adaptation vulnerabilities and impacts.

#### E.6. Monitoring and evaluation

*Provide information on the monitoring arrangements that will take place for providing annual monitoring reports based on the information provided for the use of proceeds in sections C.2.3 and C.2.4.*

In line with the Activity 1.1, monitoring of Project Outcomes will be developed by IDEAM (SMBYC) using the processes, methodologies, protocols and tools for the country to generate periodic information on: i) forest cover and forest cover change, ii) amount of carbon stocks in natural forest, and iii) emission and removals of GHGs related to deforestation. As stated before, IDEAM has the overall responsibility for the operation of the SMBYC and the INF, including its administration, coordination and operation.

Regional environmental authorities (CARs) will carry out monitoring activities in their jurisdiction with the technical support provided by IDEAM. The gathered information will be introduced to the Platform or delivered to the MRV team in the central IDEAM office in Bogota. Once the information of the projects is collected, the MRV team will develop a monitoring report of the performance of the Project. The time frame of the monitoring will be from 2020 to 2030, with annual reports to show partial results.

The PMU and the FAO Country Office will carry out the M&E Plan in accordance with FAO and GCF procedures. The project inception phase will include updating of the Theory of Change describing the causal relationship between outcomes and ultimate desired change underlying climate rational assumptions. FAO will ensure the existence of an effective and operational impact monitoring and measurement system to calculate causal and attributable changes and project results. To increase and accelerate the development and transfer of technologies, further linkage will be explored with other activities of the project as MRV systems, fires control, forest management monitoring tools, among others. It should also be used to generate information, data and lessons that can feed back into the project implementation and planning activities. Progress will be measured against baselines, targets and indicators.

At the project level impact, two indicators are proposed in line with GCF investment criteria (impact potential): 1) Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries; and 2) Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO<sub>2</sub>eq) reduced. The monitoring and reporting plan, including the dates and periods of monitoring will be provided to the Secretariat with the implementation plan.

FAO will perform monitoring and reporting throughout the reporting period. FAO has a country presence and capacity to perform these tasks. FAO will implement tools and methods to facilitate monitoring of the project. The methods will support vertical monitoring, from the beneficiaries to management, and will facilitate comparative and standardized monitoring. The PMU will use the tools including work-plans platform to monitor activities, and develop reports to the PB that combining financial reporting and progress toward achieving results set out in the Performance Management Framework.

The monitoring system will be comprehensive and entail the Project work-plan as well as the action plans for gender, indigenous people, biodiversity and the social and environmental framework.

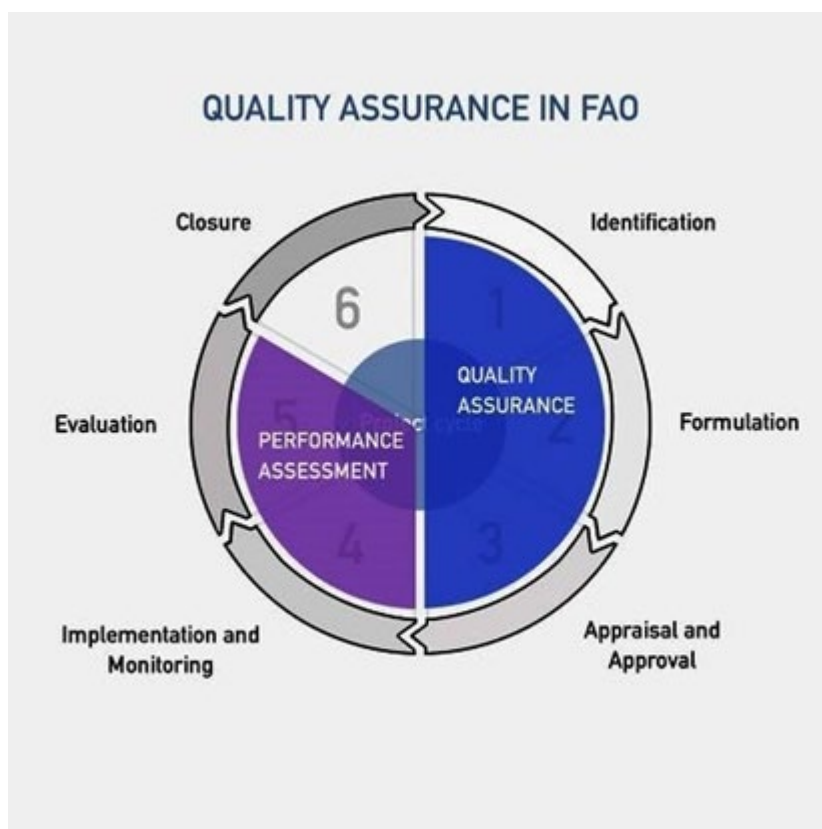
The day-to-day project monitoring and implementation responsibility rests on a national recruited Project Manager that will lead the PMU. She/he will be supported by a monitoring and evaluation specialist, who will lead the PMU's Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. The M&E Specialist will develop an M&E plan, according to FAO Colombia's template, explaining the different instruments and templates to use, the way that the information is going to be delivered, the calendar with the respective exercises of M&E, as well as the responsibilities of the project team regarding M&E. This M&E specialist is going to coordinate the annual work plans to ensure the efficient implementation of the project. The PM will inform the PB and FAO Country Office of any delays or difficulties during implementation, including M&E plan, so that appropriate and corrective measures can be adopted. The PM will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in monitoring and reporting project results. FAO will support the PM as needed, including through annual monitoring missions. Additional M&E and implementation quality assurance and troubleshooting support will be provided by FAO as needed.

A project inception workshop will be implemented in order to: a) agree on the project's theory of change a) build a common understanding on the project strategy and discuss any change in the overall context that might influence implementation; b) discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team and PB, including reporting and communication lines; c) review the results framework and discussion, reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities, and to finalize the M&E plans; d) review financial reporting requirements; and e) planning and scheduling ESC meetings; and f) finalize the first year's work plan. The final Inception Report will be approved by the PB and FAO.

The PM and FAO will provide inputs to the Annual Report for each year of implementation. The PM and the M&E Specialist will ensure that the indicators in the results framework are monitored annually. The Annual Reports will be shared with the PB and other stakeholders. The annual performance reports will be due to GCF 60 days after the end

of the calendar year. The final project annual report and the terminal evaluation report will serve as the final project report package. Mid-term and final evaluations will be undertaken by FAO Office of Evaluation (OED)<sup>42</sup>.

In summary, monitoring and evaluation at the project level will be carried out in accordance with FAO's corporate systems and the evaluation will be undertaken according to the FAO evaluation policy across the project life cycle. The Project Cycle establishes institutional standards and procedures for project management, improving accountability and quality through the principles of results-based management (RBM), while improving the strategic focus of all FAO projects. The following diagram summarizes the FAO's quality assurance cycle:



**Figure 14. FAO's quality assurance process**

The Project Cycle sets corporate standards and procedures, including quality assurance criteria for phases 1 to 3 of all FAO's projects. These criteria are relevance, feasibility and sustainability, which are complemented with the performance assessment during the implementation of the project (Initial Installation, Annual Project Report, Mid-term and Final Evaluation).

The project team and the FAO Country Office will carry out the M&E Plan in accordance with FAO procedures. Performance indicators for project implementation are presented in section C.2. The project document within FPMIS will also include additional information, such as the corresponding means of verification. The M&E plan includes: an initial report, annual reports to the GCF, project implementation reviews, a mid-term and a final evaluation. This information will be available online.

The following sections describe the main elements of this plan. The project M&E plan will be presented and finalized after an adjustment of the indicators, means of verification, and a full definition of the M&E responsibilities of the project staff.

#### **Initial installation**

<sup>42</sup> Please refer to FAO OED webpage for further details: <http://www.fao.org/about/who-weare/departments/office-of-evaluation/en/>



The Project Inception Workshop will be held within the first 3 months of the project, involving those with assigned roles in the project organization structure, FAO Country Office and, where appropriate/feasible, FAO regional technical policy and technical advisors as well as key stakeholders. The Inception Workshop is crucial for building ownership of the project results and to plan the first-year annual work plan. The Inception Workshop will address several key issues including:

- Assist all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project.
- Detail roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of FAO Country Office and Regional staff vis à vis the project team.
- Discussion on the roles, functions and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, as well as conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Agreement on the first annual work plans. Review and agree on the indicators, targets and their means of verification, and recheck assumptions and risks.
- Provision of a detailed overview of reporting, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements. The M&E work plan and budget will be agreed and scheduled.
- Discussion of financial reporting procedures and obligations, and arrangements for annual audit.
- Planning and scheduling of project Board meetings. Roles and responsibilities of all project organization structures will be clarified, and meetings planned. The first project Board meeting will be held within the first 12 months following the inception workshop.
- An Inception Workshop Report will be a key reference document and will be prepared and shared with participants to formalize various agreements and plans decided during the meeting.

### **Annual Project Report**

This important report is prepared by the Project Technical Advisors, consolidated by the Project Manager, reviewed by the Intra-ministerial Technical Committee on Climate Change and finally approved by the Project Board to monitor progress for the previous reporting period.

The format and content of the annual report will be adjusted based on the simplified reporting regime, which will be established for RBP by the GCF.

### **Mid-term evaluation (MTE)**

The project will undergo an independent mid-term evaluation at the mid-point of project implementation. The mid-term evaluation will determine progress towards the achievement of outcomes and will suggest corrective actions if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, highlighting issues requiring decisions and actions, and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. To monitor relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability, the Project will rely on the national protocols and methodologies to monitor tons of GHGs avoided / reduced, cost per ton of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent reduced and volume of funds catalyzed.

As described under Activity 1.1 the Project will identify needs for strengthening of the national system for the generation of local/regional reports that support making-decisions processes at these levels. Therefore the Project will strengthen the national systems and will generate the mechanisms to develop and transfer technologies at the local level, building on the existing forest, carbon and fires monitoring systems.

The Project will also design a specific mechanism to monitor and report on other areas such as gender equity, livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, institutional strengthening for climate-responsive development planning, innovation and scalability, which will provide innovative tools and methodologies to feed the mid-term and final evaluation reports and support national monitoring systems

### **Final Evaluation**

An independent Final Evaluation will be launched within six months prior to the project's actual completion date, NTE. It will aim at identifying project outcomes, their sustainability and actual or potential impacts, including inter alia global environmental benefits. It will also have the purpose of indicating future actions needed to assure continuity of the process developed through the project.

Both mid-term and final evaluation will be managed by FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) and organized in coordination with the FAO Regional Technical Advisor and the Project Board.

During the final three months, the project team will prepare the Project Terminal Report. This comprehensive report will be made available to the public through the Amazon Vision web site. It will summarize the results achieved (objectives, outcomes, outputs), lessons learned, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved. It will also provide recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replication of the project's results.

## F. Legal arrangements

### F.6.1. Legal title to REDD-plus results

- *Provide an analysis with respect to legal title to REDD-plus results in the country. This should include an analysis of entitlement to claim for the results to be paid for by the GCF.*

The Law 1753 of 2015<sup>43</sup> created the National Registry of Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (RENARE in Spanish), which included the national registry of REDD + programs and projects and regulated dispositions about who has the right to claim for results payment. The Law also mandates the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development to regulate and administer the RENARE and under the article 175 establish that any natural or legal person, public or private who intends to opt for payments based on results or similar compensations as a result of actions that generate emission reductions of GHG shall obtain prior the Registry in accordance with the regulations issued by the MADS

Regarding the entitlement to claim for results payment, the article 175 of the same law established that any natural or legal person, public or private who intends to opt for payments based on results or similar compensations as a result of actions that generate emission reductions of GHG shall obtain prior the Registry in accordance with the regulations issued by the MADS. The interim accounting registry REDD+ results is available in: [http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro\\_interino2013-2016.pdf](http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf)

Finally, the Law 1753 pointed out that the emissions reductions registered by the MADS in the frame of sub national or national programs of reduction emissions of GHG will no longer be available for other party to claim the results achieved.

- *Covenant that no other party has a competing claim to the results proposed to the GCF in accordance with national policy, legal or regulatory frameworks.*

Following the mandate of the Law 17453, the MADS issue the Resolution 1447 of 2018 to regulate the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (MRV) of mitigation actions within the Emissions Reduction and Removal Accounting of GHG System (MRV System). This Resolution also regulates the RENARE which includes the national registry of REDD + programs and projects.

RENARE is a web platform managed by IDEAM, as part of the Environmental Information System for Colombia (SIAC in Spanish), this technological platform; i) consolidates the mitigation projects in accordance with the GHG accountability rules established; ii) accounts and records the GHG emission reductions and removals; and iii) consolidates the results and impacts of the registered projects and its contribution to the national mitigations goals.

The platform was launched in October 2019 and currently is operational, capable of registering the programs and projects, such as, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAS), Low Carbon Development Programs, REDD+ programs and projects, projects and programs of clean development mechanism (CDM) activities, and other mitigation initiatives defined by MADS or the UNFCCC within the framework of its GHG mitigation mechanisms.

The Article 10 of this Resolution states that any holder of a GHG mitigation initiative in the national territory that intends to opt for payments based on results or similar compensations, and/or demonstrate compliance with national climate change goals established under the UNFCCC, must register their mitigation initiative in the RENARE from its feasibility phase.

<sup>43</sup> <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Normograma/Ley%201753%20de%202015.pdf>

According with the Resolution, The MADS registered the emission reductions achieved on the Amazon biome for the period 2013 – 2016 against the sub national FREL assessed by the UNFCCC (see section B.1 and B2 for details on technical assessment and analysis under the UNFCCC).

Specifically the Resolution 1447 of 2018 and the RENARE accounting rules are prudent in regards REDD+ projects, in the event in which a REDD+ project intends to be included in the feasibility phase, in the same geographical area, period and mitigation activities of other REDD+ program enrolled in the feasibility phase, the overlap will be considered as non-compatible, so that the verification process will be disabled and the GHG reductions or removals cancelled.

The cancellation of GHG emission reductions or removals refers to the deactivation of the GHG tons reduced and/or removed in RENARE by the holder of the initiative. Once GHG reductions and/or removals are cancelled, the holder will not be able to transfer them in favor of any other natural or legal person, neither been used to opt for result based payments or a similar compensation again (paragraph 1 article 17, Resolution 1447 of 2018).

In addition, Colombia will record in the information hub on the UNFCCC web portal the quantity of results obtained between 2014 and 2016 for which payments will be received under the pilot program, expressed in tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, as well as in the “Emission Reduction Registry System” that is currently being developed and tested. In addition, Colombia will transparently record that GCF is the entity paying for results; and corresponding results will no longer be eligible for RBPs under the GCF or in any other arrangement.

Therefore, the Government of Colombia covenants that no other party will have a competing claim to the results proposed to the GCF in accordance with national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks.

#### G. Accredited entity fee and project management costs

Provide a list of the activities that are expected to be conducted using the AE fees and project management cost with corresponding costs as follows:

Accredited entity fee: **3.5%** (please refer to **Annex 7**: AE budget fee).

#### Project management costs:

List of activities	Costs (USD)	Explanation/justification
Project Management Unit	1,128,325	Consists in the Managerial staff that will coordinate and lead the project, including the Project Manager, Three Technical Leaders (TL) (one for each output), one Gender Specialist, one Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, and one administrative clerk. The TL of Output 3 will be the Project Safeguards Specialist and will be responsible to oversee the implementation of the ESMF and the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF).
Direct Support Cost	705,203	This will cover the necessary inputs for FAO Colombia to adequately perform its execution functions for this project. Given the complex nature of the interventions, these direct costs will cover, in particular the required actions to ensure necessary due diligence during execution and in full compliance with FAO and GCF operational and financial requirements. These costs also include communication services throughout the lifetime of the project.
Provision of supervision services to the project	987,284	This item includes the relevant audits and spot checks during the project: one annual audit and 2 spot checks per year, in order to ensure strict control and compliance with FAO rules and procedures. Two supervision missions per year from geographically

		dispersed FAO technical units are also covered in this item.
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>2,820,812</b>	

The final amount of accredited entity fees and project management costs will be negotiated between the GCF and the accredited entity. The AE fee budget details are included in Annex 7.

## H. Annexes

- Annex 1. Non-objection Letter
- Annex 2. Environmental and social assessment (ESA)
- Annex 3. Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- Annex 4. Gender Analysis & Action Plan
- Annex 5. Methodological approach for the interim mechanism to manage risk of reversals
- Annex 6. Theory of Change
- Annex 7. AE fee budget
- Annex 8. Minutes of the meeting of the MRA held the 4<sup>th</sup> of March of 2020
- Annex 9. Description of the estimations
- Annex 10. Certification of RENARE on AVP

### List of Acronyms

<b>AD</b>	Activity Data
<b>AE</b>	Accredited Entity
<b>AFOLU</b>	Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Uses
<b>AICO</b>	Indigenous Authorities of Colombia
<b>AL</b>	Action Line
<b>AMA</b>	Accreditation Master Agreement
<b>AVP</b>	Amazon Vision Program
<b>AWP</b>	Annual Work Plan
<b>BMZ</b>	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>BUR</b>	Biennial Update Reports
<b>CAR</b>	Regional Autonomous Corporation
<b>CBD</b>	Convention of Biological Diversity
<b>CCTGe</b>	Strategic Framework as a Cross-cutting theme
<b>CDA</b>	Corporation for Sustainable Development of the North and the Amazon East
<b>CDM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>CIAT</b>	International Center for Tropical Agriculture i
<b>CLPI</b>	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
<b>CONALDEF</b>	National Council to Combat Deforestation
<b>CONPES</b>	National Strategy for comprehensive public
<b>COP</b>	Conference of the Parties
<b>CORMACARENA</b>	Corporation for the sustainable development of Macarena
<b>CORPOAMAZONIA</b>	Corporation for Sustainable Development of South of the Amazon
<b>CTC</b>	Territorial Council of Indigenous Cabildos of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta
<b>CUA</b>	Carbon Unit AFOLU
<b>Cve</b>	Coefficient of variation of the error

<b>DM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>DNP</b>	Departamento Nacional de Planeación (in Spanish)
<b>Dos</b>	Decentralized Offices
<b>DOs</b>	Headquarters and in Decentralized Offices (DOs)
<b>EE</b>	Executing Entity
<b>EF</b>	Emission Factor
<b>EICDGB - ENREDD</b>	Integrated Strategy for Control of Deforestation and Forest Management
<b>ER</b>	Emissions Reduced
<b>ERP</b>	Emissions reduced Paid
<b>ESA</b>	Environmental and Social Assessment
<b>ESCP</b>	Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
<b>ESMF</b>	Environmental and Social Management Framework
<b>ESMP</b>	Environmental and Social Management Plan
<b>ESS</b>	Environmental and Social Safeguard
<b>FA</b>	Fondo Acción
<b>FAA</b>	Funded Activity Agreement
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FARC</b>	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (in Spanish)
<b>FCPF</b>	Forest Carbon Partnership
<b>FPIC</b>	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
<b>FPN</b>	Patrimonio Natural Fund
<b>FREL</b>	Forest Reference Emission Level
<b>FRL</b>	Forest Reference Level
<b>GAP</b>	Gender Action Plan
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GFOI</b>	Global Forest Observations Initiative
<b>GFP</b>	Gender Focal Points
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
<b>GIRSA</b>	Integral Management of Socio-environmental Risk
<b>GIZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
<b>GLs/GPGs</b>	Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories
<b>Ha</b>	Hectares
<b>HeCO</b>	Herencia Colombia Programme
<b>HFLD</b>	High Forest Cover and Low Deforestation
<b>IDB</b>	International Development Bank
<b>IDEAM</b>	Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies
<b>IFN</b>	National Forest Inventory
<b>IIA</b>	Environmental Research Institutions, abbreviation in Spanish
<b>INGEI</b>	Greenhouse Gases Inventory
<b>IP</b>	Indigenous people



<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>IPPF</b>	Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework
<b>JAC</b>	Community Action Meetings
<b>LULUCF</b>	Land use, Change and Forestry
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and evaluation
<b>MAC</b>	Citizen Grievance Mechanism
<b>MADS</b>	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
<b>MGAS</b>	Environmental and Social Management Framework
<b>MIAACC</b>	Amazonian Indigenous Board for Environment and Climate Change
<b>MPCI</b>	Permanent Board of Indigenous Agreement
<b>MRA</b>	Amazon Regional Board
<b>MRV</b>	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
<b>MTE</b>	Mid-term evaluation
<b>NAMA</b>	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
<b>NARP</b>	Spanish acronym: afro-colombians, raizal, and palenquero peoples
<b>NDA</b>	Designated National Authority
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>NDP</b>	National Development Plan
<b>NFI</b>	National Forest Inventory
<b>NFMS</b>	National Forest Monitoring System
<b>NGO</b>	non-governmental organizations
<b>NICFI</b>	Forest Emission Reference Level
<b>NIR</b>	national Inventory Report
<b>NNP</b>	National Natural Park
<b>NRCC</b>	Regional Climate Change Nodes
<b>OED</b>	FAO Office of Evaluation
<b>ONF Andina</b>	French National Forest Office
<b>ONIC</b>	National Indigenous Organization of Colombia
<b>OPIAC</b>	Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon



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DNP  
Departamento  
Nacional de Planeación

Bogotá D.C., martes, 03 de diciembre de 2019

DADS



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**MR. JAVIER MANZANARES**

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Re: Funding proposal for the GCF by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) regarding "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016"

Dear Mr. Manzanares,

We refer to the project "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016" in Colombia as included in the funding proposal submitted by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to us on November 26 2019.

The undersigned is the duly authorized representative of National Planning Department, Mrs. Amparo García Montaña, General Territorial Deputy Director, the National Designated Authority/focal point of Colombia.

Pursuant to GCF decision B.08/10, the content of which we acknowledge to have reviewed, we hereby communicate our no-objection to the project "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016" as included in the funding proposal.

By communicating our no-objection, it is implied that:

- (a) The government of Colombia has no-objection to the project "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016" as included in the funding proposal;
- (b) The project "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016" as included in the funding proposal is in conformity with Colombia's national priorities, strategies and plans;
- (c) In accordance with the GCF's environmental and social safeguards, the project "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016" as included in the funding proposal is in conformity with relevant national laws and regulations.





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Departamento  
Nacional de Planeación**

We also confirm that our national process for ascertaining no-objection to the project "Colombia REDD-plus RBP for results period 2015-2016" as included in the funding proposal has been duly followed.

We acknowledge that this letter will be made publicly available on the GCF website.

Kind regards,

**AMPARO GARCÍA MONTAÑA**  
General Territorial Deputy Director

Annex project 74 pag

Preparó: Carolina Kitchen Fabre  
Revisó: Carolina Díaz Giraldo

## Environmental and social safeguards report form pursuant to para. 17 of the IDP

Basic project or programme information	
<b>Project or programme title</b>	Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016
<b>Existence of subproject(s) to be identified after GCF Board approval</b>	No
<b>Sector (public or private)</b>	Public
<b>Accredited entity</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
<b>Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) category</b>	Category B
<b>Location – specific location(s) of project or target country or location(s) of programme</b>	Colombia
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) (if applicable)	
<b>Date of disclosure on accredited entity's website</b>	Sunday, March 22, 2020
<b>Language(s) of disclosure</b>	English and Spanish
<b>Explanation on language</b>	Spanish is the official language of Colombia and the language understandable to affected peoples/stakeholders.
<b>Link to disclosure</b>	English: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171en/ca9171en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171en/ca9171en.pdf</a>  Spanish: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171es/ca9171es.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171es/ca9171es.pdf</a>
<b>Other link(s)</b>	FAO disclosure portal: <a href="http://www.fao.org//environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/">http://www.fao.org//environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/</a>  Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) website: English: <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-ENGLISH.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-ENGLISH.pdf</a>  Spanish: <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-Spanish.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-Spanish.pdf</a>

Remarks	An ESIA consistent with the requirements for a Category B project is contained in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).
<b>Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) (if applicable)</b>	
Date of disclosure on accredited entity's website	Sunday, March 22, 2020
Language(s) of disclosure	English and Spanish
Explanation on language	Spanish is the official language in Colombia and the language understandable to affected peoples/stakeholders.
Link to disclosure	English: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171en/ca9171en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171en/ca9171en.pdf</a>  Spanish: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171es/ca9171es.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171es/ca9171es.pdf</a>
Other link(s)	FAO disclosure portal: <a href="http://www.fao.org//environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/">http://www.fao.org//environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/</a>  MADS website: English: <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ESS-Colombia-ENGLISH.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ESS-Colombia-ENGLISH.pdf</a>  Spanish: <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-Spanish.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-Spanish.pdf</a>
Remarks	An ESMP consistent with the requirements for a Category B project is contained in the ESMF that is available at the above-mentioned links.
<b>Environmental and Social Management (ESMS) (if applicable)</b>	
Date of disclosure on accredited entity's website	N/A
Language(s) of disclosure	N/A
Explanation on language	N/A
Link to disclosure	N/A
Other link(s)	N/A
Remarks	N/A
<b>Any other relevant ESS reports, e.g. Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), IPP Framework (if applicable)</b>	
Description of report/disclosure on accredited entity's website	Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA), Gender Assessment (GA) and Gender Action Plan (GAP)/ Friday, May 22, 2020
Language(s) of	English and Spanish



disclosure	
Explanation on language	Spanish is the official language of Colombia and the language understandable to affected peoples/stakeholders.
Link to disclosure	English: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171en/ca9171en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171en/ca9171en.pdf</a>  Spanish: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171es/ca9171es.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca9171es/ca9171es.pdf</a>
Other link(s)	FAO disclosure portal: <a href="http://www.fao.org//environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/">http://www.fao.org//environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/</a>  MADS English: <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-ENGLISH.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-ENGLISH.pdf</a>  Spanish: <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-Spanish.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2020/05/ES-S-Colombia-Spanish.pdf</a>
Remarks	N/A
<b>Disclosure in locations convenient to affected peoples (stakeholders)</b>	
Date	Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Place	FAO Partnership and Liaison Office in Colombia Calle 72 No. 7-82 Oficina 702, Edificio Acciones y Valores. Please see link for additional details: <a href="http://www.fao.org/colombia/fao-en-colombia/es/">http://www.fao.org/colombia/fao-en-colombia/es/</a>
<b>Date of Board meeting in which the FP is intended to be considered</b>	
Date of accredited entity's Board meeting	Monday, June 22, 2020
Date of GCF's Board meeting	Monday, June 22, 2020

**Note: This form was prepared by the accredited entity stated above.**

## Secretariat's assessment of FP134

Proposal name:	Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016
Accredited entity:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Country:	Colombia
Project/programme size:	Small

### I. Overall assessment of the Secretariat

#### 1.1 Project background

1. The project presents Colombia's REDD-plus results for the period 2015–2016, with an estimated reduction in emissions of 6.95 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) derived from reducing deforestation. These results have been reported to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and after having undergone technical assessment and have already been published on the UNFCCC Lima REDD+ information hub.<sup>1</sup> The results are presented to GCF for results-based payment (RBP) as part of the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme; they are fully compliant with the eligibility criteria set out in the terms of reference (TOR) for the pilot programme (decision B.18/07) and with UNFCCC standards. The results have undergone analysis based on the scorecard as shown in the annex.

2. Colombia will use the proceeds from RBP to invest in additional activities that support the implementation of its nationally determined contribution (NDC) and in supporting the implementation of the Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management (EICDGB). The RBP project will focus on the following outputs:

- (a) Output 1: National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened;
- (b) Output 2: Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier; and
- (c) Output 3: Territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples strengthened for forest management and conservation.

#### 1.2 Scorecard results

3. As per decision B.18/07, the proposal has been assessed using the scorecard for REDD-plus RBP. The assessment has been conducted by the Secretariat with the support of land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) experts. The final score was discussed and agreed with the independent Technical Advisory Panel.

**Table 1: Scorecard results (see the annex for details)**

Scorecard section		Results
Carbon elements		Score: 38/48   All criteria "pass"
	Cancun Safeguards	All criteria "pass"

<sup>1</sup> See <<https://redd.unfccc.int/>>.

Non-carbon elements	Use of proceeds and non-carbon benefits	Score: 2
GCF investment framework		All criteria “high”
GCF policies		All criteria “pass”

### 1.3 Proposed payments

4. Following the procedure defined in the TOR, the following equation was applied to estimate the volume of emission reductions to be translated into payments:

$$\frac{\text{Volume of ERs offered (x) Total score achieved}}{\text{Maximum score}} = \text{GCF volume of ERs}$$

Abbreviation: ERs = emission reductions

5. The resulting GCF volume of results and the proposed amount for payments are provided in table 2.

**Table 2: Resulting GCF volume of results and the proposed amount for results-based payments**

Values	Results
Volume of ERs offered: 6,952,451.4 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq	GCF Volume of ERs: 5,504,024 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq
Total score achieved: 38	Additional 2.5% of payments for non-carbon benefits
Maximum score: 48	
Valuation of results: USD 5/tCO <sub>2</sub> eq	<b>Proposed results-based payments:</b>
Non-carbon benefits score: 2	<b>USD 28,208,123</b>

Abbreviations: tCO<sub>2</sub>eq = tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent; ERs = emission reductions

### 1.4 Strengths and points of caution

6. The funding proposal is presented to the Board for consideration with the remarks shown below.

Strengths	Points of caution
The use of proceeds will be reinvested to deepen implementation of the ambitious Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management	As per the terms of reference, GCF will make the payments in a single disbursement. Implementation of the use of proceeds will mostly be supervised directly by the accredited entity. Nonetheless, annual reporting will be provided to GCF
The project provides a good case for complementarity and coherence by providing GCF investments in parallel with other ongoing initiatives, such as the REDD+ Early Movers Programme, to support Colombia in implementing its EICDGB and reverse deforestation	The lack a globally agreed definition on HFLD under UNFCCC and the fact that compliance with existing HFLD definitions for qualifying as HFLD are not required under the TOR, may allow varied interpretations that would need to be further discussed facing a continuation phase of REDD+ results-based payments under GCF.

7. The Secretariat invites stakeholders and partners to recall that the objective of the request for proposal (the REDD+ RBP pilot programme) is to gather experience to further improve the procedural and technical elements of REDD+ RBPs using GCF resources in a learning stage (p.2 TOR). As part of this learning stage, the Secretariat acknowledges that there is further room for improvement of the technical instruments in any future configuration of REDD+ RBP under GCF; which is to be designed as reflected in the mid-term review presented for consideration at B.25 (GCF/B.25/Inf.06/Add.01).
8. The Board may wish to consider approving this funding proposal with the terms and conditions listed in the respective term sheet and addendum XVIII, titled “List of proposed conditions and recommendations”.

## II. Assessment of performance against investment criteria

### 2.1 Impact potential

*Scale: High*

9. Colombia consistently maintained high forest cover and low deforestation rates until 2016, resulting in ERs of 31,474,936.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq between 2015 and 2016. Of these emissions 22 per cent (6,952,451.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) is being offered to GCF in the revised proposal. Colombia has received other REDD-plus payments for the results of 2015–2016, mainly from the REDD+ Early Movers (REM) programme.<sup>2</sup> These results are in part the outcome of the early development of REDD-plus readiness interventions in the country, which promoted a favourable framework for the approval and implementation of the ambitious EICDGB. The total volume of emission reductions achieved by Colombia in this period, including those proposed in the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme, are included in the technical annex to the biennial update report submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat. These results have undergone technical assessment in accordance with the decisions of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) on REDD-plus. The achievement of these past results contributed directly to GCF objectives and targets in the forest and land-use results area and furthermore, through the use of proceeds, will lead to a continued reduction in emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, enhancement of forest stocks and conservation.
10. Although the forest reference emission level is subnational (Amazon region), Colombia demonstrates ambition to scale up to the national level, mainly through the implementation of EICDGB and the link to the commitments in the LULUCF sector under Colombia’s NDC. The 10 departments considered at the Amazon region subnational level are Amazonas, Caquetá, Guaviare, Guainía, Putumayo and Vaupés, as well as part of Meta, Nariño, Vichada and Cauca, covering the south-eastern zone of Colombia. These departments contain 31 per cent of the protected areas outlined by the National System of Protected Areas of Colombia and represent 40 per cent (458,961 km<sup>2</sup>) of Colombia’s territory. Moreover, 50 per cent of the indigenous peoples of the country live in the Amazon, representing 17 per cent of the inhabitants of the region.
11. The country continues to build an ambitious and powerful approach to REDD-plus based on the activities considered in the EICDGB, the NDCs and the Amazon Vision Programme (AVP).<sup>3</sup> In the context of AVP, Colombia aims to reduce deforestation to net zero, while in the context of

<sup>2</sup> REM supports REDD-plus pioneering countries, also called Early Movers, that are taking the initiative in forest conservation for climate change mitigation. The programme rewards the climate change mitigation performance of Early Movers and promotes sustainable development for the benefit of small-scale farmers as well as forest-dependent and indigenous communities through fair benefit sharing. Colombia has reported REDD-plus emission reductions under REM in the Amazon biome for the periods 2013–2014 and 2015–2016.

<sup>3</sup> See <<http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/>>.

its NDC, part of Colombia's commitment is to focus on reducing emissions from deforestation. Moreover, EICDGB establishes ambitious goals such as registering a positive trade balance of the forest sector, reaching zero gross deforestation and achieving an emission reduction of 32.4 million tCO<sub>2</sub>eq from avoided deforestation by 2030. This approach is highly ambitious, necessary and transformative in nature. The use of proceeds offers the opportunity to support Colombia in transforming the forest sector and achieving additional REDD-plus results in the future.

## 2.2 Paradigm shift potential

*Scale: High*

12. The initiation of EICDGB helped Colombia to streamline and coordinate REDD-plus efforts through an ambitious and strategic approach. This has helped and is expected to continue to support the country in reducing emissions from deforestation, forest degradation, the enhancement of forest stocks and forest conservation. It also supports the country in recording and reporting results in full compliance with UNFCCC and GCF. The project will support the transformation of the forest sector that Colombia is willing to undertake and allow for financial complementarity and coherence with other initiatives.

13. The reinvestment of the GCF proceeds into EICDGB through supporting AVP will help Colombia to further reduce emissions from deforestation in the coming years and continue to strengthen linkages with the private sector and indigenous peoples, which will further help the country in meeting its national REDD-plus targets and commitments under its NDC. The strategic investments from GCF for implementation of AVP seek to complement existing funding sources (e.g. REM, Global Environment Facility) and have the potential to attract other donors and financial mechanisms to blend in for implementation of EICDGB.

14. EICDGB establishes ambitious actions required to reduce deforestation, forest degradation and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through an integrated view of the forests and their role in the country's development via the following action lines: (1) sociocultural management of forests and public awareness; (2) development of a forest economy and closure of the agricultural frontier; (3) cross-sector management of territorial planning and environmental determinants; (4) permanent monitoring and control; and (5) generation and strengthening of legal, institutional and financial capacities. EICDGB expects to achieve these results by promoting and establishing forest management in the Colombian territory under a sustainable integral rural development approach. The GCF proceeds will mainly support the implementation of EICDGB action lines 1,2, 4 and 5.

15. Despite Colombia being considered a high forest cover and low deforestation country, it has not fully developed its sustainable forest management potential if compared with neighbouring Amazonian countries. In this sense, the GCF proceeds will complement the implementation of a comprehensive approach that intends to promote a forest economy that, building on AVP efforts, integrates sustainable forest management, provision of sustainable agroforestry-commodities and services, and monitoring and information management, and increases capacities for territorial governance.

16. Finally, the benefit-sharing mechanism established for the implementation of AVP has been built in accordance with EICDGB and under a robust stakeholder consultation process; and will allow further implementation of the strategy by defining and implementing mechanisms aligned to performance-based incentives schemes at subnational and local scales.

## 2.3 Sustainable development potential

*Scale: High*

17. The project will create an enabling environment for sustainable development by achieving systemic change at the local, regional and national level. EICDGB focuses on



sustainable development across all its action lines; those that will be supported through this proposal explicitly concentrate on economic, environmental and social aspects and seek to improve the livelihoods of the rural poor in Colombia.

18. In addition, the proposed project is expected to engage and improve the livelihoods of women, who are mostly in disadvantaged positions. The project will strengthen governance in indigenous territories and provide support for improving their livelihoods.

19. Colombia is a signatory to the International Labour Organization Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, among other instruments concerning indigenous peoples. The project is in compliance with provisions regarding environmental and social safeguards, emphasizing indigenous and gender dimensions. Indeed, the emphasis given to strengthening and incorporating indigenous peoples and their worldview into the development of the territorial plans as well as in the productive alternatives will result in social benefits related to cultural appropriation and the respect for local practices and traditional knowledge.

20. A gender assessment and a gender action plan are key elements of the project. The project will build on this gender action plan aligned to EICDGB. The project will use the various regulations of the policy instruments in the activities in full compliance with national policies, international treaties and the gender policies and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

21. The project addresses the participation of women in actions through specific indicators that will be included in the safeguards information system to monitor gender aspects and the generation of jobs from the implemented activities.

22. The project targets poverty reduction and, through the focus on enhancing the provision of ecosystem services (e.g. soils, water, biodiversity) will lead to increased resilience of the ecosystems and fewer expected impacts on the environment, resulting in improved conditions for the rural poor. Also, by fostering sustainable forest management and the integral value of the forests, improved economic impacts are expected with project implementation.

23. The project activities are expected to have a positive impact on the environment. Special consideration is given to strengthening forest and land governance, including enhanced law enforcement; these are key elements in a post-conflict context where there is a high risk of deforestation hotspots. The project also expects to support the development and consolidation of markets for sustainable forest products and sustainable agriculture, which will contribute to a more resilient source of income for the local communities, improving their local economy.

## 2.4 Needs of the recipient

*Scale: High*

24. The focus of the use of proceeds will target strategic action lines of EICDGB, complementing other public and international financing sources and thus partially covering the financial needs for implementation of the strategy.

25. The action lines of EICDGB targeted by this project all have a strong focus on capacity-building of the various stakeholders at the national and subnational level (indigenous peoples, local communities and government at the subnational and national level, including research governmental institutions). There is a strong focus on strengthening the operational management of EICDGB. This will not only support the implementation of this project but also provide a strong platform for the entire strategy and indirectly support the implementation of all other action lines and activities that are part of such a strategy.

26. Although Colombia has made some advancements in matters related to climate change mitigation and adaptation when compared with neighbouring countries in the Amazon basin, the coupled effects of climate change and land-use change due to political circumstances could exacerbate Colombia's vulnerability in the years to come. Colombia is home to many fragile

ecosystems of key relevance for local rural populations. The specific vulnerabilities and impacts have also been documented in national communications to the UNFCCC secretariat and are being duly internalized in EICDGB.

27. The main beneficiaries of these payments include the rural population and indigenous peoples living in the 10 departments of the Amazon region. Indeed, among the most vulnerable groups in the country are indigenous peoples living in indigenous reserves, with 63 different ethnic groups owning more than 26 million hectares. In addition, small and medium-sized landholders are also expected to benefit from the project, including owners of forests and agricultural lands located in community-based forestry units, peasant organizations, farmers and producers involved in the management of forest units. This has been duly internalized in EICDGB.

## 2.5 Country ownership

*Scale: High*

28. The project is fully aligned with national policies and NDC priorities, and the proceeds will be used to reinvest in the full implementation of EICDGB.

29. During project preparation, the national designated authority (NDA) has experienced a high level of engagement and country ownership. The NDA and the REDD-plus focal point have led the design and development of the project by providing feedback at several stages of the process. In particular, the NDA has been involved in the development of the institutional arrangements for the programme execution and has provided technical recommendations through a governmental technical advisory panel, which reviewed the funding proposal as per its internal procedures. Following its review of the proposal, the technical advisory panel recommended that the NDA issue a no-objection letter.

30. In the context of the preparation of this proposal and EICDGB, the Government of Colombia undertook a highly consultative process with relevant stakeholders, including indigenous peoples. Evidence of this process was provided in an annex to the funding proposal.

31. Moreover, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS), a governmental body with 27 years of experience, plays a key role in the implementation of the project. For the purposes of its outreach and field work, the project relies on the presence of implementing partners in the territory at the regional and local level, such as Fondo Acción, Fondo Patrimonio Natural and other entities.

32. Furthermore, the project is aligned with the National Development Plan 2018–2022 (“Pact for Sustainability”). It will contribute to the following goals of the plan: cumulative reduction of GHG emissions; enhancement of areas under payment for environmental services schemes and conservation incentives; increased participation of the forest economy in gross domestic product; increased areas under sustainable conservation systems; reduction in the growth trend of deforestation; zero deforestation agreements for production chains of the agriculture sector; and implementation of the National Climate Change Information System.

## 2.6 Efficiency and effectiveness

*Scale: High*

33. The REDD-plus results for 2015–2016 presented to GCF and the suggested budget both clearly highlight that a fixed price of USD 5 per tCO<sub>2</sub>eq will be applied to the project, which is cost-effective and in accordance with the TOR of the pilot programme. Furthermore, the payment for these results is being reinvested into a transformation of the forest sector, which will allow Colombia to continue to reduce emissions from deforestation, forest degradation, enhancement of forest carbon stocks and conservation.

34. The reinvestment into EICDGB further helps Colombia to reach economies of scale together with other donors currently supporting EICDGB and brings different donors and partners together to improve complementarity and coherence. The GCF investment will complement ongoing support from REM. The project showcases how GCF funds can help to bring complementarity and coherence with other important funding sources for REDD-plus RBP. The REM payments have a clearly defined role and timing, which is described in the project with specific details of what the GCF investments will cover and for which time period.

35. Furthermore, there will be numerous lessons learned and best practices from the implementation of activities and coordination with the other sources that will be crucial not only for Colombia but also for other REDD-plus countries engaging in RBP. This will be important with regard to the private sector and in seeking to increase its engagement in REDD-plus finance.

36. Finally, Colombia has developed two systems to enable accounting of emissions. The National Registry of GHG Emissions Reductions (RENARE) allows the accounting of emissions traded and will avoid a double accounting of emission reductions. RENARE responds to the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System and applies to all parties interested in registering GHG mitigation initiatives or projects, and claiming for payment for results or similar compensations, as well as those interested in registering initiatives that contribute to the national goals of emission reductions. The interim accounting registry for REDD-plus results is an interim measure agreed by the Colombian Government and REM to increase transparency and to report emission reduction and payments.

### **III. Assessment of consistency with GCF safeguards and policies**

#### **3.1 Environmental and social safeguards**

37. FAO, the accredited entity (AE), and MADS have submitted a proposal for the payment of REDD-plus actions undertaken from 2015 to 2016 as part of Colombia's AVP, which serves as a framework for several deforestation projects in the Amazon. In addition to acting as the AE, FAO also will serve as an executing entity, with the possibility that other AEs may serve in the role of executing entity for specific components of future activities.

38. To meet the requirements of the GCF RBP programme, the AE completed an environmental and social assessment (ESA) that retrospectively reviewed the "Heart of the Amazon" project, which the Government of Colombia sees as a critical programme that produced the results for which RBPs are sought. The ESA evaluates consistency between the FAO environmental and social standards and measures that were undertaken to prevent environmental and social (E&S) risks and impacts associated with activities during the review period. It also analyses policy alignment between the Cancun Safeguards and the national policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) that were applicable to the Heart of the Amazon project, which began in 2015 and is expected to continue through to 2022.

39. The FAO procedures require a screening checklist to be applied to each project, at project identification stage, which includes detailed questions intended to guide classification of project risk. Based on the specific project activities envisioned and the nature and significance of potential impacts of E&S risks, field projects are assigned a low, moderate, or high category of risk. Based on the AE screening applied for the RBP project, the Heart of the Amazon project was classified as moderate (category B) risk, with identified impacts considered to be reversible if mitigated through appropriate management measures. The Secretariat confirms the category B classification.

40. The AE also provided an environmental and social management framework (ESMF) based on the results of the ESA and the screening process. The ESMF describes the due diligence and E&S risk management measures applied to RBP project activities, consistent with the FAO and GCF environmental and social safeguards (ESS). The ESMF identifies key E&S risks and mitigation measures that will be integrated into the project development cycle, and the AE notes that the framework is a 'living document' to be updated during project implementation as new risks and impacts arise, and will serve as a platform for consultations with stakeholders and potential project beneficiaries. The ESMF includes overviews of stakeholder engagement and grievance redress commitments and plans, as well as an indigenous peoples planning framework (IPPF).

41. AVP is part of an ambitious conservation initiative covering more than 9 million hectares in the heart of the Colombian Amazon. It commenced in October 2013 as a partnership agreement between Colombia and the international community to promote low-carbon development models in all its forested areas. The initiative recognizes that the Amazon "cannot simply be a large protected area but must also provide additional alternatives for development and integration into the global economy for its population, as well as wealth and prosperity for the country at large." The AVP partnership is supported by a multi-donor strategy with over USD 100 million in commitments, and it establishes an RBP mechanism to which international and national development partners contribute by supporting protection of the climate change mitigation services provided by the Colombian Amazon. The specific AVP that has been reviewed for the RBP project – the Heart of the Amazon Project – aims to promote a forest economy that contributes to the reduction of deforestation via a community-based forestry programme, by strengthening environmental governance of indigenous people; supporting the enabling environment for the Government of Colombia's forest and carbon monitoring system; and strengthening local and national governments' capacity for monitoring and regulation. The Heart of the Amazon project was the first pilot of the AVP and therefore contributed to the design of strategies for other initiatives currently operating in the region. Local government, smallholders, peasants' associations and indigenous peoples of the Amazon region are the intended main beneficiaries of the project.

42. The ESA draws on multiple resources to evaluate consistency between the AE's safeguard policies and the measures that were undertaken on the ground to address risks and impacts associated with activities implemented in the proposed regions during 2015 and 2016. It analyses the alignment between the PLRs and the Cancun Safeguards as well as how they were interpreted in the local/country context; and its analyses the consistency of the AE's ESS with the reviewed project.

43. The ESA demonstrated that the Heart of the Amazon project was implemented within a legal and policy framework that provided an enabling environment for achieving alignment with the AE's ESS. The Secretariat notes that projects will need to analyse the potential they offer in terms of contributing to equal opportunities. The AE has stated in the funding proposal and the ESMF that its ESS fully align with the GCF ESS and other relevant policies.

44. In terms of stakeholder engagement, the ESA indicates broad participation in national dialogues about the ecological and economic importance of forests, and risks of deforestation and degradation – including dialogue and engagement processes on REDD-plus activities. The ESA describes the range of stakeholders consulted or engaged prior, during and subsequent to the review period. These engagements were focused primarily on developing the Government of Colombia's EICDGB, strengthening capacities of stakeholders to participate in construction of the EICDGB, and eliciting broad input on design and prioritization of measures aimed at reducing deforestation and sustainably managing forests. The ESA notes the various dialogue processes that occurred from 2015 to 2017, which were essential in guiding Colombia's REDD-plus approach and building an EICDGB that incorporated the different views of stakeholders with an interest in the management of Colombia's forests.

45. The ESA provides an overview of the grievance mechanisms that were in place during the review period, and the steps that were required to resolve concerns raised by project beneficiaries or stakeholders throughout project implementation. It states that a strategy was in place for monitoring and evaluating activities and mediating complaints.
46. The ESA states that there are five phases for conducting the “Prior Consultation with Ethnic Communities” required by the Government of Colombia and these align with the FAO steps to operationalize FPIC. The funding proposal also provides evidence that FPIC procedures were followed for all activities that are covered by this proposal.
47. The ESMF provided by the AE describes the geographical, environmental and social context of the project area. It also describes the legal framework and applicable safeguards, environmental and social due diligence, stakeholder engagement and the grievance redress system requirements for the project.
48. Indigenous peoples are living in the project area where activities take place and indigenous peoples’ organizations are considered one of the main beneficiaries of the project taking into account that strengthening indigenous governance is one of the measures of the EICDGB to reduce deforestation. Output 3 of the project will support indigenous communities and indigenous organizations in the design and implementation of subprojects targeted to strengthen local capacities for territorial and forest management. The IPPF describes compliance with Colombia’s PLRs as well as FAO and GCF policies for indigenous peoples, and commits to conducting informed consultation, participation and consent (FPIC) consistent with the safeguard policies of the AE. The IPPF is designed to protect the rights of smallholders and indigenous peoples in the Amazon region who are the main beneficiaries of the project, which is among the project’s key stated goals. The IPPF states that the project will develop free consultation and application, with prior and informed consent.
49. A list of non-eligible activities is included in the ESMF. Activities that involve involuntary resettlement will not be supported by RBPs. Other excluded activities include those that may lead to (1) cultural disruptions that seriously affect traditional practices and/or ways of life, such as the physical displacement of these populations without PFIC, without benefiting from the project; (2) negative impacts on community lands and natural resources of traditional use with irreversible impacts on the livelihoods of indigenous populations; and (3) severe and/or irreversible effects on resources and ancestral practices of cultural or spiritual value, among other issues.
50. The ESMF stakeholder engagement summary (section 6) includes a table listing the primary interest groups identified in the project area, and the likely role of each during implementation of the project. The ESMF will need to build on this broad stakeholder identification exercise and develop a more detailed stakeholder ‘map’ that includes more specific information (e.g. identifying the specific non-governmental or indigenous people’s organizations with an interest in each RBP project activity, their level of interest or engagement in the activity, perceptions of the project, and capacity to engage). Such a map will be an important, and adaptable, guide for stakeholder planning and engagement activities throughout the life of the project.
51. The ESMF describes the role of the project management unit (PMU) and MADS in coordinating stakeholder engagement activities for all projects and subprojects and states that local beneficiaries will be engaged during the mid-term and final project evaluations to determine the extent to which their needs and priorities were addressed. All forest monitoring activities will require engagement with local stakeholders at the village, municipality and regional level; and local-level project activities related to forest management will be agreed with local government, environmental authorities, smallholders and local communities. Forest management units will be constructed in a participatory way with local communities. In the case of indigenous peoples, the project commits to follow AE and GCF policies to safeguard their



rights. The IPPF, to be developed during the first phase of the project, will seek to ensure integration of all aspects of the project that involve indigenous peoples or that promote investments on indigenous peoples' lands. Consultation and approval of the IPPF will follow procedures established by the AVP programme.

52. The project will need to ensure continuing stakeholder engagement once the programme is implemented, considering that a range of issues related to stakeholder capacity and engagement have been flagged as key risks to the project.

53. The ESMF describes the grievance redress mechanisms of both the AE and the Government of Colombia. Regarding the AE's approach, the ESMF quotes from the overall mandate of FAO to resolve grievances that are not resolved at project level – via its Office of the Inspector General. At the national level, the Government of Colombia is still defining the conditions for implementing a permanent grievance handling system as part of its National Safeguards System and EICDGB. Until that mechanism is fully operational, a national citizen grievance mechanism is the general system through which claims and requests and/or suggestions related to REDD-plus issues are being managed. Separately, the AVP programme is described as having its own grievance redress mechanism, access to which is available through a government ministry web portal.

54. The AE has made a commitment to developing a project-level grievance redress mechanism upon approval of the RBP project, and provides a description of the elements it will comprise. In addition to providing those elements, including the procedures that will need to be followed in handling, reporting, addressing and closing complaints, and the lines of responsibility – which the AE has already done – it is suggested for the AE to provide an indicative project-level grievance redress mechanism framework to be finalized in consultation with stakeholders upon approval of the RBP project. The framework should include concise details of how communities with varying degrees of capacity and access to technology will be able to lodge complaints, escalate issues, and remain engaged and informed on the status of the complaint. The GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy also states that the GCF Independent Redress Mechanism and the Secretariat's indigenous peoples focal point will be available for assistance at any stage, including before a claim has been made.

55. **Environmental and social risk management.** The ESMF identified a high number of potential risks and impacts of activities that the proceeds will support. This risk identification was based on the risk screening conducted for the AVP alignment review.

56. The AE classifies all of the risks as low or moderate, and states that project activities have been formulated on the basis of national needs to enhance governance and capacity related to each. In this context, training programmes and other information management activities anticipated via the project aim to enhance knowledge, information and communication to support the implementation of good practices for the management of Amazonian forests, integrating experiences from the AVP and building on the previous experience of FAO in supporting forest management units. The ESMF also describes the potential adverse impacts as reversible and non-cumulative, as long as they are adequately managed and mitigated. The ESMF includes a description of the potential mitigation measures that would address each of the identified risks.

57. The AE acknowledges that project implementation may require definition of sub-activities and subprojects for each of the proposed activities, which may include designing and implementing training and capacity-building programmes and incentives. In addition, it has also made a commitment to implementing capacity-building programmes in conjunction with establishing forestry units, and supporting environmental authorities in defining norms and regulations on legal procedures and monitoring. The Secretariat considers that the project could prioritize the inclusion of capacity-building activities and programmes into various aspects of

the project, to enable local project implementers, indigenous peoples, local farmers and other stakeholders to understand the ESMF and more broadly the ESS.

58. **Institutional arrangements.** The implementing partner for the project is MADS, headed by the Vice-Minister of Environmental Planning of the territory. Implementation agencies will be selected to act on behalf of MADS via written agreements or contracts to execute specific activities in accordance with their areas of focus. FAO, with an overall role as the AE, will ensure appropriate project management and will guarantee that milestones are managed and completed. This includes project preparation oversight; project implementation, technical support and supervision, including financial management; and project completion and evaluation supervision. FAO will require certification of the completed environmental and social risk management training, to ensure that project staff have sufficient capacity to identify and evaluate E&S risks, as well as to promote improved E&S risks performance of the project.

59. The PMU will be responsible for planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating project activities. The PMU will have responsibility for, among other tasks: (1) planning, managing and executing the project, including the direct supervision of project activities subcontracted to specialists and project partners; (2) coordinating management of financial resources and procurement; (3) reporting on the application of resources and results achieved; (4) preparing management reports for the project board, GCF, the NDA and FAO, including annual reports and any proposals for the adaptive management of the project, if required, and based on inputs from the project monitoring and evaluation plan; (5) promoting inter-institutional linkages; and (6) disseminating project results.

## 3.2 Gender policy

60. The AE has submitted a gender assessment and gender action plan in compliance with the Gender Policy of the GCF.

61. In the gender assessment the AE has provided information on the existence of an enabling environment to address gender issues and women's empowerment in Colombia. Colombia has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and through its constitution and different laws at the national level is working towards contributing to the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. It has institutional structures to mainstream gender and provide support in designing policies in the creation, management and monitoring of policies, plans and programmes at all levels. Colombia's second biennial update report to the UNFCCC secretariat (2018) emphasizes the importance of incorporating gender issues into climate change management to prevent existing inequalities and structural inequities from worsening. It also recognizes the need to consider the different roles, needs and abilities of men and women in the design and implementation of policies, programmes and actions for mitigation and adaptation while at the same time recognizing the critical role played by women in agricultural production, food security and the resilience of communities to climate change.

62. While efforts to ensure that policies exist, the assessment also demonstrates that women are disadvantaged in many aspects in Colombia and shows female-headed households and women within the communities (Afro-Colombians and indigenous women) to be particularly vulnerable. Women's vulnerability is shown in the high levels of illiteracy, the poverty levels in households led by women, unemployment and lower earnings than men. This situation is graver in rural areas where land ownership is mostly concentrated in small plots, and where female ownership is lower than male. Furthermore, there are inequalities in access to inheritance, the land market, technical assistance and credit in the rural areas. In rural households, patriarchal norms dictate the division of labour between women and men, with women engaging in reproductive work, which is not recognized and does not generate much income.

63. Women also seem to have a greater vocation towards the care of nature, their families and their communities; this potential has been identified by the project as potential which can be used towards better conservation and sustainable use practices. On the other hand, men work on commercial activities that generate income, with a greater impact on deforestation and forest degradation. The distinct roles prescribed and played by women and men in the use of forest exposes them to inequalities in getting benefits from the forest. Furthermore, women experience greater difficulties in carrying out their traditional tasks and must devote more time to them, generating a greater workload. Gender division of labour based on patriarchal systems generates major imbalances between men and women in access to and control of natural resources. In addition, armed conflict has significant and differential effects on men and women, with women also having to assume productive activities, increasing their workload.

64. In recognition of the challenges illustrated above the gender action plan has identified various activities to address practical as well as strategic needs of women. The activities include participatory assessments and methodologies to identify women's needs and roles, strategies to promote women's participation, programmes to increase women's capacities, and actions to strengthen women's role in the implementation of forest management activities, as well as monitoring activities and decision-making processes. Activities focus on women in the context of training on forest monitoring, support to women's production initiatives, business models associated with forestry units that are led by women, commercial strategies led by women and women's access to market strategies, product value chains, commercialization of timber and non-timber forest products and access to incentives and financial instruments. In addition, the gender action plan includes activities aimed at addressing structural barriers to women's empowerment in areas such as mainstreaming gender and women's empowerment issues in sustainable forest management strategies, long-term community forest monitoring systems, communication strategies on forest governance, design and development of incentives and financial instruments and strengthening the capacities of environmental authorities on gender issues and women's empowerment. At the beginning of the project, there was an initial assessment on gender issues and gender-sensitive stakeholder consultation in order to identify location-specific issues and validate the effectiveness of the activities identified. This will also allow the identification of potential risks and interventions to address violence against women if the need arises.

65. The gender action plan includes relevant activities with baseline (0), targets of 40 per cent and indicators for each of the activities included. The action plan also includes a budget for its implementation. The AE has a gender expert to support the implementation and monitoring of the action plan while creating a working group with female farmers and/or producers and indigenous women, who, together with the gender focal point of the team and the delegate of the Ministry of Environment will take decisions to improve the implementation of the project according to the particular needs and conditions of women. The activities included in the action plan are expected to address challenges to gender equality such participation of women in decision-making processes and forest monitoring and sustainable forest management activities, opportunities to participate in capacity-building initiatives, while also engaging women in markets access and in value chains of timber and non-timber forest products. The action plan also includes activities targeted at raising awareness as well as conducting additional assessment to have a better understanding of the needs of women and men. It will make a conscious investment to look into further refining the targets, activities and the needs of female heads of household, youth and indigenous peoples.

### 3.3 Risks

#### 3.3.1 Overall programme assessment (medium risk)

66. Under the pilot programme for REDD-plus RBP, GCF is requested to provide a payment of USD 28,2 million for the emission reductions of 5,504,024 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq out of the 31,474,933.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq of emission reductions achieved by Colombia in the period 2015–2016. The volume of emission reductions for which GCF funding is sought is within 30 per cent of the total payable volume as required under the TOR of the pilot programme.

### 3.3.2. **Accredited entity/executing entity capability to execute the current programme (low risk)**

67. The AE, FAO, has an extensive track record in the implementation of projects in developing countries. It is considered a reliable partner to support the REDD-plus project in Colombia. The AE will also act as an executing entity for this project in close coordination with MADS as the technical entity responsible for forest public policies and EICDGB. It will also closely coordinate with other implementing partners.

### 3.3.3. **Programme-specific execution risks (medium risk)**

68. **Risk of double payments.** The funding proposal indicates that RENARE has been developed and available and operational to the public in early 2020. The emission reductions submitted to GCF will be registered in RENARE. In the meantime, the Government has been using an interim accounting registry system and details of payments received under other sources of funding (i.e. REM programme and voluntary carbon market projects) are made available to the public. In addition, the emission reductions achieved by Colombia and submitted to GCF are registered in the Lima REDD+ Information Hub, allowing the public registry of Colombia's results. RENARE is expected to serve to increase transparency, identify overlapping initiatives and mitigate the risk of double payments.

69. **Use of proceeds.** Colombia will use the proceeds from RBP to support the implementation of EICDGB, which was proposed as a public policy instrument to comply with the national commitments assumed under the Paris Agreement and within the framework of the country's NDC. The project will support at least eight community-based forestry units and will be implemented over five years. The end use is as permitted under the REDD-plus TOR.

70. **Competing for carbon ownership.** The funding proposal states that anyone who intends to opt for payments as a result of actions that generate emission reductions shall be registered in accordance with the regulations issued by MADS and that emission reductions registered by MADS will no longer be available for any other party to claim the results achieved. The funding proposals describe relevant national legislation regarding registration, and cancellation of GHG emission reductions or removals. It also clearly indicates that the Government of Colombia covenants that no other party will have a competing claim to the results proposed to GCF in accordance with national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks.

71. **Security concern.** The funding proposal identified that the slow implementation of the peace agreement may disrupt project activities due to security issues. It states that the project will adjust workplans as appropriate.

72. **Disbursement plan.** The project implementation will be over five years. Accordingly, it is recommended that the disbursement of GCF financing is carried out over the five-year period corresponding to the implementation of the activities.

### 3.3.4. **Compliance risk (medium risk)**

73. As per Article 9.03, paragraph (a), of the accreditation master agreement (AMA) between FAO and GCF, FAO will apply its own fiduciary principles and standards relating to any "know your customer" checks, anti-corruption, anti-money-laundering and countering the

financing of terrorism, fraud, financial sanctions and embargoes to comply with the GCF Policy on Prohibited Practices. FAO has provided details as to how it will apply those fiduciary principles and standards in the implementation of this project. Based on this additional information and the commitment of the AE to ensure that the activities to be undertaken are free from improper activities, Compliance is of the opinion that the proposed strategy and policies of the AE to be implemented to prevent money laundering, financing of terrorism and prohibited practices can effectively mitigate the risks for money laundering, financing of terrorism and prohibited practices to a “medium” level.

### **3.3.5. GCF portfolio concentration risk (low risk)**

74. In the case of approval, the impact of this proposal on the GCF portfolio risk remains non-material and within the risk appetite in terms of concentration level, results area or single proposal.

### **3.3.6. Conclusion**

75. It is recommended that any approval by the Board be made by considering the above-mentioned points.

<b>Summary risk assessment</b>		<b>Rationale</b>
Overall programme	Medium	The proposed payment is for the emission reduction already achieved by Colombia. The proceeds will be used for investment to support the implementation of the Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management at the regional and national level. Close monitoring is required to mitigate the risk of competing emission reduction ownership and the security situation in the project areas
Accredited entity/executing entity capability	Low	
Project-specific execution	Medium	
Compliance	Medium	
GCF portfolio concentration	Low	

## **3.4 Results monitoring and reporting**

76. A monitoring and evaluation plan with detailed information on specific activities and outputs, as well as the indicators and means of verification, will be carried out in accordance with the AE procedures and will include an initial report, annual performance reports to GCF and a mid-term and a final evaluation.

77. Following the requirements of the TOR, the proposal will follow a simplified reporting procedure for which a specific template was developed by the Secretariat. The frequency of reporting will be annual following the AMA.

78. Monitoring the use of proceeds will be conducted at the main activity level in accordance with the description provided in the funding proposal.

## **3.5 Legal assessment**

79. The AMA was signed with the AE on 8 June 2018, and it became effective on 4 October 2018.



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80. The Accredited Entity has provided a certificate confirming that it has obtained all internal approvals and it has the capacity and authority to implement the project.
81. The proposed project will be implemented in the Republic of Colombia, country in which GCF is not provided with privileges and immunities. This means that, among other things, GCF is not protected against litigation or expropriation in this country, which risks need to be further assessed. The Secretariat sent a draft agreement together with a background note on privileges and immunities to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia on November 2015 and held meetings with the Colombian delegation at COP21 and 22; however, no response on the draft has been received thus far.
82. The Heads of the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) and Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) have both expressed that it would not be legally feasible to undertake their redress activities and/or investigations, as appropriate, in countries where the GCF is not provided with relevant privileges and immunities. Therefore, it is recommended that disbursements by the GCF are made only after the GCF has obtained satisfactory protection against litigation and expropriation in the country, or has been provided with appropriate privileges and immunities.
83. In order to mitigate risk, it is recommended that any approval by the Board is made subject to the following conditions:
- (a) Signature of the funded activity agreement in a form and substance satisfactory to the Secretariat within 180 days from the date of Board approval; and
  - (b) Completion of legal due diligence to the satisfaction of the Secretariat.

**Annex: Scorecard (aligned to the funding proposal template structure)**

<b>Section A: Proposed and projected REDD-plus results</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Status (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Does the total volume of achieved results indicated in the proposal match the results indicated in the biennial update report (BUR) during the results period (31 December 2013 to 31 December 2018)?	Yes	The total volume of results achieved during the period 2015–2016 is 31,474,933.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq) (19,365,884.7 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq for 2015 and 12,109,048.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq for 2016)
Is the volume of achieved results offered to the pilot programme equal to or less than the total volume of achieved results indicated in the BUR during the results period?	Yes	<p>After meeting its other commitment (see Annex 9), the total volume available is 11,587,418.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Colombia proposes to set aside 40% of the emission reductions available to the GCF as an interim mechanism to manage risk of reversals. Given that discounts to address non-permanence are not considered under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) decisions and guidance, but actions to address risk of reversals are included under Cancun Safeguard F, the percentage was determined by (a) taking into account measures to address non-permanence in other results-based payments (RBP) initiatives, specifically the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), and (b) Colombia's interpretation of Cancun Safeguard F and the actions accomplished to address and respect it</p> <p>With this, the total volume of REDD-plus results offered to the GCF pilot programme is 6,952,451.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Only the volume for 2015–2016 is offered to GCF and meets the eligible period</p>
Is the expected volume of REDD-plus results to be achieved significant compared with the overall level of REDD-plus results achieved in the current funding proposal being submitted?	No	Results have not been achieved by Colombia for 2017. Colombia, through the Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (IDEAM), has estimated that deforestation in the Amazon region for 2017 reached 144,147 hectares (ha) in 2017, implying an increment in gross emissions of 29,989,543.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq

		<p>above the assessed forest reference emission level (FREL) (Colombia's FREL for the reference period 2013–2017 is 51,612,072.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</p> <p>Results for 2018 indicate that for the Amazon biome, deforestation reached 138,176 ha, implying a reduction of 5% with respect to 2017. However, 2018 estimates indicate that deforestation was higher than the estimates from 2015 and 2016.</p>
Is the total volume expected to be submitted to the pilot programme within the available allocation of funding for the pilot programme and below the cap per country?	Yes	The proposed volume falls within the available allocation of funding and remains below the cap per country
<b>Section B: Carbon elements</b>		
<b>B.1. Forest reference emission level/forest reference level</b>		
Criteria	Score	Remarks
(i) Is the FREL/forest reference level (FRL) consistent with the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, including the definition of forest used?	1	<p>The technical assessment report (TAR) states that the assessment team (AT) compared the deforestation estimates used to calculate the FREL with the estimates used for forest and grassland conversion in the most recently published GHG inventories for Colombia, which at the time of the technical analysis were those associated with the second national communication. The TA found that the historical emission estimates associated with the FREL exceeded the forest and grassland estimates in the published GHG inventories by a factor of about five. Although the coverages are not the same, the AT concluded that it seemed very unlikely that the values are consistent and found insufficient information in the GHG inventories to assess the reasons for the differences. The AT did not consider this further because Colombia explained that a new and improved GHG inventory would be available through the first BUR and the third national communication, and that it would contain estimates that are fully consistent with the FREL (before adjustment), including in respect of</p>

		forest definition, allometric equations, emission factors (EF) and activity data (AD)
(ii) Is the FREL/FRL based on historical data and is it equal to or below the average annual historical emissions during the reference period, unless a country is a high forest cover/low deforestation (HFLD) country?	2	<p>Colombia has adjusted its proposed FREL upward by 10% compared with the historical average emissions for the period 2000–2012. This is intended to take into consideration the results of the qualitative analysis of national circumstances that affect deforestation trends, particularly the prospect of a successful outcome of negotiations to end the armed conflict</p> <p>For a country to apply the adjustment, it needs to have consistently maintained high forest cover and low deforestation rates (be an HFLD country) and the adjustment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not exceed 0.1% of the carbon stock over the eligibility period in the relevant national or subnational area; and</li> <li>• Does not exceed 10% of the FREL/FRL</li> </ul> <p><u>Qualification of Colombia as an HFLD country</u></p> <p>The funding proposal states that Colombia reports a natural forest area of 60,025,731 ha of forest in 2018, which represents 52.6% of the national territory, and in the last 18 years the average rate of deforestation was -0.24%. The lowest value was presented in 2013 (-0.19%) and the highest in 2017 (-0.36%). For the reference period of the Amazon biome FREL (2000–2012) the ratio was -0.23%, while for the results period (2013–2017) it was -0.26%. Since the scorecard does not define any thresholds for countries to qualify as HFLD, Colombia is considered as an HFLD country.</p> <p>Colombia is considered as HFLD country given its particular context: (i) they have consistently maintained high forest cover, and ii) they have undergone a situation that has resulted in low pressure in some forest areas for decades that has started to change due to the peace</p>

	<p>agreements (post 2016). Under the national circumstances of Colombia, there has been a clear increase in deforestation, particularly in the Amazon biome after the peace accords were agreed on. The dynamics expected to be seen in a HFLD country are currently present in Colombia, and even more so in the subnational area covered by the current proposal</p> <p>Colombia does not make use of the Paramaribo Declaration parameters for HFLD self-determination. Nor the GCF makes use of those parameters for determining that Colombia is HFLD. In the TOR there is no such requirement to comply with the set parameters of the Paramaribo Declaration for qualifying as HFLD</p> <p>Colombia submitted its FREL in December 2014, three years prior to the launch of the GCF pilot program for REDD-plus RBP in 2017. The submission by Colombia is in line with the existing UNFCCC guidance on adjustments, provided through the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p><u>Size of adjustment in relation to FREL and carbon stock</u></p> <p>The TAR confirms that the adjustment is 10% of the FREL. Colombia has adjusted its proposed FREL upward by 10% compared with the historical average emissions for the period 2000–2012. This is intended to take into consideration the results of the qualitative and quantitative analysis of national circumstances that affect deforestation trends, particularly the prospect of a successful outcome of peace negotiations to end the armed conflict. This analysis involved both review of international evidence and quantitative modelling of land-use scenarios</p> <p>In terms of the other threshold (i.e. 0.1% of the carbon stock over the eligibility period), the applicable FREL states that the forest area in 2012 is 39,973,700 ha. The TAR states that the stocks are 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq/ha (TAR, para. 24). Based on these figures, the carbon stocks</p>
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		<p>in 2012 are 22,629,111,570 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Applying the threshold of 0.1% equals 22,629,112 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq</p> <p>The adjustment portion of the FREL is 4,690,874 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Applying this over the five-year eligibility period would mean that the total adjustment over five years exceeds the threshold of 0.1% of the carbon stocks (5 x 4,690,874 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq = 23,454,372) by 825,260 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq over the five-year eligibility period. Since this difference is relatively small, Colombia is considered to meet the requirements of the scorecard. Moreover, the total ER offered to GCF already considers a deduction of 166,184.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq per year.</p> <p>During the appraisal period, the Secretariat called for an informal REDD+ technical experts' panel where the issues related to this particular scorecard criterion were discussed. The technical experts' discussion led the Secretariat to support the findings included in this assessment document.</p>
(iii) Is the FREL/FRL in accordance with the guidelines in UNFCCC decision 12/CP.17?	2	The TAR concludes that the information used by Colombia in constructing its FREL is in overall accordance with the guidelines for submissions of information on FRELs (as contained in the annex to UNFCCC decision 12/CP.17)
(iv) Are the data and information provided for the FREL/FRL transparent? (Has information been provided to allow an understanding of how UNFCCC guidance on submission of information on reference levels has been addressed?)	2	The TAR concludes that that the submission and the annexes provided by Colombia, together with the clarifications given during the TA, constitute, for practical purposes, a complete, transparent and accurate description of the construction of the FREL, including the data sets, approaches and methods used. This transparency facilitates comparison with internationally available information on AD and EFs, increases confidence in the results obtained and aids understanding of the areas for further development and improvement
(v) Is the FREL/FRL complete? (Has information been provided that allows for the reconstruction of the FREL/FRL?)	2	The TAR concludes that that the submission and the annexes provided by Colombia, together with the clarifications given during the TA, constitute, for practical purposes, a complete, transparent

		and accurate description of the construction of the FREL, including the data sets, approaches and methods used
(vi) Is the FREL/FRL consistent? (Were data and methodologies applied consistently over the time series used for the construction of the FREL/FRL?)	2	<p>For the FREL, AD were estimated using Landsat images. The AD consist of estimated areas deforested in six successive two-year periods between 2000 and 2012. Areas that do not have data in either or both of the years of the two-year period under consideration were excluded from the analysis</p> <p>EFs corresponding to carbon densities in above- and below-ground biomass carbon pools are estimated from forest sampling plots using allometry. The AT notes that although the carbon densities that determine the EFs may have bias (because the sampling is related to accessibility rather than statistical design), the values are used consistently over time and are within the ranges expected on the basis of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) data and other research data used for comparison</p> <p>The TAR found no issues related to the consistency of the time series used for the construction of the FREL/FRL</p>
(vii) Is the FREL/FRL accurate? (The data and methodologies used neither overestimate nor underestimate emissions and/or removals during the reference period, so far as can be judged)	1	<p>The TAR noted of the following areas for improvement that could have an impact on the overestimation or underestimation of emissions and/or removals during the reference period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FREL treats deforestation as removal of tree cover and calls it gross deforestation. This means that areas where tree cover is detected as having fallen below the 30 per cent threshold used in the Colombian forest definition will be treated as deforested until they achieve this tree cover threshold again. The AT considers that it would be useful to assess whether significant regeneration of forest is taking place and that this should, in principle, be possible using existing image analysis, because areas of regeneration are identified;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although the value used for carbon density of the Colombian Amazon biome is consistent with international data, it is not based on sample plots distributed according to statistical principles. The TAR notes that Colombia expects, over the period 2015–2017, to implement its national forest inventory (NFI). This will increase the accuracy of the carbon density estimates; and</li> <li>The adjustment has been using expert judgement based on international post-conflict literature. The TAR recommends a more detailed justification of the adjustment for national circumstances, which should be possible given that information on the relationship between REDD-plus activities and economic and social trends accumulates following a peace agreement</li> </ul>
(viii) Have all REDD-plus activities that are significant sources of emissions been included?	1	<p>The FREL for Colombia includes only “reducing emissions from deforestation” for calculation of the FREL. Forest degradation is not currently included because of its uncertainties and lack of data. Colombia is working on methodologies to detect and estimate forest degradation</p> <p>The AT understands that Colombia plans to extend the FREL to include “reducing emissions from forest degradation” and it commends Colombia for assessing a number of possibilities for future inclusion. The AT has not assessed the potential significance of forest degradation</p>
(ix) Have all of the most significant pools been included?	1	<p>The carbon pools reported under deforestation include above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass. Dead wood, litter and soils were not reported owing to a lack of data. During the TA it was clarified that the NFI that was under preparation at the time will generate data to allow the inclusion of dead wood and soil carbon</p>

		pools. There are currently no plans to estimate the litter pool. The AT agrees that this is likely to be the least significant pool
(x) Have all gases that are a significant source of emissions been included?	2	The only gas emissions reported are those of CO <sub>2</sub> , as a result of changes in carbon stocks in living above- and below-ground biomass due to deforestation. Assessment by Colombia based on the GHG inventories to be included in its first BUR suggests that non-CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fires are relatively insignificant. The TAR recommends including emissions from non-CO <sub>2</sub> gases, using the methods developed for the GHG inventories to be published in association with the first BUR and the third national communication
(xi) Is the information provided in the construction of the FREL/FRL (data, methodologies and estimates) guided by the most recent applicable IPCC guidance and guidelines as adopted by the Conference of the Parties?	2	The TAR states that the methods used by Colombia are consistent with the IPCC <i>Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry</i> and the <i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i> as applied to the construction of the FREL
(xii) Have any significant issues related to the application of IPCC GLs/GPGs been raised in the TA report?	2	The TAR does not raise any significant issues related to the application of IPCC GLs/GPGs
(xiii) What is the reference period for the FREL/FRL?	2	The applicable FREL for the results proposed to GCF is the FREL submitted in 2014 for deforestation in the Colombian Amazon biome for the period 2000–2012
(xiv) How does the reference level for the results included in the proposal compare with the previous reference level that applies to the same area?	1	Colombia has submitted two technical annexes to the BUR, both against the FREL submitted in 2014
(xv) Has the country provided information on aggregate uncertainties, taking into account national capabilities and circumstances?	0	<p>The FREL contains an evaluation of the thematic accuracy of the change map as well as uncertainty estimates for total biomass by forest type. No information is provided on aggregate uncertainties or relative contributions. The FREL was submitted before 2019</p> <p>Colombia submitted an updated (national) FREL in December 2019, which is undergoing technical assessment. In this, Colombia made progress in reporting uncertainties nationally and regionally using</p>

		the propagation error methods. The reporting on uncertainties correspond to the second FREL, not the subnational FREL already assessed
B.2. REDD-plus results reporting		
Criteria	Score	Remarks
(i) Are the reported results in the technical annex to the BUR consistent with the FREL/FRL (including the same pools, activities and gases)?	2	<p>The technical report on the technical analysis concludes that Colombia has ensured consistency between the FREL and the estimation of results from the implementation of the activity deforestation in 2015–2016. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using consistent methodologies and data to generate AD on reducing gross emissions from deforestation;</li> <li>• Using consistent methodologies and data to generate EF;</li> <li>• Including the same two carbon pools: above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass;</li> <li>• Including the same gas;</li> <li>• Covering the same area;</li> <li>• Using the assumption that all carbon from the two carbon pools (above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass) is lost in the year of the deforestation event; and</li> <li>• Using a forest definition that is fully consistent with the forest definition used for constructing the FREL</li> </ul>
(ii) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex transparent? (Has information been provided to allow an understanding of how UNFCCC guidance on results reporting has been addressed?)	2	During the TA, the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) experts requested some additional information including on AD, EFs, methods (protocols), examples of estimations of emission reductions and information on the implementation of actions related to REDD-plus, including relevant links where more detailed information could be accessed. The LULUCF experts note that, as an area of future

		technical improvement, in order to facilitate greater understanding of the results, Colombia may wish to provide additional information in the technical annex to reconstruct the calculations, including readily accessible links to this information
(iii) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex complete? (Has information been provided that allows for the reconstruction of the results?)	2	In the TATR, the LULUCF experts conclude that Colombia provided the necessary information that would allow for the reconstruction of the results from the implementation of the activity reducing emissions from deforestation. The data and information provided in the technical annex are considered mostly transparent, consistent, complete and accurate, to the extent possible
(iv) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex consistent? (Were data and methodologies applied consistently over the results time series?)	2	<p>The forest monitoring system used by Colombia (National Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC)) is a national system covering the subnational Amazon biome. The system estimates the AD for deforestation in the Amazon biome by semi-automatically comparing digitally pre-processed Landsat image pairs covering successive two-year periods in order to produce a change map. The minimum mapping unit used for this work is 1 ha. The EFs used to produce the results of the 2015–2016 estimates are derived using data from 721 sampling forest plots (dasometric variables from trees) established between 1990 and 2014 by applying a country-specific allometric equation for tropical humid forest to estimate the above-ground biomass and carbon stocks and a generic allometric equation to estimate the below-ground biomass and carbon stocks. The AD and EFs are then used in the tier 2 methodology provided in the <i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i> and the <i>IPCC Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry</i> to estimate the emissions.</p> <p>SMBYC enables the estimation of AD and EFs for the deforestation of all the forest in Colombia, and specifically in the Amazon biome aggregated in one representative forest type (tropical rainforest)</p>



<p>(v) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex accurate? (Does the annex neither overestimate nor underestimate emissions and/or removals?)</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Similar to the TAR, the TATR identified some areas for improvement that could have an impact on the overestimation or underestimation of emissions and/or removals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the NFI for statistical sampling of above-ground and below-ground biomass and for the eventual inclusion of additional pools and the improvement of stratification with NFI data to reduce the uncertainty in the estimation of carbon stocks in forest; and</li> <li>• Conduct more in-depth research and analysis to justify the adjustment for national circumstances, owing to economic and social trends following a peace agreement, by taking into account the rate at which conditions change following cessation of conflict</li> </ul>
<p>(vi) How many years are there between the last year of the FREL period and the year corresponding to the results being proposed for payments?</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>The results proposed are for the years 2015 and 2016. The applicable FREL covers the period 2000–2012</p>
<p>(vii) Has the country provided information on aggregate uncertainties, taking into consideration national capabilities and circumstances?</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>The LULUCF experts noted that Colombia did not include the information on the uncertainty of the results in the technical annex to its second BUR, which would allow the LULUCF experts to assess its accuracy. During the TA, in response to a question from the LULUCF experts, Colombia explained that it has made progress in estimating the uncertainty associated with AD and EFs and noted that its FREL submission includes the information on the uncertainty of EFs, which is the same for the results. The Party also provided the information on the uncertainty of AD in terms of the measurement of error associated with the results of the area of deforestation monitoring for 2015 and 2016. Based on the information provided by the Party, the LULUCF experts can assess the accuracy of the estimation of carbon stocks in the Amazon biome and the AD. Consistent with the observations made in the technical report on the TA of Colombia's first set of results, the LULUCF experts note the</p>

		<p>provision of information on the uncertainty of results as an area for future technical improvement for the Party</p> <p>The technical annex to the second BUR of Colombia was submitted in accordance with UNFCCC decision 14/CP.19, paragraph 7, on 28 December 2018</p>
<p>(viii) Has information been provided on payments that have been (or are expected to be) received from other sources for results recognized by the country<sup>a</sup> from the same national or subnational area during the period for which a country is proposing to receive payments from GCF? And has the country provided sufficient assurance that results already paid for by other sources have been excluded from the total volume offered to GCF?</p>	2	<p>Colombia has in place an agreement of payment for results with the Governments of Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom under the REDD Early Movers (REM) programme under the Colombian Amazon Vision Programme (AVP). This agreement covers the period 2013-2017 and payments are made against the FREL that Colombia submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat</p> <p>The Colombian government has reported emission reductions under the REM programme, including results achieved by Colombia in the reduction in emissions derived from deforestation in the Amazon biome for the periods 2013–2014 and 2015–2016. All the reports on the emission reductions, with their respective independent verification reports and the registry of the emission reductions between 2013 and 2015, and the official communication payments of the REM programme are publicly accessible; links are provided in the funding proposal</p> <p>Additionally, Colombia has received payments from one project of the voluntary market that covers areas of the Amazon and Orinoquia regions</p> <p>The funding proposal has transparently stated these volumes in the calculation of the volume offered to GCF</p>
<p>(ix) Are the results proposed to GCF for payment included in a registry or similar system that tracks emission reductions and corresponding payments<sup>b</sup> to ensure there is no past or future double payment (or use) of such emission reductions?</p>	2	<p>By Resolution 1447/2018 of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS), Colombia regulated the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System, specifically the instruments related to accounting of GHG emission reductions and</p>

		<p>removals, and the National Registry of GHG Emissions Reductions (RENARE)</p> <p>RENARE is a technological platform of the measurement, reporting and verification system developed with the purpose of managing information of all GHG mitigation initiatives at the national level (<a href="http://renare.siac.gov.co">http://renare.siac.gov.co</a>). RENARE is now operational (See Annex 10).</p> <p>In addition, Colombia has previously implemented an interim registry (<a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf</a>), which was developed in order to report emission reductions as well as the payments received</p>
<b>Total score section B</b>	<b>38</b>	
<b>Any fails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

<sup>a</sup> Through the REDD-plus national entity or focal point, where appointed.

<sup>b</sup> For each of these results, tracking information should identify (at a minimum) the corresponding national or subnational area, the entity eligible to receive payment, the year generated, and the source of results-based payments received and, where possible, the identifying number.

<b>Section C: Non-carbon elements</b>		
<b>C.1. Cancun Safeguards</b> Does the summary of information on safeguards provide information on how each of the safeguards below were addressed and respected in a way that ensures transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness?		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation (Pass/Fail)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
(i) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements	Pass	The actions complement and are consistent with the Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management (EICDGB), National Climate Change Policy, and nationally determined contribution (NDC) as well as other relevant national programmes and policies that concern forests management and climate change.

		The actions are also in line with relevant international conventions and agreements, as outlined in the funding proposal. Colombia has a National System of Safeguards in place, which includes tracking and reporting tools in compliance with the Cancun Safeguards. This system should continue to keep up-to-date and fully implemented to monitor the actions against the Cancun Safeguards
(ii) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty.	Pass	<p>Transparency of public information is ensured by the National Constitution of 1991, where fundamental right of access to public information is granted. Several communication channels have been laid out, although specific mechanisms will be determined on a case-by-case basis</p> <p>Forest governance structure comprises 33 regional and 6 urban autonomous authorities and 5 scientific research institutions, which are responsible for the implementation of REDD-plus initiatives. The inter-institutional coordination among these actors should be strengthened to enable better coordination and institutionalization of REDD-plus activities across the governmental entities (horizontally and vertically)</p> <p>Reports to stakeholders on REDD-plus initiatives should include the full information on the distribution of REDD-plus resources through the benefit-sharing mechanism. This includes ways to validate and disburse resources distribution in a transparent manner, as well as the consultation undertaken with all the relevant stakeholders</p>
(iii) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	Pass	<p>Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities is ensured through established legislation, jurisprudence and safeguard mechanisms in Colombia</p> <p>The Cancun Safeguards are recognized in 26 legal instruments (national and international policies, laws, commitments and others) that guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. These legal instruments include Political Constitution of</p>

		<p>Colombia Articles 2, 7, 63, Law 152 of 1994, Jurisprudence (CCC, C-891/02), and Orders 004 and 005</p> <p>The country will adhere to the free, prior and informed consent for any interventions that may impact one or more ethnic groups and ensure the rights of communities to effectively participate in decision-making processes. Traditional knowledge of ethnic and local communities, as well as cultures of inhabitants in the affected territories will be fully respected</p> <p>Under Law 152 (1994), mechanisms are provided for Afrodescendants and indigenous communities to carry out development planning in their territories through life plans, ethno-development plans and internal management regulations. Such safeguards should also be prepared for members of local communities who are affected by the REDD-plus activities</p> <p>Policies, measures and actions are currently under development in order to attain the Cancun Safeguards in the Colombian context. As noted in the funding proposal, the policies, measures and actions must be designed jointly with the indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their knowledge and rights in every process and steps in REDD-plus activities</p>
(iv) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 70 and 72	Pass	<p>At a high level, this safeguard is respected by national mechanisms including the National System of Citizen Participation and the National Environmental System, which ensures citizen participation at various levels. For REDD-plus specific participation, EICDGB incorporates plans for participation and involvement of stakeholders in all instances, platforms and decision-making processes. All the stakeholders will be participating through the REDD-plus national round table</p> <p>It is recommended that participatory mechanisms be strengthened, including through existing platforms, to ensure full and effective</p>

		<p>participation of all the relevant stakeholders involved in the implementation of REDD-plus activities at the local and national level. Information should be delivered in a timely fashion and opportunities for dialogues should be expanded to promote generational approaches, emphasizing culturally appropriate engagement with relevant stakeholders</p>
<p>(v) That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits.</p>	<p>Pass</p>	<p>Colombia has relevant legal and institutional instruments to comply with this safeguard, including the National Policy for Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystems Services, National Climate Change Policy and forest sector planning regulated by multiple laws. EICDGB contains specific actions for conservation of natural forests and biological diversity and sustainable forests management while generating local benefits</p> <p>Colombia respects this safeguard by referring to AVP, which REDD-plus RBP will complement. As part of AVP, 141 conservation agreements have been signed in municipalities to ensure environmental sustainability in productive farming areas. It is important that the existing monitoring and tracking tools are strengthened to include monitoring of forest resources, biological diversity and ecosystem services</p> <p>Planning and resource allocation should be done to scale up incentivizing protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services. It is recommended that the country develop and broaden investment opportunities that are financially viable and sustainable in the long-term</p>
<p>(vi) Actions to address the risks of reversals</p>	<p>Pass</p>	<p>Colombia proposed to deactivate 40% of emission reductions available to GCF as an interim measure to manage the risks of reversals. Given that discounts to address non-permanence are not considered under UNFCCC decisions and guidance, but actions to address risk of reversals are included under Cancun Safeguard F, the percentage was determined by: a) taking into account measures to address non-permanence in other RBP initiatives, specifically the</p>



		<p>FCPF, and b) considering Colombia's interpretation of Cancun Safeguard F and the actions accomplished to address and respect it. This estimation is detailed in Annex 5.</p> <p>To address this safeguard, Colombia will implement Pillar 2 of AVP "Sustainable sectoral planning and development", which articulates environmental management with land uses across different sectors, including transport, infrastructure and mining. Also, Planning Administrative Region was established to define the agricultural frontier and facilitate intersectoral agreements</p> <p>There should be concrete monitoring mechanisms and actions, embedded in the existing monitoring system, to track the implementation of the above-mentioned frameworks and guidelines, as well as to align different development activities, taking into account the risks of reversals. Specific methodologies and tools should be defined for the implementation</p> <p>Risk analysis showed that 94% of activities foreseen in AVP generate low or no risks of reversal. Studies should be regularly updated, and mitigation measures should be carried out for the remaining risks</p>
(vii) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions	Pass	<p>Risk of leakage will be monitored by SMBYC, which is linked to AVP Pillar 1 "Forest governance", which focuses on capacity-building for effective control and surveillance of forest cover, as well as verification of AD</p> <p>Specific displacement risks are not presented in detail. Once the implementation of REDD-plus activities begins, it will be important to determine necessary resources and capacity-building efforts to strengthen SMBYC for monitoring and tracking the risks of emissions displacement</p> <p>It is also crucial to involve the local communities in the monitoring system, to feed the local-level information into the national system</p>

<b>C.2. Use of proceeds and non-carbon benefits</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation (Pass/Fail)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Has information been provided on how proceeds will be used consistent with GCF policies? Has information been provided on how the proceeds will be used in a manner consistent with the country's NDC, national REDD-plus strategy and/or low carbon development plans and policies? Has information been provided on how the proceeds will be used in a manner that contributes to the long-term sustainability of REDD-plus activities, including non-carbon benefits?	2	<p>The proposal provides a clear description of how the proceeds will be used to reinvest the GCF resources through three interlinked components, namely enabling conditions (focusing on monitoring), forest economy and environmental governance with indigenous peoples</p> <p>The outputs and activities proposed are clear and in line with the NDC, EICDGB and National Development Plan, with a clear objective of promoting forest economy that contributes to deforestation reduction, by implementing a community-based forestry programme. It is positively assessed that one of the components is exclusively targeting indigenous peoples in supporting subprojects. The proposed activities are assessed to be positively contributing to the long-term sustainability of REDD-plus activities, including non-carbon benefits. It will be important that any subprojects to be financed and implemented with GCF proceeds are fully aligned with the GCF mandate and objectives</p> <p>Implementation of the GCF proceeds will be done by three executing entities, whose role is clearly delineated in the proposal, indicating which entity is responsible for which output. The role of the governance structure is also explained in detail</p>
<b>Total score section C</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Any fails</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Section D: Investment framework**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation (High/Medium/Low)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Impact potential	Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The relevant mitigation and/or adaptation impact is specified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The GCF core indicators (and other indicators) are provided with specific values <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Methodologies provided for calculating non-GHG indicators are clear and robust <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal compares the indicator values against appropriate benchmarks to demonstrate the impact potential
Paradigm shift potential	Evaluation	The proposal clearly: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes the potential for scaling up to the country's NDC, national REDD-plus strategy and/or low-carbon development plans and policies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains how the programme contributes to strengthening knowledge and learning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes how proposed measures will create an enabling environment and contribute to innovation, market development and transformation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains how the programme strengthens the regulatory framework and policies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates paradigm shift potential for catalysing impact beyond a one-off payment
Sustainable development potential	Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal demonstrates environmental, social and economic impact, including the gender-sensitive development impact
Needs of the recipient	Evaluation	The proposal clearly: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes the degree of vulnerability of the country/population and demonstrates that the programme addresses the issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains in detail how the programme addresses financial, economic, social and institutional needs

Country ownership	Evaluation	<p>The proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sufficiently explains how the programme contributes to a national climate strategy and/or policy</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specifies in detail how the multi-stakeholder consultation was conducted</li> </ul>
Efficiency and effectiveness	Evaluation	<p>The proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clearly describes the adequacy of the financial structure for cost-effectiveness and efficiency</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides information on financial viability in the long run</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains in detail the application of best practices and the degree of innovation</li> </ul>
<b>Section E: GCF policies</b>		
<b>For the period of the results considered in the request for proposal</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation (Pass/Fail)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Environmental and social safeguards (ESS)	Pass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adequate and sufficient information provided in an environmental and social assessment report describing the extent to which the measures undertaken to identify, assess and manage environmental and social risks and impacts, in the context of the REDD-plus proposal, were consistent with the requirements of the applicable GCF ESS standards
Risk assessment	Pass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adequate and sufficient information provided that allows for an assessment of the historical performance of the activities undertaken (track record) against the risk tolerance levels specified in the risk appetite statement and the criteria (where applicable) outlined in the risk guidelines for funding proposals.
Gender	Pass	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adequate and sufficient information provided in the assessment describing the extent to which the measures undertaken complied with the GCF gender policy.</p> <p>The assessment by the AE determined the alignment of the PSB and the PLRs with its Social and Environmental Standards which include an overarching principle of gender equality and women's empowerment.</p>

Interim policy on prohibited practices	Pass	☑ Appropriate and sufficient information provided in a due diligence report to demonstrate that no prohibited practices occurred during the implementation of the activities that lead to the REDD-plus results, such as: undisclosed prohibited practices, including money laundering and the financing of terrorism occurred during the implementation of results-based actions; and double payment or financing for the same results achieved.
<b>For the use of proceeds</b>		
Criteria	Evaluation (Pass/Fail)	Remarks
Environmental and social safeguards	Pass	☑ Adequate and sufficient information provided in an environmental and social management framework that will describe how environmental and social risks and impacts will be identified, assessed and managed in a manner consistent with the environmental and social safeguards standards of GCF, including the determination of the relevant environmental and social risk category of the proposed activities
Risk assessment	Pass	☑ Adequate and sufficient information provided that details how the plan for the use of proceeds does not violate the risk tolerance levels specified in the risk appetite statement and allows for performance monitoring and evaluation against the criteria (where applicable) outlined in the risk guidelines for funding proposals
Gender	Pass	☑ Adequate and sufficient information provided on how the accredited entity will undertake an activity-level gender assessment and action plan once the details of the activities become known.
Monitoring and evaluation	Pass	☑ Adequate and sufficient information provided on how the activities to be undertaken with GCF proceeds comply with the GCF monitoring and accountability framework
Policy on prohibited practices	Pass	☑ Appropriate and sufficient information provided that gives assurance that the activities with use of proceeds will follow the interim policy on prohibited practices, such as: undisclosed prohibited practices, including money laundering and the financing of terrorism; improper subsequent use of GCF proceeds in the prohibited practices; and double payment or financing for the same results achieved

Indigenous peoples policy	Pass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adequate and sufficient information provided on how the activities will meet the requirements of the policy and be guided by the prevailing relevant national laws and/or obligations of the countries that are directly applicable to the activities under relevant international treaties and agreements
<b>Section F: GCF legal arrangements</b>		
<b>E.6.1. Legal title to REDD-plus results</b>		
Requirement	Remarks	Status (Complete/Pending)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis with respect to legal title to REDD-plus results in the country is provided. It includes an analysis of entitlement to claim for the results to be paid for by GCF	<p>Regarding the entitlement to claim for results payment, Article 175 of Law 1753 of 2015<sup>4</sup> established that any natural or legal person, public or private, who intends to opt for payments based on results or similar compensations as a result of actions that generate GHG emission reductions shall obtain prior the Registry in accordance with the regulations issued by MADS. The interim accounting registry REDD-plus results are available at  <a href="http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf">http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/content/uploads/2019/12/Registro_interino2013-2016.pdf</a></p> <p>Law 1753 points out that the emission reductions registered by MADS in the framework of subnational or national programmes of GHG emission reductions will no longer be available for any other party to claim the results achieved</p> <p>The Government of Colombia covenants that no other party will have a competing claim to the results proposed to GCF</p>	Complete

<sup>4</sup> See <<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Normograma/Ley%201753%20de%202015.pdf>>.



	<p>in accordance with national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks</p> <p>Emission reductions will be used towards the achievement of Colombia's nationally determined contribution. As such, the results achieved during the reference period (2015–2016) will be accounted against the NDC to EICDGB and the crediting will be registered at the national level (RENARE platform) (renare.siac.gov.co)</p>	
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A covenant provided that no other party has a competing claim to the results proposed to GCF in accordance with national policy, legal or regulatory frameworks</p>	A covenant is included in the term sheet	Complete
<b>Section G: Accredited entity fee</b>		
Requirement	Remarks	Status (Complete/Pending)
Is the proposed list of activities clearly specified and justifiable as part of the accredited entity fee?	Yes. The accredited entity fee includes properly justified information on the use of the expected fees by the accredited entity	Complete
Is the fee amount considered reasonable and justifiable?	The agreed amount was 3.5%, which is reasonable considering the nature of this results-based payments proposal, which requires fewer responsibilities from the accredited entity to GCF and a simplified reporting. However, it is also acknowledged that the accredited entity will need to implement additional activities specific to REDD-plus	Complete
Is the proposed list of activities justifiable as part of the project management cost (PMC)?	The proposed activities included in the PMC seem reasonable	Complete
Is the PMC amount considered adequate and justifiable?	Although the PMC seem significantly high compared with other projects with similar activities, the amount was	Complete

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	defined in agreement between the host country and the accredited entity, considering that the PMC are included within the payments provided to the host country	
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## Independent Technical Advisory Panel's assessment of FP134

Proposal name:	Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016
Accredited entity:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Country:	Colombia
Project/programme size:	Small

### I. Scorecard application

1. The independent Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), with the support of a Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) expert with experience in REDD-plus assessment and analysis selected from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) roster of experts assessed the proposal “Colombia REDD-plus results-based payments for results period 2015–2016” using the scorecard included in the terms of reference for the REDD-plus results-based payments (RBP) pilot programme.

#### 1.1 Summary of scorecard results

Scorecard section		Results	
Carbon elements		Score: 38	All criteria “pass”
Non-carbon elements	Cancun Safeguards	All criteria “pass”	
	Use of proceeds and non-carbon benefits	Score: 2	

2. Based on the scorecard results and following the terms of reference procedures, the independent TAP recommends that the Board consider the following:

- (a) GCF volume of emission reductions: 5,504,024 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq);
- (b) Additional 2.5 per cent for use of proceeds and non-carbon elements; and
- (c) Proposed REDD-plus RBP (USD 5/tCO<sub>2</sub>eq): USD 28,208,123.

### II. Main findings

3. The following paragraphs describe the main findings on those sections of the scorecard where the assessment was found to be lower than the maximum score for each criterion (see the annex for further details):

- (a) **B.1(i) Consistency between the forest reference emissions level (FREL)/forest reference level and the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory:** in paragraph 49 of the

UNFCCC technical assessment report (TAR) published in 2015 the assessment team (AT) concluded that the FREL was not consistent with the GHG inventory provided in Colombia's second national communication. However, it recognized and considered a useful development that Colombia would update the GHG inventories in its first biennial update report (BUR) and third national communication, making the inventories consistent with the FREL (in terms of forest definition, emission factors, activity data and equations used). The conclusion was based on a comparison carried out by the AT (TAR, para. 33) between the historical deforestation data used to estimate the FREL and the data in the most recent GHG inventory submitted by Colombia to the UNFCCC secretariat used to estimate deforestation. The conversions of forest and grassland in the inventory were used as a proxy to the FREL estimate. A considerable difference was found between the two estimates but potential reasons for the difference could not be identified by the AT. With this analysis, the conclusion was that the FREL was not consistent with the GHG inventory. The score of 1 instead of zero assigned to this question is justified by the fact that the FREL was consistent with the inventory in the BUR with data, methodologies and definitions consistent with those used in the FREL construction;

(b) **B.1(ii) Adjustment of the FREL for high forest cover and low deforestation (HFLD) countries:**

Colombia has claimed HFLD country status. The natural forest area in Colombia (as at 2018) was 52.6 per cent of the country's territory and because the scorecard does not provide a threshold for the definition of a high forest country the independent TAP accepted Colombia's HFLD country status (different programmes/studies use different definitions of high forest). Regarding low deforestation, the country's deforestation rate indicates that it is not high but for this requirement again no clear definition or threshold is provided in the scorecard. Colombia's annual average deforestation rate was 0.23 per cent in the FREL period (2000–2012) and 0.26 per cent for the results period. The independent TAP accepted that deforestation in the historical period was low. The TAR accepted and assessed Colombia's adjusted FREL. According to the GCF REDD+ RBP Pilot Programme, HFLD countries are allowed to use an adjusted FREL (up to 10 per cent). The FREL of Colombia assessed by UNFCCC was based on an upward adjustment factor of 10 per cent over the historical average of emissions from deforestation for the reference period (2000–2012). This adjustment was justified by the country to take into account national circumstances that could lead to increased deforestation in the near future due to the end of the armed conflict in the country. Deforestation trends in 2017 and 2018 confirmed this assumption when deforestation was doubled. The REDD-plus RBP pilot programme allows the HFLD status of countries to be taken into consideration and the adjusted FREL to be accepted but with two eligibility criteria: (1) the FREL adjustment does not exceed 10 per cent (Colombia is in compliance with this requirement); and (2) that the FREL adjustment does not exceed 0.1 per cent of carbon stocks over the eligibility period in the relevant national or subnational area. This problem with eligibility criteria was solved during the independent TAP assessment process (see the annex for further details);

(c) **B.1(vii) Accuracy of the FREL (the data and methodologies used neither overestimated nor underestimated emissions and/or removals during the reference period, so far as can be judged):** in the TAR, the AT indicates areas for further improvements that could increase the accuracy of the FREL. Among these, the AT notes that the value used for carbon density for the Colombian Amazon biome, although consistent with international data, is not based on sample plots distributed according to statistical principles. However, Colombia is expecting to implement its national forest inventory over the period 2015–2017 and the data from this inventory

will increase the accuracy of the carbon estimates (TAR, para. 48). Colombia has not included in the FREL pools or activities for which the country is unable to evaluate accurately, which provides confidence that the data used in the construction of the FREL do not overestimate or underestimate the emissions from reducing deforestation, so far as can be judged. Colombia has not provided the overall accuracy of the area estimates and mentions that reference data, consisting of an independent sample, will be used in the future to allow this evaluation. The AT indicates in paragraph 50 of the TAR that application of the adjustment for the current FREL would not apply in the case where an agreement to end the conflict is not reached under the peace process. Since the definition of accuracy in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines includes uncertainties being reduced as far as practicable, the FREL may not meet this requirement. The score is 1;

- (d) **B.1(viii) Inclusion of the most significant sources:** the FREL is constructed taking into consideration only the activity reducing emissions from deforestation, which the AT considers to be the most significant activity in the Colombian Amazon biome (tropical rainforest) (TAR, para. 45). However, the AT notes that forest degradation is potentially a significant activity and thus considers that it would be useful to describe the work being undertaken to address this issue in a future submission (TAR, para. 27). The AT considers that the results for forest degradation are too uncertain to be considered for inclusion in the FREL. In its latest submitted FREL (2019), not yet submitted to technical assessment, Colombia indicates that the country is working on the development of methodologies for the detection and monitoring of this activity, and that the advances made do not yet allow the inclusion of emissions from forest degradation in the FREL with low levels of uncertainty. The score is 1;
- (e) **B.1(xiv) Comparison with previous reference levels:** No previous reference levels have been submitted. The score is 1;
- (f) **B.1(xv) Inclusion of information on aggregate uncertainties:** Colombia has not provided information on aggregate uncertainties related to its FREL. The score is 0;
- (g) **B.2(v) Accuracy of data and information provided in the technical annex:** paragraph 39 of the UNFCCC report on the technical analysis of the technical annex to Colombia's second BUR notes that the information provided by Colombia allowed the accuracy of the estimation of the activity data and carbon stocks in the Amazon biome to be assessed and that given the assumptions used, it was concluded that the results are accurate to the extent possible. However, the experts noted that Colombia did not include information on the uncertainty of the results in the technical annex to its second BUR, which would allow them to assess the accuracy. In addition, the assessed FREL was equal to 51,599,618.7 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq but this result was wrongly calculated. The correct value for the FREL is 51,612,072.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. This mistake was identified when calculating the results for 2013 and 2014, this is reflected in paragraph 24 of TATR-1, and is correctly reflected in the FP. The score is 1. (see the annex for further details); and
- (h) **B.2(vii) Aggregate uncertainties for results:** Colombia has not provided information on aggregate uncertainties related to its FREL. The score is 0.

## 2.1 Impact potential

*Scale: Medium*

4. This funding proposal was submitted by Colombia under the GCF REDD-plus RBP pilot programme. In the initial funding proposal Colombia offered emission reductions of 9,416,633 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2015 and 2016 for RBP. Assessment of accuracy and reliability of presented results are provided in the scorecard (annex to this report) and are based on technical assessment (TA)

of Colombia's FREL (Forest Reference Emission Level) and technical report on technical analysis of results conducted under the UNFCCC TA process.

5. During the review process two key problems were identified by the independent TAP:
  - (a) Colombia's adjusted FREL might not be eligible for payment under the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme, as detailed in section B.1 (ii) of Annex ; and
  - (b) The assessment of safeguard risk factors (annex 5 to the funding proposal) based on the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility ER Program buffer guidelines<sup>1</sup> had not been sufficiently accurate and the results would have been much higher if the reversal of the deforestation rate that occurred in 2017 and 2018 had been taken into account;
6. During the communication with the accredited entity both of these findings were resolved, as follows:
  - (a) The FREL annual adjustment amount (4,690,874 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) was reduced so as to be in compliance with the scorecard eligibility criteria, by 166,184.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq annually for the whole eligible period of 2013–2017;
  - (b) The safeguard risks matrix (annex 5) was revised and all risks components considered in the matrix were requalified as “high”, which led to a maximum score of 40 per cent, and the relevant amount of eligible emission reductions for 2015–2016 was deactivated under the reversal risks. The 21 per cent initially provided was increased to 40 per cent; and
  - (c) As a result of these deactivations and scoring, the amount of emission reductions offered initially to GCF for payment was reduced to 5,504,024 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq and the initially requested payment was reduced to USD 28,208,123.
7. According to the funding proposal, the annual deforestation rate in the Colombian Amazon region considered under the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme was quite low with an average rate of 0.24 per cent in the last 18 years and the lowest value of 0.19 per cent in 2013. The 0.36 per cent deforestation rate was reached during 2017 and 2018 and is associated with post-conflict dynamics which had a substantial impact on the deforestation rates.
8. Key drivers of deforestation in Colombia are quite broad and related to legal and illegal processes ongoing in the country, including infrastructure development, agricultural activities, illegal logging, cropping and mining and land-grabbing related to the post-conflict peace keeping process. Since the signing of the peace agreement with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia the exponential increase of deforestation in productive areas for coca crops<sup>2</sup> and the suspension of aerial spraying operations of coca fields with glyphosate are key contributors to the deforestation process. Land titling is also considered as a potential trigger for an increase in land speculation associated with land clearing.<sup>3</sup> More detailed analyses of key drivers of deforestation in Colombia is provided in the report *Nearing the Tipping Point: Drivers of Deforestation in the Amazon Region* (2019).<sup>4</sup>
9. The national readiness process for REDD-plus was launched in Colombia in 2009 with support from various international cooperation partners (including the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the Forest

<sup>1</sup>Available at [https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/FCPF%20ER%20Program%20Buffer%20Guidelines\\_0.pdf](https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/FCPF%20ER%20Program%20Buffer%20Guidelines_0.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Available at [https://www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/Colombia/Colombia\\_Survey\\_territories\\_affected\\_illicit\\_crops\\_2017\\_Summary.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/Colombia/Colombia_Survey_territories_affected_illicit_crops_2017_Summary.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Available at <https://www.elspectador.com/opinion/titulacion-motor-de-la-deforestacion-columna-700293>

<sup>4</sup> Available at <https://www.thedialogue.org/analysis/nearing-the-tipping-point-drivers-of-deforestation-in-the-amazon-region/>.



Carbon Partnership Facility and the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation). As the result of this international support the Integrated Strategy to Control Deforestation and Manage Forests (EICDGB)<sup>5</sup> was launched in 2018 by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. The REDD+ National Strategy is part of the EICDGB which constitutes a bridge between green growth and climate change national policies in support of the implementation of the international agreements ratified by the country. The purpose of EICDGB is to control deforestation and forest degradation by addressing the complexity of drivers and causes. The legal baseline for REDD-plus was prepared taking into account the national regulatory framework, where the scope of application and the subjects of rights issues were identified.

10. EICDGB envisions a complete reduction in deforestation by 2030, with forest management evolving into a fundamental axis in sustainable rural development, from a differential, sectoral and territorial approach, improving the well-being and livelihoods of local communities and society in general, while promoting the conservation of biodiversity and the ecosystem services, including adaptation and mitigation to climate change. Specifically, according to EICDGB, by 2030 Colombia will have:

- (a) A positive trade balance of the forestry sector;
- (b) Zero gross deforestation;<sup>6</sup>
- (c) A reduction in emissions of 32.4 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq from avoided deforestation;
- (d) Strengthened territorial governance of ethnic groups, rural and urban communities that live in and depend on forests; and
- (e) Improved quality of life of the local population in forest areas.

11. Within the REDD-plus readiness process (2009–2017) Colombia has established a forest and carbon monitoring system, national forest information system and national forest inventory in order to assess the effectiveness of the implemented actions and to inform results in reducing deforestation. These are tools for generating the information of national reports (nationally determined contribution (NDC), national communications, BUR, FREL, etc.). The country also has a measurement/monitoring, reporting and verification system to ensure standardization, and the quality and consistency of the reported data. The system is based on the data generated by the forest and carbon monitoring system, the national forest information system, the national forest inventory and the national GHG inventory. In 2015 and 2016 Colombia developed the national registry of emissions for avoiding double counting and double payment of emission reductions generated from REDD-plus programmes and projects. It establishes clear accounting rules for public and private initiatives at the regional and national level.

12. Among the different programmes implemented in Colombia since 2009 (see funding proposal, figure 1) the Amazon Vision Programme (AVP) and REDD Early Movers project under AVP are of particularly note.

13. To achieve the objectives of EICDGB, the strategies of the national development plan and NDC, Colombia is implementing AVP, an umbrella programme formulated by the national government that seeks to reduce emissions from deforestation in the Colombian Amazon. In the case of successful implementation, AVP could reduce significant amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> otherwise released into the atmosphere. This emission reduction process will be accompanied by substantial co-benefits in the form of improved smallholder farmer livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and sustainable governance of forest. AVP consists of several ongoing projects

<sup>5</sup> Available at <[https://redd.unfccc.int/files/eicdgb\\_bosques\\_territorios\\_de\\_vida\\_web.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/eicdgb_bosques_territorios_de_vida_web.pdf)>.

<sup>6</sup> Defined as loss of tree cover below a certain threshold; forest regeneration is not counted.

from bilateral and multilateral cooperations. These projects have made important investments in strengthening the management effectiveness of the national parks and their buffer zones, increasing forest governance, enhancing capacities of local communities, indigenous peoples and authorities, supporting the national forest monitoring system, promoting sectoral programmes to involve the private sector and enhancing sustainable land use and natural resources management practices that contribute to reducing pressure on forests and reducing deforestation. The following five projects are considered within AVP:

- (a) The Heart of the Amazon project, financed by the fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility for the period 2015–2018, focusing on management and sustainable financing of protected areas;
- (b) The Connectivity and Biodiversity Conservation in the Colombian Amazon project, financed by the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility for the period 2018–2025;
- (c) The AVP REDD Early Movers project, funded by Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, for the period 2016–2021 (for further details of this programme see paras. 14–18 below);
- (d) The Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015–2016, financed by the GCF REDD-plus RBP pilot programme, for the period 2020–2025 (current proposal); and
- (e) The Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Programme: A regional project in formulation for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility for the period 2021–2016.

14. The AVP REDD Early Movers project is the first RBP scheme to be implemented in Colombia with the objective of reducing deforestation in the Amazon region. Its strategy considers five areas of activities:

- (a) Improvement of forest governance: this activity focuses on the institutional strengthening of the management of forest resources and effective land-use planning;
- (b) Sustainable sectoral planning and development: this activity is oriented to design processes with the transport infrastructure and energy and mining sectors, which have an impact on current and future land development and planning;
- (c) Sustainable agroenvironmental planning: this activity addresses the direct causes of deforestation through two strategies: zero net deforestation agreements with local associations; and the promotion of instruments for forest conservation and the adoption of sustainable agroenvironmental practices;
- (d) Environmental governance with indigenous peoples: this activity focuses on strengthening the capacity of indigenous communities in the conservation and sustainable use of the forest in their territories, through strengthening their capacity for territorial governance based on their traditions, knowledge and sustainable productive practices; and
- (e) Enabling conditions: this transversal activity aims to develop a set of actions that facilitate the implementation of the other four, including the strengthening of Colombia's forest and carbon monitoring system and national forest inventory.

15. The AVP REDD Early Movers project was developed based on Colombia's specific agreement with the Governments of Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom and was signed in February 2016. This programme established RBP, which was conditional on the preparation of a report on emission reduction, verification of results, registration of the reduction in emissions from avoiding deforestation during the five-year period from 2013 to 2017 and the

deactivation of part of the emission reductions as a risk management activity (see para. 16 below). The agreement also establishes that the AVP REDD Early Movers project will operate within the framework of the FREL that Colombia submitted to UNFCCC establishing that only emission reductions below the historical average of gross deforestation (82,883 ha/year) will be remunerated. For the carbon content, the FREL uses a value of 154.3 t carbon/ha for the forests of the reference region, which represents an emission factor of 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq/ha. The independent TAP has to inform the Board that the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme allows HFLD status countries to submit an adjusted FREL if it satisfies the eligibility criteria set by GCF. Therefore, the amount of emission reductions paid for by GCF is calculated based not on a historical annual average FREL but on an adjusted FREL satisfying GCF criteria (see details in para. 5 above).

16. The amount of emission reductions submitted by the country to obtain the RBP is generated in the same period (2013–2017), which is covered by the AVP REDD Early Movers project and belongs to 2015 and 2016 emission reductions. The amount of emission reductions submitted initially was 9,416,633 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq but after scoring the results according to the GCF scorecard and eligibility criteria as well as the revision of the reversal risk the final amount equals 5,504,061.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq, with a relevant amount of payment from GCF of USD 28,208,315.4.

17. Regarding risk management, as part of the REDD Early Movers agreement Colombia agreed on a mechanism to address the risks of leakage outside the reference area, non-permanence and uncertainties. Thus, in order to reduce these risks Colombia has deactivated for each unit of emission reductions paid for by the AVP REDD Early Movers project another verified emission reduction unit of the same year, as an own contribution. Units of own contribution are also registered by the country in the national registry to avoid double counting. It was agreed that this arrangement would be revised every year during the implementation of the project, following verification.<sup>7</sup>

18. Transparency in monitoring the emission reductions offered and remunerated has been ensured by the Colombian Government through making the monitoring process public. In particular, an interim registry was established where all the reports on emission reductions with their respective independent verification reports, the emission reductions in the period 2013–2017, and the official communication payments of the AVP REDD Early Movers project and voluntary market are publicly available.<sup>8</sup> Results already remunerated and relevant donors (except of voluntary market information) are also uploaded to the UNFCCC Lima REDD+ information hub.<sup>9</sup>

19. Three key activities planned to be implemented with GCF proceeds fully contribute to the outputs and activities of the EICDGB action lines and the pillars of the AVP umbrella programme. The links between the above-mentioned three programmes (EICDGB, AVP, REDD+RBP) are well demonstrated in table 7 in the funding proposal. The following activities are planned to be implemented with GCF proceeds:

- (a) Strengthening national and local capacities for monitoring and control of deforestation;
- (b) Contributing to the sustainable management of forest areas and closing the agricultural frontier; and
- (c) Strengthening the territorial governance and capacities of indigenous peoples for forest management and conservation.

20. A benefit-sharing mechanism builds upon the experience and lessons learned from AVP. From the benefit-sharing mechanism provided in the funding proposal (figure 5) the

<sup>7</sup> The 2016 revision was 1:1 to 1:0.9.

<sup>8</sup> Available at <http://renare.siac.gov.co/GPY-web/#/ingresar>.

<sup>9</sup> See <https://redd.unfccc.int/info-hub.html>.

independent TAP would like to highlight as most important the share (80 per cent: 30 per cent for indigenous peoples; 40 per cent for local community associations; 5 per cent for regional environment authorities and 5 per cent for municipalities) allocated to the activities at the local level and for the inclusion of the indigenous population. In particular:

- (a) Regional environmental authorities will be supported in increasing their capacities for monitoring forests in their jurisdictions. The development of 17 national deforestation early warning systems will be also supported. GCF funds will support the design and implementation of a green municipalities programme targeted to those municipalities that possess large areas of forest and need support to strengthen their capacities (technical and financial) to reduce deforestation. The concept of incentives for green municipalities that include payments per results from the national government and mechanisms to attract private sector partners that may be interested in sourcing from municipalities committed to zero deforestation initiated by the AVP REDD Early Movers project will be implemented in the 15 municipalities (funding proposal, table 15) with the biggest areas of natural forest and highest deforestation rates in the Amazon biome; and
- (b) GCF proceeds will support the implementation of a community-based forestry programme targeted at designing and establishing at least eight community-based forestry units (80,000 ha).<sup>10</sup> A community-based forestry unit will be considered as a unit managed by a local association of farmers or indigenous peoples that develop sustainable forest management activities involving the commercial use of several species of timber and non-timber forest products and agricultural products derived from the transformation<sup>11</sup> of existing conventional agricultural areas into more sustainable and low-carbon production systems. These units will implement a landscape management approach that integrates forest management and agriculture systems, and provides other services such as ecotourism.

21. Despite the independent TAP considers that Colombia is on the right track to implementing its REDD-plus programme and integrating REDD-plus activities into EICDGB, which constitutes a bridge between green growth and climate change national policies, and supports the GCF proceeds-sharing scheme, the independent TAP is of the opinion that at this stage of REDD-plus implementation it is not possible to gain significant impact. This opinion could be supported by the technical analysis report produced by the UNFCCC secretariat highlighting high uncertainties and low accuracy of activity data and emission factors in the calculation of results, as well as by the ongoing increase in the deforestation process in 2017 and 2018. Therefore, the potential impact of GCF proceeds is considered as important but not enough for high impact.

## 2.2 Paradigm shift potential

*Scale: High*

22. The paradigm shift process in the forestry sector started in Colombia in 2018 when the government launched the implementation of EICDGB. An ambitious action plan was developed for implementing EICDGB which envisions a transformation from unsustainable and inefficient development models that have generated profound changes in land uses without addressing the social and economic needs of local populations. In this context EICDGB seeks to encompass

<sup>10</sup> The size of forestry-units will be based on areas of about 10,000 ha that regional environmental authorities historically have defined for granting management permits.

<sup>11</sup> Transformation of conventional agricultural systems includes the promotion of sustainable food security models, implementation of good practices in agrifood systems, conversion of traditional agricultural and livestock production systems to sustainable systems, establishment of agricultural production models with forestry components (e.g. agroforestry, silvopastoral) and recovery of soils and degraded areas.

forest governance comprehensively and make a long-term commitment to move to forest-based sustainable rural development which contributes to improving the quality of life of rural communities, guaranteeing the multiple benefits derived from forest conservation and contributing to the reduction of GHG emissions and climate change mitigation.

23. GCF proceeds paid for the emission reduction results achieved in 2015 and 2016 will be used by the project for the closing of existing gaps in sustainable management and strengthening the paradigm shift process, which has already been initiated in Colombia, through the EICDGB and REDD plus processes as an integral part of this strategy.

24. Within the context of paradigm shift the following should be highlighted: decentralization of the forest management process when addressing the deforestation drivers such as agricultural production, land-use change and other high-impact activities; benefit-sharing schemes with maximum inclusion of local governments and indigenous populations; and capacity-building of territorial governance in monitoring and information management.

25. The independent TAP is of the opinion that the potential of this project to strengthen the ongoing paradigm shift process in the Colombian forestry sector and economic development is high.

## 2.3 Sustainable development potential

*Scale: High*

26. The GCF proceeds will contribute to the EICDGB and REDD-plus implementation processes, which are focused on the creation of an enabling environment to sustainable development by achieving systemic changes at the local, regional and national level.

27. EICDGB is a trans-sectoral policy instrument recognizing the sociocultural, economic and environmental importance of forest ecosystems, as well as their potential as a development option that contributes to the ongoing peace-building process in Colombia.

28. A significant contribution to sustainable development will be provided by Colombia while implementing the REDD-plus Cancun Safeguards in accordance with UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16. In particular, the implementation of safeguard F (be consistent with Parties' national sustainable development needs and goals) is interpreted as follows:<sup>12</sup>

- (a) **Environmental and territorial management:** REDD-plus initiatives support the consolidation of instruments of territorial and environmental planning foreseen in the country's legislation, under a focus on conservation and sustainable management of the forest. In order to ensure long-term sustainability, measures and actions articulate their planning and management instruments in line with a territorial vision; and
- (b) **Sectoral planning:** REDD-plus actions of a sectoral nature are proposed based on environmental and territorial management instruments, as well as legislation related to the conservation of forests and their biodiversity. When a sector defines and implements REDD-plus actions, these must be articulated with national legislation that protects forests, their conservation and the diversity they contain. Similarly, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Policies, Actions and Measures (PAMs), it is important to consider projections and a sectoral development layout for a region at the time of designing interventions in the territory. They must start from the recognition, respect and articulation with the instruments of existing environmental and territorial planning.

<sup>12</sup> See <<https://www.unredd.net/documents/un-redd-partner-countries-181/latin-america-the-caribbean-334/colombia-706/16783-interpretacion-nacional-de-las-salvaguardas-sociales-y-ambientales-para-redd-en-colombia.html>>.



29. With the approach considered in the funding proposal the REDD-plus programme of Colombia will contribute as a minimum to the following indicators under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- (a) SDG 1: No poverty. By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance;
- (b) SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth. Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead;
- (c) SDG 10: Reduced inequalities. Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard. By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status;
- (d) SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production. Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries;
- (e) SDG 13: Climate action. Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning;
- (f) SDG 15: Life on land. By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally. Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed;
- (g) SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions. Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime. Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development. Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels; and
- (h) SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals. Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation.

30. The independent TAP is of the opinion that the potential of the GCF proceeds to contribute to the sustainable development process of Colombia is high.

## 2.4 Needs of the recipient

*Scale: High*



31. The independent TAP focused on two key directions when assessing the needs of the recipient: its NDC and the implementation of the peace agreement.
32. Colombia's mitigation goal set out in the NDC document is reducing national GHG emissions by 20 per cent (67 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq) with respect to a baseline projected for 2030 (335 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq) unilaterally. This target could be increased to 30 per cent if international support is provided. Colombia also proposed in its NDC a reference level of deforestation of 304,000 ha for the period 2013–2030, which corresponds to the historical average of the period 1990–2010 plus 10 per cent in relation to national circumstances associated with a post-conflict scenario. For deforestation an overall budget of a 22 per cent from the NDC target was assigned. Owing to the complexity of causes and drivers of deforestation (direct causes such as deforestation as a result of road construction and indirect causes derived from socioeconomic dynamics such as agricultural colonization and expansion from the agricultural frontier), the emission reduction activities against deforestation are distributed among the productive sectors (energy and mining, agriculture, transport, household, industry and environment), which are co-responsible in deforestation and have capacities to contribute to reducing GHG emissions. Thus, different sectors should develop actions to contribute to the reduction of deforestation and its associated emissions, within the Colombian NDC framework.
33. The agriculture, forestry and other land use sector is included in Colombia's NDC as the largest source of GHG emissions in the country due to land-use change from forest lands to pastures and crops. Thus, the project will contribute to the country's efforts to implement activities to reduce emissions from forest lost by reducing existing pressure on these ecosystems and generating production alternatives for local smallholders and indigenous peoples. The potential mitigation benefits associated with the activities implemented using GCF proceeds have not yet been calculated but Colombia is currently gathering field data from sustainable forest management activities to address this.
34. It is important to note that with regard to the agriculture, forestry and other land use sector, the mitigation actions planned by the national government to achieve the goal of reducing emissions by 2030 include:
  - (a) Implementation of 554,000 ha of intensive silvopastoral systems;
  - (b) Increased productivity of pastures and implementation of sustainable management of the cattle herd;
  - (c) Rehabilitation of 50,000 ha of pastures in the Orinoquia region;
  - (d) Establishment of 1.21 million ha in forest plantations and fruit crops with a value chain approach;
  - (e) Ecological restoration of 1 million ha;
  - (f) Deforestation avoided in the Colombian Amazon;
  - (g) Promotion of better practices in the fertilization of rice in 147,000 ha of crops.
35. An additional 10 per cent of the goal set by the national government will imply greater international cooperation, whose resources will be used to achieve zero net deforestation at the national level and increase areas under restoration by 3.5 million ha.
36. According to the funding proposal, the post conflict situation has had important impacts in increasing deforestation in the Amazon region, in part due to the lack of economic alternatives for local communities, which see the exploitation of natural resources and the establishment of extensive pasturelands for new cattle ranching as an alternative to improve livelihoods. This lack of opportunities and the presence of illegal economies based on illegal mining, land-grabbing and cultivating illegal crops create a scenario that generates social

conflicts around forest areas. The post-conflict situation has also increased threats to indigenous lands; these areas have been affected by deforestation and environmental conflicts, both associated with the above-mentioned illegal activities.

37. The power gap that emerged following the signing of the peace treaty with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia has to be filled, as a matter of urgency, with legitimate local governance and law enforcement structures, to which this component and its activities will make a significant contribution.

38. The needs of the country regarding international support and in particular in the management of deforestation processes has been assessed by the independent TAP as very high.

## 2.5 Country ownership

*Scale: High*

39. The REDD-plus RBP pilot programme is a part of EICDGB, which is consistent with the National Climate Change Policy, the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services, the policy document of the National System of Protected Areas CONPES 3680, the Policy of Sustainable Soil Management, the National Restoration Plan and the National Forestry Development Plan.

40. EICDGB, to which this project contributes, is part of a broader vision of the country for the peace process and sustainable agrarian development. One of the 2030 goals of this strategy is reducing emissions by 32.4 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq from avoided deforestation.

41. During the EICDGB development process, Colombia received technical and financial assistance from a number of international cooperation initiatives. These provided support in enabling conditions such as the formulation of EICDGB and implementation of the consultation process, design and implementation of GHG monitoring systems and other instruments, development of regulations to support the implementation of REDD-plus instruments and projects, formulation and implementation of projects aimed at reducing deforestation in the Amazon region, among other activities relevant to achieving results. Key initiatives implemented under EICDGB are:

- (a) The United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation implemented by the United Nations Development Programme in close coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and national institutes;
- (b) The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank implemented by Fondo Acción; and
- (c) Protection of Forests and the Climate REDD+ programme implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit.

42. Despite the progress made by the AVP REDD Early Movers project addressing deforestation drivers in areas close to the agricultural frontier, as presented in the evaluation of AVP, forest management activities still have not had the public budget allocation expected to develop a real transformation at the local level. Given this situation and the goals of EICDGB and the national development plan, the Government of Colombia has identified the need to complement ongoing efforts by consolidating a forest economy based on the goods and services from the forest, integrated into low-carbon rural models.

43. Despite AVP not being supported by the public budget, the independent TAP is of the opinion that political ownership from the government is well demonstrated in the programme.



## 2.6 Efficiency and effectiveness

*Scale: Medium*

44. Taking into consideration that in 2017 and 2018 Colombia lost control of the deforestation process mainly as a consequence of the peace agreement, the independent TAP, in its assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of total REDD-plus programme for the period 2013-2017 and implementation of the GCF proceeds, evaluated the emission reduction generation and payment trends for the whole eligible period (2013–2017) of the FREL. The results of the evaluation are provided in the table below.

### Total emission reductions generated, remunerated and deactivated in 2013–2017

For the period 2013–2016							
	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) generated	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) deactivated by GCF for eligibility	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) after deactivation from GCF	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) deactivated before submission to GCF	ER paid REM AVP, tCO <sub>2</sub>		ER paid by voluntary market, tCO <sub>2</sub>
2013	13,544,112.0	166,184.3	13,377,968.0	4,270,411.0	4,270,411.0		3,615,316.0
2014	15,439,415.0	166,184.3	15,273,271.0	5,159,235.0	5,159,235.0		3,548,787.0
2015	19,365,884.0	166,184.3	19,199,740.0	4,441,449.0	4,441,449.0		3,548,786.0
2016	12,103,043.0	166,184.3	11,942,905.0	3,235,472.0	3,594,968.0		293,023.0
2017		166,184.3					
total (tCO <sub>2</sub> )	60,458,460.0	830,921.6	59,627,740.0	17,106,567.0	17,466,063.0		11,005,912.0
	Total paid and deactivated (tCO <sub>2</sub> )		Total available (tCO <sub>2</sub> )				
	45,578,542.0		14,049,198.0				
For the period 2015–2016							
	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) generated	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) deactivated by GCF	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) eligible for GCF for the period	ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) deactivated before submission to GCF	ER paid REM AVP, (tCO <sub>2</sub> )		ER (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) paid by voluntary market
2015	19,365,884.7	166,184.3	19,199,700.4	4,441,449.0	4,441,449.0		3,548,786.0
2016	12,103,048.8	166,184.3	11,942,864.5	3,235,471.0	3,594,968.0		293,023.0
total	31,474,933.6	332,368.6	31,142,564.9	7,676,920.0	8,036,417.0		3,841,809.0
	Total paid and deactivated (CO <sub>2</sub> ) in 2015–2016	Total available (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) in 2015–2016	Deactivated by GCF Buffer 40% (tCO <sub>2</sub> )	Available and eligible for the GCF (tCO <sub>2</sub> )	Available after scoring (tCO <sub>2</sub> )		Remaining ERs (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) deactivated by GCF after scoring
	19,887,514.6	11,587,418.9	4,634,967.6	6,952,451.4	5,504,024.0		4,242,415.4
				Payment	USD 2.50%	27,520,120.0	
						28,208,123.0	
	Total deactivated (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) by GCF	Total deactivated (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) in 2013–2016	Surplus emission (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) in 2017	Should be deactivated (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) in 2018–2022			
	9,708,304.5	26,814,871.5	29,989,543.8	-3,174,672.3			

Abbreviations: “ER”: Emission Reductions, “REM”: REDD+ Early Movers, “AVP”: Amazon Vision Programme.

45. The table above demonstrates that from all emission reductions generated and verified by the UNFCCC technical assessment process GCF payment covers about 9 per cent of emission reductions generated for the total period 2013–2017 and 17.5 per cent of emission reductions generated in 2015–2016. Twenty-eight per cent of generated emission reductions was deactivated by the AVP REDD Early Movers project and 16 per cent by GCF for the total period of 2013–2017, including 24 per cent deactivated by the AVP REDD Early Movers project and 30 per cent by GCF of emission reductions generated in 2015–2016. In total, payment for the period 2013-2017 breaks down into 56 per cent of generated emission reductions and 44 per cent deactivated. Deactivated emission reductions for the period 2013–2017 (26,814,871.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) are not enough to cover the surplus emissions (29,989,543.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) that occurred in 2017 and therefore the remaining -3,174,672.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq surplus from 2017 should be

compensated in the next period (see the independent TAP conditions in para. 48 below) through deactivation of the same amount of ERs.

46. The independent TAP fully recognizes that it is not relevant to rely on the high efficiency of REDD Early Movers or GCF project implementation results under the current national circumstances established after the peace agreement, that is, a vacuum of governability occupied by illegal armed groups, resulting in land-grabbing. High efficiency could be anticipated once local conditions stabilize. The independent TAP considers that GCF proceeds might be crucial in stabilizing the deforestation process as long as the government activities planned to be implemented with GCF proceeds are correctly targeted, particularly at increasing the technical capacities (monitoring and early warning systems) of local governments.

47. The independent TAP is of the opinion that the entire REDD-plus approach, benefit-sharing concept and target areas for the use of GCF proceeds, decentralization of the capacity-building process and increased participation of local and indigenous population as well as vertical coordination of the decentralization process could be considered as a way of risk reduction and regaining control of deforestation.

### **III. Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel**

48. Taking into consideration the great need and urgency of the country to revert deforestation, particularly given the increase experienced in the Amazon biome in 2017, which, in the opinion of the independent TAP is adequately evidenced by the country's efforts in the decentralization of monitoring and early warning systems and strengthening vertical coordination in the deforestation management process, the independent TAP recommends the funding proposal for approval to the Board, with the following conditions:

- (a) to increase the country's ambition in reducing emissions from deforestation during the implementation period of the project, in such a manner that at least reverts the emission surplus which was generated in the period covering years 2013 to 2017 inclusive (i.e. 3,174,672.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), as reflected in the independent TAP assessment report;
- (b) report in the APRs to be submitted to the Fund on the actions taken and progress by the country in increasing its ambition to reduce emissions from deforestation in accordance with roman (a) above, including how the actions are reflected in the corresponding national registry.

## Annex: Scorecard

Section A: Proposed and projected REDD-plus results		
Criteria	Status (Yes/No)	Remarks
Does the total volume of achieved results indicated in the proposal match the results indicated in the biennial update report (BUR) during the results period (31 December 2013 to 31 December 2018)?	Yes	<p>The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) report on the technical analysis of the technical annex to the BUR (TATR) (2019) does not provide an assessment of the whole period (31 December 2013 to 31 December 2018), but only for the period 2015–2016 submitted to GCF</p> <p>The TATR confirms that the total volume of emission reductions for the period 2015–2016 is 31,474,933.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq (sum of emission reduction for 2015, equal to 19,365,884.7 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq and for 2016, equal to 12,109,048.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</p>
Is the volume of achieved results offered to the pilot programme equal to or less than the total volume of achieved results indicated in the BUR during the results period?	Yes	<p>It is less than the total volume of achieved results for 2015 and 2016, since emission reductions have already been paid for by the Amazon Vision Programme (AVP) REDD Early Movers project (4,441,449 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2015 and 3,594,968 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2016); have been deactivated in 2015 (4,441,449 tCO<sub>2</sub>) and (3,235,471 tCO<sub>2</sub>) in 2016 in accordance with the requirement of the AVP REDD Early Movers programme; and have been paid by the voluntary market in 2015 (3,548,786 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) and in 2016 (293,023 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq). The total emission reductions already remunerated correspond to 7,990,235 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2015 and 3,887,991 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2016. Total remunerated and deactivated emission reductions are 12,431,684 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2015 and 7,123,462 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2016. Available emission reductions are 6,934,201 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2015 and 4,985,587 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2016. Twenty-one per cent<sup>13</sup> of these available emission reductions, 1,456,182 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2015 and 1,046,973 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2016, will be deactivated</p>

<sup>13</sup> Given that discounts to address non-permanence are not considered under UNFCCC decisions and guidance, but actions to address risk of reversals are included under Cancun Safeguard F, the percentage was determined by: a) taking into account measures to address non-permanence in other RBP initiatives, specifically the FCPF, and b) Colombia's interpretation of Cancun Safeguard F and the actions accomplished to address and respect it.

		as per an interim mechanism to manage risk of reversal within the GCF project. In total, emissions remaining for the pilot programme and submitted to GCF were 9,416,633 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq (5,478,019 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq from 2015 and 3,938,614 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq from 2016)
Is the expected volume of REDD-plus results to be achieved significant compared with the overall level of REDD-plus results achieved in the current funding proposal being submitted?	No	<p>Emissions from deforestation in 2017 and 2018 increased significantly relative to 2015 and 2016 (from 39,503,024.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2016 to 81,601,616.7 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2017 and 78,221,433.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2018). These increases corresponded to a 58.1 per cent and 51.6 per cent rise over the forest reference emission level (FREL), whereas for 2015 and 2016, the emissions decreased by 37.5 per cent and 23.5 per cent, respectively. The country is not eligible for any further payment for the period 2017-2018 because results have not been achieved</p> <p>The emissions of 2018 will be assessed against the recently National FREL submitted to the UNFCCC that is currently under Technical Assessment process.</p>
Is the total volume expected to be submitted to the pilot programme within the available allocation of funding for the pilot programme and below the cap per country?	Yes	As pointed out in the funding proposal, the indicative results have not been achieved for the period 2017–2018 and will not be considered in the following years of the eligibility period of the pilot programme for receiving payments. Emission reductions claimed by the country for the pilot programme is 9,416,633 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq, which is 31.4 per cent of the cap per country established by the programme (30 million tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)
<b>Section B: Carbon elements</b>		
<b>B.1. Forest reference emission level/forest reference level</b>		
Criteria	Score	Remarks
(i) Is the FREL/forest reference level (FRL) consistent with the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, including the definition of forest used?	1	<p>Colombia applied the same Forest definition in the FREL and in the GHGs inventory.</p> <p>In the conclusion of the TAR 2015 (paragraph 49) the LULUCF experts concluded that the FREL is not consistent with the GHG Inventory provided in</p>



		<p>the Second National Communication. However, they recognized and considered a useful development in the FREL according to which Colombia would update the GHG Inventories in its first BUR and its 3<sup>rd</sup> National Communication; thus making the inventories consistent with the FREL (in terms of forest definition, emission factors, activity data, equations used).</p> <p>The conclusion was based on a comparison carried out by the assessment team (paragraph 33 of the TAR) between the historical deforestation data used to estimate the FREL and the deforestation estimated using the data in the most recent GHG inventory submitted by Colombia to the UNFCCC (2<sup>nd</sup> NC). In the inventory the conversions of forest and grassland were used as a “proxy” to the FREL estimate. A large difference was found between the two estimates and potential reasons for the difference were considered.</p> <p>The assessment team (AT) did not consider this further because Colombia explained that a new and improved GHG inventory would be available through the first BUR and the third national communication, and that it would contain estimates that are fully consistent with the FREL (before adjustment), including in respect of forest definition, allometric equations, emission factors and activity data</p> <p>The REDD-plus expert of the independent Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) has verified the updated inventory data in Colombia’s first BUR against the FREL and the score 1 was assigned to this question, instead of zero, because it was confirmed by the expert that the FREL is consistent with the inventory provided in the BUR regarding data, methodologies, and definitions consistent with those used in the FREL construction</p>
<p>(ii) Is the FREL/FRL based on historical data and is it equal to or below the average annual historical emissions during the reference period, unless a country is a high forest and low deforestation (HFLD) country?</p>		<p>Colombia claimed its status as HFLD (high forest low deforestation) country. Natural forest area in Colombia (in 2018) is 52.6% of the country’s territory. The scorecard does not provide any particular threshold for the definition of what constitutes a high forest country. The independent TAP accepted that Colombia is high forest country (existing different programmes/studies used different definitions of high forest). The UNFCCC TA report assessed the adjusted FREL of Colombia.</p> <p>Regarding, low deforestation, the country’s deforestation rate shows that it is not high but for this particular requirement; a clear definition or threshold is not provided in the Scorecard. In Colombia, the annual average deforestation</p>

	2	<p>rate was 0.23% in the period of the FREL (2000-2012) and for the result period it is 0.26%. The independent TAP accepted that deforestation was in the historical period.</p> <p>According to the GCF REDD+ RBP Pilot Programme, HFLD countries are allowed to use an adjusted (up to 10%) FREL. The FREL of Colombia assessed by the UNFCCC was based on an upward adjustment factor of 10 per cent over the historical average of emissions from deforestation for the reference period (2000-2012). This adjustment was justified to take into account national circumstances that could lead to an increased deforestation in the near future due to the end of the armed conflict in the country. Deforestation trends in 2017 and 2018 confirmed this assumption when the deforestation was doubled.</p> <p>The GCF REDD+ RBP pilot programme allows to take into consideration the HFLD status of countries and accepts an adjusted FREL but with two eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adjustment of FREL doesn't exceed 10% of FREL and Colombia is in compliance with this requirement from GCF;</li> <li>• adjustment of FREL doesn't exceed 0.1% of carbon stock over the eligibility period in the relevant national or subnational area.</li> </ul> <p>Colombia's FREL is at subnational level. FREL eligibility period of Colombia corresponds to 5 years: 2013-2017.</p> <p>The FREL submitted by Colombia was not in compliance with the second eligibility criteria (carbon stocks). In particular, FREL states that the FREL forest area in 2012 was 39,973,700 ha. The TAR states that the carbon stock per hectare is 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> eq/ha (TAR paragraph 24). Based on these figures, the carbon stocks in 2012 was 22,629,111,570 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Applying the threshold of 0.1% it equals 22,629,112 t CO<sub>2</sub>eq. The part of the FREL that is the adjustment is 4,692,006.63 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. Applying this over the 5-year eligibility period would mean that the total adjustment over 5 years exceeds the</p>
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		<p>threshold of 0.1% of the carbon stocks (5 x 4,692,006.63 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq = 23,460,033.15) by 830,921.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq over the 5-year eligibility period.</p> <p>The approach presented in the Funding Proposal compares the annual adjustment to the carbon stock of each year, rather than adding the adjustments over the entire period; and comparing them with a single year's carbon stock, i.e.: the carbon stocks in above- and below-ground biomass is 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> eq/ha (paragraph 24 TAR). Forest area (2012) is 39,973,700 ha<sup>14</sup>. Therefore, the total carbon stock is estimated as: 39,973,700 ha x 566.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> eq/ha = 22,629,111,570 tCO<sub>2</sub>. Under this approach the estimates included in the FP indicate that the adjustment proposed by Colombia does not exceed this threshold.</p> <p>The independent TAP did not accept this approach and asked the AE to recalculate the FREL so that it can be eligible under the pilot programme.</p> <p>In this sense, the annual adjustment amount (4,690,874 t CO<sub>2</sub>eq.) was reduced by 166,184 tCO<sub>2</sub> per year for the total period. Relevantly available Emission Reductions were recalculated from 9,416,633 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq requested initially to 9,084,264 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq.</p>
(iii) Is the FREL/FRL in accordance with the guidelines in UNFCCC decision 12/CP.17?	2	<p>The technical assessment report (TAR) concluded that the information used by Colombia in constructing its FREL is in overall accordance with the guidelines for the submission of information on FRELs (as contained in the annex to UNFCCC decision 12/CP.17)</p>
(iv) Are the data and information provided for the FREL/FRL transparent? (Has information been provided to allow an understanding of how UNFCCC guidance on the submission of information on reference levels has been addressed?)	2	<p>In paragraph 34 of the TAR, the AT considered that the submission and the annexes provided by Colombia, together with the clarifications provided during the technical assessment, constitute, for practical purposes, a complete, transparent and accurate description of the construction of the FREL, including the data sets, approaches and methods used. Additionally, the AT noted that this transparency facilitates comparison with internationally available information on activity data and emission factors, increases</p>

<sup>14</sup> The modified FREL submission is available at <[https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20.10.15col\\_frel\\_english\\_clean\\_numbers.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/20.10.15col_frel_english_clean_numbers.pdf)>.

		confidence in the results obtained and aids understanding of the areas for further development and improvement
(v) Is the FREL/FRL complete (Has information been provided that allows for the reconstruction of the FREL/FRL?)	2	In paragraph 34 of the TAR, the AT considered that the submission and the annexes provided by Colombia, together with the clarifications given during the technical assessment constitute, for practical purposes, a complete, transparent and accurate description of the construction of the FREL, including the data sets, approaches and methods used
(vi) Is the FREL/FRL consistent? (Were data and methodologies applied consistently over the time series used for the construction of the FREL/FRL?)	2	In paragraph 32 of the TAR, the AT noted that the carbon densities that determine the emission factors may have bias, since the sampling is not based on a statistical design. However, it noted that the values are used consistently over time and are within the ranges expected on the basis of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) data and other research data used for comparison. In addition, the methods to generate the activity data (Landsat imagery), the carbon pools and gas considered and the definition of forest used has been applied consistently throughout the entire time series
(vii) Is the FREL/FRL accurate? (The data and methodologies used neither over- nor underestimate emissions and/or removals during the reference period, so far as can be judged)	1	<p>In the TAR, the assessment team (AT) indicates areas for further improvements that can increase the accuracy of the FREL. Among these, the AT notes that the biomass carbon stock for the Colombian Amazonia biome, although consistent with international data, is not based on sample plots distributed according to statistical principles. However, Colombia is expecting to implement its National Forest Inventory over the period 2015-2017 and the data from this inventory will increase the accuracy of the carbon estimates (paragraph 48 of the TAR). Colombia does not include in the FREL pools or activities for which the country evaluates not to be accurate, and this provides confidence that the data used in the construction of FREL does not over – nor underestimate the emissions from reducing deforestation, so far as can be judged. Colombia does not provide the overall accuracy of the area estimates and mentions that reference data, consisting of an independent sample, will be used in the future to allow this evaluation.</p> <p>IPCC included in the definition of accuracy that uncertainties should be reduced as far as practicable. The adjustment of the FREL by 10 per cent relative to the average historical deforestation in the reference period intended to take into account national circumstances that affect deforestation</p>

		<p>trends, particularly the prospect of a successful outcome of negotiations to end the armed conflict, which could lead to increased deforestation. The team of experts indicate in paragraph 50 of the TAR that the need for the adjustment will depend on the rate at which conditions change following cessation of the conflict. In addition, the AT notes in the same paragraph that application of the adjustment for the current FREL would not apply in the case where an agreement to end the conflict is not reached under the current peace process. Therefore, there is an uncertainty element related to a successful negotiation with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)</p> <p>However, in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the TATR the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) experts noted that Colombia conducted successful negotiations with FARC in 2013–2016, which culminated in the signing of a peace agreement in 2016. They also noted that the information provided by Colombia during the technical assessment indicates that the post-conflict effects causing an increase in deforestation began with the start of the negotiations for a peace agreement in 2013, and thus the second period of results, 2015–2016, is within the post-conflict period. In addition, the LULUCF experts considered that the data provided by Colombia indicate that the transition period preceding a decrease in or stabilization of the deforestation rate is likely to be longer than the five years reported in the FREL</p>
(viii) Have all REDD-plus activities that are a significant source of emissions been included?	1	<p>The FREL is constructed considering only one activity: reducing emissions from deforestation, which the assessment team (AT), in paragraph 45 of the TAR considers to be the most significant activity in the Colombian Amazon Biome (tropical rainforest). However, the AT notes that forest degradation is potentially a significant activity and thus considers that it would be useful to describe the work being undertaken (paragraph 27). The AT considers that the results for forest degradation are too uncertain to be considered for inclusion in the FREL. Colombia mentioned in the FREL submission that work is currently under way to develop methodologies for the detection and monitoring of forest degradation. In its first BUR, Colombia indicated that a national measurement, reporting and verification system includes the issues of deforestation and forest degradation activities. In addition, the REDD-plus National Strategy also includes the treatment of forest degradation</p>

(ix) Have all of the most significant pools been included?	1	<p>In paragraph 25 of the TAR, the AT agreed that above-ground biomass and below-ground biomass are likely to be the most significant pools associated with deforestation and understands that the national forest inventory will enable the inclusion of other potentially significant pools such as soils and woody debris in the future. In the most recent FREL submitted by Colombia (2019), emissions from soil organic carbon have been included but have a minor contribution to the emissions relative to those associated with the changes in carbon stock in above- and below-ground biomass (above- and below-ground biomass = 544 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq; SOC = 14 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq). Above-ground and below-ground biomass are thus the most significant pools in the case of Colombia</p>
(x) Have all gases that are a significant source of emissions been included?	2	<p>The only gas included in the construction of the FREL is CO<sub>2</sub> resulting from changes in carbon stocks in above- and below-ground biomass due to deforestation. Paragraph 37 of the TAR acknowledged that based on results in the GHG inventories the emissions from non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases are considered to be relatively insignificant (to be reported in the BUR). In its third national communication (2017), Colombia provided a time series with annual emissions from 1990 to 2012 where aggregated non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from biomass burning in forest land, cropland and grassland are provided in GgCO<sub>2</sub>eq (figure 11 in section 2.3.5). There is no estimate provided for emissions from biomass burning in deforested areas. However, the average contribution of the aggregated non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from biomass burning relative to the emissions from forest land in the period 2000–2002 is less than 2.0 per cent. In the latest FREL submitted in 2020, only CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are considered</p>
(xi) Is the information provided in the construction of the FREL/FRL (data, methodologies and estimates) guided by the most recent applicable IPCC guidance and guidelines as adopted by the Conference of the Parties?	2	<p>The TAR stated that the methods used by Colombia are consistent with the <i>IPCC Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry</i> and the <i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i> as applied to the construction of the FREL</p> <p>The AT, in paragraph 12 of the BUR, indicated that the methods used by Colombia are consistent with the <i>IPCC Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry</i> and the <i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i> as applied to the construction of the FREL</p>



(xii) Have any significant issues related to the application of IPCC guidelines/good practice guidance been raised in the TAR?	2	No
(xiii) What is the reference period for the FREL/FRL?	2	The reference period for the FREL is from 2000 to 2012 (12 years)
(xiv) How does the reference level for the results included in the proposal compare with the previous reference level that applies to the same area?	1	No previous FREL/FRL has been submitted. Colombia has submitted two technical annexes to the BUR, both against the same FREL submitted in 2014
(xv) Has the country provided information on aggregate uncertainties, taking into account national capabilities and circumstances?	0	No aggregated uncertainties are provided  Colombia submitted an updated (national) FREL in December 2019, which is undergoing technical assessment. In this new FREL, Colombia made progress in reporting uncertainties nationally and regionally using the propagation error methods. The reporting on uncertainties correspond to the second FREL, not the subnational FREL already assessed
<b>B.2. REDD-plus results reporting</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
(i) Are the reported results in the technical annex to the BUR consistent with the FREL/FRL (including the inclusion of the same pools, activities and gases)?	2	In paragraph 17 of the TATR, the LULUCF experts noted that the reported results maintained consistency with the FREL construction, including the use of: consistent methodologies and data to generate activity data; the same area and forest definition; the same mapping unit of 1 ha; the use of the same carbon pools (above-ground and below-ground biomass carbon stocks per unit area); and the inclusion of only a single gas (CO <sub>2</sub> ), when addressing the only REDD-plus activity considered (reducing emissions from deforestation)
(ii) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex transparent? (Has information been provided to allow an understanding of how UNFCCC guidance on results reporting has been addressed?)	2	The LULUCF experts concluded in the TATR (para. 28) that the data and information provided in the technical annex are considered transparent

(iii) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex complete (Has information been provided that allows for the reconstruction of the results?)	2	In the TATR (para. 28), the LULUCF experts concluded that Colombia provided the necessary information to allow for the reconstruction of the results of the implementation of the activity reducing emissions from deforestation
(iv) Are the data and information provided in the technical annex consistent? (Were data and methodologies applied consistently over the results time series?)	2	In paragraph 17 of the TATR, the experts noted that Colombia ensured consistency between its FREL and its estimation of the results of the implementation of the activity reducing emissions from deforestation for 2015–2016 by using consistent methodologies and data to generate activity data, maintaining the same area and forest definition, and a mapping unit of 1 ha; using consistent methodologies and data to generate emission factors, in particular by using the same above-ground and below-ground biomass stock per unit area and the same bioclimatic classification for stratification into the three forest types; including the same two carbon pools, above-ground and below-ground biomass; including only CO <sub>2</sub> ; and using the same forest definition as that used in constructing its FREL
(v) Were the data and information provided in the technical annex accurate? (Does it neither over- nor underestimate emissions and/or removals?)	1	<p>Paragraph 39 of the TATR notes that the information provided by Colombia allowed to assess the accuracy of the estimation of the activity data and of carbon stocks in the Amazon biome and that given the assumptions used, it was concluded that the results are accurate to the extent possible.</p> <p>Similar to the TAR, the TATR identified some areas for improvement that could have an impact on overestimation or underestimation of emissions and/or removals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the national forest inventory for statistical sampling of above-ground and below-ground biomass and for the eventual inclusion of additional pools and the improvement of stratification with national forest inventory data to reduce the uncertainty in the estimation of carbon stocks in forest; and</li> <li>• Conducting more in-depth research and analysis to justify the adjustment for national circumstances, owing to economic and social trends following a peace agreement, by taking into account the rate at which conditions change following cessation of conflict</li> </ul>

(vi) What is the number of years between the last year of the FREL period and the year corresponding to the results being proposed for payments?	2	The last year of the FREL period (2000–2012) is 2012 and Colombia is proposing payment for results for the period 2015–2016. Hence, there are three and four years between the last year of the FREL and the first and last years of the period proposed for payments, respectively
(vii) Has the country provided information on aggregate uncertainties, taking into account national capabilities and circumstances?	0	Colombia has not provided information on aggregate uncertainties. However, it indicated in the FREL submission (annexes a and b) that uncertainties associated with activity data and emission factors can be calculated
(viii) Has information been provided on payments that have been (or are expected to be) received from other sources for results recognized by the country <sup>d</sup> from the same national or subnational area during the period for which a country is proposing to receive payments from the GCF? And has the country provided sufficient assurance that results that have been paid for by other sources have been excluded from the total volume offered to the GCF?	2	Colombia has provided information on payments already received from the REDD Early Movers initiative funded by the governments of Norway, Germany and the United Kingdom for the years 2013–2014, 2015 and 2016 and by one project of the voluntary market that covers areas of Amazon and Orinoquia regions. In table 3 of the funding proposal, Colombia provided the payments received for emissions reduced in the Amazon region in the period 2015–2016. Colombia has provided sufficient assurance that the results already paid by these sources have been excluded from the total volume offered to GCF
(ix) Are the results proposed to the GCF for payment included in a registry or similar system that tracks emission reductions and corresponding payments <sup>e</sup> to ensure there is no past or future double payment [or use] of such emissions reductions?	2	Colombia has a registry system in place <sup>15</sup> . Prior to the implementation of the registry, information was recorded in an interim system <sup>16</sup> . Data contained in these systems verified that all the information provided by Colombia regarding payments received from emission reductions was the same (except for rounding of the figures) as the figures for 2015 and 2016 in the funding proposal
<b>Total score section B</b>	<b>38</b>	
<b>Any fails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

<sup>d</sup>Through the REDD-plus national entity or focal point, where appointed.

<sup>15</sup> Available at <<http://renare.siac.gov.co/GPY-web/#/gpy>>.

<sup>16</sup> Available at <<http://visionamazonia.minambiente.gov.co/en-que-consiste-el-pago-por-resultados/>>

<sup>e</sup>Tracking information should, at a minimum, identify for each of these results the corresponding national or subnational area, the entity eligible to receive payment, the year generated, the source of RBP received and, where possible, the identifying number.

Section C: Non-carbon elements		
C.1. Cancun Safeguards		
Does the summary of information on safeguards provide information on how each of the safeguards below were addressed and respected in a way that ensures transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness?		
Criteria	Evaluation (Pass/Fail)	Remarks
(i) Actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements	Pass	<p>Colombia has created and implemented a <a href="#">national Safeguards Information System</a> that includes five essential aspects, including the understanding of the Cancun Safeguards in the context of Colombia's national circumstances; the consolidation of the national legal and institutional framework; the implementation of tracking tools; reporting mechanisms and continuous improvement.</p> <p>The actions are consistent with the National Climate Change Policy, the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services, the policy document of the National System of Protected Areas and the Policy of Sustainable Soil Management. Moreover, the actions are consistent with relevant international conventions and agreements, including UNFCCC, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Tropical Timber Agreement, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, for which references to the corresponding legal instruments are made</p> <p>In addition to the above information on how safeguards are addressed, Colombia provided information on how they are respected. This includes the</p>

		implementation of tracking tools that can track each safeguard and elements regarding the operationalization of the Safeguards Information System, which allows the assessment of the effectiveness of the implemented actions and to inform results in reducing deforestation
(ii) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty	Pass	<p>This safeguard is addressed by Colombia through the integration of four elements in REDD+ process, including transparency and access to information that ensures that REDD-plus information is transparent, accessible, available to every stakeholder, as well as complete, clear and easy to understand for local communities. Another element is the tracking safeguards, where institutions and actors must submit reports to stakeholders on their REDD-plus initiatives, including information on how they address and respect safeguards. In addition, REDD-plus actions must be developed according to the existing forest governance provided by the national REDD-plus board and the environmental policies of the regional and local forest boards</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is responsible for legally addressing the forest governance structure through the national environmental system. This system comprises 33 regional and 6 urban autonomous authorities and 5 scientific research institutes. These institutions are responsible for the implementation of the national forest management strategies, which include the forest policy, the forest resource management regime and, consequently, the implementation of REDD-plus initiatives. In compliance with the Colombian forest regulation, the national government defined the instruments for ecosystems planning and management and established participation and discussion spaces on national forest reserves and zoning of protected areas</p> <p>In order to respect this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the implementation of tracking tools and operationalization of the Safeguards Information System. Several activities have been implemented during the period 2015–2016, including courses, workshops and technical exchanges, events concerning REDD-plus actions, expert meetings and webinars, and training events aimed at indigenous and Afro-Colombian organizations in the country</p>

<p>(iii) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Pass</p>	<p>Colombia has defined four elements to fully address this safeguard: (1) national consultation mechanisms such as free, prior and informed consent established in the legislation and jurisprudence – REDD-plus actions that involve ethnic communities must guarantee the rights of communities to effectively participate in decision-making processes, under the regulatory framework rights protection; (2) respect for traditional knowledge to ensure that policies, measures and actions are jointly designed with communities when activities to reduce deforestation are implemented; (3) benefit distribution that guarantees a fair and equitable participation and distribution of the benefits generated by REDD-plus activities to reduce deforestation; and (4) territorial rights that recognize and respect the communities’ rights and their territory</p> <p>These four elements are recognized in 26 legal instruments (policies, laws and international commitments, among others) to guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, regarding prior consultation, traditional knowledge and territorial rights. The main legal instruments are: the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by Law 21 of 1991, Political Constitution of Colombia “articles 2, 7, 63, paragraph article 330, article 93 and transitory 55”; the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted in 2007; the Policy for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage adopted through Decree 2941 of 2009.</p> <p>As for the other safeguards, Colombia included actions to demonstrate that this safeguard is being respected through the implementation of tracking tools that offer four mechanisms for the protection of the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples, such as the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework that includes strategies to ensure the participation of local communities and indigenous authorities in the design and implementation of actions</p>
<p>(iv) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16.</p>	<p>Pass</p>	<p>Colombia provided information on how it addresses this safeguard and stated that REDD-plus initiatives must ensure the effective, free, full and informed participation of stakeholders. This is implemented through the deployment of mechanisms of participation in territories, in particular those of indigenous</p>



		<p>peoples and members of local communities, respecting the national legislation and international agreements signed by Colombia</p> <p>National legislation (Law 1715 of 2015) regulates citizen participation as a constitutional right, defines the obligations and responsibilities of public administration entities to guarantee citizen participation in decisions that may affect them by promoting specific citizen participation mechanisms</p> <p>Colombia has in place a national system of citizen participation, led by the National Council of Citizen Participation and a national planning system that ensures the participatory means for agreement and deliberation at the departmental, municipal, district and local level</p> <p>Colombia stated that this safeguard is respected through, for example, the implementation of tools that track participation through the National Environmental Council, adjustments to the annual workplan based on regional workshops and participation, and a participatory construction process with indigenous peoples through 13 workshops, dialogue forums and meetings of the Amazon Regional Board</p>
<p>(v) Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in paragraph 70 of UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16 are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits</p>	Pass	<p>Colombia recognizes the benefits of environmental services to communities provided by the conservation and management of ecosystems and their biodiversity. To guarantee this, legal and regulatory provisions are aligned with coordinated actions of the environmental authorities and the territorial entities, through mechanisms that encourage the change of land use and the reduction in GHG emissions due to deforestation and soil degradation. The Integral Strategy for the Control of Deforestation and Forest Management includes specific actions for the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity and proposes sustainable forest management as a relevant instrument to promote conservation, generate local benefits and reduce risks of conversion of natural forests</p> <p>In addition, several other policy instruments exist to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the associated ecosystems services, such as the National Policy for Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystems Services (2014); National Climate Change Policy (2018); Forest Sector Planning, regulated by Law 2811 of 1874, Law 99 of 1993 and Decree 1791 of 1996; a manual of compensation for loss of</p>

		<p>biodiversity in terrestrial ecosystems, regulated by Resolution 1517 (2011); conservation planning on private lands regulated by Decree 196 (1999); management plans and zoning of forest reserves, regulated by Decree 2372 (2010); protected area management plans, regulated by Decree 2372 (2010); an integral assessment tool for biodiversity and ecosystem services derived from the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services; Forest Incentive Certificate, regulated by Decree 1824 (1994) and Decree 2448 (2012); Payment for Environmental Services, regulated by Decree 870 (2017) and Decree 953 (2013); and the environmental and sustainable development sector, regulated by Decree 1076 (2015).</p> <p>Colombia has implemented tracking tools to demonstrate how this safeguard is respected and mentions the Heart of the Amazon project to address the conservation of an area of over 9 million hectares of humid tropical forest in the heart of the Colombian Amazon. Through the Amazon Institute of Scientific Research, Colombia has introduced voluntary conservation agreements that recognize the direct relationship between conservation and the sustainability of agricultural practices. Additionally, through the operationalization of the Safeguards Information System 150 conservation agreements were signed and through the AVP REDD Early Movers project experience has been gained and improvements are being implemented</p>
(vi) Actions to address the risks of reversals	Pass	<p>Colombia provided information on how this safeguard is addressed and respected through environmental and territorial management and sectoral planning. REDD-plus sector actions are implemented based on environmental and territorial management instruments, as well as national legislation of forests and biodiversity conservation</p> <p>Colombia identified the existing territorial planning instruments at the municipal level, regulated by Law 388 of 1997, as the most appropriate instrument to address the risks of reversals. This law establishes responsibilities for local environmental authorities to set guidelines for identifying environmental aspects in order to define land categories (rural, suburban and urban areas) and land-use regulations, thereby granting environmental licenses. Urban and construction licenses (sectoral actions) are aligned to ecosystems management and territorial planning. This ensures long-term conservation and proper management of ecosystems, reducing the</p>

		risks of reversal. In order to respect this safeguard, Colombia has accomplished the implementation of tracking tools and the operationalization of the Safeguards Information System. For the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme, Colombia proposes to deactivate 40 per cent of emission reductions available to GCF as an interim mechanism to manage risks of reversals
(vii) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions	Pass	<p>The proposal includes considerations regarding actions to reduce displacement of emissions. The Colombian forest and carbon monitoring system monitors the risk of emissions displacement. A number of initiatives have been implemented to reduce the risk of displacement, including a national early warning system of deforestation articulated with community monitoring schemes for the activation of protocols to implement control procedures of forest loss and degradation and prevent expansion to other areas</p> <p>Colombia also has in place an environmental information system that has several sub-systems that address the environmental information needs of the country. The systems that contribute to the transparency of this safeguard are regulated by Decree 1277 of 2014 and Decree 1655 of 2017, which address the organization and operation of the forest and carbon monitoring system and its information systems, the national forest information system and the forest and carbon monitoring system</p>
<b>C.2. Use of proceeds and non-carbon benefits</b>		
Criteria	Evaluation	Remarks
Has information been provided on how proceeds will be used consistent with GCF policies? Has information been provided on how the proceeds will be used in a manner consistent with the country's nationally determined contribution (NDC), national REDD-plus strategy and/or low carbon development plans and policies? Has information been provided on how the proceeds will be used in a manner that contributes to the long-term	2	Colombia provided information in the funding proposal regarding the use of the proceeds to support the action lines of the national REDD-plus strategy in ways consistent with the objectives of GCF (as indicated in document GCF/B.18/06, para. 14). The proceeds from GCF will be applied in activities that contribute to the implementation of the REDD-plus strategy within the Integrated Strategy to Control Deforestation and Manage Forests (EICDGB), the strategies of the national development plan and the achievement of the NDC goals. In this context the national government has prioritized for this

<p>sustainability of REDD-plus activities, including non-carbon benefits?</p>	<p>project the realization of activities that contribute to promoting a forest economy and strengthening indigenous territories governance in the region. The actions planned also contribute to the implementation of the NDC and low-carbon development plans</p> <p>The areas of action indicated in the national development plan for 2018–2022 for the implementation of EICDGB include strategies and economic instruments for making the productive sectors more sustainable, halting deforestation and strengthening environmental institutions, as well as activities in the areas of research and the public sector, all of which are in line with the country strategies, plans and policies</p> <p>The proceeds from the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme will be used to support the national, regional and local governments of the Colombian Amazon biome in the implementation of EICDGB and the engagement of local authorities, smallholders, farmer associations and indigenous peoples of the Amazon region, who will be the main beneficiaries of this project. The activities to be implemented as a result of the proceeds from the GCF project include strengthening the national and local capacities for monitoring and control; the sustainable management of the forests; territorial governance and strengthening the capacities of indigenous peoples for forest management and conservation</p> <p>Colombia described a scheme for the distribution of benefits under the REDD-plus RBP pilot programme: 80 per cent for local implementation (30 per cent for indigenous peoples; 40 per cent for local community associations; 5 per cent for regional environment authorities and 5 per cent for municipalities); 10 per cent for national implementation (5 per cent for the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and 5 per cent for research institutes); and 10 per cent for the project technical unit and project management</p> <p>Information has been provided on how the proceeds will be used in a manner that contributes to the long-term sustainability of the activities. For example, Colombia noted that investments of the programme will support the design of a set of incentives that will continue operating after the project ends, attracting other international cooperation or private sector funds and providing funding for future communities interested in establishing</p>
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		<p>community-based forestry units. In addition, GCF funds will support the establishment of long-term monitoring systems following an adaptive management approach to preventing negative effects of forest management on the natural resources of the managed forests and the surrounding natural areas. One of the aims of the project is to prioritize support to subprojects that contribute to the creation of a forest economy as an instrument to improve local governance, knowledge and management of forests, which can contribute to the long-term sustainability of the REDD-plus activities</p> <p>In the description for this section, there is sufficient information regarding how proceeds will be used consistent with GCF policies, including risks and strategies to ensure the financial, social and environmental sustainability of the forest management activity. The implementation of EICDGB will also aim at attaining greater inclusion and visibility of women</p>
<b>Total score section C</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Any fails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Section D: Investment framework		
Criteria	Evaluation (High/Medium/Low)	Remarks

Impact potential	Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The relevant mitigation and/or adaptation impact is specified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The GCF core indicators (and other indicators) are provided with specific values <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Methodologies provided for calculating non-GHG indicators are clear and robust <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal compares the indicator values against appropriate benchmarks to demonstrate the impact potential
Paradigm shift potential	High	<p>The proposal clearly:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes the potential for scaling up the country's NDC, national REDD-plus strategy and/or low-carbon development plans and policies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains how the programme contributes to strengthening knowledge and learning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes how proposed measures will create an enabling environment and contribute to innovation, market development and transformation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains how the programme strengthens the regulatory framework and policies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates paradigm shift potential for catalysing impact beyond a one-off payment
Sustainable development potential	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal demonstrates environmental, social and economic impact, including the gender-sensitive development impact
Needs of the recipient	High	<p>The proposal clearly:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes the degree of vulnerability of country/population and demonstrates that the programme addresses the issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains in detail how the programme addresses financial, economic, social and institutional needs



Country ownership	High	<p>The proposal:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sufficiently explains how the programme contributes to a national climate strategy and/or policy</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specifies in detail how the multi-stakeholder consultation was conducted</p>
Efficiency and effectiveness	Medium	<p>The proposal:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Clearly describes adequateness of the financial structure for cost-effectiveness and efficiency</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides information on financial viability in the long run</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explains in detail the application of best practices and the degree of innovation</p>

## Response from the accredited entity to the independent Technical Advisory Panel's assessment (FP134)

Proposal name:	Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016
Accredited entity:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Country/(ies):	Colombia
Project/programme size:	Small

### Impact potential

FAO takes note of the assessment.

As stated in the FP, the benefits from the proposed RBP project will be distributed taking into account the lessons learned by the government of Colombia during the development of the REDD Strategy called *"Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management"* (EICDGB in Spanish) and the implementation of *Vision Amazonia* (AVP in Spanish). Specifically, the benefit sharing mechanism built on the experiences, consultations and lessons learned of the national REDD related processes will trigger the impact potential of GCF proceeds.

As described in the FP, Colombia is committed to using the funds to achieve high impact in terms of climate change mitigation, adaptation and thus achieve their commitment under the Paris Agreement.

### Paradigm shift potential

FAO welcomes iTAP "High" assessment to this criterion.

### Sustainable development potential

FAO welcomes iTAP "High" assessment to this criterion.

FAO, in particular, values the recognition by iTAP of the EICDGB strategy as a trans-sectoral policy instrument that recognizes the socio-cultural, economic and environmental importance of forest ecosystems, as well as their potential as a development option in the ongoing peace building process in Colombia.

FAO appreciates iTAP acknowledgement that the benefit-sharing system to be put in place for the reinvestment of the proceeds is built in accordance with the EICDGB and the AVP. This will make a significant contribution to the sustainable development process of the most vulnerable population.

### Needs of the recipient

FAO welcomes iTAP “High” assessment to this criterion.

### **Country ownership**

FAO welcomes iTAP “High” assessment to this criterion.

During the formulation of this proposal, FAO could appreciate the continued high level of country level appropriation of REDD+ implementation in Colombia. The NDA (Nationally Designated Authority) led the development of this Funding Proposal and provided essential feedback in defining the institutional arrangements for the project execution.

### **Efficiency and effectiveness**

FAO takes note of the assessment

Although the initial period of the post-conflict has been challenging in ensuring full protection of the natural heritage and necessary reduction of the pressures on ecosystems, the country is now fully committed to avoid deforestation. Colombia is promoting policies and projects and enhancing governance schemes to tackle legal and illegal activities that lead to deforestation and degradation. The use of proceeds from the RBP will significantly contribute to these government efforts to address the underlying drivers of the deforestation process.

### **Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

FAO thanks the iTAP for its review of the proposal and confirms it can comply with the condition.

**REDD-PLUS RESULTS-BASED PAYMENTS FOR RESULTS ACHIEVED BY COLOMBIA IN  
THE AMAZON BIOME IN 2015 AND 2016**

**Gender Assessment and Action Plan Colombia REDD+ Results-Based Payment Proposal  
for 2015-2016**

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## 1. Introduction

The following document introduces the Gender Assessment and Action Plan for the REDD+ Results Based-Payment (RBP) Project proposed by the government of Colombia to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will implement the project in close collaboration and coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS in Spanish).

The project will contribute to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in the Amazon biome by strengthening local capacities for sustainable forest management and monitoring. In line with the five pillars of the Amazon Vision Program (AVP). The project seeks to promote sustainable rural development by strengthening forest governance, strengthening the environmental governance of indigenous people and supporting enabling environmental conditions, focusing mainly on consolidation of the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC in Spanish), as the main decision-making tool for processes at the local level.

The main beneficiaries of this project are small producers (peasants) and indigenous people. To protect forest areas from illegal deforestation, the project will promote sustainable forest management based in communities schemes that offer sustainable production alternatives to these communities while generating local capacities for the management, control, and monitoring of natural forests.

In line with the recommendations of the Green Climate Fund Gender Policy, the project will promote gender equality and the empowerment of women through incorporating the gender approach throughout the project life cycle.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) recognizes the importance of incorporating a gender-sensitive approach in terms of impact and access to climate finance and therefore requires a gender assessment with its respective action plan as part of the financing proposals. The Fund's Gender policy recognizes the contribution of men and women to mitigate and adapt to climate change, the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women, and the increased vulnerability of women because of discriminatory norms and situations.

The aim of the Gender Assessment is to assess and identify gender issues relevant to the project and subsequently strengthen gender-sensitive actions within the project. In this sense, the present evaluation presents a general vision on the existing gender gaps in Colombia, the international and national normative framework that promotes the protection and empowerment of women, to make visible the process of incorporation of the gender perspective in REDD+ strategies and in the process of construction of EICDGB regarding the period of results (2015-2016) and present recommendations and measures to ensure gender mainstreaming as part of project activities. According to the gender assessment, the Gender Action Plan seeks to integrate gender considerations into objectives, project activities, indicators, accountabilities, and budget.

The project is aligned with the Gender Policy of the Green Climate Fund, the Gender policy of FAO and the Gender recommendations of the UN-REDD Programme, and the environmental and social safeguards of the project, thus ensuring the coherence of the project with the objectives of the Gender Policy of the Green Climate Fund.

## 2. Dynamics and gender inequalities in Colombia

### 2.1. Gender inequality index

By 2018, the Human Development Index (HDI) was 0.747, ranking the country in the high human development category, placing it 89th out of 189 countries. The HDI value increased between 1990 and 2018, from 0.592 to 0.747, implying an average annual growth of approximately 0.83% in the HDI.

The Gender Development Index (GDI) seeks to measure gender gaps in human development achievements by taking into account the disparities of men and women in three dimensions: health, knowledge, and living standards. By 2017 the Gender Development Index (GDI) for Colombia was 0.997. It is important to highlight that the human development index is lower in women than in men and the national income per capita is significantly higher in men than in women, even though women have on average more years of schooling.

**Table 1: Gender Development Index (GDI)**

GENDER DEVELOPMENT INDEX	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI)		LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH (YEARS)		EXPECTED YEARS OF SCHOOLING (YEARS)		MEAN YEARS OF SCHOOLING		ESTIMATED GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA (2011 PPP \$)	
	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE
VALUE 2017										
0.997	0.747	0.749	78.2	71.0	14.9	14.3	8.5	8.1	10,271	15,692

Source: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GDI>

According to UNDP<sup>1</sup>, the Gender Inequality Index is an indicator that measures gender inequalities based on three major areas of human development: 1. Women's empowerment is measured by the proportion of parliamentary seats held by women and the proportion of adult women and men with at least secondary education, 3. The economic situation supported as women's participation in the labor market as measured by the labor force participation rate of men and women aged 15 and older. The higher the gender inequality index, the greater the gender gap and the more lost in human development.

The Gender Inequality Index for 2017 was 0.383. Regarding the inequality index, it is important to point out that although women have a higher percentage of the population with at least some secondary education, there is an important gap regarding to the rate of participation in the labor force, which is marginally higher in men than in women. The detail is presented in the following table.

**Table 2: Gender Inequality Index (GII)**

GENDER INEQUALITY INDEX (GII)		MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO	ADOLESCENT BIRTH RATE	SHARE OF SEATS IN PARLIAMENT	POPULATION WITH AT LEAST SOME SECONDARY EDUCATION (% ages 25 and older) 2010-2017		LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (% ages 15 and older) 2017	
VALUE 2017	RANK 2017	(Deaths per 100,000 live births) 2015	(Births per 1,000 women ages 15-19) 2015-2020	(% held by women) 2017	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE
0.383	87	64	47.5	19.8	51.1	49.2	58.8	82.6

<sup>1</sup> <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/%C3%ADndice-de-desigualdad-de-g%C3%A9nero>



Source: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GII>

## 2.2. Demography and population

By 2018, the estimated total population is 48.258.494 according to DANE's National Population and Housing Census<sup>2</sup>. The distribution by sex reflects that there are more women than men in Colombia. Of the total number of people registered, 51.2% are women (22,593,924) and 48.8% are men (21,570,493). Most of the population lives in municipal capitals with a percentage of 77.1 percent, followed by 15.8 percent in rural areas and 7.1 percent in populated centers.

Regarding age groups, 22.6% of the population is between 0-14 years; the majority is between 15-65 years with a percentage of 68.2% and 9.1% corresponds to people aged 65 years and over.

The departments with the highest percentage of young population (between 15 and 29 years old) are Amazonas, Putumayo, Guainía, Vichada, Guaviare and Arauca, most of which make up the Amazon Biome.

For the Amazonian biome comprising the departments of Amazonas, Vaupés, Guainía, and Guaviare, and part of the departments of Meta, Putumayo, Caquetá, Cauca and Vichada, the population data by department can be found in the following table. In the departments that make up the Amazon biome, the male population is slightly larger, except for the department of Cauca.

**Table 3: Total population by gender in the amazon biome**

POPULATION 2018		GENDER DISTRIBUTION	
DEPARTMENT	TOTAL, POPULATION	% FEMALE	% MALE
AMAZONAS	66.056	47.9%	52.1%
VAUPÉS	37.690	47.5%	52.5%
GUAINÍA	44.431	47.8%	52.3%
GUAVIARE	73.081	46.5%	53.5%
CAQUETÁ	359.602	49.3%	50.7%
PUTUMAYO	283.197	49.5%	50.5%
VICHADA	76.642	46.9%	53.1%
META	919.129	49.40%	50.60%
CAUCA	1.243.503	50.5%	49.5%

Source: DANE, Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda (CNPV) 2018. Dirección de Censos y Demografía.

## 2.3. Ethnic groups

According to DANE data for 2018, the populations that recognizes themselves as indigenous is estimated at 1,905,617, which represents 4.4% of the total national population. Compared to the 2005 General Census, the indigenous population increased by 36.8 percent. Fifty-one percent are women and 49.9 percent are men.

According to the National Agricultural Census (2014), women account for 48.3 percent of the 5,126,734 registered persons, 10 percent of whom are women of African descent, Palenqueras and Raizales, and 3 percent of the 102 indigenous peoples.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dane.gov.co/index.php/estadisticas-por-tema/demografia-y-poblacion/censo-nacional-de-poblacion-y-vivienda-2018/cuantos-somos>

The departments with the largest indigenous population concerning the total departmental population are Vaupés and Guainía. In the departments that make up the Amazon biome, most of the indigenous population is male, except for the department of Putumayo, where the majority is female (see table 4). According to DANE, the indigenous population is younger in departments with a high presence of indigenous territories in areas of difficult access like Vaupés, Vichada, and Guainía.

**Table 4: Indigenous population by gender in the amazon biome**

INDIGENOUS POPULATION				
DEPARTMENT	TOTAL	%	% FEMALE	% MALE
CAQUETÁ	8825	2.5	48.9	51.1
PUTUMAYO	50694	17.9	50.3	49.7
VICHADA	44578	58.2	48.4	51.6
GUAVIARE	6856	9.4	49.4	50.6
AMAZONAS	38130	57.7	48.3	51.7
GUAINÍA	33280	74.9	49.2	50.8
CAUCA	308455	24.8	49.7	50.3
META	20528	2.2	48.7	51.3
VAUPÉS	30787	81.7	48.4	51.6

Source: DANE. 2019. Población indígena en Colombia. Resultados del censo nacional de población y vivienda 2018.

#### **2.4. Head of Households**

The percentage of female-headed households increased between 2016 and 2018, from 34.8% to 36.9%, respectively. In the municipal capitals, the proportion increased to 39.9%, and in the populated and dispersed rural centers, it rose to 25.7%. The information by regions shows that the Orinoquia-Amazonia is one of the regions with the highest percentage of female-headed households, rising from 39.7% in 2016 to 40.2% in 2018 (DANE, Encuesta Nacional de Calidad de Vida, 2018).

According to DANE (2018), Males are the household-head for 62.9 percent of households with an indigenous -head , Female head 37.1 percent of indigenous households (see graph 1).

**Graph 1: Percentage of households with indigenous heads of household by sex**

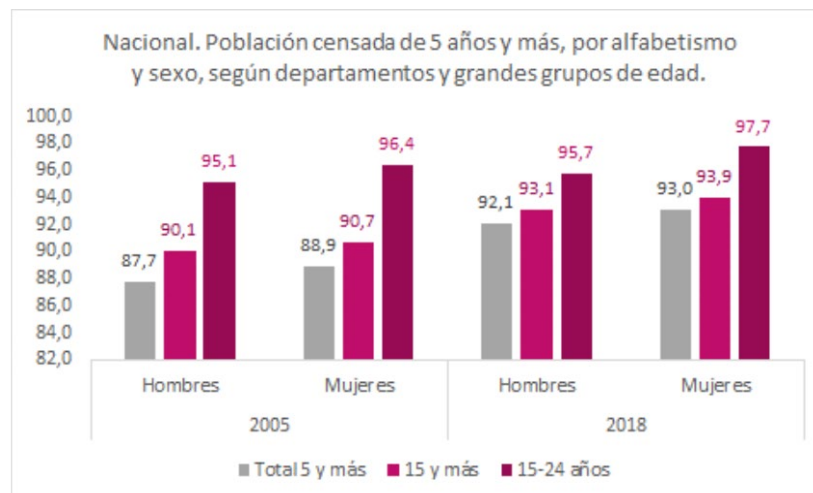


Source: DANE. 2019. Población indígena en Colombia. Resultados del censo nacional de población y vivienda 2018.

## 2.5. Education

According to the National Population and Housing Census (2018), the national literacy rate for the census population aged 5 years and over is 92.6 percent, for women the rate is 93 percent while for men it is 92.1 percent. (Graph 2).

**Graph 2: Literacy in the population aged five and over by sex and age group**

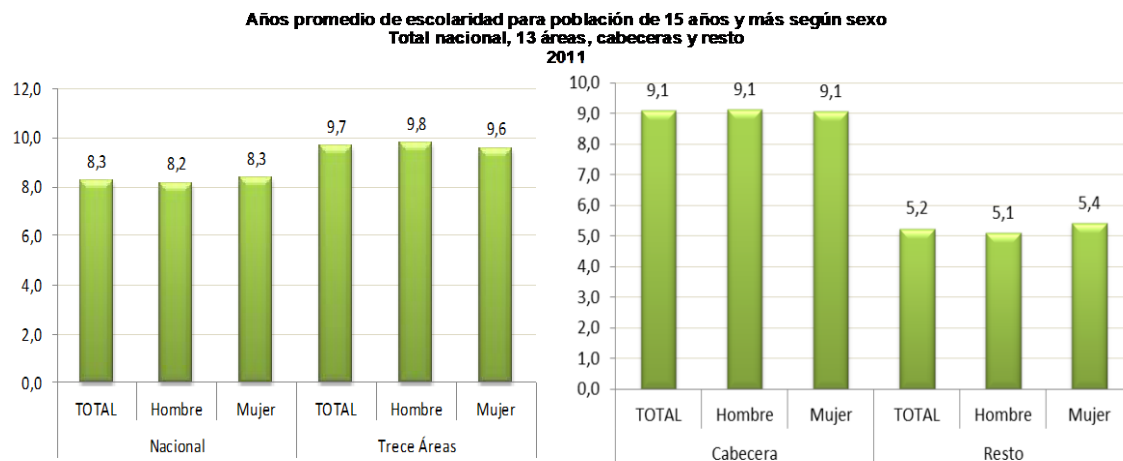


Source: Comunicado de Prensa. Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda (CNPV) 2018. Bogotá 4 de julio de 2019.

According to DANE's Gender statistics for 2011<sup>3</sup>, the average schooling in the national total for the population aged 15 to 24 was 9.4 years. This average was 9.7 for women and 9.1 for men. For the population that lives in the headwaters, the average schooling for women was 10.3 and for men 9.7. In the rest, the average schooling was 7.9 for women and 7.2 for men (Graph 3).

**Graph 3: Average years of schooling for population aged 15 and over according to sex**

<sup>3</sup> Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

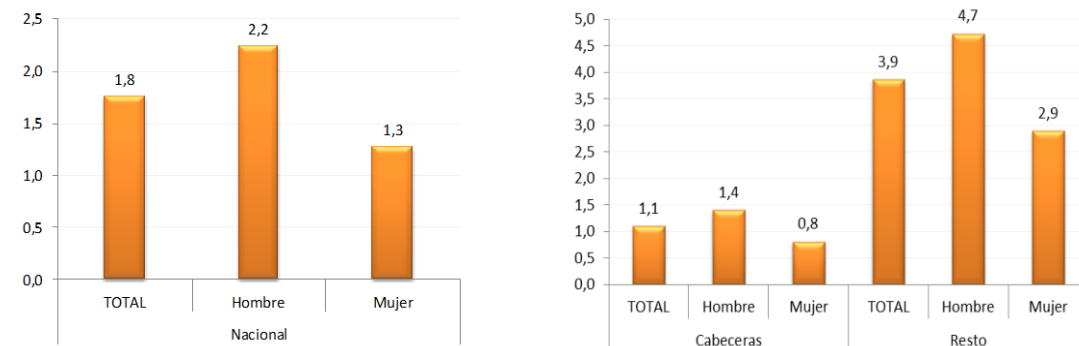


Fuente: DANE – Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares

Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

The illiteracy rate for the population aged 15-24 at the national level was 1.8 percent, where the percentage for men was 2.2 percent and for women 1.3 percent. The illiteracy rate was 1.4 percent for men and 0.8 percent for women. This difference increases for the rest where men have 4.7 percent and women 2.9 percent (Graph 4).

**Graph 4: Illiteracy rate for the population aged 15 to 24, by sex**  
**Tasa de analfabetismo para población de 15 a 24 años según sexo**  
**Total nacional, cabeceras y resto**  
**2011**

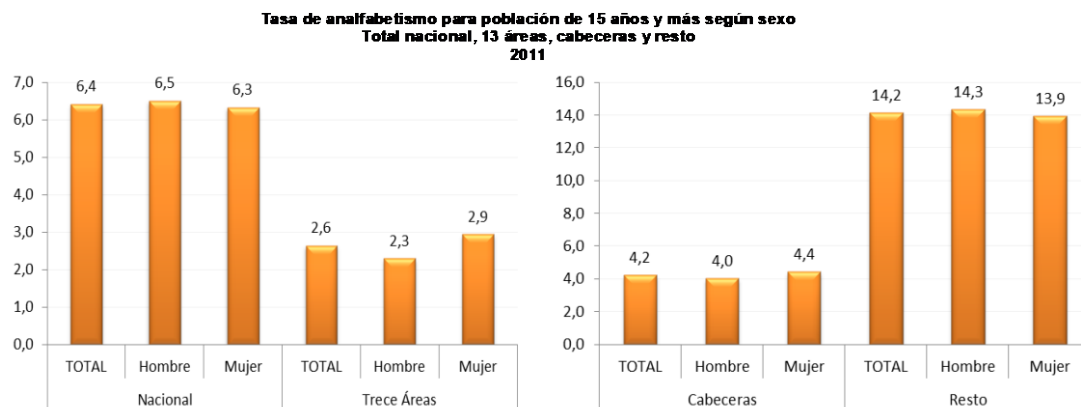


Fuente: DANE – Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares

Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

For the population aged 15 and over, the national illiteracy rate was 6.4%, for men 6.5 % and women 6.3 %. In the headings, the illiteracy rate for the population aged 15 and over is 4.2%, for men 4% and women 4.4%. For the rest, the rate was 14.2%, for men 14.3% and women 13.9% (Graph 5).

**Graph 5: Illiteracy rate for the population aged 15 and over according to sex**

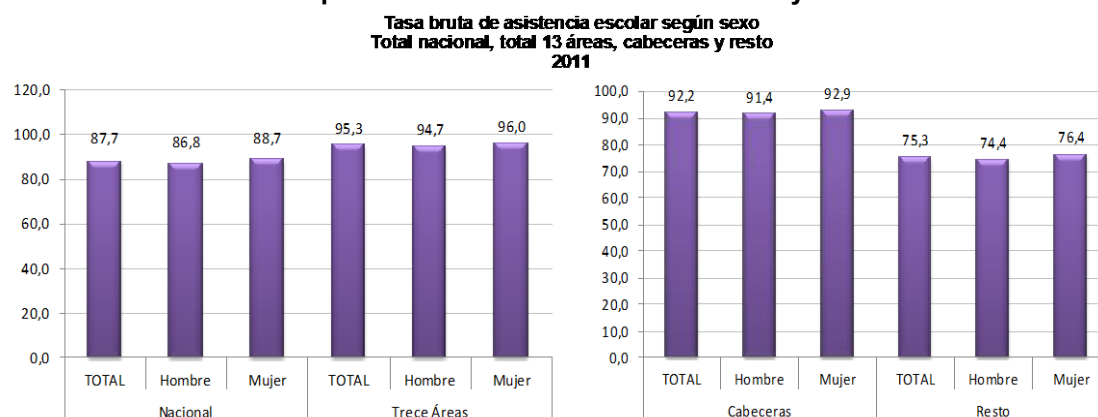


Fuente: DANE – Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares

Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

For 2011 the gross school attendance rate was 87.7% in the national total, women had a rate of 88.7% while men had 86.8% with a percentage difference between the two of 1.9 points. In the headings, the rate was 92.2%, that of men was 91.4% and that of women 92.9% while in the rest the rate stood at 75.3%, where the rate of men was 74.4% and that of women 76.4%(see graph 6).

**Graph 6: Gross school attendance rate by sex**

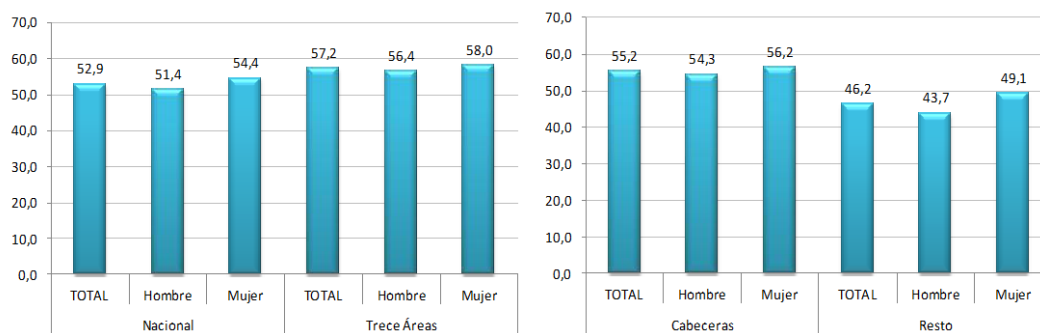


Fuente: DANE – Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares

Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

For the national total, the net school attendance rate for 2011 was 54.4% for women and 51.4% for men. At the headwaters, the rate for women was 56.2% for women and 54.3% for men, while in the rest it was 49.1% and 43.7%, respectively (Graph 7).

**Graph 7: Net school attendance rate by sex**  
**Tasa neta de asistencia escolar según sexo**  
**Total nacional y total 13 áreas**  
**2011**



Fuente: DANE – Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares

Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

Although at the national level women have a higher degree of literacy and educational level have lower participation in the labor market. (see labor market section). However, in the departments of the Amazon biome, illiteracy rates are significantly higher among women than men, especially in the departments of Vaupés, Guainía, and Vichada (Table 5).

**Table 5: Literacy and illiteracy in the amazon biome**

DEPARTMENT	LITERACY			ILLITERACY		
	TOTAL %	FEMALE %	MALE %	TOTAL %	FEMALE %	MALE %
AMAZONAS	94.35%	92.82%	95.76%	5.65%	7.18%	4.24%
VAUPÉS	90.03%	86.26%	93.26%	9.97%	13.74%	6.74%
GUAINÍA	91.26%	82.27%	94.90%	8.74%	12.73%	5.10%
GUAVIARE	93.48%	93.38%	93.56%	6.52%	6.62%	6.44%
CAQUETÁ	93.10%	93.60%	92.60%	6.90%	6.4%	7.40%
PUTUMAYO	94%	93.52%	94.49%	6%	6.48%	5.51%
VICHADA	88.42%	85.86	90.67%	11.58%	14.14%	9.33%
META	95.74%	95.91	95.56%	4.26%	4.09%	4.44%
CAUCA	92.47%	91.45	93.53%	7.53%	8.55%	6.47%

Source: DANE - Dirección de Censos y Demografía | \*Personas de 15 años y más

Rural and ethnic women have higher educational levels than men, from the technical level onwards. According to the National Agricultural Census conducted by DANE in 2014, 82% of rural women were within the school system compared to 34% in 1973, representing a major advance in this regard (Camacho, A, et al, 2018).



## 2.6. Poverty

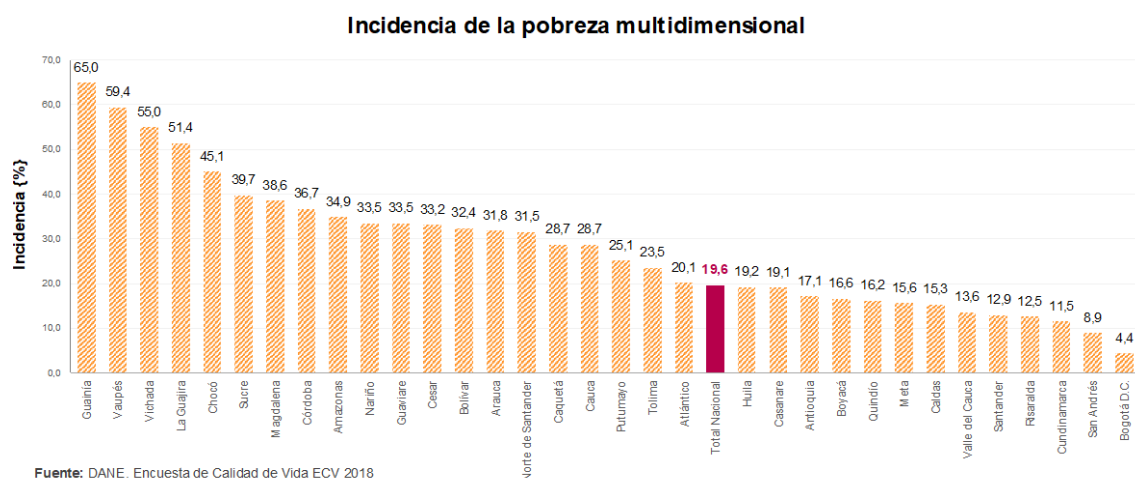
### Multidimensional poverty

According to DANE<sup>4</sup>, by 2018, the percentage of people in multidimensional poverty in Colombia was 19.6%; the incidence of poverty in the urban areas of the country was 13.8% where Guainía and Vichada have the highest percentages of poverty (IPM) with 46.9% and 39.7% respectively. For populated and dispersed rural centers the incidence of multidimensional poverty was 39.9% where Vaupés, and again Guainía and Vichada present the highest incidence of poverty with 78.8%, 72.7% and 67.3% respectively (Graph 8).

**Graph 8: Ranking of departments according to multidimensional poverty**

#### Ranking de departamentos según pobreza multidimensional

Total departamental. 2018



Source: Pobreza multidimensional por departamentos 2018. Resultados julio 2019. DANE Encuesta de Calidad de Vida (ECV) 2018

Concerning the incidence of multidimensional poverty by sex of the head of household by 2018 in the national total, 21.7% of persons belonging to a household headed by women, while 18.5% of persons belong to households headed by men. In this sense, it is important to point out that people who belong to households headed by women have a higher incidence of multidimensional poverty.

**Tabla 9. Incidencia de la pobreza multidimensional según sexo del jefe del hogar (porcentaje)**  
**Total nacional, cabeceras, centros poblados y rural disperso**  
**Año (2018)**

Características del jefe de hogar		Total Nacional	Cabeceras	Centros poblados y rural disperso
Sexo	Hombre	18,5	11,6	38,4
	Mujer	21,7	17,5	44,6

Fuente: DANE, cálculos con base en la Encuesta Nacional de Calidad de Vida (ECV) 2018.

The incidence of multidimensional poverty according to sex of the head of household in the departments that make up the Amazon biome is as follows:

**Table 6: Incidence of multidimensional poverty in the departments of the Amazon biome**

<sup>4</sup> Boletín técnico Pobreza Multidimensional en Colombia 2018. Bogotá, 3 de mayo de 2019.

MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY			
DEPARTAMENT	TOTAL	FEMALE	MALE
Guainía	65%	56.3%	67.2%
Vaupés	59.4%	40%	64.4%
Vichada	55%	51.1%	56.4%
Amazonas	34.9%	41.5%	31.8%
Putumayo	25.1%	31.4%	21.6%
Guaviare	33.5%	35.3%	32.6%
Caquetá	28.7%	31.5%	27.3%
Meta	15.6%	17%	14.9%
Cauca	28.7%	25.8%	30%

Source: Pobreza multidimensional por departamentos 2018. Resultados julio 2019. DANE encuesta de calidad de vida (ECV) 2018

As noted above, Guainía, Vichada and Vaupés are the departments with the highest incidence of multidimensional poverty, which is higher in men than in women, while in the other departments of the Amazon biome (Amazonas, Putumayo, Guaviare, Caquetá, Meta and Cauca) the incidence of poverty is higher in women than in men.

### Monetary Poverty

By 2018, the percentage of people classified as poor concerning the national total was 27%, in the capitals this proportion was 24.4% and in the populated and dispersed rural centers it was 36.1% with a difference between both of 1.5 times<sup>5</sup>. About the distribution by sex for the national total, 29.6% of persons belonging to a household headed by women were poor compared to 25.7% of persons in households headed by men. This difference increases in populated centers and dispersed rural areas. In the headwaters, the incidence rate of poverty with female leadership was 27.6% and with male leadership was 22.4%, while in the populated and scattered rural centers the difference between women and men was 40.5% and 34.7% respectively. Concerning extreme poverty for the national total, 8.6 percent of persons belonging to a household headed by women were extremely poor, compared with 6.5 percent of persons belonging to households headed by men. By 2018, the incidence of monetary poverty among all rural households was 36.1 per cent, of which 40.5 per cent were female-headed households.

Another important source for looking at the incidence of poverty by sex over time is the report "Gender Gaps and Inequality from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals" by UNDP, UN WOMEN, UNFPA (2017). This report notes that for 2002, the incidence of poverty was 49.5% for women and 49.2% for men with a gap of 1.5% between the two. In 2014 these percentages were 27.9% for men and 29.2% for women with a slightly smaller gap of 1.3%. For its part, extreme poverty in 2002 went from 18.1 percent for women and men to 7.9 percent in 2014 for men and 8.3 percent for women. In this regard, it is important to note that over time there is a disparate trend between men and women that continues to date.

### **2.7. Labor Market**

According to DANE's Great Integrated Household Survey (GEIH) for the July-September 2019 quarter, the national unemployment rate for women was 13.7% and for men 8.3%, with a gap of 5.4 p.p. In populated and dispersed rural centers this difference increases. Men have an unemployment rate of 5.1% and women 13.4% with a difference of 8.3 p.p. In relation to the unemployed population, young women from 14 to 28 years of age correspond to 47.8% of unemployed women, while young men represent 47.2%.

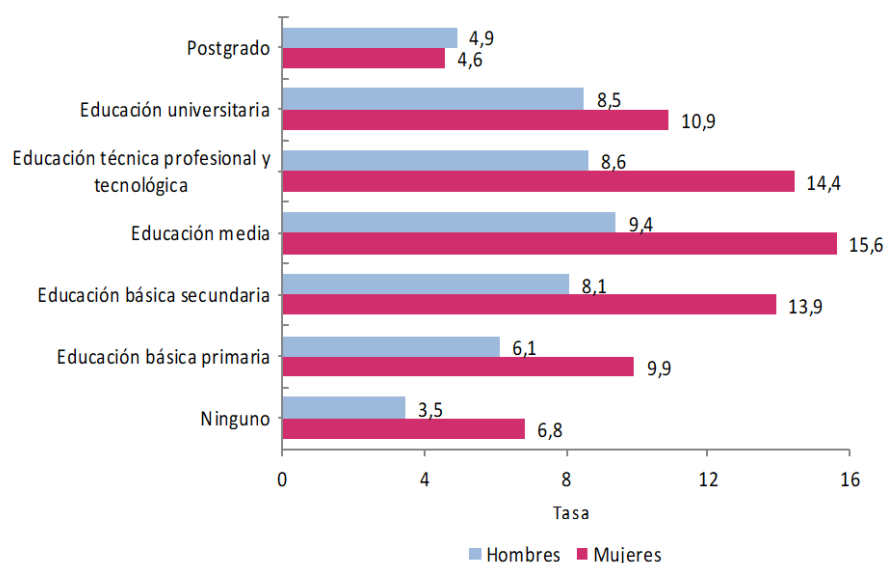
<sup>5</sup> Boletín técnico Pobreza Monetaria en Colombia 2018. Bogotá, 3 de mayo de 2019.

For the national total in the July-September quarter, the difference between men and women in the employment rate was 22.7 p.p.

By 2018, the unemployment rate according to educational level<sup>6</sup> for women who completed secondary education was 15.6% and who completed university education 10.9% while for men it was 9.4% and 8.5% respectively (Graph 9).

**Graph 9: unemployment rate by level of education attained and sex**

**Gráfico 7. Tasa de desempleo según nivel educativo logrado y sexo**  
**Total nacional**  
**2017**



Source: DANE. Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares (GEIH) Fuerza laboral y educación 2017

According to information from the National Agricultural Census (2014), women earn 25% less than men, due to the fact that 88% of women are in the informal economy, women have a greater unpaid workload since they use twice as much time as men for domestic tasks, as well as in child care. On average, rural women work 64 hours per week compared to 55 hours spent by men (Botello and Guerrero, 2017, cited by Camacho A, et al, 2018).

## 2.8. Land ownership and tenure

According to the National Agricultural Census (2014), the majority of producers are women (78.2 percent) compared to 69.3 percent of men who work on plots of less than five hectares and occupy 9.5 percent of the total area, while men represent 69.3 percent and their Agricultural Production Units have a greater proportion.

Land ownership is mostly concentrated in small plots, where female ownership is lower than male ownership and inequality increases if the size of the plots is considered. The Census identifies that women producers are the ones who employ the most female labor, especially in territories of ethnic communities, and that their care work is not considered an integral part of the rural economy.

The shared responsibility of men and women in the decision-making of the Agricultural Production Units (UPA) is higher among inhabitants of ethnic communities (23.62%) than among the non-ethnic rural population (8.45%). Similarly, shared decisions are of great importance in production decisions in the collective property of 34.3%.

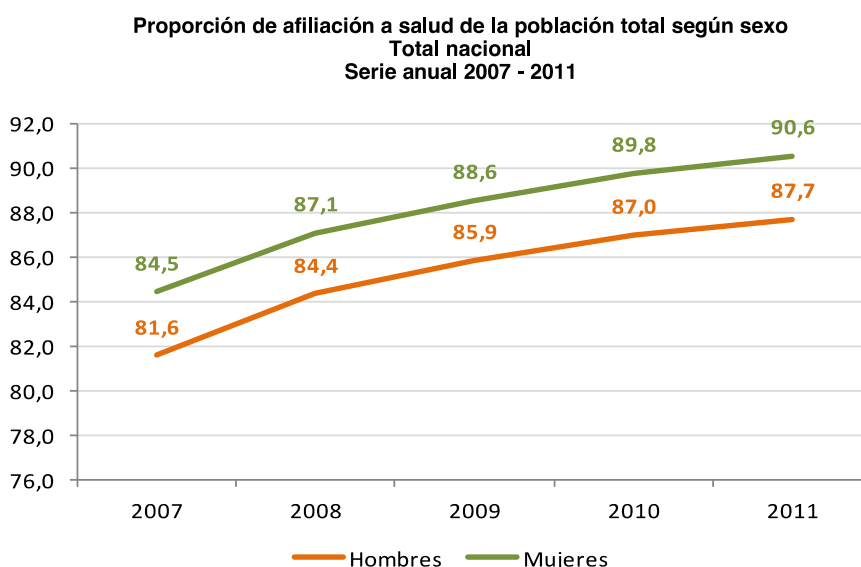
<sup>6</sup> Boletín técnico Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares (GEIH) fuerza laboral y educación 2017

## 2.9. 2.9 Health

By 2018, 93.4% of the people are affiliated to the General System of Social Security in Health for the total of the municipal head offices of the country. The lowest levels of affiliation were found in the Orinoco Amazon region with 93.1%. (DANE, National Quality of Life Survey, 2018).

According to DANE's Gender statistics for 2011, 90.6% of women were affiliated to the health social security system, while the proportion for men was 87.7%. Since 2007, there has been an increase in affiliations between the two sexes (see graph 9)

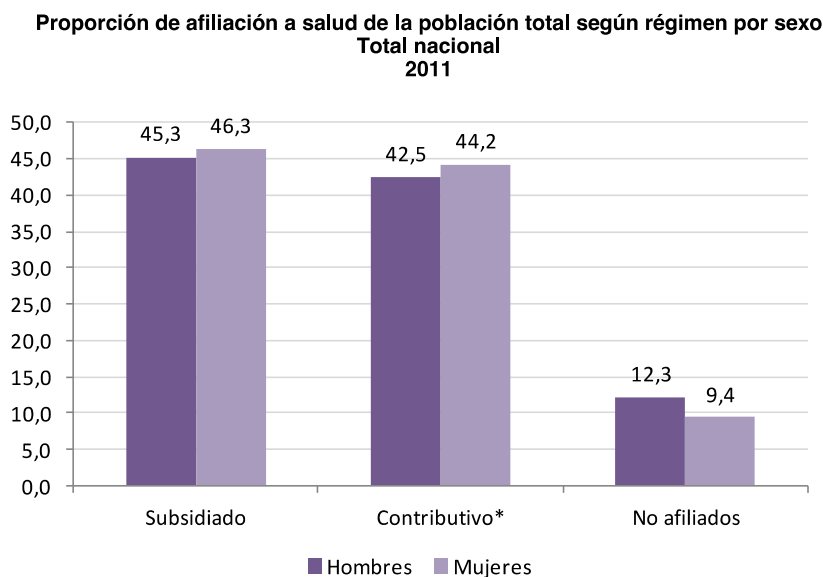
**Graph 9: Proportion of health affiliation of the total population by sex**



Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

The proportion of women who belong to the contributory or special regime is 44.2% while for men it is 42.5% with a difference between the two of 1.7 percentage points. For the subsidized regime, 46.3% of women were affiliated to this regime, while men have a percentage of 45.3% (Graph 10).

**Graph 10: proportion of affiliation to health of the total population according to regimen and sex**



Source: Boletín de Prensa. Género 2011. Bogotá 21 de noviembre de 2012

According to the National Demographic and Health Survey (2015), the infant mortality rate is 15.8 for the national total, 13.2 in urban areas and 22.4 in rural areas. The mortality rate for women aged 15-49 is 1.3, while for men it is 3.1.

### 3. Legal and administrative framework protecting women and promoting gender equality in Colombia

#### 3.1. International protocols and frameworks ratified by Colombia in support of gender equality, women's empowerment and Human Rights

The promotion of equality, social inclusion, and human rights has been recognized through different instruments at the international level. Among these instruments are some that have laid the foundation for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1980), which includes rights for rural women to participate in development plans, access to credit, services, and agrarian reform (article 14 (2)); the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action signed during the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995) and considered one of the most progressive plans to promote women's rights, where it was determined that in order to achieve gender equality it is necessary to have specific activities aimed at the empowerment of women, and to take into account gender considerations in all cross-sectoral policies and programs to consider gender impacts; the United Nations General Assembly Resolution in 2011 on the participation of women in politics, which states that "women continue to be largely marginalized from the political sphere worldwide, often as a result of discriminatory gender laws, practices, attitudes and stereotypes, low levels of education, lack of access to public services and because they are disproportionately affected by poverty (UN Women)<sup>7</sup>.

Similarly, the Brasilia Declaration of the Conference of Rural Women for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2014 points to the need for States to make significant efforts to change the conditions of inequality (FAO, 2017, quoted by Camacho, A, et al, 2018).

The Objectives for Sustainable Development (ODS) also constitute an important instrument for the promotion of gender equality, specifically; Objective 5 "seeks to achieve gender equity and

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.unwomen.org/es/what-we-do/leadership-and-political-participation>

the empowerment of women and girls" (Camacho, A, et al, 2018). It is worth highlighting some of the goals set for the achievement of this objective:

- Ensure the full and effective participation of women and equal leadership opportunities at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
- Undertake reforms that give women the right to equal economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control of land and other assets.
- Improve the use of enabling technology, particularly information and communications technology, to promote women's empowerment.
- Adopt and strengthen sound policies to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels.

Colombia has ratified and/or signed several key international conventions, treaties and plans of action to advance gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights (Table 6).

**Table 6: Conventions ratified by Colombia to advance gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights**

Instrument	Ratification status		Status /relevant aspects
	Signature	Ratification	
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1966	1969	Colombia ratified the Optional Protocol
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1966	1969	Colombia ratified the Optional Protocol
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1969	1981	-
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	1980	1982	Colombia ratified the Optional Protocol to CEDAW in 2007. Considered the International Guide of Women's Rights. It points out that States Parties must incorporate the gender perspective in all their institutions, policies and actions in order to guarantee equality.
ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples	1989	1991	Ratified by Colombia through Law 21 of 1991
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	1985	1987	Approved through the 1986 law. However, it has not ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention.
Convention on the Rights of the Child	1990	1991	Ratified by Colombia through Law 12 of 1991, which has constitutional rank. Colombia signed the Optional Protocol
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	1990	1995	-
Rio Declaration on Environment and Development	1992	-	-
Convention on Biological Diversity	1992	1994	Colombia became a party to the Convention by Act No. 165 of 1994. In 2014, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopts the Gender Action Plan 2015-2020.



Instrument	Ratification status		Status /relevant aspects
	Signature	Ratification	
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1992	1994	Colombia approved by Law 164 of 1994. In 2000, Colombia approved the Kyoto Protocol through Law 629 of 2000. In 2001, the Seventh Conference of the Parties called for the participation of women in the representation mechanisms of the parties to the UNFCCC. At COP16 in Cancun, explicit recognition is given to the special vulnerability of climate change to certain groups by virtue of their gender, age, ethnicity or disability status. The importance of promoting women's participation in decision-making processes in ecosystem management in mitigation and adaptation efforts is also recognized. Parties are urged to develop national strategies that take into account aspects such as governance, land tenure, gender and safeguards with the effective participation of local communities. COP 17 in 2011 reinforces the need to deepen the differential effects that mitigation measures have on women and children. At COP 20 the parties adopted the Lima Work Programme on Gender.
Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights	1993		Established a foundation for promoting the rights of women, children and indigenous peoples by supporting the creation of a new mechanism such as the Special Rapporteur on violence against women.
Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará)	1994	1996	For the first time, it proposes mechanisms for the protection and defense of women's rights as fundamental to the fight against violence against women.
World Summit for Social Development	1995	-	Points out that women participation and equality and equity between women and men are essential for economic and social development.
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict	2000	2005	It points out that women's participation and equality and equity between women and men is fundamental to economic and social development.
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2006	2010	Ratified by Law 1418 of 2010
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2006	2009	Approved by Law 1346 of 2009

Instrument	Ratification status		Status /relevant aspects
	Signature	Ratification	
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	2007	2009	Although Colombia did not vote in favor of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples reversed its decision and supported the declaration during the Durban conference
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2007	2012	-
Brasilia Declaration of the Conference of Rural Women for Latin America and the Caribbean	2014	-	Highlights the need for states to make significant efforts to change conditions of inequality

Source Prepared by the authors with information from <https://indicators.ohchr.org/>

In general terms, these instruments are aimed at tackling the following problems: persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women; unequal and inadequate access to education and training; unequal and inadequate access to health services; violence against women, effects of armed conflict; inequality in political and economic structures, in all forms of productive activity and access to resources; disparity between men and women in the exercise of power and decision-making; Inadequate promotion and protection of women's human rights; stereotypes about women and inequality in their access to and participation in information systems and the media; inequalities in natural resource management and environmental protection; and persistent discrimination and violation of girls' rights.

### 3.2. Key national frameworks, policies and laws for gender equality and women's empowerment in Colombia

At the national level, Colombia's constitution includes the principles of gender equality and non-discrimination through the following articles<sup>8</sup>:

- **Article 5:** The State recognizes, without any discrimination whatsoever, the primacy of the inalienable rights of the individual and protects the family as the basic institution of society.
- **Article 13:** All individuals are born free and equal before the law, shall receive equal protection and treatment from the authorities, and shall enjoy the same rights, freedoms, and opportunities without any discrimination on account of gender, race, national or family origin, language, religion, political opinion, or philosophy. The State shall promote the conditions so that equality may be real and effective and shall adopt measures in favor of groups that are discriminated against or marginalized. The State shall especially protect those individuals who on account of their economic, physical, or mental condition are in obviously vulnerable circumstances and shall sanction the abuses or ill treatment perpetrated against them.
- **Article 43:** Women and men have equal rights and opportunities. Women cannot be subjected to any type of discrimination. During their periods of pregnancy and following delivery, women shall benefit from the special assistance and protection of the State and shall receive from the latter food subsidies if they should thereafter find themselves unemployed or abandoned. The State shall specially support head of household.

<sup>8</sup><https://constitutions.unwomen.org/en/search?keywords=colombia&provisioncategory=b21e8a4f9df246429cf4e8746437e5ac>

There are also different laws at the national level that contribute to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. Women's rights are recognized in the national normative framework through the following laws:

- Law 581 of 2000, which regulates the adequate and effective participation of women in the decision-making levels of the different branches and agencies of public power.
- Law 731 of 2002, which aims to improve the quality of life of rural women by prioritizing those with low resources and to enshrine specific measures, aimed at accelerating equity between rural men and women. These norms favor the recognition of rural women and guarantee their participation in decision-making spaces.
- Law 1257 of 2008 establishes norms for the sensitization, prevention and sanctions related to forms of violence and discrimination against women.
- Constitutional Court Order 092 of 2008 which aims to protect the fundamental rights of women displaced by the armed conflict in the country and to prevent the disproportionate gender impact of armed conflict and forced displacement. Prevention of the disproportionate impact of displacement; 2. Prevention of sexual violence against women; 3. Prevention of domestic and community violence; 4. Promotion of health; 5. Protection of the rights of women of African descent; 10. Promotion of participation and prevention of violence against women leaders; 11. To justice, truth, reparation and non-repetition; 12. Psychosocial accompaniment; 13. Removal of barriers to access to the protection system.
- Law 1430 of 2010 regulates the inclusion of the care economy in the national accounting system to measure the contribution of women to the economic and social development of the country.
- Law 1448 of 2011 establishes policies for the attention, assistance and integral reparation offered to the victims of the internal armed conflict, including specific measures aimed at women victims of the conflict, and measures for the restitution of land to women.
- Law 1496 of 2001: guarantees equal salaries for women and men and establishes mechanisms to eradicate any form of discrimination.
- Decree 2395 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development This decree creates the Directorate of Rural Women within the Vice-Ministry of Rural Development.

The Vice-Ministry of Rural Development of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR) has the Directorate of Rural Women for the implementation of Law 731 of 2002. Within this Directorate, the Rural Women Programme was designed and implemented to strengthen and improve the living conditions of rural women in their diversity, overcoming the obstacles that keep rural women living in poverty and vulnerability, and promoting their equity. This program has led to progress in recognizing the needs, situation, and demands of rural women in Colombia. (Camacho, A, et al, 2018).

It is important to note that the Rural Women's Directorate plays a leading role in the preparation of Development Programmes with a Territorial Approach (PDET) and, in general, in the implementation of Point 1 of the Peace Agreement. Besides, in alliance with FAO, National Plans of Adaptation to Climate Change have been prepared with a gender focus in departments such as Chocó, Nariño and Cauca, through a booklet designed to be used in the territories (IDEAM, et al, 2018).

At the national level, the Presidential Office for Women's Equality is responsible for assisting the Presidency and the National Government in the design of government policies aimed at promoting equality between women and men and promoting the incorporation of a gender perspective in the creation, management and monitoring of policies, plans and programmes in public entities at the national and regional levels. It has several inputs or documents to promote women's equality such as: Guide for dialogue between governments and women's organizations, guide for the construction of public policies for women's empowerment and equal opportunities, routes to prevent violence against women, recommendations to create or strengthen gender mechanisms, among others.

Since 2012 the country has had a National Policy on Gender Equity, as an instrument to guide the mainstreaming of the gender approach in the country's public policy, which prioritizes the following strategies:

- Promotion of women's participation in positions of power and decision-making.
- Promotion and strengthening of access to property and production resources. This strategy considers the access of rural and ethnic women to comprehensive technical assistance for the promotion of sustainable activities related to income generation and food security.
- Reduction of risk factors and vulnerability of women about their home and environment. It proposes the implementation of actions to recognize and value the role of rural women and ethnic groups in ecological agriculture and biodiversity conservation.
- Mobilization and communication for cultural transformation: raising awareness of women's rights and non-discriminatory practices for the entire population.
- Institutional strengthening.

Concerning gender considerations related to Climate Change and according to Colombia's Second Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (2018), the country recognizes the importance of incorporating the gender perspective in climate change management to prevent existing inequalities and structural inequities from worsening due to their effects. Likewise, the importance of taking into account the different roles, needs and abilities of men and women in the design and implementation of policies, programs, and actions for mitigation and adaptation to climate change is recognized, as well as the recognition of the important role that women have in agricultural production, food security and the resilience of communities to climate change, fundamental aspects to promote sustainable and inclusive development (IDEAM, et al, 2018).

It is important to note that, although the National Climate Change Policy does not have a gender mainstreaming approach, since 2017 the Climate Change Directorate of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) has developed a Proposal for Technical Guidelines to Promote and Strengthen the Gender Approach in climate change management with the aim of being incorporated into the National Climate Change System (SISCLIMA), the IACC and the PNCC. SISCLIMA has the Regional Climate Change Nodes for inter-institutional coordination that become the ideal instances at the territorial level for the incorporation of the gender perspective.

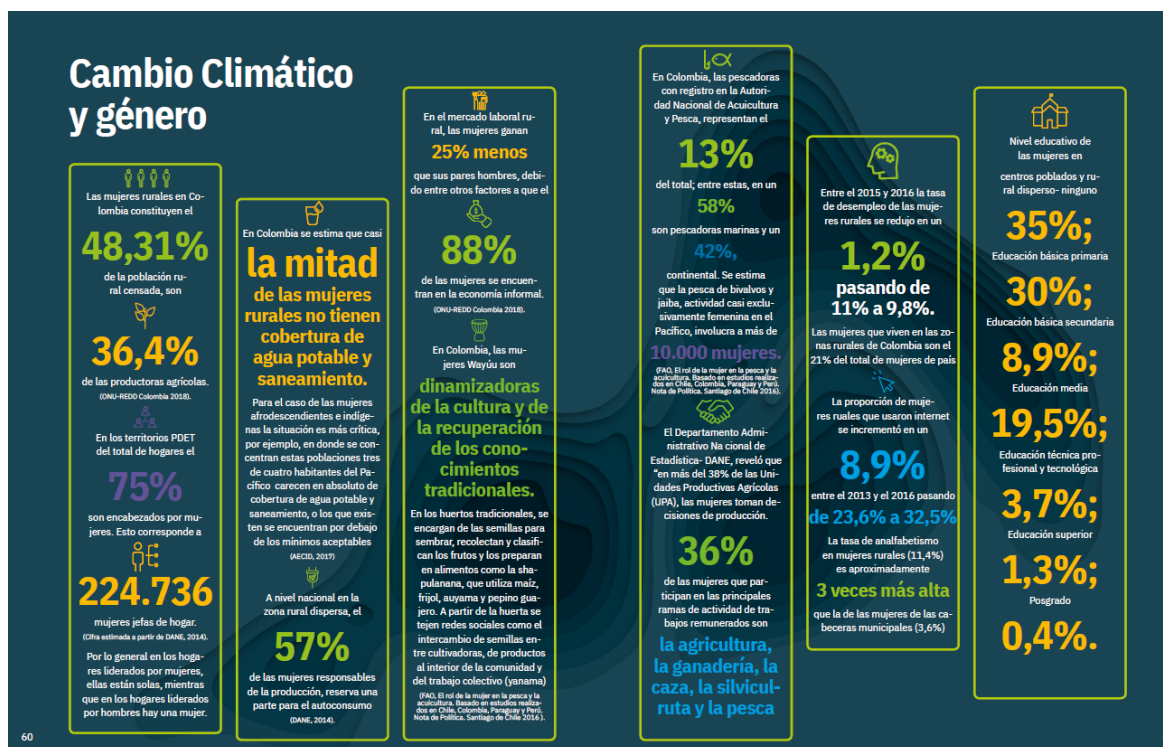
This effort is reflected in the formulation of recommendations to incorporate the gender perspective in the conceptual framework of the PNCC, as well as in the construction of an integral vision of climate change with a territorial and sectoral approach, incorporating the different dimensions of rural and urban development, so that it is low-carbon, sustainable and climate-resilient, among others. Also, it incorporates recommendations to promote the adequate participation of women in decision-making processes and climate change management. (IDEAM, et al, 2018, p. 29).

The Ministry of Mines and Energy included a differential and gender focus in the adoption of the Human Rights Policy in the Mining and Energy Sector through Resolution 48796 of 2018, as part of the actions it hopes to implement. IDEAM, for its part, is moving forward with a methodological proposal to include differential approaches, including the gender approach. With the support of the National University, progress is being made in the construction of a system of indicators for the evaluation of agricultural activities with a focus on rights and gender (IDEAM, et al, 2018).

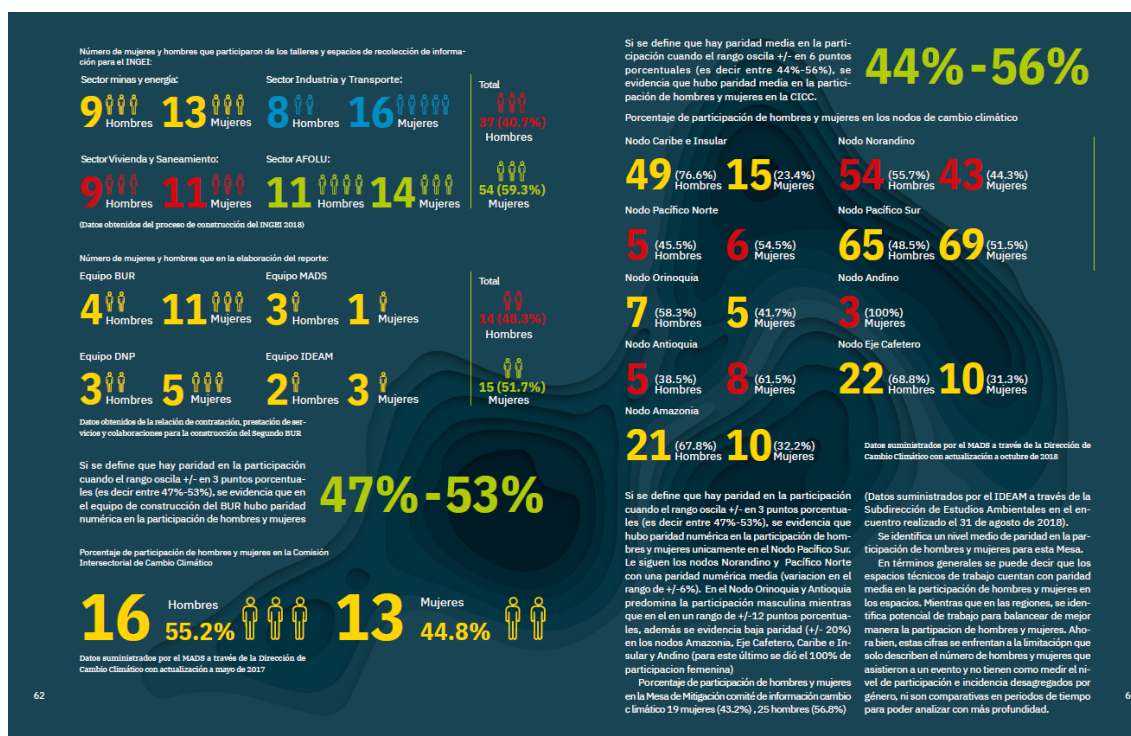
It is worth noting that with the support of IDEAM, UNDP and the Great Alliance against Deforestation, the Conversation "Gender and Climate Change Considerations in the Framework of the Construction of the Second Biennial Update Report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - UNFCCC" was held at the end of 2018 with the aim of facilitating a space for dialogue and participation among relevant actors to discuss the importance of addressing the gender perspective in national climate change reports. The event was attended by MADS, MADR Rural Women's Directorate, Minminas, DNP, IDEAM, UNDP, FAO, the Action Fund and WWF Colombia. One of the main conclusions of this space is that, although the country

has different tools to incorporate the gender approach in climate change issues, it is necessary to strengthen the development of gender capacities in decision-makers and public officials to move towards greater inter-institutional coordination on the issue.

As a first approximation to glimpse the participation of women and men in climate change decision-making spaces, the report presents participation data disaggregated by sex for the Intersectoral Commission on Climate Change (CICC) and the Regional Climate Change Nodes (NRCC) where it is reflected that women's participation has been significant. The data are presented below.



Source: IDEAM, et al, 2018, page. 60-61



Source: IDEAM, et al, 2018, page. 62-64

### 3.3. Gender equality policies, plans and programs

#### Green Climate Fund Gender Policy

The Green Climate Fund stands out for being one of the first to incorporate gender considerations from the beginning of its operations. Gender equality is fundamental to the objectives and principles of the Green Climate Fund. Besides, a gender-sensitive approach is integrated into the Fund's governance instrument and related policies that have been adopted since its inception.

In 2015, the board adopted the Gender Policy and Action Plan (Green Climate Fund, 2017), which read as follows:

- Both women and men contribute significantly to combating climate change. Shifting the paradigm towards low-emission, climate-resilient development pathways, which is the Fund's mandate, requires a large number of individual and collective decisions by women and men. A gender-sensitive approach is therefore part of a paradigm shift.
- Climate change affects women and men differently, to the detriment of women, and existing gender inequalities are likely to be exacerbated by climate change.
- Gender inequality, exacerbated by climate change, is linked to vulnerability and risks. Women's increased vulnerability to climate change is due to gender norms and discrimination that result in an unbalanced division of labor, lower incomes and fewer livelihood opportunities; less access to and control over land and other productive assets; fewer legal rights; less mobility; and less political and professional representation.

By adopting a gender-sensitive approach, the Green Climate Fund contributes efficiently to gender equality by achieving greater and sustainable results in the face of climate change.

The Green Climate Fund emphasizes the importance of incorporating a gender perspective in all the Fund's projects to promote the equal participation of men and women in the design, development and implementation of strategies and activities that are financed. This will improve the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation interventions and ensure that benefits are equitably distributed between men and women. Gender mainstreaming enables interventions to be more effective and efficient.



With the support of UN Women, the Fund developed a guide that includes a series of methodological tools aimed at incorporating a gender perspective in project design. Gender mainstreaming should shape the entire project cycle from project identification to monitoring and evaluation. The following steps are proposed: Gender Analysis, 2. Gender Evaluation, 3. Gender Action Plan, and 4. Gender Sensitive Monitoring and Evaluation. These considerations were considered in the preparation of this document.

#### FAO Gender Equality Policy

Some United Nations Agencies have incorporated a gender perspective into their internal policies from the perspective of work and institutional management, as well as the need to incorporate it into monitoring and evaluation projects and processes.

In this regard, FAO's Gender Equality Policy (2013) "Achieving food security goals in agriculture and rural development" highlights the organization's commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women as central elements in sustainable agricultural production and rural development, for the elimination of hunger and poverty.

The policy emphasizes that closing the gender gap in agriculture and other aspects of rural life contributes to generating significant advances for sustainable development. In this regard, FAO considers gender equality as a central element that enables it to fulfill its mandate of achieving food security for all by increasing levels of nutrition, optimizing agricultural productivity and the management of natural resources, to improve the living conditions of the rural population. In this sense, it is recognized that agricultural production in the family environment depends on the collaboration and complementary work of men and women.

The main objectives of the policy are the following (FAO, 2013):

- Women participate as much as men in decision-making in rural institutions and the formulation of laws, policies, and programs.
- Women and men have equal access to and control over decent jobs and income, land and other production aspects.
- Women and men have equal access to the goods and services needed for agricultural development and markets.
- Women's workload is reduced by 20 percent through improved technologies, services, and infrastructure.
- Agricultural support for women's projects and gender equality increases to 30% of total agricultural support.

In this way, FAO incorporates gender aspects into all facets of its work, seeking to make gender mainstreaming a daily practice in its normative work and all programs and projects at the level of regions, subregions, and countries.

In this regard, FAO will ensure the incorporation of gender analysis in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all programmes and projects in the field, will promote that the needs and priorities of rural women are taken into account in all the processes that FAO conducts, will ensure that none of the efforts made contribute to increasing gender inequalities and discrimination against women, will contribute to creating internal structures and systems that promote the equitable participation of women in decision-making in FAO, among others. Also, where the gender gap is very large, FAO will promote programs and projects specifically targeting women.

As fundamental to FAO's mandate, gender equality is integrated into the Strategic Framework as a cross-cutting theme to support the achievement of strategic programs (SPs) at two levels: within and across SPs.

FAO's work will systematically review and consider the needs, priorities, and experiences of women and men as part of project development and knowledge creation activities. This is done to ensure that women and men benefit equally from interventions and that gender inequality is

not perpetuated or exacerbated. To integrate gender equality and women's empowerment into planning and implementation processes at various levels to obtain gender-equitable results and to ensure a gender-sensitive monitoring and reporting system, a Gender Team consists of gender experts from the Division of Social Policies and Rural Institutions (ESP). Regional gender officers and a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) working at Headquarters and in Decentralized Offices (DOs) have been established. The GFP Network in decentralized offices is composed of gender officers stationed in regional gender offices. GFP in sub-regional and country offices plays a central role in ensuring that FAO's gender equality policy is implemented globally.

At the project level, to incorporate a gender perspective (such as the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action), two actions will be developed before project implementation:

1. Baseline survey of conduct at the initial stage of project implementation, including gender-related questions and integration of the gender dimension into the logical framework/results framework as indicators of outputs, outcomes and impact to be tracked through the monitoring and evaluation system; and 2. A baseline survey of conduct at the initial stage of project implementation, including gender-related questions and integration of the gender dimension into the logical framework/results framework as indicators of outputs, outcomes and impact to be tracked through the monitoring and evaluation system.
2. Establish a participatory and gender-sensitive monitoring framework to assess progress and impact on men and women, identify constraints encountered during implementation, and make suggestions for changing or adding new activities, with self-evaluation by participants.

At the same time, FAO has the FAO Technical Guide to support the governance of responsible and gender-equitable land tenure. This guide incorporates a gender perspective to achieve more equitable participation between men and women in land decision-making processes and institutions. It focuses on the concept of equity and how land administration considers the differences, needs, and priorities of men and women. In this way, it offers a series of tools, strategies, and actions that contribute to improving gender equity in processes and activities related to land tenure governance.

Gender equity must be incorporated into the governance of land tenure to ensure that the interests and needs of all people—women and men—are considered; and that transparent, consultative and participatory procedures prevail in tenure-related processes and institutions (FAO, 2013, p. 5).

#### UN-REDD Programme Gender Approach

For its part, the UN-REDD Programme made up of UNDP, FAO and UN Environment has been promoting gender equality since 2008 and has therefore taken steps to systematically and actively promote gender equality and a human rights-based approach in its work. Throughout its work, it has developed different instruments and tools for the inclusion of the gender perspective in its actions.

The UN-REDD Programme Gender approach has three main objectives (UN-REDD, 2017):

1. Ensure that the principles of gender equality and women's empowerment guide the formulation, prioritization, and implementation of REDD+ policies and measures and are fully integrated into them.
2. Comply with gender equality provisions set out in international REDD+ agreements including their safeguards.
3. Promote gender mainstreaming in planning, implementation, monitoring, and knowledge management activities to implement REDD+ measures with a gender perspective and contribute to ODS 5 on gender equality.

To promote a gender approach, the UN-REDD Programme integrates gender equality and women's empowerment as cross-cutting elements in all UN-REDD thematic areas and its

technical assistance at national, regional and global levels. In this way, it supports countries to systematically include gender-sensitive activities in the design, implementation, and enforcement of their REDD+ measures so that all stakeholders can participate and benefit equitably and meaningfully.

It is important to mention that, through the Programme, a guidance guide was designed to integrate the gender perspective into REDD+. This instrument has become an important basis for including gender considerations throughout the different phases of REDD+ processes in countries. This guide makes the following recommendations for mainstreaming gender (UN-REDD, 2013):

- Both women and men are key agents of change, whose unique but often differentiated knowledge, skills, and experience are vital to the success of REDD+ actions.
- Given the diverse social, economic, and cultural inequalities and legal models, particularly within the forest sector, women (and often other marginalized groups such as the poor, youth and the disabled) are constrained in their ability to fully participate in and benefit from REDD+ action.
- Women, men, and youth often respond differently to REDD+ incentives and policies; they have different relationships with institutions (international organizations, national and local governments, and traditional authorities) and unequal access to and control over resources.
- Activities that do not take gender differentiation into account not only limit the scope and effectiveness of REDD+ activities but also can worsen existing gender inequalities.
- Women's livelihood activities and indigenous knowledge of the forest can contribute to activities such as monitoring, soil management, and forest restoration functions, which can contribute positively to sustainable forest management or improved forest carbon content.

The UN-REDD Programme has also designed different instruments to guarantee an effective incorporation of the gender perspective in its programs. It is important to mention the following:

- Checklist for gender-sensitive workshops.
- Sample Gender Checklist for a National REDD+ Strategy
- Stepping up efforts to measure progress towards gender equality
- UN-REDD Methodological Report on Gender (2017).
- Increase efforts to measure progress towards gender equality

The UN-REDD Programme at the global level has several advances in the field of gender to guide the preparation of National Strategies for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (ENREDD+), as well as gathers the lessons learned from the United Nations Agencies that lead it.

The work has focused on the need to establish broader and more informed channels of participation to correct structural imbalances in the pillars of REDD+ related to gender inequality such as the sexual division of labor, access to and control over resources, and substantive participation. (Camacho, A, et al, 2018).

In Colombia, the UN-REDD National Programme developed two consultancies specialized in gender issues that allowed, firstly, to have a documentary review aimed at elucidating the most relevant aspects of gender and REDD+, and secondly, to have a baseline in accordance with the recommendations arising from dialogues held at the national and regional levels with leaders and representatives of organizations of indigenous, Afro-Colombian and peasant communities for 2015-2017.

This work was carried out taking into account the guidelines of the United Nations and the UN-REDD Programme, and was developed within the framework of the process led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development since 2009, in conjunction with the program

(FCPF) implemented by the Action Fund, the Programme for the Protection of Forests and Climate/REDD+ of GIZ and WWF Colombia.

The objective of this work was to take into account gender considerations that should be taken into account for the implementation of the EICDGB, taking as a starting point the work that UN-REDD has been developing in Colombia in the accompaniment to the construction and implementation of the Strategy.

#### **4. Gender issues around forests and National REDD+ Strategy**

To understand gender issues around forests and REDD+, it is important to consider the document prepared by the UN-REDD Programme (2018) "Forests and Gender in preparation for REDD+. An input for the incorporation of the gender approach in the Integrated Strategy for Control of Deforestation and Forest Management".

Some of the main considerations regarding this issue are presented in this section of the document:

First, it is important to note that the effects of climate change are different for men and women who live in both rural and urban environments according to their roles and the relationship they weave with their environment and available natural resources.

According to OXFAM quoted by (Camacho, A. et al., 2018), women experience greater vulnerability to the negative effects of climate change, related to less control over and access to resources, which affects social reproduction work and generates other specific effects that are experienced, for example, after natural disasters.

"Women are important mobilizers of change that enhance the capacity to adapt to and mitigate climate change, through decisions related to their homes, the daily use of resources, consumption patterns and the provision for their homes. (Camacho, A. et al., 2018, p. 13.).

Thus, it is important to recognize the roles that men and women play in forest management, since gender roles and stereotypes have a significant impact on the direct impact of climate change on women, in aspects related to water supply, food preparation, fuel and care work, which are traditionally considered feminine activities and which are made more demanding by climate change.

In this sense, it is important to highlight women's practices and actions within climate change mitigation measures since women are conceived as transforming subjects towards more sustainable and resilient life models.

The need to incorporate the gender perspective in REDD+ actions and processes is highlighted, as well as to promote inclusive and equitable participation in order to avoid the emergence of potential risks for women that could have a negative impact on them, such as the increase in workload, the loss of control and access to resources that are fundamental for their subsistence and that of their families, the increase in inequalities in participation and access to information and in the distribution of benefits. (Camacho, A. et al., 2018).

In this sense, gender mainstreaming is fundamental for the construction and implementation of national REDD+ strategies. According to Setyowati, 2012, quoted by Camacho, A. et al., 2018, the integration of the gender perspective in REDD+ processes generates:

- Specific knowledge, skills, and experiences of women as main forest users, and the different roles, rights, and responsibilities of men and women, as well as their access to the use of modalities and knowledge about forests.
- Accurate information on the causes and agents of deforestation and forest degradation.
- Measures with guaranteed efficiency for the sustainable management, conservation, and restoration of forests.

- Improved the equitable distribution of benefits.
- Consistency with the human rights-based approach to development.

In general, women are one of the poorest actors in rural areas. Despite existing efforts towards gender equality, rural women have the lowest levels of schooling and the highest illiteracy rates (FAO, 2011, quoted by Camacho, A. et al., 2018). Similarly, women have greater difficulties in being employed in rural areas, owning land and being a substantive part of decision-making processes in the UPA (López, 2106 cited by Camacho, A. et al., 2018).

In environmental management and rural development in Colombia there are large gender inequalities related to land ownership, access to resources by women belonging to ethnic and peasant communities, lack of information on the sexual division of labor and exclusion from reproductive work as part of rural activities (LÓPEZ, 2017, quoted by Camacho, A. et al., 2018).

It is important to bear in mind the implications of the armed conflict on women since forced displacement has differential effects on men and women. The ruptures and losses tend to be stronger for displaced women since when they lose their partners, they have to assume the function of generating income in their homes, having to assume not only reproductive but also productive activities, increasing their workload.

It is important to emphasize that women's organizations and groups at the community level are fundamental to the structuring of forest management based on environmental governance. It is therefore essential to promote women's participation in REDD+ actions and decision-making spaces.

To understand the differentiated impacts by gender on deforestation and degradation of López forests, 2016, quoted by Camacho, A. et al. (2018), it is important to take into account the following axes of analysis for the integration of the gender perspective in the Strategy:

1. Roles in forest management and the sexual division of labor
2. Gender Equality in access to and control over natural resources
3. Substantive participation in decision making on land use

1. Roles in forest management and the sexual division of labor

According to Camacho, et al, 2018, regarding the sexual division of labor, rural communities have been less likely to implement change. Rural households over time are dominated by a patriarchal ideology where women usually do reproductive work while men do productive work. Women's work is generally not visible and recognized because it usually does not generate monetary income, but rather serves for the sustenance and care of the household.

Rural women have fundamental ancestral knowledge for the sustainable management of forests related to traditional tasks of care, maintenance and use of forests such as subsistence (food security: collection and processing of fruits and seeds, horticulture, management of the orchard), health (management and knowledge of medicinal plants), elaboration of material goods (use of forest resources for the elaboration of handicrafts and other objects of daily use), selection of wood for use in stoves, among others.

Men, on the other hand, generally work in commercial activities such as cattle ranching, timber extraction, agro-industrial crops and transportation that generate monetary resources, but have a greater impact on the environment and are considered as causes and agents of deforestation and forest degradation.

The use of forest resources is widely marked by the sexual division of labor. Generally, women are responsible of harvesting non-timber forest products while men traditionally carry out activities for their commercialization and market access, which generates inequalities and imbalances in the distribution of benefits.

Due to their nature, women have a greater vocation towards the care of nature, their families and their communities; this potential can be used towards better conservation and sustainable use practices. However, there is little recognition of the work women do in natural resource management and their role in conservation work.

However, in climate change scenarios as mentioned above, women experience greater difficulties in carrying out their traditional tasks and must devote more time to carrying them out, generating a greater workload.

It is important to note that rural women experience different types of discrimination linked to their age group, marital status, educational level, and family burdens.

In this sense, the association of the female role in environmental care, implies an overload of women's unpaid work, the depoliticization of the female agency in environmental issues, and the understanding of micro responsibilities (waste management, use of water for cleaning, recycling, selection of fuel type for cooking, etc.) in the management of natural resources (Camacho, A. et al., 2018, p.21).

Men and women relate in different and diverse ways to the forest about access, knowledge, control, forms of management and management. Although the role of women in forest management has been little recognized and made visible, their contribution is fundamental for forest use and management, agroecology, food security, defense of territories, transmission of knowledge, among others. (Camacho, A. et al., 2018).

Some fundamental considerations to be taken into account for gender mainstreaming from the perspective of the sexual division of labor in the Strategy are the followings:

- Equitable distribution of the benefits
- Capacity Building of Women in Community Forestry Work
- Recognition and remuneration of differentiated work with the management of natural and forest resources.
- Visualization of the role of women in food security and livelihoods.

## 2. Gender Equality in access to and control over natural resources

Inequality in decision-making processes, the subordination of the feminine role within the patriarchal order of the family, society and local communities generate important imbalances in access and control of natural resources between men and women, which also extends to mechanisms for adaptation and mitigation of climate change. (Camacho, A. et al., 2018).

Although women have the capacity to produce food and have access to different material, monetary and immaterial resources, and have ancestral knowledge about the management of natural and forest resources that are part of the intangible heritage of local communities, they generally do not have the power to manage the revenues from their work or the capacity to control the benefits obtained from environmental management.

As mentioned above, women represent 48.3 percent of the census rural population, of which 36.4 percent are agricultural producers. However, concerning the labor market, rural women earn less than men (25%) because most of them are in the informal economy. Concerning access to and control over resources, it is important to note that access to land ownership, inheritance practices, the land market, technical assistance and access to credit become important barriers to achieving gender equality in the rural sector.

Gender inequality in land ownership and tenure is accentuated in contexts of armed conflict where armed groups usually usurp their territory, linked to illegal economies (logging of forests, illegal extraction of minerals, illicit use of crops) to exercise territorial control. In this sense, it is important to recognize how the conflict hinders collective participation in local environmental defense



initiatives, in political and community participation, where women are in conditions of greater vulnerability to gender violence.

In this context, it is important to bear in mind Law 160 of 1994, which establishes ways of promoting access to land for peasant men and women who are not landowners and who have a tradition of rural work, who find themselves in conditions of poverty and marginalization, or who derive most of their income from agricultural activity, and the current Rural Development Statute of 2007, which provides for joint titling in the name of spouses or permanent partners.

FAO highlights the need to know the obstacles or problems faced by rural women about land tenure and associated rights, seeking to ensure that the legal framework protects women and their rights are promoted on an equal footing. The current context of land-use planning is centered on the fight against social inequity in rural areas.

In this sense, the key elements to be considered from the perspective of access and control of resources for mainstreaming the gender approach in the strategy are the following (Camacho, A. et al., 2018):

- To strengthen capacities for decision making about the use and management of territories.
- Promote women's participation in the commercialization of products and access to markets.
- Improve conditions for access to land-based on the control of natural resources.
- Consider financial and human resources destined to include gender issues in terms of food sovereignty, differential knowledge of forest resources and strengthening of traditional forms of knowledge transmission.

### 3. Substantive participation in decision making on land use

In general, in projects, the construction of gender indicators is limited to quantifying data disaggregated by sex; however, the presence or absence of women in decision-making spaces and scenarios does not mean that gender considerations are being taken into account in the decision-making process. In this sense, it is important to highlight the need to observe the roles they occupy in decision-making spaces, the forms they adopt, their means of negotiation and the evolution of their participation throughout the process.

This type of analysis makes it possible to create participation indicators that make it possible to account for how women's participation is articulated with their strategic interests and practical needs.

Substantive participation is, therefore, a category of analysis that accounts for the possibility, performance and sustainability of social transformations promoted by a key agent (in this case women) throughout a process. (Camacho, A. Et al., 2018 p. 35)

The substantive participation of women is a central element in all moments of diagnosis, consultation, joint work and implementation in environmental governance. In this sense, the active participation of women is highlighted as a requirement and a means to generate a broader discussion on how actions, measures, and policies are determined within the framework of the Strategy. In this sense, it is important to sensitize institutions to promote gender considerations in their actions; this implies making effective existing policies and public instances and providing them with content and action.

In this sense, the key elements to be considered from the perspective of substantive participation for mainstreaming the gender perspective in the strategy are the following (Camacho, A. et al., 2018):

- Improve information and strengthen capacities in the decision-making processes on the Strategy.

- Generate conditions for the active participation of women in spaces for dialogue and decision-making.
- Promote spaces to identify strategic needs and considerations from the perspective of women.

#### **5. Incorporating the gender perspective into forest conservation efforts and REDD+ action in Colombia**

In 2013, the formulation process of the UN REDD-Colombia Programme begins at the request of the National Government to support the strengthening of national capacities to prepare the country for the implementation of REDD+. This process is based on the expectations and needs raised by different actors such as the National Government, civil society, indigenous organizations, Afro-descendants and peasants at the National Meeting of the Preparation Process of the National REDD+ Strategy (May 4, 2013). In 2014 the Programme's Policy Board approves the implementation of the Programme in Colombia, and in 2015 its implementation begins.

It is worth mentioning the accompaniment of the Programme to the National Government in the process of building its own vision about the implementation of the REDD+ approach in the country, which resulted in the joint construction by several actors of EICDGB. Thus, working groups were developed to ensure the incorporation of an ethnic and gender perspective to support the consolidation of the National REDD+ Roundtable.

During the country's preparation process for REDD+ (2010-2013), the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development led a series of participatory dialogues with various civil society actors, institutions, sectors and community-based organizations on the global issues associated with climate change mitigation and adaptation with emphasis on the implementation of the REDD+ approach at the national level. During these dialogues, some recommendations were made aimed at including specific actions related to the incorporation of a gender perspective for all actions in the construction of the National REDD+ Strategy.

These considerations, as well as the general guidelines of the UN-REDD Programme at the global level and the United Nations guidelines on this matter were considered for the implementation of the Programme.

The Programme aims to support the integration of the gender perspective in the preparatory actions of the REDD+ process in the country. In this sense, and according to the general guidelines, "in its implementation, the program sought to mainstream the gender approach at four levels: i) At the macro level of the policy and the National REDD+ Strategy, seeking to integrate specific actions that would make the gender perspective visible in a comprehensive manner; ii) At the intermediate level, seeking to strengthen the capacity and participation of women in intermediate articulation spaces and instances, promoting the establishment of agreements and gender-sensitive roadmaps specific to each actor (institutional and community); iii) At the local level in the territories; seek not only the substantive participation of women in the local spaces of implementation and dialogue, but also highlight the importance of central gender issues applied to the territory and forest management, and finally, iv) strengthen the institutional framework, led by MADS and IDEAM, for the application of the gender approach in the process of preparation and implementation of REDD+. (Garcia A., et al, 2018, p. 77).

The UN-REDD Programme has several positive results for the incorporation of the gender approach in ENREDD+, which are reflected below:

In 2016, a process of dialogue was initiated with various women's groups, especially women belonging to indigenous and Afro-descendant communities, to learn about their expectations and visions regarding the issue of climate change and the REDD+ preparation process. These dialogues enabled the framework of agreements signed with indigenous and Afro-descendant organizations to include products aimed at getting to know the perspective and considerations of women about the issue in question.

A baseline was also prepared based on the REDD+ guidance notes, which included a gender perspective (UN-REDD 2013) and a proposal for the incorporation of the gender perspective in the Strategy, including methodological considerations for its mainstreaming.

In 2017, a documentary review was carried out with a view to glimpsing relevant aspects of gender and REDD+ in Colombia and a document was prepared to integrate the gender perspective into the body of policies, measures and actions of the Territorial Life Forests Strategy, including specific recommendations for each one of the action lines of the strategy and their respective indicators. Also, a process was initiated with MADS and IDEAM that sought to improve the information and capacity of these institutions to incorporate the gender perspective in the implementation of the Strategy, and an inter-institutional gender group was formed consisting of MADS and the support programs FCPF and GIZ.

The main results about gender mainstreaming in ENREDD+ supported by the UN-REDD Programme were:

1. Conditions were created for women's participation in all the coordination and decision-making capacity-building events promoted by the Programme. A total of 622 women participated in this process.
2. Inclusion of the gender approach in the National Interpretation of Safeguards
3. The Strategy "Bosques Territorios de Vida" has a gender approach that reflects the needs and particularities of men and women, with gender-sensitive proposals in lines of action, measures and indicators.
4. Inter-institutional gender group for the REDD+ preparation process composed of MADS and the FCPF and GIZ support programmes.
5. Support MADS and IDEAM for the inclusion of gender considerations in the preparation and implementation of the country for REDD+.
6. There is a document analyzing the vision of indigenous women in the face of Climate Change and REDD+ prepared by ONIC and OPIAC.
7. During 2016 it accompanied and contributed financially to the strengthening of capacities for the consolidation of the Platform of Women of the Colombian Pacific.
8. There is a diagnosis and methodological proposal for the integration of the gender perspective in the Strategy "Bosques Territorios de Vida"

In general terms and thanks to the contribution of the UN-REDD Programme Colombia has:

- The Gender Equity approach is incorporated in every of the five action lines of the EICDGB.
- Indigenous organizations at the national level, such as ONIC and OPIAC, can implement the Strategy from a gender perspective.
- Working documents that serve as inputs for the integration and implementation of the gender approach for REDD+ in Colombia.
- National Interpretation of Safeguards with measures associated with gender mainstreaming.
- Installed capacity about the incorporation of the gender approach for the implementation of the Strategy in the Directorate of Forests, Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Climate Change of MADS and IDEAM work teams.

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) published, in August 2017, the EICDGB to respond to national and international commitments regarding deforestation reduction goals.

The EICDGB is a cross-sectoral policy instrument that involves the co-responsibility of the different sectors of the Colombian State, with the purpose of halting deforestation and forest degradation, addressing the complexity of the causes that generate it, starting from recognizing the strategic significance of these ecosystems for the country, for their socio-cultural, economic and environmental importance, for their potential as a development option in the framework of

the peace building process, and for their contribution to mitigation and adaptation to climate change. (MADS, IDEAM, 201, p. 2)

The Strategy seeks to reduce deforestation and forest degradation through its management and sustainable use by promoting forest management under a sustainable rural development approach based on natural forests that contributes to the wellbeing of local communities, contributes to local development and increases ecosystem resilience by promoting adaptation and mitigation of climate change. (MADS, IDEAM, 2017).

It proposes five strategic lines each one with measures and actions that seek to address the causes and agents of deforestation and degradation in Colombia.

These lines are:

1. Socio-cultural management of forests and public awareness
2. Development of a forest economy to close the agricultural frontier
3. Cross-sectoral management of land-use planning and environmental determinants
4. Permanent monitoring and control
5. Generation and strengthening of legal, institutional and financial capacities

The strategy recognizes the diversity of actors who are related to and interact with the forest and who therefore have different visions of its use, management, and conservation. In this way, the strategy faces the challenge of constructing a shared vision based on differences that recognize their meaning and value, that is, a joint appropriation integrating particularities and recognizing differences (MADS, IDEAM, 2017).

In this way, gender equality is part of the guiding principles of the strategy that guides the measures, actions, and activities established. The Strategy seeks to contribute to equality between men and women in sustainable agricultural production, sustainable forest management, and integral rural development. In this context, it is key to recognize the role that men and women play in the conservation of ecosystems, as well as the need for equitable access to natural resources, two elements through which the link between gender and the environment is highlighted.

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but also the necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Providing women and girls with equality in access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes will boost sustainable economies, and societies and humanity as a whole will benefit at the same time. (MADS-IDEAM, 2017, p. 15).

The EICDGB is framed within the Millennium Sustainable Development Goals. In the area of gender, the Strategy is specifically framed within the objective of Sustainable Development, not the Millennium Development Goals. Promote gender equality in rural and forest areas, considering that more than half of the women in Colombia live in rural areas and depend on forests.

For the construction of the EIDCGB", MADS has focused on "identifying the role of women as producers and conservation agents, identifying the knowledge with productive potential of women, and observing the differential effects of programs from a population-based approach" (Camacho, A. et al., 2018, p. 15).

There is also other gender-sensitive issues related to food security, sustainability of production processes through women, and better product benefits that can be enhanced through environmental and social safeguards that lead to better living conditions for households.

Within the lines and measures established in it, the gender focus is transversal as a guiding principle that constitutes an opportunity to establish different initiatives and activities in its implementation.

Some aspects where a gender-sensitive approach is explicitly mentioned in the EICDGB in some of its lines are the following (see table 7):

**Table 7: Some explicit gender considerations in the EICDGB: National Strategy “Bosques Territorios de Vida”**

LINE	MEASURE	GENDER CONSIDERATIONS
1. Socio-cultural management of forests and public awareness	M1.1 Optimize coordination between ethnic groups and institutions to harmonize their sectoral development planning instruments and territorial planning with a differential and gender focus.	Elaboration of a plan to strengthen instances and coordination mechanisms for the control of deforestation and forest management in collective territories of ethnic communities at the national, regional and local levels, based on a differential gender and generational approach.
		Promote actions aimed at the participation of women and young people in coordination bodies and mechanisms for the control of deforestation and forest management at the national, regional and local levels.
		Build the capacity of public institution officials for intercultural dialogue and forest management with a differential approach.
		Include in the environmental component of the PDETs the priorities that contribute to the reduction of deforestation from ethnic groups with a gender approach.
	Measure 1.2 related to strengthening systems of self-government and traditional knowledge of ethnic groups for territorial governance and sustainable management of forests is highlighted	Measures for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits
		Measures aimed at highlighting the differential knowledge possessed by men and women associated with sustainability, traditional medicine and food security.
	Measure 1.5 will focus on strengthening the participation and dialogue of local peasant, social, solidarity and non-governmental organizations in the conservation and sustainable management of the forest	Considers gender approach
	Measure 1.6 aimed at generating and promoting education and research processes for strengthening sustainable forest management.	Promote the inclusion of girls and women in capacity building and research activities with special emphasis on gender-related studies.

It is important to emphasize that the indicators established for these measures take into account the percentage of participation by gender. For the implementation of the Strategy, specific routes will be developed with indigenous peoples, black communities and peasants with a gender perspective.

### **5.1. Development of the participation process within the framework of the process of construction and preparation of the Strategy**

It is important to emphasize that the formulation of the Strategy was carried out from a regional approach allowing to recognize the dynamics of each territory and involving the key actors in the process of dialogue and participation around forest management and deforestation control (MADS, 2017).

With a view to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, two central approaches were identified for the construction of the Strategy: 1. The active participation of women in the processes and the approach by type of actor that aims to concentrate efforts so that gender considerations are recognized and applied by the different actors related to the strategy.

Concerning the substantive participation of women, it is important to point out that during the processes of participation and capacity building, coordination and decision-making promoted by the UN-REDD Programme, efforts were made to generate conditions for achieving gender balance in the actors and strategic partners involved in the process.

Considering the map of relevant actors for REDD+ in Colombia, organizational processes of ethnic groups and peasant communities in areas of special importance for the implementation of the Strategy were identified.

To generate conditions of equality in access to knowledge and capacity building processes, the organizations were asked to include women in their work teams, since men usually hold leadership positions in the organizations. In the different invitations to the spaces, there was one specifically for the participation of women to identify the different needs from the perspective of both men and women and to promote their empowerment. Thus, at the National Indigenous Safeguard Workshop, within the framework of the National Territory Commission, each organization invited a delegation of women. As a result, 26 men and 14 women participated. Also, in national scenarios such as the National REDD+ Roundtable (now the National Forest Roundtable), where actors at the national level who have a relationship with the forest come together, the participation of men was 56.3% and of women 43.7%.

Concerning participation in the spaces developed within the framework of the UN-REDD Programme in Colombia, it is important to highlight (see table 8):



**Table 8: Participation percentages disaggregated by gender in the spaces developed in the framework of the ONU-REDD Program in Colombia**

Event	Total	# Events	# Men	% Men	# Women	% Women
Dialogue and Coordination	11	536	350	65,3	186	34,7
Capacity building	24	730	504	69%	226	31
Information and dialogue	23	866	604	69,7	262	30,3
Total	58	2132	1458	68,4	674	31,6

Source (Camacho A, et al, 2018, p. 41)

It is important to highlight the participation of indigenous, black and peasant communities, with a differential and gender focus, in order to learn about the different ethnic-territorial approaches and guidelines from their vision and relationship with the territory in the collective construction of the EICDGB, in which women played a leading role in accordance with their cultural diversity.

Leaders of women's organizations and collectives participated in each of the spaces in which indigenous peoples, black communities and peasants participated. Based on their dynamics, the women contributed elements of analysis of gender roles about the use and exploitation of the forest and its governance and developed proposals based on their visions.

The participation of women in indigenous peoples has been encouraged within the framework of the various bodies while respecting the governance structures of ethnic territories. With the Afro-descendant people, specific actions were developed through the Pacific Black Women's Platform, in addition to the active participation of women in the various areas of participation and capacity building.

#### Participation of indigenous women in the Strategy:

Within the framework of the participation process with indigenous peoples, workshops and meetings were held with indigenous organizations such as ONIC, OPIAC and other allied organizations participating in the Permanent Roundtable on Indigenous Consultation in order to address the issue of climate change and REDD+ and to identify the issues that indigenous peoples require for the capacity-building process in the REDD+ preparation process. As a result, agreements were signed with these organizations to strengthen their capacities. During these spaces, women's organizational processes were strengthened, promoting their participation in the various spaces for dialogue, capacity building, and decision-making.

Thus, during 2015-2017, a total of 29 dialogue, information and capacity building workshops were held with leaders of indigenous organizations at the national level and with the support of UN-REDD and FCPF. In these spaces, recommendations were made regarding the construction of the Strategy, social and environmental safeguards were addressed, and the importance of the issue of participatory community monitoring was addressed. Although women's participation was promoted in these spaces, these participation figures indicate that we are still far from having equal gender participation.

The percentages of participation disaggregated by gender in the spaces developed with indigenous peoples in each region were as follows:

**Table 9: Participation by gender in events with indigenous peoples in different regions**

Region	# Events	# Men	% Men	# Women	% Women
Amazonia	8	211	78,4%	58	21,6
Caribe	7	209	82,6	44	17,4
Pacific	8	166	63,8	94	36,2
Orinoquia	1	32	94,1	2	5,9
National	5	151	72,2	58	27,8
Total	29	769	75	256	25

Source: Camacho A, et al, 2018

It is important to note that participation in the Amazon Region was the highest in terms of local attendees relative to the national total and the second highest in the case of women. This is due not only to the fact that it is the largest region in the country but also to the national government's prioritization of interventions in this region to implement actions that will quickly be reflected in the reduction of deforestation rates. However, it is important to continue making efforts to promote the participation of indigenous women in these spaces and to achieve gender equality.

It is important to point out that, within the participation spaces carried out, the participation of indigenous women was active from their platforms such as secretaries, tables or departmental assemblies of indigenous women according to the dynamics of organization and relationship that indigenous peoples have. However, it is important to note that, about the proportion of male participation, women's participation continues to be weak in these forums and bodies for consultation and decision-making with indigenous organizations.

In particular, the construction of the Strategy involved two main scenarios with indigenous peoples in which women participated actively. One was with ONIC and the other with OPIAC, based on information and capacity-building on issues related to climate change and REDD+. In the same way, different indigenous organizations such as ONIC, OPIAC, CIT, AICO, and Gobierno Mayor (Higher Government) participated in the national instances, where women participated from the internal platforms of each of the organizations. These exercises made it possible to construct important inputs about the indigenous women's vision of the forest, which was taken into account in the gender-mainstreaming proposal for the Strategy.-

The importance of promoting women's participation within the women's, family and generation councils was identified in these capacity-building forums with indigenous peoples' authorities and leaders. Support was also provided for reflection and dialogue on the issue of gender and the Indigenous Peoples' Gender Strategy document was produced for the Strategy. This document discusses the role of women in the territory from the perspective of indigenous peoples, analyses the consequences of climate change for indigenous women and proposes a route for women's participation in the construction of the Strategy.

With regard to the management of natural resources, the importance of women's work in forest management was recognized, as experts and bearers of specific knowledge in various thematic areas such as medicine, food security, language teaching, ecological links, ecosystem management, among others, and the importance of their role for the economy and social reproduction of indigenous communities and peoples, since their food security and family care depend on them (Camacho, A. et al., 2018).

#### Participation of Afro-Colombian women in the Strategy:

Following the dynamics of the Afrodescendant people, the work was proposed through the Platform of Afro-Colombian Women in alliance with FCPF through the Action Fund. Two workshops were held with the Pacific Black Women's Platform:

1. Workshop convened by UN-REDD and Fondo Acción in Santander de Quilichao on Dec. 11, 2015, with the participation of a total of 34 women representing community

organizations and councils where agreements were built with the Black Women's Platform and a work plan was presented within the framework of the construction of the REDD+ Strategy.

2. Meeting in Cali on February 1, 2016, where 10 women participated to agree on an operational plan to ensure the active participation of Pacific black women in the design and implementation of the Strategy.

These events made it possible to carry out a planning exercise to formulate a gender strategy for the participation and capacity building of black women in the Pacific, which had the support and accompaniment of UN-REDD for the consolidation of the Platform for Black Women in the Pacific, where 3 lines of action were defined:

1. Design and implementation of a communication strategy for Pacific black women in the Strategy based on their environmental, social and cultural contexts.
2. Strengthening women's leadership through continuous and permanent education and training processes.
3. Design and implementation of a Sustainable Local Development Strategy.

In this way, the participatory dialogues allowed the actions carried out with the black people of the Pacific within the framework of the construction of the Strategy to be articulated with the black women's participatory process.

During the formulation and validation stage of the Strategy, a process of information and dialogue was developed with communities and key actors that have a direct and indirect relationship with the forest. With support from MADS, UN-REDD, and FCPF, 20 workshops were held from 2015 to 2017 to generate inputs for the construction of the Strategy, in which women's participation was 35% (226 women). Likewise, in the two sessions of the National REDD+ Roundtable held in 2017, the black women's platform participated.

The participation disaggregated by gender for the construction spaces of the strategy with black communities in each department of the Pacific region was as follows (see table 10)

**Table 10: Percentages of participation disaggregated by gender in the spaces developed with the Black People in each department**

Department	# Events	# Men	% Men	# Women	% Women
Chocó	5	112	62,2	68	37,8
Buenaventura	2	55	77,5	16	22,5
Cauca	2	25	33,8	49	66,2
Costa Caucana	3	53	63,1	31	36,9
Nariño	2	66	75,9	21	24,1
Regional	6	110	72,8	41	27,2
Total	20	421	65	226	35%

Source: Camacho A, et al, 2018

It is important to emphasize that in these spaces the role of women in conservation and environmental protection was recognized as fundamental for the preservation, conservation, planning and management of the territories of black communities and the need to promote and implement initiatives and projects that improve their socio-economic conditions and strengthen the welfare of women and their communities was highlighted. As with indigenous women, the participation of Afro-Colombian women was significantly lower than that of men. It should be noted that Cauca was the only place with a significantly higher participation of women.

The participation of peasant women in the construction of the Strategy

In the process of building the Strategy during 2015-2017, two workshops were held with a total of 85 people, of whom 65.9 percent were men and 34.1 percent were women. It is important to emphasize that in these spaces the participation of peasant women was active and there were great interest and empowerment of the issues associated with forests and their role in the care of the territory. (Camacho A. et al, 2018)

As a conclusion to this process of participation and capacity building, it is important to point out that men's participation continues to predominate over women's participation. The participation of women belonging to ethnic groups and peasant communities in the spaces for consultation and decision-making is still weak, and it is therefore recommended that specific spaces and strategies be developed to promote women's participation in these spaces and to recognize and value their role and knowledge in the conservation and management of forests.

However, for the sake of equal participation, in the future, more participation spaces should be propitiated where women increase the number of participants, but also, their participation in decision-making and participation can be made visible with leadership in many spaces.

## **5.2. Gender in REDD+ Governance**

The REDD+ preparation process with indigenous peoples has had an important development, especially in the Amazon region, since it is one of the regions of the country with the greatest deforestation, thus threatening the territories of these communities. In addition to the dialogue, information and capacity building events held during 2015 and 2017, other activities were carried out at the regional level, such as the process of building the indigenous pillar of the Amazonia Vision Program led by MADS within the framework of the REM program (network=Early Movers) during 2016.2017 and the Amazon Indigenous REDD+ initiative led by the Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA) in which OPIAC and the Asociación Zonal de Cabildos y Autoridades Tradicionales de La Chorrera (AZICATCH) participated with the technical accompaniment of WWF which sought, among other objectives, to generate inputs for the construction of the National REDD+ Strategy in the Amazon region from the indigenous peoples' vision. Within the framework of these activities, the Amazon Indigenous Environmental and Climate Change Roundtable MIACC was reactivated.

During 2015-2017, 13 regional workshops were held to strengthen capacities and generate inputs for the national construction of the Strategy with different indigenous organizations in the Amazon, taking into account their planning instruments such as life and safeguard plans. As a result of these spaces, the document of the Indigenous Pillar of the Amazon Vision was prepared and approved by the Amazon Regional Table.

In the Amazon Vision program, the differential gender approach implies the analysis of social relations based on the recognition of the specific needs of both women and men, recognizing in each one the contribution of different knowledge, experiences, and demands regarding the use of ecosystems and their associated goods and services (VA, 2018).

The Global Work Plan of this initiative has incorporated the gender perspective in all the pillars of the Programme and the PIVA includes the strengthening of indigenous women as one of its components. The concept of a gender approach in the Programme has been addressed through the development of equal opportunity policies in the different interventions of the pillars and having as main criterion the distribution of benefits (VA, 2018).

The need to work with indigenous women has been highlighted by the indigenous pillar, as evidenced by the high participation of women in approximately 30% of the meetings of this pillar and where there is a specific line of initiatives with women. AVP will be actively supporting this approach (VA, 2018).

Among the actions to integrate the gender approach in REDD+ strategies, it is important to highlight the GEF project Hearth of the Amazon, pilot of AVP, developed in the departments of Caquetá, Guaviare and Sur del Meta, which aims to improve environmental governance and

promote sustainable land use activities with the aim of preserving biodiversity and reducing deforestation.

Within the governance, management and monitoring of forests component, since 2015 we have been working with the women of the Mirití Paraná reservation to support actions of the reservation's land-use plan related to food sovereignty and sustainable economic alternatives, strengthening of the women's organizational process, recovery of traditional seeds in the orchards and the valorization of women's knowledge in the formulation of the cultural plan for environmental management.

It is important to highlight that within the actions of the project, the participation and empowerment of the women of the Mirití Paraná territory in the Amazon was promoted as a first advance in the incorporation of the gender perspective in the initiatives. The Program focuses on strengthening the traditional productive system of the orchard through the recovery and rescue of a variety of crops as an alternative to improve their living conditions.

The participation of women in these actions contributed to the recovery of ancestral knowledge around the orchard, the rescue of traditional seeds of the Yucuna-Matapí, Tanimuca-Letuama and Tuyca ethnic groups, the characterization of the traditional system of the orchard, the identification of changes in the care of the orchard, the recovery of traditional food and the transmission of knowledge of diets and food. This becomes an important input for their land-use instruments.

Besides, there are 11 primers elaborated by 33 women from 11 communities that are part of the Association of Indigenous Captains of the Mirití Amazonas (ACIMA) where, through participatory methodologies, the dynamics of the orchard were shaped according to the ecological calendar. These primers that will be used by women and their communities become an important element in the transmission of knowledge and maintenance of their culture.

This allowed the communities to recognize the role of women in the use, management, and conservation of the territory, as well as to generate actions to strengthen food sovereignty that contributes significantly to the maintenance of their cultural identity and their territory.

A conversation was also held with the support of FAO and the Heart of the Amazon project, where women representatives from various organizations presented strategies and actions that women have developed for the care, use and sustainable management of forests and jungles and how these strategies contribute to mitigating the consequences of climate change through the recovery of traditional knowledge and the importance of its articulation with institutional processes. During the discussion, the importance of strengthening governance processes and a gender focus so that actions are more sustainable in the long term and their contribution to biodiversity conservation was highlighted.

In compliance with FAO Safeguard 8 related to gender equity, the Heart of the Amazon Project has achieved during 2015 and 2016:

- The participation of indigenous women in specific workshops to address their needs and aspirations regarding food security and productive alternatives in the orchards in Mirití Paraná.
- 504 women and 568 men in project areas benefited from improved access to conservation-friendly livelihood activities.
- The project supported traditional food security systems (orchards) run by women.
- Women were empowered throughout the process around the orchard, which includes their traditional planting systems that promote environmental conservation and sustainable land use. Through this process, communities not only maintain their crops but also their traditions, transmitting knowledge from generation to generation and conserving the environment.

Considering that almost half of the country's natural forests (47%) are present in the collective territories of indigenous communities, it is necessary for environmental management and land use planning to be carried out from an intercultural perspective, but also from a gender perspective, since it is necessary to recognize the diversification of roles in the management of resources and the importance of the role of women in caring for nature, territory and the maintenance of their family and culture.

According to the Gaia Amazonas Foundation, how gender is constructed in Amazonian peoples has to do with division and complementarity of work. For the Amazonian indigenous peoples, the relations between men and women are expressed in horizontal terms where the tasks are carried out in a complementary way to achieve a good life in community and harmony with nature.

The tasks of women are transformative: horticulture, food preparation, pottery and raising children. Hence, the women are in charge of sowing and harvesting the various crops, since the orchard is a feminine space of fertility and learning for the youngest children. For their part, the men carry out predatory tasks: they choose the land, cut down trees, burn the place where the orchard will be located, hunt and fish. Besides, men and women participate jointly in the collection of wild fruits. (Gaia Amazonas, 2019)).

As Gaia Amazonas states, within the traditional roles of Amazonian indigenous women, the role of the *malquera* stands out, considered as a leader who has the knowledge and wisdom to carry out some practices related to the preparation of ceremonial spaces and rituals that take place in the *maloca*. It also highlights the role of the *chagrera* which, as mentioned above, develops the work of caring for, preserving and maintaining the orchard and the seeds, as well as providing food for their families and communities, and finally the role of godmother of learning who has knowledge to perform work assigned during the sacred ritual of *Yurupari* in the *maloca*.

However, it is important to highlight that women's roles have undergone changes over time and therefore new roles and tasks arise that complement their traditional roles such as the role of researchers, which contribute to recover traditional knowledge and transmit this knowledge from generation to generation especially knowledge associated with biodiversity, food sovereignty, and in general the role of women in the care and management of the territory. Bearing in mind the need for women to have their own spaces for participation within their territories, a leadership role arises where women become spokespersons for their initiatives and participate in spaces for strengthening leadership capacities to promote such roles in their partners. Finally, women take on new roles within the system of their governments, such as the role of captains. (Gaia Amazonas, 2019).

Indigenous women have a structural and dynamizing role within their cultures, families, economies and community organization. From them, life springs to become transmitters of knowledge regarding the management and use of the forest" (García E, et al, 2018, pp. 78-79). They play a specific role in family-related work, where older women play a central role in the balance and harmony between the family and the community. Besides, indigenous women have a close relationship with their natural environment, so the effects of climate change affect their physical and spiritual health.

The influence of indigenous women is permanently reflected in the daily life of the communities, since, through various activities such as the elaboration of backpacks, baskets, and ceramics, the preparation of food, and the work activities in the orchard, the grandmothers and mothers transmit their histories, stories, and experiences from generation to generation. In this way. The language is taught, and their culture and worldview are strengthened. (Garcia E, et al, 2018).

They are women bearers of millenary knowledge about the care of their territories, work that they do through the management and transformation of the forest into spaces of abundance of food and life; of the care of seeds in their wide diversity, of medicinal plants and self-care of the body for prevention and health, knowledge that brings balance, reconciliation, solidarity, strength, harmony and complementarity to their communities. From the relationship that indigenous women have with nature since the creation of the world, their customs, and spiritual practices have been



woven and originated for the recognition of MOTHERLAND" (Zalabata, 2012: 4 cited by García, E. et al, 2018, p. 81).

In this way, it is essential to generate initiatives aimed specifically at indigenous women and youth, such as capacity-building activities, intergenerational dialogues, leadership training, participation in decision-making spaces, increased access to and appropriation of appropriate technologies for the conservation and sustainable use of forests.

In this sense, it is essential that conservation and management strategies for the territory and forests, as well as all REDD+ actions, consider the protection and recovery of traditional knowledge and ancestral practices, protection of spaces for forest use and management.

### **5.3. Gender Considerations in National REDD+ Social and Environmental Safeguards**

Decision 1/CP.16 (COP 16, Cancun) established a set of methodological guidelines for developing countries that demonstrate compliance with social and environmental safeguards in REDD+ implementation, based on meeting four requirements for access to performance-based payments.

1. National Strategy or Action Plan. It describes policies, actions, and measures to address the causes and agents of deforestation and reduce forest degradation. It considers aspects related to governance, land tenure, gender and safeguards with the effective participation of stakeholders, ethnic communities and peasants.
2. National Forest Monitoring System.
3. Safeguard Information System (SIS) to provide information on how REDD+ social and environmental safeguards are being addressed and respected in the country.
4. Reference level on Forest Emissions to know the status of deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions.

The application of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards needs to be reviewed and interpreted to the reality of each country, considering the national and regional context, be aligned with existing national REDD+ policies and actions, stakeholder groups and how activities will be implemented in the territory.

As part of the commitments made by Colombia during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the country has been advancing in the national interpretation of the Cancun Safeguards and in the construction and consolidation of a Safeguard Information System (SIS) aimed at providing information and monitoring how these safeguards are being respected and addressed in accordance with the national context.

The process of consolidation and interpretation of safeguards led by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, begins in 2013 with the development of spaces for participation and capacity building with multiple actors such as institutions, indigenous communities, Afro-descendants and peasants, NGOs, among other key actors, to gather the views and perspectives of the various actors on how to address, respect and interpret safeguards in the implementation of REDD+ in Colombia. WWF Colombia, the GIZ Forest, and Climate/REDD+ program, the Carbon and Forest Cooperative Fund (FCPF) and the UN-REDD program supported these spaces (MADS. Cartilla Interpretación Nacional de Salvaguardas, 2017).

As a result, the country has a National Interpretation Chart of Environmental and Social Safeguards for REDD+ that would allow local communities to understand REDD+ safeguards simply and be applied in the development of projects and initiatives in their territories. Likewise, the primer becomes a useful tool for communities, institutions, and organizations to start developing the measures and actions foreseen in the Integrated Strategy for Control of Deforestation and Forest Management (EICDGB).

The seven REDD+ safeguards defined under the Climate Change Convention have been translated into 16 elements that must be applied to all REDD+ Policies, Actions and Measures

(PAMs) at national, regional and local levels (MADS. Cartilla Interpretación Nacional de Salvaguardas, 2017).

The integration of the gender perspective in safeguards calls for a genuine process of integration from which opportunities are contemplated for gender to be considered in the framework of national interpretation (Camacho A. et al., 2017). In this sense, it is not necessary to formulate gender-specific safeguards, but on the contrary, to think about how gender considerations are implemented in each of the safeguards interpreted for Colombia.

According to (Camacho, A. Et al, 2018), a series of observations are included that account for the opportunities of the proposal to integrate the gender perspective into the National Safeguard System (see table 11).

**Table 11: Gender Considerations in the National Safeguard System**

<b>SNS COMPONENT</b>	<b>OBSERVATIONS GENDER PERSPECTIVE</b>
National Interpretation	Empowering women and promoting gender equality in REDD+
Regulatory Mark	Effective compliance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender-Related Policy Framework and REDD+</li> <li>• Law 731/02 on rural women</li> <li>• Policy Guidelines for Women's Equity 2012</li> <li>• National Policy for the Comprehensive Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services</li> </ul>
Marco Institutional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the gender-perspective integration in the intersectoral agenda</li> <li>• MADS</li> <li>• MADR</li> <li>• Corporaciones Autónomas Regionales</li> <li>• Ministry of Interior</li> <li>• Postconflict Office</li> </ul>
Compliance Framework	Achieve gender awareness and integration in the public entities in charge of the respect of the safeguards and in the implementation of Measures and Actions (according to the diagnosis made). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening of institutional capacities to adequately assume the demands of populations from a gender and intergenerational perspective.</li> </ul>
Change to Citizen Attention Mechanism	Establish complaint and grievance mechanisms that consider differences (gender, generation, location, educational level, etc.) in access to information and verification mechanisms.
Safeguard Information System (SIS)	Design a gender-sensitive Safeguard information system in which information is collected on the participation and involvement of actors disaggregated by sex. Collect gender-sensitive information as well as documenting processes related to gender mainstreaming.
Summary of information for Salvaguardas	Highlight key gender elements and safeguards in the process of preparing the summary of information on compliance with safeguards. Generate a manual of good practices in gender and safeguards.

Source (Camacho, A. et.al, 2018)

#### FAO Social and Environmental Safeguards

FAO's Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) were adopted in 2015. At programme and field level, nine HE standards were designed to help manage and improve FAO's environmental and social performance through a risk and results-based approach.

In line with Safeguard 8 related to gender equity, this Project will promote women active participation and will propend for addressing men and women differentiated needs. Activities under the three components will include participatory assessments and methodologies to identify women needs and roles, strategies to promote women participation, programs to increase women capacities, and actions to strengthen the women' role in the implementation of forest management activities, monitoring activities, territorial governance and making-decisions processes. Thus, in order to achieve objectives and goals of this Project, activities of each component include:

- Application of participatory methodologies to identify those production activities developed by women and men, strengthening needs and prioritization of areas of work and roles.
- Identification of women's role in making decisions processes related to deforestation reduction, forest management and indigenous governance.
- Develop assessments and strategies to address strengthening needs of women to participate actively in local monitoring and making-decision processes, benefit from the implementation of sustainable forest management activities and increase capacities for local governance.
- Identify and implement strategies to promote active participation of women in production activities associated to sustainable forest management activities.
- Identify barriers that women face for project formulation and management.
- Design technical assistance programs considering women's empowerment needs.
- Methodologies to guarantee women participation in the definition and implementation of conservation agreements.
- Development of strategies to ensure that women access to training programs, technical assistance activities and other lessons learned derived from the implementation of the project.
- Execution of strategies to guarantee participation of women in the design of sustainable forest management nuclei and support participation and empowerment of women part of associations and producer's groups.
- Identify women needs to strengthen their capacities for entrepreneurial development and sustainable forest management.
- Design and implement strategies to raise awareness about women strengthening needs, knowledge on forest management and their role governance

## **6. Conclusions and Recommendations:**

- In summary, Rural women in Colombia constitute 48.31% of the rural population and 36.4% of agricultural producers and have autonomy in the decision of production in 21.88% of the Agricultural Productive Units. This numbers reflect that despite population of women in rural areas almost half of the rural country, participation in production activities and making decisions processes is low. In the context of the Amazon, patterns are like the rest of the country and factors such as the conflict and the illegal activities may have an impact in reducing the leadership roles and spaces for women. In addition to the above, it is a fact that women are often responsible for household activities, which also limits women's participation in development processes. In the case of ethnic communities, women's participation is determined by culture and traditions, which often define specific roles for women and may create conditions for discrimination and psychological and sexual violence against women.
- The gender analysis and the gender action plan have built on the process of construction of the EICDGB, which generated a set of gender considerations to be considered in the implementation of the strategy. In this context the gender assessment has been elaborated from primary and secondary information sources. Primary information to identify gender gaps comes from FAO's experiences in the implementation of projects executed in different territories of the country and includes areas related to the Project such as rural development, natural resources management and land tenure. This

previous work involving rural women, including ethnic communities has generated substantive information about the circumstances in which women live and the level of action that is required in the development of a gender strategy for this project. Secondary sources include information derived from the process of construction framework of the EICDGB and the results of participatory processes carried out by the Amazon Vision Program (AVP) and the Corazon de la Amazonia Project.

- In the framework of the EICDGB a forest and gender study was carried out<sup>9</sup>, including an analytic framework that provides information about access to monetary resources, sexual division of work, control of natural resources, land property and participation in making-decisions processes. Specifically for the Amazon Region, the Heart of the Amazon project has documented good practices for climate change mitigation and adaptation, food security and seeds management that are implemented by indigenous women to document as well as seed rescue for food security. FAO has also documented the role of women in care, use and management of natural resources as part of the results of the IAPA Project of Protected Areas in the Amazon. Within the framework of the AVP, gender-mainstreaming activities are being successfully developed in the indigenous pillar.
- In order to incorporate the gender perspective in the construction of the Strategy, a two-way approach was developed. First, the Strategy propended for respecting and making effective the participation of women in the different areas of forest governance, in accordance with chapter V and VI of the Rural Women Law (731 of 2002). On the other hand, the EICDGB include specific areas of work to be considered in the political agenda and in the implementation of the EICDGB: (1) Roles in forest management and sexual division of labor, (2) Gender equality in the access and control of natural resources Full and effective participation, and (3) Substantive participation in decision making on land use. As a result of the implementation of these approaches, the EICDGB developed a set of recommendations to include the gender perspective in each of the Action Lines and Goals of the strategy, which currently guide the implementation of projects. Also the Heart of the Amazon Project developed specific gender workshops and supported specific activities to strengthen women capacities and participation in the regional and local strategies.
- There is a need to continue to ensure that Colombia's REDD+ efforts do not pose risks to the most vulnerable groups such as women, youth and the elderly and instead actively promote their meaningful participation in such efforts. In this way, Colombia must continue to take proactive measures to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the Strategy's implementation.
- Although significant progress has been made in gender mainstreaming, it continues to be addressed in isolation as something that can be achieved through specific action. In this sense, it is necessary to continue to unite efforts in the institutions and programs to address this approach in an integral and transversal manner to all actions.
- Although the proposal to mainstream the gender approach focuses on making effective and respecting the right to participation of women in decision-making spaces and instances and in the process of construction and implementation of the Strategy, the participation of women continues to be significantly lower than that of men, thus, it is necessary to join efforts to guarantee the effective participation of women to reduce gender gaps. Thus, it is important to promote women's empowerment actions through recognition, capacity building and leadership beyond the idea that gender mainstreaming simply refers to the inclusion or targeting of women in projects.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.unredd.net/documents/un-redd-partner-countries-181/17100-bosques-y-genero-en-la-preparacion-para-redd-un-insumo-para-la-incorporacion-del-enfoque-de-genero-en-la-estrategia-integral-de-control-a-la-deforestacion-y-gestion-de-los-bosques.html?path=un-redd-partner-countries-181>

- The participation of indigenous and Afro-descendant women continues to be weak in the spaces and instances of concertation, coordination, and decision making with ethnic group organizations, so it is necessary to develop methodologies to implement appropriate systems of participation that contribute to improving women's participation in these spaces, valuing their role and knowledge in forest management, use, and conservation.
- To support the sustainable management of forests, it is necessary to promote our systems of environmental governance with a gender perspective, articulating local governments, public entities, and the private sector. In this way, it is important to develop conservation initiatives based on the traditional knowledge of women in the economy of care and in the management and care of the territory and to articulate with environmental management plans and other instruments of territorial ordering. It is also essential to support leadership roles and the strengthening of women's organizations to improve their participation and leadership capacities in decision-making instances related to REDD+ actions.
- According to the lessons learned from the gender mainstreaming process in the country's REDD+ readiness process, a gender-sensitive approach is required among public officials and decision-makers at the national, regional and local levels to understand the dynamics that differentially affect different types of populations. It is also advisable to establish a gender roundtable or focal point for the implementation process of the Territorial Life Forests Strategy to implement actions aimed at strengthening women's knowledge and contribution to forest governance.
- It is necessary to consider the practical and strategic needs of women in all project activities. In this sense, it is important to establish a gender-sensitive baseline and the evaluation of gender-differentiated development impacts of the value chain. Although there is qualitative information on the role of women in the care economy and forest conservation, it is necessary to generate quantitative information and have a battery of indicators that allow for more efficient reporting of gender information.
- Although significant efforts and progress have been made to promote gender equality and women's empowerment and to integrate a gender perspective into REDD+ actions, gender inequality remains an obstacle to human development. Although the situation of women and girls has progressed over time, gender equity has not yet been achieved. Statistics show that there are gender differences in the main areas of human development, where women suffer discrimination in health, education, political representation, the labor market, among others, which limits their capabilities and possibilities in their quality of life.
- During the EICDGB project, women vision of forests, deforestation, sustainable production were analyzed and specific activities were designed to address women needs in the Action Lines and Goals of the strategy. In the Amazon Region, during the process of formulation and execution of the AVP, it was agreed through consultations with the Regional Indigenous Amazonian Round Table (MRA), that the scope of the Pillar Environmental Governance with Indigenous Peoples would be supported by five components: (i) Territory and environment, (ii) Own government, (iii) Economy and production, (iv) Strengthening of indigenous women and (v) Transversal lines, where clearly the strengthening of indigenous women is one of them. However, in the area of forest governance there is no explicit evidence that this has been done. Therefore, this Project proposes to address the issue of gender in a comprehensive manner in Outcomes 1, 2 and 3, based on the diagnosis of existing gender gaps in the region, but also on the experience of FAO Colombia in this area.
- The project's gender analysis identifies gaps in terms of management of rural assets (land and natural resources), access to education, access to technical assistance for family agriculture and entrepreneurship, access to markets, participation in politics and

processes related to environmental conservation, natural resource protection and territorial peace-building in Colombia.

- The gaps represent opportunities for the Project to transform cultural patterns of discrimination and violence against women. In line with this assessment the project will identify with women the opportunities for them to participate and lead forest management activities and related business (nurseries, monitoring activities, processing of raw materials, etc.) and will support women groups in the formulation of projects and initiatives to complement forest management activities or other to reduce pressure on natural ecosystems.
- Access to information and technical knowledge is an indispensable factor in order to reduce gender gaps in environmental issues. For equal access, the specific context, the Project will identify the media and information channels where women interact. For example, making available native language translators, using ethno-linguistic pieces or IEC (Information, Education, Communication) processes that are gender-sensitive and non-sexist; understanding women's daily dynamics and avoiding project demands on the triple day of women.
- The identified causes of environmental inequity include: low access and limited management of rural assets for survival and livelihoods; lack of valuation and recognition of women's knowledge and practices, invisibility of women's contributions to family agriculture and environmental conservation, asymmetry in information and technical assistance, gender-based violence and lack of knowledge about the Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and innovation processes.
- To address these causes, the project proposes undertake specific activities such as: ensuring the participation of young women and heads of household in the implementation of activities under Outputs 2 and 3, as well as other strategic processes; design and incorporation of methodologies with gender content and recommendations for increasing women participation in forest management, local governance, implementation of local strategies to reduce deforestation, etc.; identification of opportunities to increase participation and promote transformation of roles in forest conservation, transcending stereotypes; increasing women participation in market strategies, marketing and value addition and other related activities foreseen under Outputs 2 and 3; supporting capacity building activities according to the identified gender gaps in each area of intervention as well as potential risks of increasing violence against women; design of financial instruments and mechanisms that reach women directly (output 2 and 3); recognition of indigenous women's own knowledge and traditional good practices (Output 3); support to projects to increase women's participation in traditional conservation practices and natural resource governance systems (Output 3); and implementation of dialogue platform for monitoring and improving women's participation strategies implemented by the projects. Besides these activities.
- The Project will identify the institutional arrangements needed to promote equal opportunities and eradicate gender-based violence. Thus the project will identify at the local level the institutional barriers and will define specific activities to support organizations, institutions and communities.
- The project seeks to incorporate a gender perspective in order to contribute to reducing existing inequalities through the promotion of specific actions aimed at promoting the participation of women in all project activities, ensuring the equitable distribution of benefits, developing capacity building programs for participatory community monitoring, contributing to the visibility of the role of women in forest conservation and management, promoting the strengthening of women's leaders and organizations in order to meet their needs but also to understand from their own vision the ordering of their territory. In this way, actions are developed to overcome the disadvantages experienced by women.



- There is a clear need to work on gender-based violence in all projects involving rural women, since the different forms of violence against women are present both in the rural and in the ethnic context and this has serious consequences for the sustainability of the processes, as well as for the opportunities for women's growth in the context of the family and the community. Taking this into consideration, local assessments in the areas of intervention will identify potential risks of the Project's activities on increasing violence against women. Gender-based violence (GBV), according to FAO's mandate, in the project the scope will be to identify the local state offer and socialize it with women and men of the project. The objective will be increase awareness regarding the GBV and promote sharing of effective information to protect the rights of women victims and activate services in the health, protection and justice sectors.
- There are differences in the context of indigenous women, given the existence of processes of justice of their own and of customary practices regarding women's bodies, sexuality and reproduction, which imply other considerations when talking about formal routes. Nevertheless, the offer of the State is obligatory throughout the national territory and it is a fundamental right that all women know about it and are in position to opt for it.
- The Project seeks to strengthen women's participation and will define specific actions to achieve gender equality including, among others the following:
  - ✓ Incorporation of methodologies and activities with gender perspective in activities funded by the project such as: (i) identification of forest and non-timber forest products to be included in the forestry units, (ii) identification of sustainable-agriculture activities that could be included as part of the forestry units, (iii) analysis of potential risks of forest-based businesses, (iv) design of management plans and monitoring systems, (v) market analysis and identification of market opportunities, (vi) capacity building activities for forest management, (vii) specific methodologies to support women to identify their roles in sustainable forest management units and potential associated businesses (viii) specific capacity building programs for indigenous women according to the activities of the Output 3.
  - ✓ Peer participation and incident participation. To this end, differential quotas of 40% will be adopted in the most relevant processes and activities, depending on the context. Activities of the projects will analyze the local context and will identify the need for development specific actions to strengthen women's capacities, increased self-esteem and confidence, promote a gender-sensitive leadership and assertive communication, among others.
- At the beginning of the project, the initial assessment on gender issues will be improved, in order to validate the gender problems in the areas of action; this will serve as an input to make the strategy and the mainstreaming process specific to each result, specifically results 2 and 3.
- The Project will support actions (processes and technical routes for gender mainstreaming) for both communities and government entities, thus making it possible to carry out an integral work that will make it possible to provide sustainability to the actions that have an impact on government plans and policies or other ongoing processes.
- The Project will have a gender specialist who will address this issue and will be supported by a team of technical professionals. In particular, the gender approach will be prioritized for results 2 and 3, and differentiation will be made given that the context includes farmer and indigenous women. Processes, activities and indicators that reflect gender mainstreaming will be incorporated into outcomes 2 and 3.
- Road maps, toolkits and instruments that FAO Colombia has already designed and applied in other projects in the territory with good results will also be applied. Specific activities to address gender issues will be visible in the project's Logical Framework and AOP, to guarantee the monitoring of the implementation of actions over time. Finally, this

approach has already been applied in the implementation of the community forestry model in other areas of the country, where gender mainstreaming has been successful.

- The Project will undertake an assessment in each area of intervention to analyze the context and identify the activities needed to address causes of inequity and reduce potential risks of the projects' interventions on women. These assessments will also allow the Project to identify the relevant institutions that need to be involved, including women's organizations and authorities. Based on these the Project will design the mechanisms and methodologies to assure involvement of these institutions continuously, not only in gender-related activities but also in all those activities of the project in the area. These mechanisms will also consider the traditions and local institutional arrangements.
- It is planned to create a working group with female farmers and/or producers and indigenous women, who, together with the gender focal point of the team and the delegate of the Ministry of Environment (e.g. office of participation and education), will make decisions to improve the implementation of the project according to the particular needs and conditions of women. This will be in place from the first moment of project implementation and will meet at least once a year, guaranteeing one of the indispensable requirements for a gender approach and effective dialogue with the women receiving the impact of the project.
- Lessons learned by FAO in the implementation of other projects in the country have also been included, including:
  - ✓ The approach of gender with indigenous communities goes hand in hand with the ethnic approach, from the intercultural dialogue, based on the own needs expressed by women (understanding the mediation that there is with the major authorities),.
  - ✓ Work with male farmers and/or producers is relevant to gender equity. In the area of sustainable rural development, gender-sensitive masculinities and inclusive leaderships are considered, which facilitates the adoption of differential quotas and the use of opportunities (in the form of affirmative actions) that the project provides for women. There is no harmonious transformation of gender roles without men involvement
  - ✓ Project investments must reach the women of the communities directly, even when working with organizations such as resguardos and/or cabildos or community councils; It is essential that there be a tangible and measurable benefit from the investment on women.
  - ✓ Local technical teams must be sensitized and have a basic conceptualization of gender so that mainstreaming becomes a practical fact, which can be traced and technically measured. Training on this subject is part of the gender action plan.
- The expected results for gender equity can be categorized as follows:
  - ✓ Instruments: The Project will monitor sex-disaggregated indicators to identify women's participation in activities such as Forest Monitoring, development of country's Annual Reports; implementation of Deforestation Control Protocols; local Zero Deforestation Agreements, elaboration of Forestry Units' Management Plans, implementation of projects and leadership of local initiatives and others related to planning and management and governance of land and resources.
  - ✓ Women farmers: The Project will implement specific activities to strengthen women's knowledge and capacities related to the sustainability and implementation of the forest-economy model promoted by the Project such as implementation of good forest management practices and other environmental sustainability actions, design and implementation of commercial strategies for their production systems and local businesses, increasing access to financial instruments and incentives that promote environmental sustainability, among others.

- ✓ Indigenous women: In order to recognize and enhance women's traditional knowledge in forest management, productive projects and sustainability, the Project will undertake activities to strengthen capacities related to the formulation and implementation of projects, participation and leadership of local initiatives (with special attention to the collective ethnic context) and access and participation to IPs decision-making bodies.
- ✓ Gaps: In order to significantly reduce the gender gaps, the Project will develop specific assessments in the areas of intervention in order to identify the specific causes of gender inequity and the potential risks of the project's activities. Based on this assessment the project will adjust the gender plan for each area of intervention and execute activities accordingly.

## **7. Gender Action Plan**

The project design considers the incorporation of a gender perspective, emphasizing the need to adopt a perspective in the project that, through its measures and actions, take into account the diversities, differences and inequities related to differentiated population groups, to provide attention, protection, and guarantee of their rights.

Although the women play a fundamental role in the management of natural resources and in the development of productive activities, the conditions under which men and women carry out their activities continue to reflect important gender gaps that are accentuated under conditions of armed conflict. In this sense, the project will have specific actions aimed at reducing gender gaps by strengthening the effective participation of women in decision-making, promoting their economic autonomy, strengthening their positions as community leaders and making visible the role that women play in the use, management and conservation of the territory.

The gender action plan provides for catalytic actions for equality in land tenure or natural resource management, through the actions envisaged for outputs 2 and 3. Specifically, the processes to strengthen the impact of women on resource governance within ethnic communities and the strengthening of women's leadership in the contents of systems and protocols, as well as in the improvement of women's productive units, the promotion of financial mechanisms and incentives for the sustainable management of resources account for this.

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
Output 1. National and local capacities for monitoring and control strengthened	Activity 1.1 Strengthening of the existing national forest monitoring of early warning reports in deforestation hotspots.	Differentiated training and capacity building activities for men and women, according to the local context.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number (no.) and percentage (%) of men and women trained in Community Forest Monitoring. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project.	MADS IDEAM ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES FAO INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS BENEFICIARY COMMUNITY WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	834		X	X	X	X
		Activities to promote women participation in spaces of analysis and discussion of reports in deforestation hotspots	<b>Target:</b> 40% of trained participants are women including youth and heads of households. The percentage in each case, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.			X	X	X	X	X
		Involve women groups in implementing forest monitoring activities and development of gender sensitive guidelines for community forest monitoring	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Evidence that staff responsible for the monitoring system attended the gender workshops in order to develop their capacity in gender and monitoring systems. <b>Target:</b> All staff responsible for the monitoring system attended the gender workshops.				X	X	X	X
		Build capacity of the staff responsible for the National Forest Monitoring System on how to incorporate a gender perspective in their work	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of annual country reports with gender analysis <b>Target:</b> 100% of annual reports include gender analysis			X	X	X	X	X
		Incorporate gender analysis in Annual country reports with SMBYC, IFN and SNIF data.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of annual country reports with gender analysis <b>Target:</b> 100% of annual reports include gender analysis				X	X	X	X
	Activity 1.2. Support the implementation of a strategy for Green Municipalities	Support women production initiatives contributing to green municipalities strategies.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of green municipalities strategies involve women initiatives to reduce deforestation/promote sustainable forest management. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 30% of initiatives included in green municipalities strategies are led by women. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER	500			X	X	X

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
		Activities differentiated to ensure the participation of women including young women and female-headed households in the design of green municipalities strategies	beginning of the project. Determine as a complementary variable for the definition of the target is the number of female heads of household / youth / indigenous people linked to the strategies.  <b>Baseline:</b> 0	ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES			X	X	X	X
		Activities differentiated to assure Inclusion of women and men needs and perspectives in the green municipalities strategies designed and supported by the project	<b>Indicator:</b> Number and percentage (%) of women and men participating in the design of green municipalities strategies. <b>Target:</b> 40% of the participants are female heads of household / youth / indigenous people. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.					X	X	X
		Activities to recognize and make visible the role of men and women in the implementation of green municipalities strategies						X	X	X
	Activity 1.3 Support the implementation of rural environmental cadasters as a measure to monitor deforestation at land level	Preparation and implementation of methodologies differentiated to support the implementation of rural environmental cadasters based on gender assessments developed locally	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number of methodologies to develop rural cadasters with a gender perspective <b>Target:</b> A set of methodologies for developing rural cadasters involving a gender perspective, differentiated according to the conditions of men and women in the areas of intervention	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	667	X				
		Activities to ensure the participation of women including young women and female-headed households in the implementation rural environmental cadasters	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number and percentage of women and men participating in the implementation of rural environmental cadasters. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 40% of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.				X	X	X	



Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
	Activity 1.4 Implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol (monitoring, forest traceability, operational and administrative) - including the reinforcement of deforestation control actions and other associated crimes	Activities to ensure women participation in the decision-making and policy design processes associated to the implementation of the deforestation control protocol and strive to reach gender parity in all key decision-making bodies.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number and percentage of women and men participating in the decision-making and policy design processes associated to the implementation of the deforestation control protocol. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 40% of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	MADS FAO IDEAM TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	1.000		X	X	X	X
		Promote the substantive participation of women organizations in the implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women and men participating in the implementation of the Deforestation Control Protocol. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 40 per cent of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.				X	X	X	X
Output 2. Forest areas sustainably managed and contributing to close the agriculture frontier	Activity 2.1 Support local community-base organizations in the design and establishment of sustainable forest management units in eight areas	Implementation of specific methodologies to support women to identify their roles in sustainable forest management units and the identification of potential associated businesses	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of women's initiatives supported as part of the community forestry units. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 40% of production initiatives/business models associated to the forestry units are led by women's or women's groups. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S	2.000	X	X			
		Support women groups in the formulation of projects and initiatives to complement forest management activities or other to reduce pressure on natural ecosystems.					X	X	X	X

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
		Support women's productive initiatives associated to implementation of the community forestry units	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> % and number of men and women participating in the design and establishment of forest management units. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 40% of the people participating are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES			X	X	X	X
		Promote the equal participation of women and men in the design and establishment of sustainable forest management nuclei				X	X	X	X	X
		Implementation of a mechanism to ensure women's inclusion in the establishment and operation of forestry units	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number of women participating in the establishment and operation of forestry units. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project. <b>Target:</b> 40% of peoples participation are women . The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.			X	X	X	X	X
	Activity 2.2 Implementation of training programs for sustainable forest management	Development of local assessments to identify women's priorities, needs and risks associated to the implementation of forest management activities.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of gender-sensitive methodologies designed <b>Target:</b> 100% of the training program include gender sensitive methodologies  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number of strategies designed to promote women participation <b>Target:</b> 100%  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women and men trained. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	333	X	X			
		Develop methodologies for designing gender-sensitive training program that take into account the differential needs of men and women				X	X			

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
		Develop strategies that allow greater participation of women, youth and women's organizations in training programs on sustainable forest management	project <b>Target:</b> 40% of those trained are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.			X	X			
		Implement strategies to promote equal opportunities and eradicate gender-based violence and support organizations, institutions and communities.					X	X	X	X
	Activity 2.3 Market access and strengthening of product value chains of timber and non-timber forest products	Support commercial strategies of women's production initiatives associated to the forestry units.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of commercial strategies of women's production units supported. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of the commercial strategies are led by women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	1.333			X	X	X
		Ensure the substantive participation of women in the design and implementation of market strategies, product value chains, commercialization of timber and non-timber forest products to ensure equitable distribution of benefits	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> % and number of women with access to market strategies, product value chains, commercialization of timber and non-timber forest products. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of the participants in these activities are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.					X	X	X

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
	Activity 2.4 Strengthening regional environmental authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments to assure sustainable forest management in selected forestry units	Strengthen the capacities of Environmental Authorities in the implementation of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments with gender perspective and taking into account women needs	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> % or number of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments of environmental authorities include measures to address women needs and promote gender perspective in forest management <b>Target:</b> 100% of monitoring and control mechanisms and instruments include measures to address women needs and promote gender perspective in forest management	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	333	X	X	X	X	X
	Activity 2.5 Design and development of incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management	Assessment of financial needs of women for sustainable forest management and development of related businesses	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> # and proportion of women with better access to incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of people participating in this activity are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	1.000			X	X	X
		Design strategies for women's substantive participation in access to incentives and financial instruments to promote sustainable forest management	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of financial mechanisms and incentives for vulnerable women's. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified:					X	X	X

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
		Promote financial mechanisms and incentives for sustainable forest management aimed at women with an emphasis on women heads of household	e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of designed financial mechanisms are aimed to women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.					X	X	X
	Activity 2.6 Implementation of long-term community-based monitoring systems in forestry units i	Assessments and participatory activities to identify women's roles and opportunities in the implementation of forest monitoring systems	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number and percentage (%) of community monitoring initiatives with a gender perspective. <b>Target:</b> 40 % community monitoring initiatives effectively incorporate a gender perspective  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women, men and youth participating in community monitoring systems. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	333	X	X	X	X	X
		Incorporate gender perspective in long-term community monitoring systems	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Number and percentage (%) of community monitoring initiatives with a gender perspective. <b>Target:</b> 40 % community monitoring initiatives effectively incorporate a gender perspective  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women, men and youth participating in community monitoring systems. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural	IDEAM MADS-PROGRAM AMAZONIAN VISION FAO TERRITORIAL ENTITIES ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S				X	X	X

Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
		Promote the substantive participation of women and young people and women's organizations in the design and implementation of community monitoring systems	women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.	ORGANIZATIONS PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES				X	X	X
Output 3. Strengthening REDD+ implementation and forest governance in Indigenous Territories	Activity 3.1 Strengthening REDD+ implementation and forest governance in Indigenous Territories	Promote the substantive participation of women, women heads of households and women's groups in the design and implementation of projects supported under this Output.	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women, women heads of household, and women's organizations involved in the design and implementation indigenous projects. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project	IDEAM MADS MADR FAO TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS, PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	1.000	X	X	X	X	X
		Implementation of a dialogue platform for monitoring and improving women's participation strategies implemented by the projects.	<b>Target:</b> 40% of the people participating in activities and products associated with these projects are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.			X	X			
	Activity 3.2 Empowerment and participation of indigenous women	Assessment of indigenous women's capacities for formulation and implementation of projects	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) of women's projects supported. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project	MADS FAO TARGET COMMUNITIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS, PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES	1.000	X	X			
		Implementation of a capacity building programs for indigenous women complementing activities of the project to support formulation and implementation of projects (Activity 3.1).	<b>Target:</b> 100% of the projects are led by women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.				X	X	X	X
		Implementation of a communication strategy to raise awareness on the contribution of indigenous women to strengthen forest governance and sustainable management of forests	<b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> % and # of empowered women and increasing their participation. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project			X	X	X	X	X
		Support women's projects and initiatives contributing to strengthen governance in indigenous territories.	<b>Target:</b> 40% of empowered women and increasing their					X	X	X



Output	Activities	Gender Responsive actions	Gender Indicators	Responsible institutions/individuals	Budget (\$USD)	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
		Design and implementation of a participation route to ensure substantive participation of women and youth in all implemented traditional practices of conservation, use and sustainable management of the forests in the Amazon biome	<p>participation. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> number and percentage of women participating in decision-making bodies. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of the participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.</p>			X	X	X	X	X
		Promote women's participation in decision-making bodies	<p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women, men and youth participating in workshops. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.</p>			X	X	X	X	X
		Design and implement workshops aimed at rural communities, to address the gender perspective in the processes of strengthening social, human, technical, productive and organizational capacities	<p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage (%) and number of women, men and youth participating in workshops. Whenever possible, they will be differentiated into various categories of women who are identified: e.g. female-headed households, indigenous women, rural women, etc., if indicated in the baseline assessment to be conducted at the beginning of the project <b>Target:</b> 40% of participants are women. The percentage in each case/defined category, will be established at the beginning of the project and taking account the base line updated.</p>			X	X			
TOTAL					10.333					

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