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Submitted by: Marco CHIU
Title: Climate and forests RTA
Date submitted: December 2017

1. Practice area : BPPS / REDD+

2. Mission period (incl. of travel days)

From: 9 to 13 October, 2017

3. Type of mission: Paraguay mission to support launch of the FCPF grant project implementation.

4. Clients

Paraguay’s Environment Secretariat (SEAM)

5. Purpose of mission

- Plan de inception phase of the FCPF Project
- Support SEAM and UNDP CO in launching the Project “Forests for Sustainable Growth” (FCPF grant)
- Support SEAM with facilitation of an international panel on REDD+ NS/AP development.

6. Documents, materials, resources

1. Agenda of the mission
2. Up-dated roadmap towards project inception workshop

7. Mission members

Veronique GERARD, Lillian PORTILLO, Marco CHIU (UNDP).

8. Costs

FCPF

9. Brief summary of the mission

The due diligence process followed by UNDP to provide the technical clearance of the FCPF readiness grant implementation in Paraguay, ended with signature of the PRODOC on September 26th, 2017. This mission was developed attending a request from SEAM to support delivering a launching event of the Project.

The mission consisted on preparatory sessions, launch of the Project, an international panel on REDD+ NS/AP development, and a south-south exchange between Paraguay, Argentina, Ecuador, and Chile.

9.a Findings

1. On October 11th, Paraguay’s Secretary of Environment ([SEAM](#)), with the support of [UNDP](#) and funding from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility ([FCPF](#)) and the Global Environment Fund (GEF), launched two initiatives that sum-up to the efforts of the [Green Production Landscapes Project](#) to promote sustainable development in Paraguay.
2. More than 170 people attended the event, representing different stakeholders such as: governmental institutions (SEAM, INFONA, MOPC, STP, MAG, MRE, DINAC and SENAVITAT), two Binational Hydroelectric Entities (Itaipú and Yacyretá), Academia, Civil Society, NGOs (such as GUYRA PARAGUAY and WWF), Diplomats accredited in Paraguay, National and International Consultants, UNDP and other cooperation agencies, and members of the Press. Participation of all these stakeholders from different sectors and areas sheds the light on the importance of promoting a coordinated and multidisciplinary approach to the efforts to achieve sustainable development in Paraguay
3. The Project *Forests for Sustainable Growth* seeks to provide support in the readiness phase to achieve the effective implementation of REDD+ and to give continuity to the results of Paraguay’s [UN-REDD](#) National Programme. Among other aspects, the project seeks to continue with the development of the National Strategy of Forests for Sustainable Growth and achieve its validation by the key governmental entities, members of civil society, including the private sector and Indigenous Peoples. The project also aims to improve the information presented in the Forest Reference Emission Levels of the country to the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#), strengthen the National Forest Monitoring System and link it to the National Environmental Monitoring System, and to design a Safeguard Information System to report Paraguay’s compliance.
4. The *Integrated Approach Programme: Commodities Supply Chain* seeks to promote sustainable practices in the production of commodities, reducing the global impacts on biodiversity and the emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHG).

5. As part of the launch of these initiatives, Argentina, Chile, and Ecuador shared their experiences in the preparation and future implementation of REDD+. The experiences shared left lessons learned that will prove useful for Paraguay's readiness process, as well as a commitment to keep exchanging practical experiences among countries.
6. Argentina's experience, emphasizes that during the elaboration of the Action Plan on Forests and Climate Change, it has been important to ensure the support of local stakeholders, through constructive and productive dialogues. These stakeholders have been committed and empowered with this process, which enables better opportunities for validating the Action Plan with all sectors and at all levels of the government.
7. Ecuador's experience in developing its [REDD+ Action Plan](#) highlights the importance of using robust data as an input, as well as the relevance of achieving coordination among institutions and other stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups. It also highlights the need to plan the institutionalization of processes, including the definition of roles and responsibilities to enable continuity of these efforts. Lastly, it's been key to systematize lessons learned through various instruments, which has allowed identifying progress achieved and opportunities for continuous improvement.
8. Chile's [National Strategy on Climate Change and Vegetation Resources](#) includes mitigation, adaptation to climate change, combat desertification, and degradation and drought from the standpoint of forests and other vegetation resources. The importance of initiating the socialization process at the local level at early stages of development, and then continuing it towards higher levels with national authorities, has been emphasized as key point. Additionally, it has been stated that engaging the Ministry of Finance since the beginning of the process is crucial. The importance of linking the Strategy to national public policies in an integrated manner was highlighted, as well as linking initiatives that are currently being implemented and those that could emerge, as a result of the Strategy.
9. Currently, Paraguay has a first draft of the National Strategy of Forest for Sustainable Growth. The country seeks to promote a participatory process and achieve consensus of all relevant stakeholders, and enhance capacities to enable validation of the results at all levels and sectors in the country. The country is also looking to strengthen the instruments needed for the implementation of related public policies.
10. In summary, the key points are the following:
 - a. It is crucial to generate and have robust data.
 - b. It is key to achieve an active participation of all relevant stakeholders in all stages of the elaboration of instruments.
 - c. The empowerment of stakeholders in the process of elaboration of the Strategy is vital to enable continuity.
 - d. It is important to create alliances (including public-private) to achieve the objectives.
 - e. It is relevant to link country's commitments related to different environmental topics (climate change, biodiversity, among others).
11. In Paraguay, there are different initiatives carried out by the productive and related Governmental sectors. These initiatives show an interest in keeping economic growth, but at the same time integrating more effectively social development and sustainability elements. During this event progress made in the implementation of sustainable investments was also presented.
12. Global tendencies like increasing food demand, the need to produce commodities with less negative environmental and social impacts, changes in people's diet, and the revolution of the supply chain networks have fostered the country to promote sustainable development from the viewpoint of sustainable food production. Paraguay's Agriculture Vice Minister indicated that from the National Development Plan 2030's objective of reducing poverty standpoint, the sector seeks to generate income as an instrument to contribute to such objective. The intention is to achieve an inclusive process of development and to position Paraguay as a sustainable commodity producer.
13. Paraguay has an initiative called Sustainable Finance Roundtable (MFS, in Spanish), comprised of banks operating in the country. It represents the first effort of environmental self-regulation in Paraguay's financial sector. The MFS seeks to promote responsibility of the financial sector in the transformation process towards a sustainable economy. Through this MFS the importance and benefits of integrating an environmental and social risk assessment system in the financial sector is shown, as a means to develop financial instruments that promotes sustainable cattle farming, agriculture, and agroindustry.

14. There are numerous projects currently being carried out by the private sector (specifically on cattle farming) which demonstrate the relevance of creating alliances between stakeholders to achieve an integrated approach to development. Furthermore, the link between the cattle farming sector and the SDGs has been highlighted with respect to the commitment to contribute to the reduction of poverty through sustainable production, to feed the world and generate employment, to produce responsibly, and to attain strategic alliances as key tools to achieve common objectives.
15. In summary, the key points are the following:
 - a. Paraguay must attain the production of commodities with a sustainable approach.
 - b. Strategic public-private alliances are key instruments.
 - c. Some needs expressed by the private sector include: generating incentives for producers who carry out sustainable practices, promoting research and generation of information; and delivering flexible financing mechanisms to implement sustainable practices.
 - d. It is key to include technical knowledge in the decision-making process.
16. As part of the mission, the recruitment process of Project Coordinator for this and other two related projects was supported, by participating in the interview panel.
17. Final preparatory decisions were taken towards the Project Inception Workshop.

9.b Results achieved (key outputs)

1. **Political momentum achieved:** The launching of this Project gathered high level representatives from different relevant sectors for the implementation of the Project (Ministries of Agriculture, Finance, Planning, Foreign Affairs), as well as representatives from different civil society organizations. It is expected that Government stakeholders will take an active participation in the project implementation.
2. **South-south cooperation initiated:** The international panel that gathered representatives from Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, and Paraguay motivated representatives from these countries to find topics and undertake additional spaces for south-south cooperation. In this context, the GoC has signed a MOU with the GoP to develop a south-south cooperation programme on REDD+.

9.c Expected outcomes and impacts

As a result of this mission and related follow up, it is expected that SEAM and UNDP CO will be able to start implementation of Paraguay's FCPF grant Project.

10. Key counterparts

SEAM

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
1. Provide guidance for development of documents relevant for the inception workshop	UNDP RSCLAC / CO	October 2017
2. Finalize first draft of PMU ToRs	UNDP RSCLAC / CO	October 2017
3. Follow up with INFONA on technical issues with assessing forest loss in 2016	UNDP CO / RSCLAC	October 2017
4. Finalize definition of entities/representatives to the PB, Advisory Group, and Technical Committee	SEAM / UNDP CO	Before inception workshop
5. Develop a stakeholder engagement plan roadmap	UNDP RSCLAC / CO	October 2017
6. Develop draft ToRs for "technical packages" for activities under component 1	UNDP RSCLAC	December 2017
7. Hire PMU staff	UNDP CO / SEAM	December 2017
8. Prepare key documents for the inception workshop and 1 st PB meeting	UNDP CO / SEAM	November 2017
9. Conduct the inception workshop, launch of the Project and 1 st PM meeting	UNDP CO / SEAM	November 2017

12. Distribution list

Tim, Josep, Arturo, Clea, Mirey, Fernando, Veronique, Cecilia, Roberto, Dina, PY, Kim, Jen, Wahida, Beth, Berta,

Annex 1: Mission Agenda

Misión FCPF PNUD Paraguay
Asunción 10 – 12 de octubre de 2017

Objetivos de la misión

FCPF

- Lanzamiento del Proyecto “Bosques para el Crecimiento Sostenible”
- Planificación del Taller de Arranque del Proyecto “Bosques para el Crecimiento Sostenible”

Productos de la misión

FCPF

- Un cronograma/hoja de ruta con tareas, tiempos, roles y responsabilidades para el desarrollo del taller de arranque, incluyendo la primera reunión de la Junta de Proyecto y del Comité Técnico

Participantes

Aparte los participantes de las reuniones indicados en la agenda, la misión será asumida conjuntamente por los puntos focales nacionales del FCPF de Paraguay y por PNUD.

Contraparte: Puntos focales FCPF (SEAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Maria José Mendoza, Directora de Planificación Estratégica○ Stephanie Petta, Jefa de Dpto. – Dirección de Servicios Ambientales.○ Equipo Técnico SEAM que sea designado.
PNUD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Veronique Gerard, Oficial de Programa Desarrollo Sostenible, Paraguay○ Caterine Galeano, Asociada de Programa○ Lilian Portillo, Coordinadora de Proyectos PNUD Paraguay○ Marco Chiu, Asesor Técnico Regional PNUD○ Equipo de Apoyo de Fase de Inicio PNUD FCPF

Agenda de la Misión (PRELIMINAR)

Las reuniones se realizarán regularmente en las oficinas REDD+ de la SEAM o en UN HOUSE a menos que se indique en la agenda otro lugar.

Martes 10 de octubre de 2017		
Hora	Tema / Actividad	Participantes
09:00 – 13:00	<p>Inicio de Misión en PNUD: revisión de cronograma de la Misión FCPF</p> <p>Reunión con Veronique G.</p> <p>Reunión con RG y CU (a confirmar)</p>	PNUD
13:00 a 14:00	Pausa	
14:00 a 16:00	<p>Inicio de Misión SEAM</p> <p>Sesión de Trabajo con Expositores del Panel 1 del Conversatorio Internacional</p>	VG LP MCh.
Miércoles 11 de octubre de 2017		
Hora	Tema / Actividad	Participantes
09:00 – 13:00	<p>Acto de Lanzamiento del proyecto Bosques para el Crecimiento Sostenible e IAP Chaco.</p> <p>Conversatorio Internacional</p> <p>Local: Carmelitas Center</p>	<p>PNUD</p> <p>Equipo de Apoyo fase inicial FCPF PNUD</p>
13:00 a 14:00	Almuerzo	
14:00 a 17:00	<p>Sesión de Trabajo con representantes de Ecuador, Chile, Argentina y Paraguay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proceso de construcción de Estrategias Nacionales - Lecciones Aprendidas - Posibilidades de Cooperación Sur Sur <p>Local: Carmelitas Center</p>	<p>PNUD</p> <p>SEAM</p> <p>Representantes de Chile Ecuador Argentina</p> <p>Paraguay</p>
Jueves 12 de octubre de 2017		
09:00 – 13:00	<p>Sesión de Trabajo_</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparación del Taller de Arranque, Primera Reunión del 	

	Comité Técnico del Proyecto • Junta de Proyecto	SEAM/PNUD
13:00 a 14:00	Pausa	
14:00 a 16:00	Cierre de Misión.	SEAM PNUD

Hoja de Ruta Fase de Incepción del Proyecto “Bosques para el Crecimiento Sostenible” Paraguay

Acción	Línea base	Fecha	Actividades	Resp.
Hoja de ruta Fase de Incepción - Finaliza 11 de octubre 2017				
1. Reunión interna en SEAM con DNCC. Socializar el proyecto y discutir sobre vínculos con procesos de la DNCC (BUR, NDCs, CNS)	N/A	Agosto 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hacer/ajustar ppt del Proyecto Hacer/ajustar ppt de la VO ENBCS Revisar la ENBCS 	MJM / LP
2. Desarrollar TdRs personal de la UGP	Hay borradores de TdRs de personal	Agosto 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaborar borrador de TdRs Circularlos con PNUD Paraguay y SEAM Desarrollar TdRs finales 	MCh
3. Dar seguimiento con INFONA sobre la generación de datos provisionales de pérdida de bosque en 2016, en el marco del SNMB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Se cuenta con datos preliminares sobre pérdida de bosque para 2016 Actualmente se están realizando los análisis de exactitud INFONA está verificando los datos preliminares compartidos con la SEAM 	Agosto 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INFONA ha confirmado que parte de los supuestos por los que se asumen las discrepancias en los datos de pérdida de bosques (respecto de lo reportado anteriormente) se deben al cambio en el uso del sensor del satélite, así como en la incorporación de cortinas de viento y vegetación similar en el análisis INFONA ha ofrecido enviar datos revisados para la semana del 14 de agosto 	MJM
4. Reunión con Raul Montiel (Vice Presidente de la CNCC – Presidente de la comisión paraguaya para los ODS)	N/A	Agosto 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socializar su rol en la junta de Proyecto 	MJM
5. Definir/confirmar e invitar a las entidades que participan en el comité técnico y en el grupo asesor del Proyecto	En el PRODOC se ha predefinido de manera general las entidades y los roles del comité técnico y del grupo asesor	Agosto 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repasar las definiciones hechas en el PRODOC Confirmar a nivel político las entidades que forman parte del comité técnico y grupo asesor Enviar notas para invitar a las entidades 	MJM / VG

Acción	Línea base	Fecha	Actividades	Resp.
			para participar en estos espacios	
6. Definir necesidades para contar con un Plan de Involucramiento de Actores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estrategia de Involucramiento de Actores (Elido – Nov 2015) • Mapeo de Actores Socio Políticos • Plan de Comunicación (Nov 2015) • Plan de involucramiento de actores ENBCS 	Septiembre 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisar documentos existentes, producidos por ONU-REDD • Revisar recomendación del PC del FCPF al aprobar los recursos para Paraguay • Emitir recomendaciones y hoja de ruta para contar con un Plan de Involucramiento de Actores 	JAS
7. Desarrollar TdRs de “paquetes técnicos” para el componente 1	TdRs similares en Paraguay y otros países	Diciembre 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definir paquetes técnicos • Desarrollar TdRs • Enviar a la SEAM y PNUD Paraguay para retroalimentación • Desarrollar TdRs finales 	MCh
8. Definir las entidades que participarán en grupos de trabajo temáticos (p.e. salvaguardas, ENBCS, NREF)	SEAM ha considerado continuar con las acciones de grupos de trabajo iniciados o identificados con ONU-REDD	Octubre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definir el marco institucional en el que se desarrollará cada producto del Proyecto • Definir la necesidad de configurar grupos de trabajo temáticos por producto u otro formato de trabajo • Identificar las entidades que formarán parte de los grupos de trabajo o dentro del ámbito que se defina 	MJM / VG
9. Contratación del personal de la UGP (al menos coordinador/a y un responsable técnico/a y/o equipo de apoyo temporal)	<p>Proceso para el/la coordinador/a lanzado</p> <p>Ya se cuenta con el administrador y asesora senior.</p>	Octubre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparar y revisar TdRs • Conformar panel de selección • Desarrollar proceso de selección y contratación 	VG
10. Preparación de insumos para el taller de inicio y primera reunión de la Junta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POA multianual y marco de resultados 	Antes del taller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desarrollar insumos • Enviar a oficina regional de PNUD para 	VG

Acción	Línea base	Fecha	Actividades	Resp.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Marco de resultados revisado, b. POA c. Plan de adquisiciones d. Reglamento Junta de Proyecto e. Reglamento Comité Técnico f. Manual Operativo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Líneas generales para TdRs • Borradores de reglamento de Junta de Proyecto y Manual Operativo 		<p>comentarios e insumos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparar documentos finales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. VG b. LP c. SL d. LP e. LP f. LP
<p>11. Organización y desarrollo del taller de inicio y 1ra reunión de la Junta de Proyecto</p>	<p>Se cuenta con formatos de agenda y materiales de otros talleres de arranque similares en Paraguay y en otros países</p>	<p>Noviembre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definir agenda • Organizar la logística • Preparar los materiales para las sesiones técnicas de fortalecimiento de capacidades • Alistar los materiales para la 1ra reunión de la Junta 	<p>LP / SL / MJM</p>