



Tenure of indigenous peoples territories and REDD+ as a forestry management incentive: the case of Mesoamerican countries



Tenure of indigenous peoples territories and REDD+ as a forestry management incentive: the case of Mesoamerican countries

October 2012



Acknowledgements

This document was produced by Adriana Herrera Garibay, Land Tenure Officer from the FAO Climate, Energy and Tenure Division, and by Fabrice Edouard, Agricultural officer of the FAO Investment Centre. Both have considerable work experience in land tenure and indigenous matters in Latin American countries, particularly those in the Mesoamerican region.

The document has benefited from the contributions of Manuela Vollbrecht, Ann Kristin Rothe, Erik Lindquist and Alejandra Sifa. All of them have contributed to data searches, table formulation, map creation and bibliography compilation. The document has also benefited from revisions and comments by David Castañón, Francesca Felicani, Enrique Pantoja and other colleagues from FAO and other institutions. The authors would like to thank them for their work and collaboration.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of FAO.

ISBN 978-92-5-107502-9 (print)
E-ISBN 978-92-5-107503-6 (PDF)

© FAO 2013

FAO encourages the use, reproduction and dissemination of material in this information product. Except where otherwise indicated, material may be copied, downloaded and printed for private study, research and teaching purposes, or for use in non-commercial products or services, provided that appropriate acknowledgement of FAO as the source and copyright holder is given and that FAO's endorsement of users' views, products or services is not implied in any way

All requests for translation and adaptation rights, and for resale and other commercial use rights should be made via www.fao.org/contact-us/licencerequest or addressed to copyright@fao.org.

FAO information products are available on the FAO website (www.fao.org/publications) and can be purchased through publications-sales@fao.org.



Contents

<i>Acronyms</i>	<i>iv</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>vii</i>
Chapter 1 Concepts: REDD+, territorial rights of indigenous peoples and incentives for good forestry management	1
1.1 Concepts relating to the territorial rights of indigenous peoples	1
1.2 The REDD+ initiative	3
1.3 Payment for Environmental Services	5
Chapter 2 Forest land and indigenous populations in Mesoamerica: cases of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, And Panama	7
2.1 Forest resources in the Mesoamerican region	7
2.2 The indigenous populations of Mesoamerican forest regions – Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama	9
2.3 Natural resource management and tenure systems of indigenous populations living in forest areas of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama	10
Chapter 3 Mesoamerican advances in recognizing indigenous territorial rights and environmental policies	21
3.1 Advances in international law	21
3.2 Advances achieved by local actors	22
3.3 Development of land tenure institutions and legislation	22
3.4 Development of environmental policies	24
3.5 Formulation of REDD+ proposals in the region	27
Chapter 4 Lessons learned from community forestry initiatives, payment for environmental services and other incentives	28
4.1 Community forestry and forest concessions	29
4.2 Experiences in Payment for Environmental Services	31
4.3 Governance in indigenous territories	34
4.4 Lessons	35
Chapter 5 Opportunities and limitations for REDD+ processes in the indigenous forest territories of Mesoamerica	36
Conclusions	39
ANNEX 1	41
ANNEX 2	43
ANNEX 3	49
ANNEX 4	53
Bibliography	54
Web sites	57

Acronyms

ACICAFOC	Coordinating Association of Indigenous and Community Agroforestry (Guatemala)
ACOFOP	Association of Forest Communities of El Petén (Guatemala)
ADII	Association for Integral Indigenous Development (Costa Rica)
ANAM	National Environment Authority (Panama)
CDI	National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples (Mexico)
CIDH/ IACHR	Comision Interamericana de Derechos Humanos y la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos/ Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CNTC	National Federation of Rural Workers (Honduras)
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
COHDEFOR	Honduran Forestry Development Corporation
CONAFOR	National Forestry Commission (Mexico)
CONAI	National Commission for Indigenous Affairs (Mexico)
CONAP	National Council for Protected Areas (Mexico)
CONTIERRA	Sub-Secretariat for the Resolution of Land Conflicts (Guatemala)
COONAPIP	National Coordination for the Indigenous Peoples of Panama
COPINH	Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras
CPPFI	Catalogue of Inalienable Public Forestry Heritage
DINAFOR	National Forestry Directorate (Panama)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FETRIX	Federation of Xicaque Tribes of Yoro (Honduras)
FHONDIL	Honduran Lenca Indigenous Federation
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FONAFIFO	National Forestry Financing Fund (Costa Rica)
FONTIERRA	Land Fund (Guatemala)
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
GCF	Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDA	Institute of Agrarian Development (Costa Rica)
ILO	International Labour Organization
INA	Instituto Nacional Agrario (Honduras)
INAB	National Forestry Institute (Guatemala)
ITCO	Institute of Land and Colonization (Costa Rica)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IP	Property Institute (Guatemala)
LGEEPA	The General Law on Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection (Mexico)
LMDSA	Law on the Modernization and Development of the Agricultural Sector (Honduras)
MARENA	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Nicaragua)
MASTA	Mosquitia Asla Takanka (Honduras)



MICCG	Guatemala's Indigenous Round Table on Climate Change
MIF	Multilateral Investment Fund
MOPAWI	Association for the Development of Honduran Mosquitia
MRV	Measuring, reporting and verification
NDP	National Programme Document (UN-REDD)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OFRANEH	Community Agroforestry, Honduran Black Fraternity Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
PAPIN-DIPA	Support Programme for Indigenous Peoples
PAT	Land Administration Project in Guatemala
PATH	Land Administration Project in Honduras
PES	Payment for ecological services
PINFOR	Forestry Incentives Programme for Small Forest Landowners (Guatemala)
PINPEP	Forest Incentives Programme for Small Forest and Agroforestry Landholders (Guatemala)
PPD	Programa de Pequeñas Donaciones (GEF)
PROCEDE	Programme for the Certification of Ejidal Rights and Titling of Urban Plots (Mexico)
PROCYMAF	Project for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources (Mexico)
PRONAFOR	National Forestry Programme (Mexico)
PRONAT	National Land Administration Programme (Panama)
RAAN	North Atlantic Autonomous Region (Nicaragua)
RAAS	South Atlantic Autonomous Region (Nicaragua)
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation plus mechanisms for the sustainable management and use of forest areas
R-PIN	REDD+ Readiness Plan Idea Notes
R-PP	REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposals
SEMARNAT	Mexican Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico)
SINAP	National System of Protected Areas (Guatemala)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
UZACHI	Zapoteco-Chinanteca Community Union (Mexico)
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas

