

Informative Note

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NATIONAL STRATEGY ON
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VEGETATION RESOURCES

Santiago, August 2017

In this edition

Chile–Mexico Binational Cooperation
Project regarding forests and climate
change



Climate Change and Environmental Services Unit (UCCSA)
Forest Development and Promotion Management Department (GEDEFF)
National Forestry Corporation (CONAF)
Chilean Ministry of Agriculture





ENCCRV

ESTRATEGIA NACIONAL DE CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO Y RECURSOS VEGETACIONALES



**National Strategy on Climate
Change and Vegetation Resources**

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Mexico–Chile Binational Cooperation Project regarding forests and climate change

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1. Introduction

Currently, there is clear evidence of human influence on the warming of the climate system due to the emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) into the atmosphere, mainly from activities aimed at energy supply, agriculture, industry and transport (IPCC, 2014). Additionally, deforestation and forest degradation are also a significant source of GHG emissions and, in turn, account for one of the main carbon sinks due to their ability to capture carbon dioxide (CO₂). The warming of the terrestrial system is linked to extreme meteorological phenomena, such as the sustained rise in sea levels, increased frequency of heavy rainfall or drought episodes in several regions of the world, and to the fact that the sixteen years of this century have been the warmest since the first meteorological records began in the mid-19th century (WMO, 2016). With regard to the economic costs of these phenomena, by 2050, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will have to assume costs between 1.5% and 5% of their current Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (ECLAC, 2015), in addition to an immeasurable

deterioration of the well-being of the population caused by the related natural disasters.

Aware of this threat, the countries Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) –since its effective date in 1994– have made global decisions with the ultimate aim of stabilizing GHG concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt and in order not to threaten human security (UNFCCC, Article 2). UNFCCC signatory countries aim to keep the global temperature rise in this century below 2 degrees Celsius with regard to the pre-industrial levels and to continue with the efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius through climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, a commitment agreed during the UNFCCC's 21st Conference of the Parties (COP) in France, 2015, also known as the [Paris Agreement](#)³.



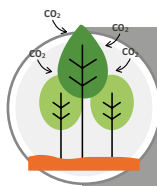
³ http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php



In this regard, the UNFCCC –among other measures it addresses- has designed and led actions focused on forests, as they fulfil three fundamental roles in mitigating the phenomenon of climate change:



They capture CO₂ through afforestation, reforestation and/or restoration activities.



They are carbon reservoirs.



They can be used to replace fossil fuels as non-conventional renewable energy (Sanhueza, J. et al. 2014).

In this regard, the 13 COP⁴ held in Bali, Indonesia, 2007, recognizes forest degradation as the second cause of GHG emissions and **adopts a positive policies and incentives approach for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, also known as the REDD approach**. Subsequently at the 15th COP, 2009, in Copenhagen, Denmark the sign “+” or plus is added to REDD to include the activities of increase and conservation of carbon stocks and sustainable forest management.

REDD+ is of special interest to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, since it considers the transfer of financial resources to cope with the processes of deforestation and forest degradation, conservation activities and/or the increase of forest carbon stocks. The guidelines for developing countries to make progress in REDD –known as the Warsaw Framework for REDD+- were promoted in the UNFCCC’s COP 19⁵, in Warsaw, Poland, where the methodological guidelines and requirements for requesting results-based payments were defined (Table 1).



⁴ http://unfccc.int/meetings/bali_dec_2007/session/6265.php

⁵ http://unfccc.int/meetings/warsaw_nov_2013/session/7767.php

Table 1. REDD+ Phases.

PHASES		
1. Readiness	2. Implementation	3. Results-based activities
1. National Strategy or REDD+ Action Plan.	Policies and measures for addressing the causes of deforestation, forest degradation and no increase of stocks.	Monetary and non-monetary benefits based on the measured, reported and verified performance of emission reductions and increase in the capture of GHGs of the implemented activities.
2. Forest Reference Emission Levels and/or a National Forest Reference Level (FREL/ FRL).		
3. National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (MRV).		
4. Environmental and Social Safeguards Information System.		

Source: <http://redd.unfccc.int/>

In this regional context, Chile and Mexico –as signatories of the UNFCCC– whose forest sector is highly significant for their societies and economies (Figure 1), have strong forest institutions. On the one hand, Chile has the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF)⁶ and, on the other hand, Mexico has the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR)⁷. Both entities promote the **sustainable development of the sector, through conservation, protection, restoration, and the promotion and production of vegetation resources.**

Likewise –at a regional level–, both countries are leading the construction and progress of the legal-institutional framework for the development of REDD+ activities (Zanetti, E., *et al.* 2017). Mexico is doing so through the National Strategy for REDD+ (ENAREDD+), and Chile through the National Strategy on Climate Change and Vegetation Resources⁸ (ENCCRV), which are instruments that besides from including the UNFCCC mechanism, are aligned with the aims of other similar commitments, such as the United Nation’s Convention to Combat Desertification

(UNCCD), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), among others, which together address the political, social, economic and environmental circumstances of each country. Simultaneously, these Strategies contribute specifically to their countries’ emission reductions goals, particularly in the sector of Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF).

Considering the previous background and the fact that Chile and Mexico have a long history of bilateral collaboration agreements and treaties, both countries decided to advance together on a series of REDD+ elements, through a project signed under the broad range of bilateral cooperation opportunities of the **Chile–Mexico Fund**, created by the Strategic Partnership Agreement⁹ signed between both countries in January, 2006. This agreement allocates funding for **supporting the development of human capacities and institutional strengthening in areas identified as priority for both Parties, as well as for third countries**¹⁰.



⁶ CONAF is the focal point of REDD+ and the UNCCD.

⁷ CONAFOR is the focal point of REDD+ and the UNCCD.

⁸ <http://www.enccrv-chile.cl/index.php/capacitate/publicaciones-enccrv/item/335-estrategia-nacional-de-cambio-climatico-y-recursos-vegetacionales-2017-2025>

⁹ https://www.agci.cl/fondo_chile_mexico/acuerdo.html

¹⁰ More information on the Chile–Mexico Fund at: https://www.agci.cl/fondo_chile_mexico/

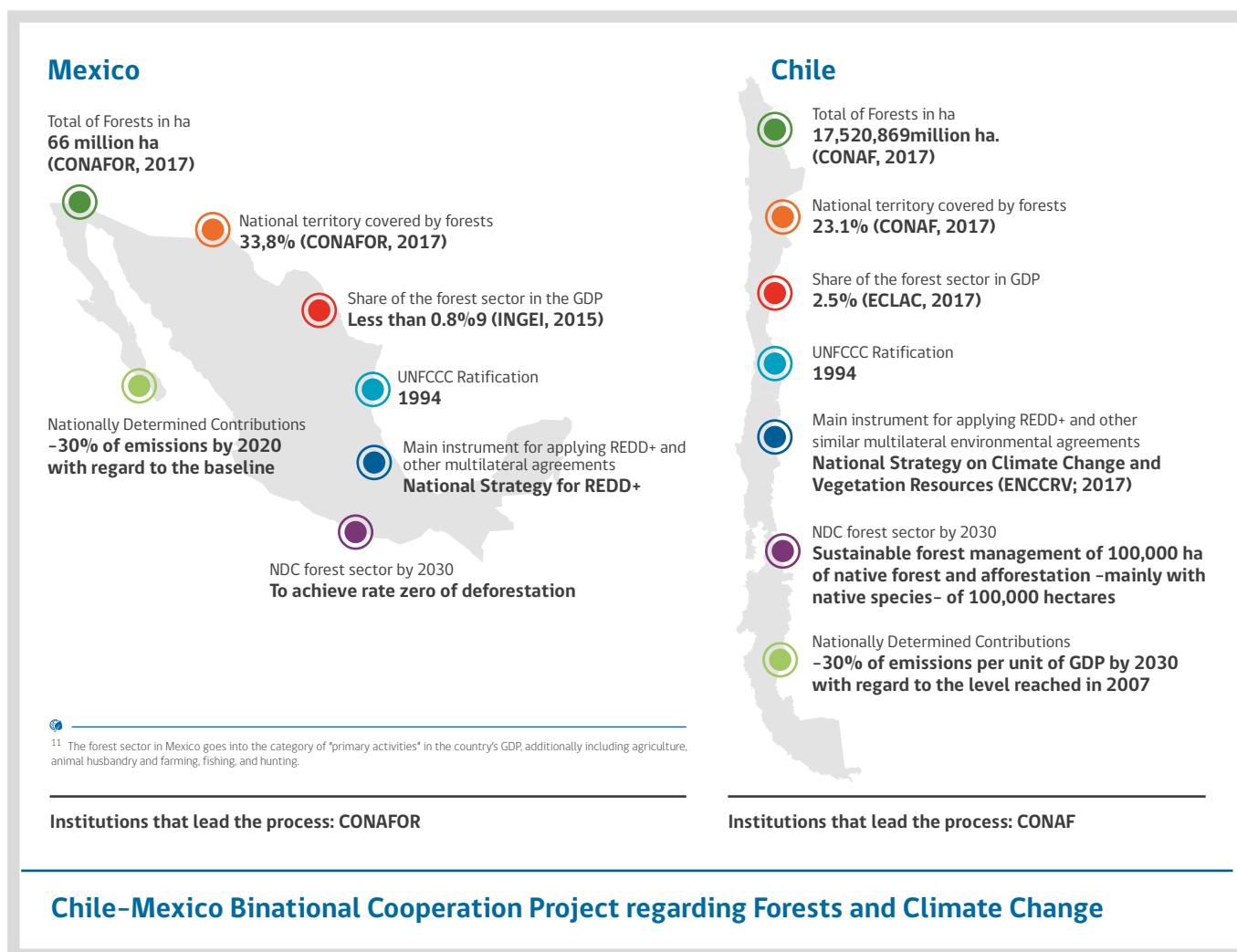


Figure 1. Significant sectoral data of the Parties of the Project.

The aim of the Chile–Mexico Binational Cooperation Project between CONAF and CONAFOR is to create a platform for the exchange and technical validation of forest and climate change matters.

In this regard, both countries agreed to provide each other with mutual assistance in four areas of cooperation (Figure 2), focused on the REDD+ Readiness Phase, particularly on the Environmental and Social Safeguards and Forest Reference Emission Levels/Subnational Forest Reference Levels (FREL/FRL) and Measurement, Report and Verification Systems (MRV). In addition, the issue of a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) for the forest sector in Mexico was included, with the aim of strengthening the financial structure of ENAREDD+,

drawing on the experience that Chile acquired in 2013, when it registered the world's first Forest NAMA in the UNFCCC, which is supported by Switzerland through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). An agreement was made to develop activities that involved both countries' private sectors –especially small and medium forest entrepreneurs– so that they can deepen their understanding on the fundamental role they can play in the making the Strategies successful.




 General Objective	To generate a binational cooperation scheme –for forests and climate change– between the technical areas of both government institutions.			
 Project Aim	Human capacity-building and institutional strengthening in forestry and climate change and the establishment of a permanent and formal platform for discussion and technical validation between institutions.			
Components	Forest NAMA	Environmental and Social Safeguards	MRV System	Link with the Private Sector
Expected Results	Technical and administrative consultancy from Chile to Mexico for the development of a NAMA that is aligned with ENAREDD+.	Exchange of experiences and lessons learned related to the implementation of social and environmental safeguards.	Capacity strengthening of the technical personnel of both countries with regard to the construction of FREL/ FRLs and MRV systems.	Session for technical linking and exchange of experiences for the development, coordination and engagement of the private sector.
 Term for completion: 26 months ¹²				






Figure 2. Logical Framework of the Project.

2. Project Beneficiaries

Several beneficiaries –both direct and indirect– were identified for the project. Direct beneficiaries are professionals, technicians, and experts that represent both institutions and the stakeholders

engaged in the use and management of forest resources in both countries, including common land¹³ and communities, among others (Table 2).

Table 2. Project Beneficiaries.

Direct	Indirect
 Stakeholders engaged in the use and management of forest resources in both countries, including common land and communities.	 Government institutions responsible for the implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and actions from the forest sector.
 Representatives from civil society engaged in the topic of REDD+ who participate in experience-exchange events.	 Mexican and Chilean society today and future generations, thanks to the orientation of the sustainable management of forest resources.
 Professionals, technicians, and experts that represent both institutions.	

¹² Firstly, a term of 24 months was established; later, an addendum to the agreement was requested to increase the period to 26 months, with the aim of conducting a component 2 activity related to environmental and social safeguards.

¹³ Common lands are rural properties of common use and farming.



3. Specific areas of cooperation within the framework of the project

AREA OF COOPERATION	NATIONALLY APPROPRIATE MITIGATION ACTIONS (NAMAs) FOR THE MEXICAN FOREST SECTOR
Expected Results	Technical and administrative consultancy for the generation and application of a NAMA for the Mexican forest sector

NAMAs are measures through which developing countries voluntarily commit to reducing GHG emissions according to their national circumstances in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner, with financial and technological support from developed countries and by promoting national

capacity-building¹⁴. The NAMA category within the UNFCCC allows identifying the mitigation efforts of developing countries and, in turn, seeks to support them financially to achieve the objectives of the Convention.

Table 3. NAMAs registered by Chile before the UNFCCC.

NAMAs registered	
Renewable Energy for Self-consumption in Chile	Ministry of Energy and Center for Renewable Energies
Energy recovery program for industrial waste	MMA
Design and Implementation of the ENCCRIV	CONAF
Clean Energy Generation Agreements in Chile	Clean Energy Generation Council (CPL)
Green area for Transport in Santiago	Municipality of Santiago
NAMAs under registration	
Carbon sequestration through the Sustainable Management of Land	Agriculture and Livestock Research Institute (INIA) and Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG)

Source: Second Biennial Report, 2016.



¹⁴ For more information on the NAMAs go to: <http://unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/items/7172.php>



In accordance with this international process, in 2013 Chile registered the first Forest NAMA at a global level, with funding from the Swiss government through the SDC and with the collective work between the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAGRI), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINREL) and the Ministry of the Environment (MMA). The Forest NAMA is one of the main pillars of the ENCCRV, both for its technical formulation and as a fund that drove the subsequent access to several sources of international and national funding. In addition to the forest NAMA, Chile has registered several NAMAs in other sectors (Table 3), out of which five are registered in the UNFCC NAMA Registry¹⁵.

In this regard, CONAFOR noted with great interest the process in which Chile linked the national mitigation activities of its forestry sector with the international opportunities for technical and financial cooperation within the NAMA category of the UNFCCC. For this reason, the creation of Mexico's forestry NAMA was included as the Project's first aim, in order to strengthen the financial architecture of ENAREDD+.



Within the framework of the Project, the Chilean team responsible for the development of Chile's Forest NAMA provided CONAFOR –through two work sessions (Table 4)– with technical and administrative advice based on its field experience, sharing the necessary information regarding the steps to be followed for the formulation of a proposal that could be submitted to the UNFCCC.

It is worth noting that due to the interest of both countries in addressing and complying with the legal requirements related to REDD+ –detected during the development of the Project–, the second exchange included legal issues such as land tenure, carbon ownership and the ownership of reduced GHG emissions, thus broadening the topics of this exchange session and the scope of cooperation.

It is also worth noting that due to the characteristics of the activities and the progress made in its forest sector, Mexico has not yet submitted any forest NAMAs and –as a result of these exchange sessions– CONAFOR concluded that Mexico's current conditions require different opportunities for targeted financing, with a view to the implementation of REDD+ and results-based payment.

¹⁵ Link to Forest NAMA: [12](http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nama/_layouts/un/fccc/nama>NamaSeekingSupportForImplementation.aspx?ID=5&viewOnly=1</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Table 4. Development of the Activities of Objective 1 of the Project.

Issues addressed in the work sessions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General framework of each country in relation to international and national matters. • Overview of the role of CONAF and CONAFOR. • Overview of the forest sector in both countries. • General considerations of NAMAs in Chile and specific activities developed by CONAF within the framework of the Forest NAMA. • Link of the forest NAMA with the characteristics of the Chilean forest sector and national forest policies. • Importance of financial management of donations and donors. • Forest and environmental legislation on forests and climate change in Mexico and Chile. • Carbon rights transfer. • Benefit-sharing system. 	
 Participation of Chile	 Participation of Mexico
First NAMA Exchange, from August 20 to 21st, 2015. Santiago, Chile.	
<p>CONAF: Professionals from the Forest Development and Promotion Management Department (GEDEFF). Professionals from the Executive Secretariat/ International Affairs Secretariat. Professionals from UCCSA.</p> <p>Other Services: Professionals from the Climate Change Department, MMA.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professional from the International Affairs and Finance Development Unit. Professional from the General Coordination of Planning and Information.</p>
Exchange on NAMAs and legal aspects for REDD+, from October 25 to 27, 2016. Guadalajara, Mexico.	
<p>CONAF: Professionals from CONAF's Public Prosecutor's Office. UCCSA Professionals.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professionals from the International Affairs and Financial Development Unit. Professionals of the General Coordination of Planning and Information. Professionals of the Technical Unit specialized in Monitoring, Reporting and Verification. Professionals of the General Coordination of Production and Productivity. Professionals from the General Coordination of Conservation and Restoration. Professionals from the General Coordination of Legal Affairs.</p>
<p>Total of professionals per activity 1: • CONAF: 8 • MMA: 2</p> <p>Total of professionals per activity 2: • CONAF: 4</p>	<p>Total of professionals per activity 1: • CONAFOR: 2</p> <p>Total of professionals per activity 2: • CONAFOR: 22</p>
Total of professionals trained: 14	Total of professionals trained: 24

AREA OF COOPERATION

PARTICIPATORY AND ANALYTICAL PROCESSES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

Expected Results

Exchange of experiences on participatory and analytical processes and consultancy in the development of platforms with stakeholders, in order to fulfill environmental and social safeguards.

During the UNFCCC’s 16th COP held in Cancun, Mexico, 2010, 7 Cancun Safeguards were established for the development of REDD+ initiatives, which include a series of environmental and social precautionary principles in the face of the negative effects that could be generated in the implementation process of REDD+; additionally, this includes principles that seek to foster benefits in the implementation of the mechanism. The countries should communicate to the UNFCCC how they address these principles through a Safeguards Information System¹⁶ (SIS). Other multilateral bodies and donors have also stipulated safeguards that need to be coordinated and aligned with these, such as the World Bank’s operational policies in projects financed by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility¹⁷ (FCPF).

Considering the above and based on agreements between the parties, we decided to merge the activities into two major events with the inclusion of other countries in the region. The first activity included extending an invitation to the team of the Ministry of the Environment of Colombia, with regard to the implementation of safeguards in their country. This decision facilitated what was agreed in the beginning, thus reaching and exceeding what was expected with an optimal management of resources. [The First Experience Exchange Workshop on Safeguards](#) was held from May 16 to 19, 2016 in Jalisco, Mexico, with the participation of 16 public officials from CONAFOR and 14 from CONAF; Colombia also had a representative from the Ministry of the Environment and another one from the United Nation’s Program on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing countries, also known as UN-REDD¹⁸.

In order to strengthen the capacities of the national teams responsible for the implementation of Safeguards, Mexico and Chile included –as a second aim of the Project– the [strengthening of participatory and analytical processes related to the implementation of environmental and social safeguards](#). Initially, three exchanges were contemplated:

In this event, participants exchanged experiences on how the international requirements of REDD+ Safeguards –and others related to them– are being addressed and respected in participatory processes for the formulation and implementation of their respective Strategies (Table 5). The workshop allowed the teams responsible for implementation in their countries to confirm that they are aligned in the implementation of the activities demanded in the process, to share lessons learned, and to identify common challenges and opportunities in this area.

- Exchange of experiences between safeguard specialists from Mexico and specialists from CONAF’s Indigenous Affairs Unit (UAIS).
- Consultancy from a CONAFOR specialist on the participatory spaces of the forest sector.
- Workshop for the exchange of experiences and lessons learned from both the safeguard processes of both countries.

Participants were able to share [lessons learned](#) such as the need for a flexible, dynamic and versatile approach for adapting REDD+ Safeguard Indicators –and other similar indicators– to the national,

¹⁶ National system in which REDD+ countries report nationally and internationally on how the requirements of the UNFCCC’s REDD+ safeguards are being met.

¹⁷ The FCPF is a global initiative that supports the objectives of REDD+ in countries with tropical and subtropical forests, providing performance-based payments for the reduction of emissions. For more information on the FCPF and SESA go to: <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/>

¹⁸ This program was launched in 2008 and has the technical support from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The Program supports REDD+ processes in different countries and promotes the informed participation of all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities. More information at: <http://www.un-redd.org/>.



regional or local context; to work on pre-existing policies, elements and institutions for accelerating the process and to use didactic and simple media to share with society issues that can be complex and difficult to understand, among other learnings¹⁹.

On the other hand, the countries were able to diagnose a series of [common barriers](#) in the safeguard compliance processes, such as the lack of links between the productive sectors that cause deforestation (e.g. the advance of agricultural and livestock frontier, mining activities, the construction of dams, etc.) in the debate and design of the Strategies.

In addition, the analysis of the safeguard implementation process allowed delegations to visualize some [common challenges](#), such as the active promotion of benefits on issues such as land tenure, empowerment of indigenous peoples and local communities, the incorporation of indigenous worldview into planning, effective biodiversity conservation, strengthening of governance on forests beyond the compensation from forest emission reductions, and strengthening of the organization process of communities in relation

to decision-making and building a discourse and language on Safeguards that is more adapted to the realities of the countries of Latin America and Caribbean.

It is worth noting that the activity was synchronized with the participatory and consultation processes that these teams were developing –during those dates– in their countries both for the formulation and implementation of their Strategies and for the creation of the SIS. The professionals were able to immediately apply the knowledge obtained in this workshop.

The participants from the three countries agreed on a series of steps to be followed, including: sharing progress on the above-mentioned systems, agreeing on opinions on safeguards before international bodies, and conducting a new workshop to complement the topics discussed.

As mentioned above –and as part of these commitments– a follow-up [workshop on the implementation of social and environmental safeguards conducted by Chile and Mexico was held in March 2017, together with the lessons learned](#)



¹⁹ For more information, the technical report of the workshop is under formulation and will soon be available in the ENCCRV website.

in the development of the FCPF requirements and the World Bank's Operational Policies; Region of La Araucanía²⁰, Chile.

Participants from other countries, including Colombia, Uruguay, El Salvador and the Dominican Republic, were invited to participate in the workshop. With this activity, Chile and Mexico presented the progress they had made in this area, which has the potential to be replicated in other countries of Latin America and Caribbean that are beginning with their REDD+ readiness phase and the implementation of Safeguards. We can highlight Chile's presentations on the Self-Assessment and Citizen Consultation process, the dialogue and indigenous participation process, the mainstreaming of the gender approach in the ENCCR, the progress on the complaints and suggestions mechanism, the social and environmental indicators framework, among others. Mexico also showed their ENAREDD+ consultation and participation process -heading to its final version-, the progress and lessons learned in the construction of the National System and SIS, the Citizen Assistance Mechanism, its pilot experience, among others.

On-site activities were also carried out, involving various relevant stakeholders with a focus on indigenous communities. Specifically, a visit was made to China Muerta National Reserve, where the Reserve's 2015 forest fire and the process of incorporation of the safeguards into the post-forest fire restoration Plan were put into context, and a presentation was made of the actions implemented

in the territory in the context of the plan. Together with the above and considering the disease that²¹ the *Araucaria Araucana* species²² has in the region, general background information was submitted on the phytosanitary status of this species and its implications on communities.

In addition, a visit was made to Conguillio National Park, where the historical background of the creation of the National Park was presented, along with its significance in the conservation of the area's endemic biodiversity for Pehuenche communities²³ that make use of the Park and its surroundings. The scopes of the relationship between Protected Wilderness Areas and indigenous communities and the significance of the Araucaria in the ways of living of the Mapuche-Pehuenche communities were also presented.

We also visited the Mapuche-Pehuenche community of Quinquen-Lago Galletue, where the Lonko²⁴ Mr. Ricardo Melinir provided a general description of the community of the area. We discussed briefly on the history of the community and its struggle to conserve land, on indigenous worldview aspects, on the ancestral value of natural resources, forests, lands and their rights.

An important part of this component of the project is a document describing in detail the activities conducted within the framework of the environmental and social safeguards and their implications, lessons learned and scaling up for both countries.



²⁰ This Region of Chile was selected as the headquarters with the aim of decentralizing the development of the activities of the Project and considering the significant number of indigenous population (23.5% out of a total of 203,950 inhabitants in the Region, according to the 2002 Census).

²¹ The death of Araucaria individuals has been detected; their first visible symptom is that the branches of the lower or middle part of the crown lose their green until they die. It then spreads to the nearest branches, expanding until they cause the death of the individual. <http://www.conaf.cl/conaf-desarrolla-plan-de-trabajo-para-determinar-causa-de-muertes-de-araucarias/>.

²² Also known as pinonero, pino araucaria, Chilean pine or pino de brazos, it is a tree species belonging to the genus of conifers that is endemic to the sub-Antarctic forests, located in the northwestern end of the Argentinian Patagonia and in south-central Chile, whose distribution is limited to areas of the Andes, and to a lesser extent, to the Coastal mountain range. The Araucaria is an important part of the Mapuche culture, especially for the Pehuenche ethnic group.

²³ The Pehuenches or people from Pehuen are an indigenous community that is part of the Mapuche culture; they inhabit both sides of the Andes mountain range in the south-central region of Chile and south-east of Argentina.

²⁴ A lonko (in Mapudungun, longko) is the leader of a Mapuche community. His role implies addressing political, administrative and religious aspects of his community.

Table 5. Development of the Activities of Objective 2 of the Project.



Issues addressed in the work sessions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategies within each country's context. • Participatory and consultation processes of the National Strategies. • Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) • Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) • Safeguard Information System (SIS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints and Suggestions Mechanisms. • Benefit-Sharing Systems (SDB) • R-Package and Self-assessment according to the requirements of the FCPF.
 Participation of Chile	 Participation of Mexico
Workshop for the exchange of Experiences on Safeguards held from the 16th to 19th of May, 2016. Jalisco, Mexico.	
<p>CONAF: Professionals from the Environmental Supervision and Assessment Management Department. GEDEFF Professionals. UAIS Professionals. UCCSA Professionals. Professionals from the Region of Magallanes and the Antarctica. Professionals from the Region of Biobío. Professionals from the Region of Aysen. Professionals from the Region of Los Rios. Professionals from the Region of La Araucania.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professionals from the International Affairs and Financial Development Unit. Professionals of the General Coordination of Planning and Information. Professionals from the safeguards team within the Forest Information Management Department.</p> <p>Representatives from the invited countries: Colombian Ministry of the Environment and Colombian UN-REDD+ Program.</p>
Follow-up workshop on the implementation of social and environmental safeguards of Chile & Mexico, along with the lessons learned in the development of the FCPF requirements and the World Bank Operational Policies held from the 20th to 24th of March, 2017. La Araucania, Chile.	
<p>CONAF: GEDEFF Professionals. UAIS Professionals. UCCSA Professionals. Professionals from the Region of La Araucania Professional from the Region of Aysen. Professional from the Region of Biobio. Professional from the Region of Atacama. Professional from the Region of Tarapaca.</p> <p>Other Services: Professionals from the MMA. Professionals from SAG. Professionals from the Ministry of Social Development Foundation for Agricultural Communications, Training and Culture (FUCOA).</p> <p>Other invited stakeholders: Indigenous Community of Quinquen. Lonquimay Town Hall. Association of Forest Engineers for the Native Forest.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Forest Information Manager. Professional for support in Social and Environmental Safeguards.</p>
<p>Total of participants, activity 1: • CONAF: 13 • Consultants: 1</p> <p>Total participants, activity 2: • CONAF: 33</p>	<p>Representatives from invited countries • Dominican republic: 1 • Uruguay: 2 • Colombia: 2 • Salvador: 1</p> <p>Other services and stakeholders: 13</p>
<p>Total participants activity 1: • CONAFOR: 16</p> <p>Representatives from invited countries in activity 1: • Colombia: 2</p> <p>Total participants activity 2: • CONAFOR: 2</p>	
Total personnel trained: 66	Total personnel trained: 20



Figure 3. Photographs from the exchange activities. Workshop 2.

AREA OF COOPERATION	MONITORING, REPORT AND VERIFICATION (MRV) SYSTEMS
Expected Results	Exchange of experiences, transfer of knowledge and capacity-building for defining Reference Levels and MRV Systems.



As mentioned in the first paragraphs of this document - in the framework of the UNFCCC- particularly the countries that are conducting activities within the context of REDD+, shall have FREL/FRLs and an MRV system to assess the changes in the rates of deforestation, degradation, permanence and increase in forest stand stocks; they shall also identify the capture of emissions resulting from the implementation of mitigation activities in the forest sector. In this regard, the MRV system should provide reliable, verifiable and transparent quantitative results of the activities undertaken by countries to measure performance in climate change mitigation. Likewise, it is necessary to have a reference level that determines the historical dynamics and the status

prior to interventions and that allows verifying the success of the implemented measures, in terms of GHG emission reductions.

Considering the above, in countries that are preparing and implementing their REDD+ Strategies, forest monitoring specialists are required; they shall be constantly trained on new methods of quantification in order to generate robust data and innovations for obtaining and analyzing them.

MRV specialists from Mexico and Chile were able to intensively exchange knowledge through three training activities and a congress with international specialists (Table 6).

Table 6. Development of the Activities of Objective 3 of the Project.

Topics addressed in the working sessions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the FREL/FRLs, experiences of Mexico and Chile. • Analysis of causes of deforestation and forest degradation. • Historical baseline analysis of land-use change dynamics. • Construction and revision of the MRV system at different scales, experiences from Mexico and Chile. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Format, structure and progress of the FREL/FRLs before the UNFCCC. • Methodological Framework of the FCPF in the framework of the reference levels and MRV. • Deforestation Reference Level: Definition, information sources, methods, reference period and results.
 Participation of Chile	 Participation of Mexico
Technical capacity-building exchange for the construction of the FREL/FRLs and of the MRV system at different scales. September 29 to October 1st, 2015. Jalisco, Mexico.	
<p>CONAF: GEDEFF Professionals. Professionals from the Forest Monitoring Department. UCCSA Professionals.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professionals from the International Affairs and Financial Development Unit. Professionals from the Project for the Strengthening of the Readiness process for REDD+ in Mexico and the promotion of South-South Cooperation.</p> <p>Guests: Professional from the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC). Professional from the Ministry of The environment and Energy of Costa Rica. Professional from Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica.</p>
Second International Workshop for the formulation of FREL/FRLs and analysis of MRV, Chilean context. November 23 to 27, 2015. Santiago, Chile.	
<p>CONAF: Professionals from the Forest Monitoring Department. UCCSA Professionals.</p> <p>Guests: Professionals of the consulting firm Winrock International. Professionals from the Chilean Forestry Institute (INFOR). Professionals from Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH). Professionals from the World Bank.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professionals from the Project for Strengthening of the Readiness Process for REDD+ in Mexico and promotion of South-South Cooperation.</p>
ForestSAT in Forest Sciences, Remote Sensing and Geo-spatial Applications Congress. November 14 to 17, 2016. Santiago, Chile.	
<p>CONAF: UCCSA Professionals. Professionals from the Forest Monitoring Department.</p> <p>International experts invited by the Project: International specialist of the Chinese Academy of Forestry. International specialist from the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Spain. International specialist from the Eastern Geographic Science Center of the United States Geological Survey (USGS).</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professionals from the National Forest Monitoring System Management Department. Professionals from the Technical Unit specialized in Monitoring, Report and Verification.</p>
Third exchange for capacity building on FREL/FRLs, carbon accounting and construction of the Monitoring System. December 7 – 9, 2016. Guadalajara Mexico.	
<p>CONAF: UCCSA Professionals. Professionals from the Forest Ecosystems Monitoring Department. Professionals from the Environmental Supervision and Assessment Management Department.</p>	<p>CONAFOR: Professionals from the National Forest Monitoring System Management Department. Professionals from the Technical Unit specialized in Monitoring, Report and Verification.</p>

Total participating staff		Total personnel trained	
Total of participants, activity 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAF: 3 	Total of participants activity 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAF: 6 International experts: 3 	Total of participants, activity 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAFOR: 10 INECC: 1 Representatives of guest country: 2 	Total of participants, activity 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAFOR: 3
Total participants, activity 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAF: 4 Guests: 7 	Total participants activity 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAF: 4 	Total participants, activity 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAFOR: 3 	Total participants activity 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CONAFOR: 10
Total personnel trained: 27		Total personnel trained: 29	

In this regard, the first two exchanges (Mexico in October, 2015 and Chile in November of the same year) were of particular interest to Chile, since on the 4th of January, 2016, it submitted its FREL/FRLs to the UNFCCC Secretariat for their technical analysis and assessment by a panel of experts on LULUCF. The exchanges allowed Chile to get to know and consider the different methodological frameworks presented at the events, particularly to learn from the experiences of the CONAFOR team, who led the formulation of their respective FREL/FRLs, which were consigned by Mexico before the UNFCCC in 2015. The knowledge exchange also provided the Chilean team with useful tools for the formulation of the Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPD) within the framework of the FCPF Carbon Fund²⁵.

The Ministry of Environment and Energy and Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica accompanied Chile and Mexico in the first exchange, presenting their national experience with regard to forest inventories. Mexico's National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC) also participated in this exchange, presenting their Methodology for accounting of GHG emissions from the LULUCF sector, as well its compatibility with the methodologies used by the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory. The second exchange had the participation of a consortium comprised by the INFOR, Universidad Austral de Chile and Winrock International, along with a representative from the World Bank. For this exchange in particular, specialists had a leading role with the support of their technical knowledge. Professionals from Winrock International

contributed with the provision of information on the quantification of the uncertainty of the FREL/FRLs. Likewise, the UACH, INFOR and Winrock agreed on the development of maps and tables relating to the Reference Level of deforestation for Chile's ERPD. Additionally, relevant agreements were reached for the ERPD and for the determination of the Reference Level of forest degradation, which would use the methodology developed by the INFOR, among others.

On the other hand -and to continue with the training of professionals- CONAF supported Universidad Mayor in organizing the [ForestSAT Congress focused on Forest Sciences, Remote Sensing and Geo-spatial Applications](#), held on November 14 to 17, 2016 in Santiago, Chile; its main objective was to deepen knowledge on innovative tools and forest mapping methods and remote-sensing, taught by world leaders in these fields. In this context, CONAFOR and CONAF specialists were invited to participate in the congress in order to strengthen the capacities of Mexico and Chile for determining Reference Levels and for designing their MRV Systems and presenting their experience in their respective countries.

Parallel to the congress, [Knowledge Exchange and Capacity-Building Workshops were held in the framework of Forest Monitoring for REDD+ with the participation of international specialists brought with Project funding, specialists from CONAFOR and CONAF](#). The international speakers invited by the Project were Dr. Maria Pilar Martin, whose experience in remote sensing and spectroscopy provided training on the use of remote sensing for



²⁵ Fondo del carbono del FCPF entró en pleno funcionamiento en mayo de 2011 a través del cual se realizarán pilotos de pagos de incentivos para las políticas y medidas de REDD+. El Fondo remunera a los países seleccionados de acuerdo con los contratos negociados para reducir de forma verificable las emisiones. <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/carbon-fund-0>



monitoring and modelling key biophysical variables of vegetation; Dr. Sylvia Wilson, who gave a lecture on emerging tools and methodologies in remote sensing to map carbon and forest dynamics; and Dr. Pang Yong, who gave a lecture on mapping of vegetation formations by using high-resolution remote sensing technologies.

Finally, in order to give continuity to these activities and to show the latest progress of both countries in MRV, Reference Levels and carbon accounting, a fourth exchange was held in Mexico through [an Internship of experts from CONAF for the strengthening of capacities related to Reference Levels, carbon accounting and the construction of the Monitoring system](#) in December, 2016, in Guadalajara, Mexico. Here, CONAF presented the

progress and design of Chile's Biomass Forest Inventory, as well as the background, characteristics and challenges of the Chilean Vegetation Registry, along with sharing the experiences in estimating emissions from degradation. On the other hand, CONAFOR presented the current structure of the National Forest Monitoring System, along with the characteristics of Mexico's National Forest and Soil Inventory and its Activity Data Monitoring System, and the emission factors component. In addition, there was a course taught on basic concepts of uncertainties, as well as for their estimation and propagation by analytical and numerical simulation methods of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Finally, both countries discussed their concerns and proposals in terms of registration and report as part of the MRV systems.

AREA OF COOPERATION**Expected Results****COORDINATION/ENGAGEMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

Technical linkage and exchange of experiences for the development of institutional arrangements and communication strategy needed for the coordination and engagement of the private sector.

The Project initially contemplated establishing partnerships with the private sector for leveraging more investment in the development of the Strategies and the achievement of their objectives. As a first step, CONAFOR professionals were invited to participate in the [1st Joint Mission of Cooperators and Relevant Partners of the ENCCRV from January 18 to 23, 2016](#) (Table 7). This activity brought together international agencies such as the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nation's Environment Program (UN Environment), among others, as well as other donors such as the Swiss Government through the SDC, and a delegation of representatives from Latin American countries that are developing similar programs to improve the management of forest resources, and other relevant stakeholders at a national and regional level.

The overall objective of the Mission was an on-site visit to the approaches of the ENCCRV and the specificities of the areas where demonstration areas will be implemented in the Region of Biobio, Region of La Araucania and Region of Los Rios. This will generate key inputs and information for the scaling up of the activities contemplated within the Strategy. CONAFOR's participation in the tour strengthened the binational collaboration that exists within the Project, allowing professionals to get to know on-site the different types of forest landowners and the action measures that are implemented in three Chilean regions. The Mexican professionals contributed with their experiences and their perspective of the activities that engage the private sector within the framework of ENAREDD+.

During 2017, CONAFOR participated again in the [2nd Joint Mission of Cooperators and Relevant Partners of the ENCCRV from January 16 to 21, 2017](#), in the Regions of Aysen and Los Rios, which was attended by various bodies of the Chilean government, as well as an important delegation of representatives from Latin American countries and international agencies (Table 7). CONAFOR included in this exchange two businesswomen and one businessman, members of common land associations that make up community forest companies, particularly in the Region of Durango²⁶; as well as a forestry promoter, who is responsible for promoting and supporting the operation of all programs for sustainable forest development in the state of Chiapas. The aforementioned was described to show how small and medium-size Chilean forest landowners are finding opportunities and profitability for their investments in activities aimed at the sustainable management of vegetation resources, while, in turn, they are supported by government incentives that seek to transform forest businesses into activities that benefit the conservation of these resources.

The event was attended by about ten small and medium-size Chilean forest landowners, owners of properties and leaders of indigenous communities and indigenous peoples who are landowners, who gave lectures on the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of vegetation resources and their associated environmental services within their lands, among others.

In that regard, Mexican forest entrepreneurs learned about sustainable business approaches in Chile and





²⁶ Located in the northwest region of the country, bordered by Chihuahua to the north, Coahuila to the northeast, Zacatecas to the southeast, Nayarit to the south and Sinaloa to the west.

exchanged with their Chilean counterparts their concerns, techniques and best practices on the forest market, focusing in the role of the private sector in national environmental public policies, such as the ENCCRV. This point is highly relevant, since in order to establish links and institutional arrangements that facilitate and lead to the implementation and scaling-up of the action measures and to achieve the goals set forth in the National Strategies, the engagement of the private sector is critical due to the fact that they –along with the government– will be the ones to implement the operational activities in the territory. In the case of Chile, CONAF –through the ENCCRV– in its readiness phase, has created multiple links with more than 1,500 local

stakeholders throughout the country through early implementation pilot initiatives and other participatory initiatives that have been the basis for the formulation of the Strategy and that were reflected in both versions of the joint mission.

The experience also helped generate dialogue between the stakeholders, with the aim of bridging gaps between the commercial strategies in the sector and Mexican public policies for the conservation of forest resources. More forestry entrepreneurs from Latin America and the Caribbean are expected to be invited to participate in other versions of the Mission to increase the exchange of knowledge.

Table 7. Activities of Objective 4.

Topics addressed in the working sessions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linking REDD+ Strategies with the private sector through small and medium forest entrepreneurs. • Sustainable land management and the struggle against Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) through rural property management. • Management in forest fire prevention and restoration of burned areas • Forest extension activities and incentives for the sustainable management of vegetation resources. • Sustainable management of biomass and its certification as part of the strengthening of the wood energy program and the role of the private sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of environmental and social safeguards in the management of vegetation resources. • Promotion of non-timber forest products. • Conservation and restoration of the environmental services of native forests, focused on water resources. • Other issues such as multi-sectoral policies, public spending, local leadership and entrepreneurship, environmental legislation, carbon accounting, biodiversity conservation, invasive exotic species, native forests and socio-environmental conflicts within the Regions.
 Participation of Chile	 Participation of Mexico
1st Joint Mission of Cooperators and Relevant Partners of the ENCCRV from January 18 to 23, 2016. Regions of Biobío, Araucanía and Los Ríos, Chile.	
<p>CONAF UCCSA Professionals. UAIS Professionals. Professionals from the Region of BioBio. Professionals from the Region of La Araucanía. Professionals from the Region of Los Ríos.</p> <p>Other services Professionals from the Department of Agricultural Policy Studies (ODEPA). INFOR Professionals.</p> <p>International Agencies SDC Professionals. Professionals from the World Bank. Professionals from the UNDP. Professionals from UN Environment. FAO Professionals.</p>	<p>CONAFOR Professionals from the Planning and Assessment Management Department and Forest Restoration Management Department.</p> <p>Invited Country Panama.</p>

Consultants/others

TECO Group.
Ernst Basler + Partner (EBP).
South Austral Consulting.
Climate Focus.
UACH.
World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
National System of Firewood Certification (SNCL).

2nd Joint Mission of Cooperators and Relevant Partners of the ENCCRV from January 16 to 21, 2017. Regions of Aysen and Los Rios, Chile.

CONAF

GEDEFF Professionals.
Professionals from the Forest Fire Protection Management Department.
Professionals from the Wood Energy Unit.
Professionals from the Forest Monitoring and Ecosystem Department.
Professionals from the Region of Coquimbo.
Professionals from the Region of O'higgins.
Professionals from the Region of Aysen.
Professionals from the Region of Los Rios.
UCCSA Professionals.
UAIS Professionals.

Other services

SAG Professionals.
Professionals from the Foundation for Agriculture and Livestock Innovation (FIA).
Professionals from the Institute for Agriculture and Livestock Development (INDAP).
Professionals from the Chilean International Cooperation Agency (AGCI).
INFOR.
Professionals from the MMA. Professionals from ODEPA.

International agencies

Professionals from the SDC.
Professionals from the World Bank.
Professionals from the UNDP.
Professionals from UNEP.
FAO Professionals.

Invited Countries

Colombia.
Argentina.
Paraguay.
Ecuador.
Uruguay.
Honduras.
Panama.
Japan.
Peru.
Switzerland.

Consultants/others

EBP.
Sud Austral.
SNCL.
UACH.
Andean Forests Program.

CONAFOR

Professional from the Forest Restoration Management Department.
Professional from the Planning and Assessment Management Department.
Professional from the Sustainable Forest Production Promotion Management Department.
Professionals from the International Affairs and Financial Development Unit.

Small and medium forest entrepreneurs

Pino Real Forest Corporation.
Grupo SEZARIC, Social Forest Company to the northeast of Durango.

Forest Promoter

Forest Promoter from common land La Paz, Chiapas.

Total personnel trained

Total of participants, activity 1:
• CONAF: 35
• Guests: 44

Total participants activity 2:
• CONAF: 52
• Guests: 68
• International delegation: 17

Total personnel trained:

Total of participants, activity 1:
• CONAFOR: 2

Total participants, activity 2:
• CONAFOR: 5
• Representatives from the private sector in Mexico: 4

Total participants: 216²⁷

Total participants: 11



²⁷ It is worth noting that the tour attendees -with the exception of CONAFOR professionals and small landowners invited by CONAFOR- were not funded by the Project.



Figure 2. Photographs from the exchange activities. 2017 Joint Mission.

4. Final comments on the project

The Mexico–Chile Binational Cooperation Project regarding forests and climate change is recorded as yet another successful experience of South–South cooperation within the portfolio of projects of the Chile–Mexico Fund, complementing the cooperation model that both countries implemented with developed countries and international agencies. It is important to note that the Chile Mexico Fund was created not only for mutual assistance, but for encouraging the inclusion of other countries in the region and around the world. Consistent with this opportunity provided by the Fund, CONAF and CONAFOR extended the scope of the Project to several countries of Latin America and the Caribbean who are addressing the REDD+ policy approach and other related initiatives, thus ensuring that this bilateral initiative generates benefits at a regional level and nurtures exchanges between Chile and Mexico with several perspectives and contributions.

As a result, the Project is successfully inserted within the framework of South–South cooperation, in line with the fulfillment of the Rio Conventions. This is due to the fact that countries with similar concerns and tasks for mitigating and adapting to climate change –among other environmental challenges– invest both monetary and technical resources for supporting each other and making progress, complementing other international cooperation schemes; and additionally demonstrating Chile and Mexico’s firm commitment to advancing in REDD+, leading the REDD+ process in the region and, in turn, supporting the rest of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

It is also worth noting that Mexico and Chile’s Strategies are not only restricted to the UNFCCC REDD+ approach. Chile, for example, includes xerophytic formations and other vegetation



resources beyond forests in the Strategy, it integrates both mitigation and adaptation actions and focuses on the conservation of native vegetation resources with its consequent direct and indirect contribution to the fulfillment of the CBD, the Ramsar convention on wetlands of international importance, the SDGs, among others. Together, both Strategies are focused on combating Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought in line with the objectives of other multilateral environmental agreements, such as the UNCCD. These aspects were also assessed and shared in the exchanges. In the case of Mexico, the approach of the ENAREDD+ is based on the provisions of the international agreements signed by the country before the UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD, as well as on other international agreements related to rights issues, such as the ILO-Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

On the other hand, the experiences shared by professionals from CONAF, CONAFOR and the other Chilean and Mexican institutions that participated in the activities, satisfactorily fulfilled the initial objectives of the Project, of taking advantage of the progress that each country has made in the areas of cooperation, demonstrating the impact of these exchanges in the strengthening of national teams. It is worth noting that the quality of the exchanges generated by the cooperation between the two countries complemented and strengthened the

works that were being developed prior to the start-up of the Project (e.g. Mexico had made progress on its MRV system with the cooperation of Norway, while Chile made progress with Switzerland).

The Project included other state institutions of Chile and Mexico related to REDD+ elements and other components of the Project. In Chile, for example, staff from the various departments of CONAF was accompanied by professionals from other MINAGRI services, such as the INFOR, the SAG, and the MMA, as well as public officials from other regions of the country, thus decentralizing the benefits of the Project, which is generally difficult to achieve in these types of exchanges. In the case of Mexico, the first MRV exchange included the participation of INECC, as well as of representatives of common lands and communities that implement activities from the private sector. The inclusion of civil society, indigenous peoples and communities, forest landowners and other stakeholders allowed the different components of the Project to be addressed in a more comprehensive manner.

In conclusion, due to the good performance of this Project, the cooperation scheme between Chile and Mexico in the field of forests and climate change will continue beyond one-off financing, since the capacities were successfully installed in CONAF and CONAFOR and the exchange will continue, generating new ideas for future projects that –as a best practice– will engage other countries of the region.

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6. Acronyms

AGCI	Chilean International Cooperation Agency
AMEXCID	Mexican Agency for International Cooperation
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNCCD	United Nation's Convention to Combat Desertification
CONAF	National Forestry Corporation
CONAFOR	National Forestry Commission
COP	Conference of the Parties
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
CPL	Clean Energy Generation Council
DDLD	Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought
EBP	Ernst Basler + Partner
ENAREDD+	National strategy REDD+
ENCCRV	National Strategy on Climate Change and Vegetation Resources
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FIA	Foundation for Agriculture and Livestock Innovation
GEDEFF	Forest Development and Promotion Management Department
GHG	Greenhouse gases
INDAP	Institute for Agriculture and Livestock Development
INIA	Agriculture and Livestock Research Institute
INFOR	Forestry Institute
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MMA	Ministry of the Environment
MINAGRI	Ministry of Agriculture
MINREL	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ODEPA	Department of Agricultural Policy Studies
ILO	International Labor Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SAG	Agricultural and Livestock Service
SEMARNAT	Mexican Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources
SIS	Safeguards Information System
SNCL	National System of Firewood Certification
UACH	Universidad Austral de Chile
UAIS	Indigenous Affairs Unit
UCCSA	Climate Change and Environmental Services Unit
LULUCF	Land-use, Land-use change and Forestry
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWF	World Wildlife Fund



National Forestry Corporation

Climate Change and Environmental Services Unit (UCCSA)
Forest Development and Promotion Management Department (GEDEFF)
National Forestry Corporation (CONAF)
Chilean Ministry of Agriculture

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