



REDD+ FOR THE GUIANA SHIELD

BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION MAKING

Third Steering Committee Meeting
June 2nd and 3rd 2014 – Cayenne, French Guiana



Foreword

This document has been prepared to facilitate decision-making process by sharing in advance issues that will be discussed during the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting of the REDD+ for the Guiana Shield project. It is accompanied by several documents that are mentioned in the core text.

It is a working document that – if relevant - might be slightly changed before the Steering Committee Meeting.

Additional elements and details will be provided during the meeting.

Content

SESSION 1 – REGIONAL APPROACH FOR REDD+ IN THE GUIANA SHIELD

Through several presentations, this session aims at updating all participants on REDD+ situation in the different countries (position, advancement, etc.), as well as on activities implemented or to be implemented by other organizations (mainly the Steering Committee observers).

Those presentations should help to consider the pros and cons, as well as difficulties of envisioning a regional approach for REDD+ on the Guiana Shield. It will be followed by an open discussion with partners.

No specific decision will be made during this session.

SESSION 2 – TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

Scheduled and implemented activities

General objectives of the Working Group Meetings are to:

- Share relevant experiences, projects or methodologies that are being developed or used in the region or in other locations on REDD+ related issues
- Discuss specific technical topics that strengthen the knowledge and capacities of the partners on REDD+ related issues
- Promote regional dialogue and identify needs in terms of further capacitation and technology transfer

A first Working Group Meeting has been organized in Georgetown (in partnership with Conservation International) on December 5th and 6th 2013, based on which Terms of Reference have been submitted to the Steering Committee members.

See the previous Steering Committee Meeting Report for more details on what activities were scheduled (http://reddguianashield.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/2nd_steering_committee_report.pdf#page=1&zoom=auto,-100,798).

	Scheduled activities	Implemented activities
In terms of preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ToRs to be reviewed and sent to Steering Committee members ▪ List of priority topics and comments sent by SC members 	<p>Terms of Reference and list of priority topics have all been shared with participants, based on SC members' feedbacks.</p> <p>All those information are available on the project website</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated list of priority topics to be prepared 	(http://reddguianashield.com/working-groups/) .
In terms of implementation	Organization of 2 WG meetings	Two additional Working Group Meetings have been organized.

A total of three working group meetings have been organized, among which two over the last 6 months period:

- Georgetown, 5-6 December 2013 - WG1: REDD+ MRV implementation and drivers of deforestation
- Paramaribo, 27-28 February 2014 - WG2: Mapping for REDD+: tools and classification methods for forest cover monitoring
- Cayenne, 28-29 April 2014 - WG3: Design of a multipurpose National Forest Inventory

Results and outputs of those meetings will be shortly presented during the 3rd Steering Committee.

Updated budget and calendar

Budget

		TOTAL available budget for 6 WGM	Spent budget for 3 WGM		Remaining budget
2.a	Supporting expertise	36 120	6 840	19%	29 280
2.b	Logistics for WGM	194 952	40 194	21%	154 758
		231 072	47 034	20%	184 038

Calendar

		Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14
WGM 1	<i>Georgetown</i>													
WGM 2	<i>Paramaribo</i>													
WGM3	<i>Cayenne</i>													
WGM4	<i>Macapa</i>													
WGM5	?													
WGM6	?													

Coming activities and decision to be made

Working Group Meeting 4 and next meetings

IEF and SEMA offered Macapa as a possible location for the next Working Group Meeting (4).

WG3 participants agreed on two possible topics that could be discussed within the next WGM:

- Slash and burn agriculture and forest degradation : how to assess and monitor those activities in a REDD+ context (definition, assessment and monitoring of both surface and stocks);
- Drivers of deforestation how to identify, monitor, anticipate and address drivers of deforestation

	Slash and burn agriculture and forest degradation	Drivers of deforestation
Possible topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess carbon fluxes in selective cutting concessions ▪ Monitoring options for forest degradation ▪ Slash and burn agriculture (is it forest or non forest? Based on practices, what are the carbon stocks and losses, how to discriminate it through remote sensing) ▪ Carbon stock enhancement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantifying the impacts of drivers of deforestation in the Guiana Shield – current situation and needs and challenges ▪ How to assess and monitor drivers of deforestation in the REDD+ context? ▪ How to anticipate drivers of deforestation/degradation evolution? How this anticipation can feed a RL/REL? ▪ Use of knowledge and understanding of drivers of deforestation to improve land-use planning. ▪ Example of activities to address drivers of deforestation.
Possible invited experts to support discussion and share additional experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tropical agronomist ▪ Specialist of carbon stock assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental economist and specialist of RL/REL ▪ Land-Use planning expert

Utilization of remaining budget

Organization of previous WGM enabled to save money comparing to the scheduled budget (about 50 000€).

How to use this remaining budget:

- Organize longer or other type of working group meetings (eg. Including field work) – NB: to be put in perspective with Training and Technology Transfer Plan
- Organize 2 additional WG meetings?
- Organize discussion meetings (not necessarily working group but can start discussing beyond the initial purpose of WGM)?
- Develop additional tools to support the technical discussions (eg. A technical forum on internet)?

SESSION 3 – “À LA CARTE” NATIONAL SUPPORT

Implemented activities and advancement for all the countries “À la carte” support will be provided during the Steering Committee Meeting, as well as a budget situation and an updated calendar.
No specific decision has to be made on that issue.

SESSION 4 – TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

What is TTT?

Specific budget is dedicated to Training and Technology Transfer opportunities within the project framework:

- 180k€ - Technology Transfer
- 216k€ - Training (that can be provided through different format)

Objectives:

- Provide a defined space within the project for developing technical capacities, by training staff on topics such as GIS, remote sensing analysis, database management, REDD+, etc
- Transfer technologies based on availability and on countries’ needs
- Serve both the countries reinforcement objective and the regional dialogue purpose

It was agreed that no activities would be implemented between January and June 2014, but that TTT plan would be discussed during the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting.

Suggested approach and activities

A 6 months TTT plan will be presented during the Steering Committee Meeting. It has been developed based on Working Group Meetings’ discussion as well as based on discussion the project had with the partners. This plan includes several formats for training and technology transfer.

	Format	Suggested activities for the coming 6 months
Training	Training sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training session on RADAR imageries (how to prepare and use it) - Regional training session (including field work and preparation of a field manual) on Tree species identification
	Regional accompanying and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional support to create a database of available allometric equations and propose a program to develop new ones - Regional support to develop a common classification system for the region, based on FAO/UNEP Land Cover Classification System (LCCS)
	Scholarships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To open and provide scholarship to support 3 students (one per country) participation to

		<p>the Master 2 (1 year program) on Ecology of Tropical Forests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To financially support to participation of three participants for forestry services to the 1 month Tropical Humid Forest courses in French - Giuana - http://www.ecofog.gf/spip.php?rubrique45
Technology transfer		Buy imageries and equipment based on needs for the aforementioned training activities.

For more information, see:

- The flyer on Ecofog Master 2 on Tropical Forests Ecology
- Ecofog website – <http://www.ecofog.gf>

Other options could be considered for scholarship (including ones in Brazil, Suriname and Guyana). Those options will be discussed during the Steering Committee Meeting and suggestions from participants are welcomed.

Budget

Activity 3	Available budget	Estimated budget (6 months plan)	To be spent Semester 2 2014	Remaining budget
3.a Supporting expertise	8 000	3 200	3 200 40%	8 000
3.b Technology transfer	180 000	15 000	15 000 8%	180 000
3.c Training	216 000	174 000	109 000 50%	107 000
	<i>RADAR</i>	<i>60 000</i>	<i>15 000</i>	
	<i>Tree species identification</i>	<i>30 000</i>	<i>30 000</i>	
	<i>Allometric equation</i>	<i>25 000</i>	<i>25 000</i>	
	<i>Classification systems</i>	<i>25 000</i>	<i>25 000</i>	
	<i>Scholarship</i>	<i>30 000</i>	<i>10 000</i>	
	<i>FTH Module</i>	<i>4 000</i>	<i>4 000</i>	
TOTAL	404 000	192 200	127 200 31%	295 000

Calendar

	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15
Training session on RADAR																			
Training session on tree species identification																			
Regional accompanying on allometric equations																			
Regional accompanying on classification system using LCCS																			
Scholarship option for a 1 year Master degree in Kourou																			
Support for 3 forest services staff to participate to FTH Module																			

SESSION 5 – REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON REDD+

This session will be dedicated to discussion on tools and options to encourage regional dialogue on REDD+.

Scheduled and suggested activities, based on initial working plan and previous Steering Committee Meetings are:

- Development of studies (on stocks, surface, drivers of deforestation and modeling emissions due to deforestation);
- Hosting two PhD students to develop models of deforestation (spatial and socio-econometric models) in a participative way;
- Development of a regional GIS database on drivers of deforestation/degradation
- Development of an internet platform to share data (as well as related tools such as data sharing policy);
- Organization of regional dialogue meetings to discuss the tools,
- Carbon compensation

The 3rd Steering Committee Meeting will give the opportunity to present advancement on those different topics and discuss the best way to achieve the objectives of such tools that are:

- To initiate and encourage a regional dialogue on REDD+ based on tools and data that are non-intrusive (no substitution to national data and methodological choices);
- To highlight the link and leakage effects of drivers of deforestation at the Guiana Shield scale and encourage – if relevant – discussion on common actions and willingness to address such drivers;
- To build capacities and understanding of partners in terms of modeling future deforestation;
- To support decision making process by providing indicators, tools and understanding of stakes for REDD+ and land-use planning strategies.

Models of deforestation - PhD projects

Please see the SCM 2 report for more details on PhD projects.

Based on SCM2 discussion and on comments received by participants, it has been decided to participate to Camille Dezecache PhD on the Development of a Spatially explicit model of future deforestation in the Guiana Shield region.

The PhD working approach has been adapted to be more participative and to encourage capacity building on those topics. This approach will be presented and discussed during the SCM3.

As agreed during the last Steering Committee Meeting, a decision has to be made during the 3rd SCM on the second PhD project. **Attached are the ToRs for the second PhD.**

This PhD will be presented, as well as possible alternatives in case the decision would be made not to launch this second PhD through the project.

Regional Studies

A budget (81,000€) is included in the project to prepare comparative and analysis regional studies related to evaluation and monitoring of forest surfaces, stocks and drivers of deforestation, and to future deforestation modeling.

Discussions during first Steering Committee meetings highlighted that those studies were not necessarily the priority activity to implement, that a lot of studies were available already, and that such studies could be fed by Working Group meetings discussion and by other project activities instead of being performed by external consultants.

During SCM2, it was suggested that part of the budget available for studies would be reoriented to produce a homogeneous regional scale LULCC data set. After what, has been launched the University of Maryland *High Resolution Global Maps of 21st-Century Forest Cover Change* (Hansen, *et al.* 2013). This initiative can replace the expense as it enables to freely access a good quality homogeneous deforestation data set (2000-2012) over the all Guiana Shield Region.

Another study will be prepared based on data that will be collected for the GIS database on drivers of deforestation (see later discussions on this GIS database).

Two studies have been started:

- Comparative study of MRV situation in the Guiana Shield countries;
- Comparative study of tools to model future deforestation.

Budget and calendar

Spent budget for those studies so far is 7,700€. Needed budget to finalize those studies is 18,130€. Remaining budget to be allocated is 56,000€.

Comparative study on MRV systems and on tools to model future deforestation will be finalized before end of 2014.

Utilization of remaining budget

To be discussed during SC meeting 3:

What study(ies) could be developed using this budget?

What are the priority topics?

Suggested activities:

- Digitization of data at regional scale (roads, settlements, mining activities, etc.) at different dates – to be decided based on available information (to be assessed through the GIS database compilation);
- Study on impact of main drivers of deforestation/degradation.

GIS Database

A GIS database on drivers of deforestation and degradation will be developed in the framework of the project.

The regional and spatial database on drivers of deforestation has several objectives:

- Understand at the regional level, the spatial distribution of the drivers of deforestation and degradation to support the regional dialogue and improve the overall understanding of the impact of different activities source of deforestation and degradation;
- Better understanding of the availability of data for the Guiana Shield on drivers of deforestation/degradation, in particular to identify the needs for production of additional data;
- Feeding a spatially explicit model of future deforestation to enable the correlation between factors of deforestation/degradation and predicting variables of deforestation/degradation (e.g. proximity to a road, population density, etc.).

The Database will compile existing data and if needed, harmonized or complement it. Data that will be collected could be:

- Road network (primary and secondary roads, forest tracks);
- Hydrographic network;
- Urban areas;
- Mining concessions;
- Permanent forest domain, forest concessions;
- Natural parks / protected areas;
- Administrative map;
- Map of soil fertility and quality;
- Precipitation map;
- Agricultural areas;
- Topography;
- Map of gold favorability;
- Demographics;
- Etc.

During the Steering Committee Meeting, ToRs for the GIS Database, including the process and responsibilities for collecting data will be presented and discussed, as well as possible synergies with other existing regional initiatives of data compilation.

Draft ToRs are attached to the document.

Data sharing tools and policy

A Website has been developed for the project (www.reddguianashield.com) enabling to share all data related to the project implementation (Steering Committee and Working Group Meetings' reports, Terms of References, presentations made during events, etc.) After several month, it appeared relevant to make this tool evolved in order to:

- Create a discussion forum that would enable technical experts to initiate or continue similar discussions than the one they have during Working Group Meetings;
- To centralize information, documents, protocols that are developed in the framework of the project (e.g. outputs from "À la carte" support) or that are available and that partner countries or organization would like to share with others (including regional information produced by the project or by other partners).
- In a medium term perspective, to publish the GIS database and enable all partners to download the information.

Those options will be shortly presented and discussed during the Steering Committee Meeting.

Considering all those options, an important issue of data-sharing policy has to be discussed during the Steering Committee Meeting.

- How to guarantee that data ownership is respected? And that confidential data are not shared?
- What level of publicity do the Steering Committee Members want for the website, forum, shared information, GIS Database...

Data-sharing policy has been drafted. It will be presented and discussed during the Steering Committee Meeting.

Session 6 – Conclusion discussions

Budget situation (global overview of the project budget)

Activities	TOTAL BUDGET	Spent budget			Budget for semester 2 2014	Projected	
		In 2013	Semester 1 2014	TOTAL		TOTAL budget consumption at the end of 2014*	Expected consumption end of 2014
Activity 1 - "À la carte" Country Support	74 704	-	14 754	14 754	59 950	74 704	100%
1.a Supporting expertise	64 000	-	13 200	13 200	50 800	64 000	100%
1.b International mission	10 704		1 554	1 554	9 150	10 704	100%
Activity 2 - Technical Working Groups	231 070	4 902	42 132	47 034	115 536	162 570	70%
2.a Supporting expertise	36 120	400	6 440	6 840	18 060	24 900	69%
2.b Meetings logistics	194 950	4 502	35 692	40 194	97 476	137 670	71%
Activity 3 - Training and Technology Transfer	404 000			-	127 200	127 200	31%
3.a Supporting expertise	8 000			-	3 200	3 200	40%
3.b Technology transfer	180 000			-	15 000	15 000	8%
3.c Training	216 000			-	109 000	109 000	50%
Activity 4 - Development of a regional dialogue	434 879			-	110 362	110 362	25%
4.a Supporting expertise	16 000		2 400	2 400	9 600	12 000	75%
4.b Regional studies	81 000		7 700	7 700	18 130	25 830	32%
4.c Deforestation models	169 308			-	56 436	56 436	33%
4.d Regional GIS database	46 068		2 425	2 425	15 356	17 781	39%
4.e Tools for internet platform	32 520		3 000	3 000	10 840	13 840	43%
4.f Regional dialogue meetings	64 983			-	-	-	0%
4.g Carbone compensation	25 000			-			
Activity 5 - Project Management	1 485 047	485 871	104 391	590 262	340 386	930 648	63%
5.a Steering Committee Meetings	189 385	49 521	5 137	54 658	64 984	119 642	63%
5.b Project team	834 605	304 597	85 313	389 910	170 626	560 536	67%
5.c Transportation for the project team	66 160	5 537	2 896	8 433	22 698	31 131	47%
5.d Project team functioning	258 625	47 613	7 830	55 443	70 571	126 014	49%
5.e Project preparation and launching	78 192	78 057	-	78 057	-	78 057	100%
5.f Publication and translation of documents	58 080	546	3 215	3 761	11 507	15 268	26%
Activity 6 - Monitoring and evaluation	98 000	16 667		16 667	13 993	30 660	31%
6.a Technical and financial monitoring	50 000	16 667	8 333	25 000	8 333	33 333	67%
6.b Ex-post evaluation	48 000			-	-	-	0%
<i>Unforeseen</i>	11 320			-	5 660	5 660	50%
TOTAL	2 739 020	507 440	161 277	668 717	767 427	1 436 144	52%
	Budget consumption	19%	6%	24%	28%	52%	
						<i>*including previous years</i>	

Next Steering Committee Meeting

During our meeting will have to be decided where and when the next Steering Committee Meeting will be organized.

Suggested dates are:

- Third week of December (15th to 19th)
- Third week of January (12th to 16th)