REDD+ FOR THE GUIANA SHIELD
6th Working Group Meeting

Community-based MRV systems in the Guiana Shield
24-27 August, 2015

Arrowpoint - Guyana

Preparation Note

1. **Equipment**

The last session of WGM6 is dedicated to the Use of Technology to support the inclusion of C-MRV in N-MRV systems, and will include practical exercises to be performed, on GeoODK – Geographical Open Data Kit – tools for C-MRV. This training session will consist in the following items (subject to slight modifications):

- Introduction to ODK tools
- Development of simple ODK forms
- Introduction to SMAP and understanding of its role in the process
- Deployment ODK forms to mobile device
- Field exercises
- Submit collected data to SMAP

To this end, participants are invited to:
- Bring an Android mobile device (at least 1 for 4 participants): the tablets provided through *REDD+ for the Guiana Shield* project during the SAR Workshop in April, 2015 (1 per country) can be used for this training.
- Download the GeoODK Collect and ODK Collect mobile applications from the Google Play store in advance: (see https://opendatakit.org/use/collect/ for instructions).

Participants are recommended to proceed to the software installation before reaching the Arrowpoint facilities, as no Internet is available on-site.

2. **Country participation**

Session 1: Country presentation guiding questions

In order to feed into the discussions and experience sharing on Community-based MRV in the region, participants from each country are invited to prepare a 10 to 15 minutes presentation (PowerPoint, short video, oral presentation, etc) explaining the status of C-MRV and National MRV or forest monitoring systems (or similar processes) in their territories.

To guide countries' presentations, we prepared a set of guiding questions that should be considered, to facilitate regional dialogue on the topic:

- **Who are your forest-based communities?** Describe the demographic distribution, indigenous groups, other forest based groups, their local governance structures, land rights, etc.
- **What initiatives or projects with communities or C-MRV process exist in your territory** :
  - Objectives, what has been done, when, where, how, who has been doing what.
  - Milestones in the process and next steps
  - Main achievements and main difficulties in this process
  - State of art
- **The context**:
  - Is community forest management mentioned in your national R-PP (or other strategic document that defines the national (or subnational, e.g. a National Park document) MRV system or forest management system)?
  - Are there laws that determine participation and/or rights of the forest-based communities in your country?

Session 2 [cont.]: Small working groups: What have been the main challenges, achievements and significant lessons learned?

During this session, small groups will be constituted, to reflect on the different case studies and presentations made and identify the key elements (challenges, achievements and significant lessons learned). The groups will be asked to discuss on the following topics, which will be then brought back to feed a plenary discussion session:

- **Analysis and lessons learned** on your experience working with forest-based communities and/or C-MRV**:**
  - What are the international, national, provincial, local, **elements from the context** that have facilitated and/or hindered advances in the process
  - **What has been innovative** in the initiative(s) you presented – compared with other processes you have implemented or with C-MRV processes other people have carried out?
  - **What has worked well** in this process?
  - **What has failed**, and should be avoided in future projects including forest-based communities?
  - **What has been lacking** and should be included in the remaining steps or in C-MRV processes to be addressed in the future?
  - **Other element(s) that you didn´t know at the beginning** of the process that you have come to know now and is worth sharing.
  - What **successful elements** taken from other's experiences could be adapted to your own territory?
- **Based on all experiences and case studies presented before** :
  - What additional inputs did communities bring to the existing MRV system?
  - What did the MRV process bring to communities?
  - How and with what tools (technology, policies, finance, legal frameworks, etc) can the different knowledge be brought together?
- **Challenges and recommendations:**

- What common challenges can we identify in the region in terms of C-MRV or similar processes involving communities?
- Based on the lessons learned, what recommendation(s) can we make to address these challenges?

The objective of this small working groups session is to encourage regional dialogue, identifying common challenges for C-MRV in the Guiana Shield region and, based-on the different experiences and lessons learned, highlight solutions and recommendations to address those challenges.

As a complementary preparation, reading existing literature on Community-based MRV is recommended to participants, including, but not limited to, the publications listed below (in English):

2013   Pratihast, A.K.; Herold, M.; de Sy, V.; Murdiyarso, D.; Skutsch, M. *Linking community-based and national REDD+ monitoring: A review of the potential*. Carbon Management. 2013, 4, 91–104. Available online : http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Martin_Herold/publication/236119534_Linking_community-based_and_national_REDD_plus_monitoring_a_review_of_the_potential/links/02e7e5162ce4ab1dfe000000.pdf

2014   WWF Webinar video : Learning Session 30: Community-based monitoring, reporting and verification, Available on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taT-hSV86oU or http://reddcommunity.org/webinars/learning-session-30-community-based-monitoring-reporting-and-verification

2014   Global Canopy Programme, 2014. *Community monitoring, reporting and verification for REDD+: Lessons and experiences from a pilot project in Guyana*, Global Canopy Programme: Oxford. Available online : http://www.globalcanopy.org/materials/community-monitoring-reporting-and-verification-redd-lessons-and-recommendations-pilot-pro

2015   Global Canopy Programme, SilvaCarbon and WWF, 2015. *Community-based Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Know-How: Sharing knowledge from practice*. Available online : http://wwf.panda.org/?239457/Community-based-Monitoring-Reporting-and-Verification-Know-how

2015   MacFarquhar, C. and Goodman, L., 2015. *Demonstrating 'Respect'for the UNFCCC REDD+ Safeguards: The Importance of Community-Collected Information*. Oxford: Global Canopy Programme. Available online: http://www.globalcanopy.org/materials/demonstrating-respect-unfccc-redd-safeguards-importance-community-collected-information