

Annex I

Set of principles and premises for the implementation of REDD+ in Indigenous Lands

PRINCIPLES AND PREMISES AGREED UPON BY THE NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FOUNDATION (FUNAI) AND THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT (MMA) AS INPUTS FOR DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY

In recent years – with the official recognition of extensive protected areas inhabited by traditional communities and the limitations related to the commercialization of indigenous products produced with managed extractive resources – indigenous peoples' interest in discussing sustainable alternatives which allow them to ensure the well-being of their communities has been growing, that includes alternatives concerning ecosystem services incentives.

Considering that, the definition of an indigenous component for the national REDD+ strategy will be a relevant contribution with practical consequences in the context of the implementation of the National Policy for Environmental and Territorial Management of Indigenous Lands (PNGATI) and of the efforts to meet the emission reductions targets set by the National Policy on Climate Change (PNMC), while, at the same time, addressing indigenous peoples demands.

This process, however, remains detached from the communities and requires appropriate means to promote engagement and develop specific instruments. The principles or premises presented here were jointly defined by the FUNAI and the MMA, during a seminar that took place in March 2012. They aim to address the interests of indigenous peoples and the objectives of the PNMC and to provide guidance for the design and implementation of concrete REDD+ application in indigenous territories.

Principles/Premises:

- ❖ Recognizes the historical contribution of indigenous peoples for maintaining forest stocks, by means of traditional resource management as well as territorial management strategies;
- ❖ Recognizes that the deforestation historically accumulated in indigenous lands is of little significance and is associated to particular practices of indigenous territorial occupation, not implying that these traditional ways of life can be considered “drivers of deforestation and degradation”;
- ❖ Affirms that the main focus of REDD+ initiatives in indigenous lands shall be to avoid the replication in indigenous lands of the historical deforestation patterns observed in areas with other uses and occupation;

- ❖ Agrees, therefore, that the priority role of indigenous peoples in combating climate change is the long term conservation of the carbon stocks found in their forest areas;
- ❖ Considers that this role will be fulfilled through *ex-ante* actions in anticipation and prevention of the drivers of deforestation in indigenous lands, so that future deforestation is prevented;
- ❖ Considers that the cost of long-term maintenance of forest carbon stocks in indigenous lands will be proportional to the actual investment in the development and consolidation of indigenous territorial management plans;
- ❖ Considers that the national REDD+ strategy, with its indigenous component, should have the role of identifying and promoting synergies between the implementation of the PNMC and the PNGATI;
- ❖ Restates that the definition of an indigenous component in the national REDD+ strategy will have as a principle the respect for national and international legislation in force, including free, prior and informed consultation;
- ❖ Considers that ecosystem services/REDD+ initiatives should be carried out preferably by the agents that act as the actual stewards of the ecosystem services generating environments, in this case the indigenous peoples, with support and recognition from the State, strengthening the principle of self-determination laid down by Convention No. 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO);
- ❖ Acknowledges that designing ecosystem services initiatives/REDD+ initiatives requires concrete consideration of scientific and technical aspects, such as ensuring the permanence of the results achieved and avoiding displacements (environmental integrity);
- ❖ Restates that the indigenous component in the national REDD+ strategy will be implemented in coordination with other relevant national, state and local policies and programmes;
- ❖ Acknowledges that the role of the MMA and the FUNAI is that of stimulating and supporting the design and implementation processes of ecosystem services/REDD+ initiatives by indigenous peoples, with financial resources, technology and endogenous skills development;
- ❖ Restates that ecosystem services/REDD+ initiatives shall respect, recognize and value indigenous peoples' sociocultural systems;
- ❖ Affirms that a monitoring and transparency system dedicated to the implementation of indigenous ecosystem services/REDD+ initiatives will be established under the national REDD+ strategy, in full coordination with existing information systems, such as MMA's REDD+ Brazil website;
- ❖ Affirms the need to develop the procedures and means to record complaints concerning violations or disregard to the socio-environmental safeguards, including indigenous

rights, as well as a clear conflict resolution mechanism under the monitoring and transparency system of the national REDD+ strategy, supported by the relevant bodies (the Federal Attorney General's Office and the Federal Prosecutor General's Office, when appropriate);

- ❖ Affirms that support lines for indigenous initiatives will be created and expanded, as well as for the design and implementation of environmental and territorial management plans in indigenous lands, under the PNMC's financial mechanism;
- ❖ Affirms that the FUNAI and the MMA will seek to facilitate the access of indigenous peoples organizations and representations to ecosystem services/REDD+ related funds;
- ❖ Recognizes that there are outstanding demands regarding the recognition of indigenous rights over areas, in addition to areas under judicial consideration, which deserve special treatment in the context of the national REDD+ strategy, so as to avoid the development of perverse incentives for wrongful occupation of such areas with a view to obtain carbon offsetting or ecosystem services benefits;
- ❖ Affirms that the FUNAI, through PNGATI, should provide guidance to indigenous peoples on funding opportunities for territorial management activities, especially those related to incentives policies for environmental conservation, ecosystem services valuation and payments, sustainable development and additional resources generated by REDD+ activities.
- ❖ Affirms that the preferred approach for measuring the REDD+ emission reductions results is one that produces results on a regional scale (per biome) based on highly accurate time series.