



## Project title

Colombia REDD+ RBP for results period 2015-2016

### Result areas

- Forests and Land Use
- Ecosystems and Ecosystem services

### Sector

Public

### Total financing, USD

35-45 M

### GCF financing, USD

35-45 M

### Financial instrument

Grant (Results Based Payment)

### Description of specific climate change problem and how the project will address it

- Until 2018 Colombia had close to 60 million hectares of forests which are unique, given its high levels of endemism's. However, **more than 6 million hectares of the original forests have been converted to agriculture and other uses**. The main causes of deforestation in the country are: expansion of the agricultural borders, illegal mining, infrastructure expansion, wood extraction and forest fires.
- The armed conflict, which displaced around 7.7 million people, exerts additional pressures and it is likely that the peace process itself, will also generate new pressure on natural resources .
- This project contributes to the implementation of the **Deforestation Control Strategy** contemplated by the National Development Plan, which represents a crosscutting policy instrument that seeks to curb down deforestation rates and forest degradation, considering the complexity of its causes .
- It will leverage the **Integrated Strategy for Control of Deforestation and Forest Management (known as EICDGB or "Bosques Territorios de Vida")** ([https://redd.unfccc.int/files/eicdgb\\_bosques\\_territorios\\_de\\_vida\\_web.pdf](https://redd.unfccc.int/files/eicdgb_bosques_territorios_de_vida_web.pdf)), which primary objectives are: i) Sociocultural Management of Forests and Public Awareness, ii) Development of a forestry economy and closure of the agricultural frontier, iii) Cross-sectoral management of land use planning and environmental determinants, iv) Permanent monitoring and control, and v) Generation and strengthening of legal, institutional and financial capacities.
- Results reported by 2015 are emission reductions of 19,365,885 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq and 12,109,049 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq for 2016, respectively. This is equivalent to 34,209.3 and 21,390.3 hectares of avoided deforestation for those years, respectively.

### Alignment with key country priorities and stakeholders engaged

- The EICDGB constitutes the bridge between green growth and climate change, within the framework of the international agreements that the country has ratified. It is aligned with the National Climate Change Policy and the Colombian Low Carbon Development Strategy, as well as the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services, the policy document of the National System of Protected Areas - CONPES 3680, the Policy of Sustainable Soil Management, the National Restoration Plan, and the National Forestry Development Plan. In this regard, the EICDGB is an instrument of great relevance for political, technical and investment decisions in the short, medium and long term.
- The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development implements deforestation control actions established in the EICDGB that have been included in the National Development Plan within the lines of Legality, Forest Economy and Land Tenure, and Permanent Monitoring.
- The Strategy also seeks to contribute to the fulfilment of international goals such as the SDGs, NDC and the Paris Agreement.



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## Activities

- Strengthening of the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System.
- Implementation of territorial actions in active deforestation core areas.
- Development of a forest economy through Sustainable Forest Management.
- Implementation of conservation agreements to reduce deforestation.
- Implementation of sustainable productive alternatives for deforestation control.
- Strengthening of the National Environmental System (SINA) for monitoring deforestation reduction.

## Expected outcomes

- Reduce deforestation and forest degradation emissions, and increase the absorption of GHG by means of conservation, sustainable management and increased carbon reserves of forests in Colombia under the REDD + framework (SDG 13.1 and 15.2)
- Promote a forest economy on local communities located in environmentally strategic areas.
- Consolidate promotion and commercialization chains for products and services based on the sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Strengthen territorial governance of ethnic groups and rural communities that live and depend on forests.

## Paradigm shift potential

- In the context of the peace agreement, this project will solve land use, access to land and land tenure conflicts that are the underlying causes of deforestation in the country.
- Natural forests will be considered as subjects of management, development and governance of the territory, with a vision that integrates their conservation and sustainable management, so that they contribute to integral rural development and environmental protection.