



PREFEASIBILITY OF REDD+ PROJECTS

Ref.
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Expert(s)	Country	Volume (md)	Amount* (€)	Beneficiary	Funding	Start date	End date	Partner(s)	Reference
Olivier Bouyer	Guatemala	15	12,555 <i>*For the referred expert, within ONFI</i>	AVSF	AVSF	May 2010	May 2010	n/a	f.apollin@avsf.org Off: +33 1 43 94 72 04

Detailed description of the project	Services provided
<p>Since 2007, the NGO called Agronomists and Veterinarians Without Borders (AVSF) has been engaged in an internal debate on the issue of climate change, and its relation to peasant agriculture. The issues at stake are, on the one hand, how to incorporate this dimension within AVSF projects already operating and, on the other, how to develop new activities with communities and peasant organizations in order to (a) enable them to adapt to climate change, particularly in the areas of greatest vulnerability, and (b) to contribute to the mitigation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.</p> <p>In different geographical areas, AVSF's objective is to participate with farmers' organizations with innovative projects for mitigation and adaptation, in particular those topics poorly dealt with, or even not at all, in the climate negotiations under the Climate Convention or in the treaty that followed the Kyoto Protocol: the reduction of GHG emissions from livestock (via anaerobic digestion and/or improved feeding systems), the removal of atmospheric carbon in the soil through revegetation, the use of crop residues for energy production, REDD+, etc.</p> <p>In the absence of references on the implementation of these proposals, AVSF requested an ad hoc expertise on REDD+ in Guatemala, a country where AVSF has been active for over 20 years. The mission's main objective was to study, with the AVSF staff, the pre-feasibility of two REDD+ projects: (i) in an area with a mosaic of agriculture and forestry (small-scale farming by <i>Q'eq'chii'</i> natives, based on the slash and burn method; large-scale farming by big landowners, based on ranching and oil palm plantations) in the Municipalities of Chisec and Raxhuja, Department of Alta Verapaz, and (ii) in coffee-growing areas (small-scale farming by <i>Kaqchikel</i> natives) in the municipalities of San Antonio Palopo, San Jose Toliman and Santiago Atitlan, Sololá Department).</p>	<p>The mission provided the elements needed to confirm the feasibility of one of the two projects identified by AVSF (that which was located in the Department of Alta Vera Paz):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevance of the project to national policies: National Climate Change Adaptation (NAPA) being defined, REDD+ Plan Idea Note (R-PIN), forest and land policies, etc.; - Actions and resources required for implementation; - First modelling of future scenarios of GHG emissions with and without REDD+ actions; - Measurability of possible GHG emission reductions; - Additionality; - Estimated carbon revenues ; - Potential for certification in the voluntary markets (Verified Carbon Standard - VCS - Community Carbon and Biodiversity Standard – CCBS); - Social and environmental co-benefits; - Level of involvement / interest of local populations; - Potential risks; <p>On this basis, a Project Idea Note (PIN), following the format elaborated by the Biocarbon fund, was developed and a discussion was held with AVSF's staff regarding the way forward.</p> <p>Beyond writing this PIN, the experts trained AVSF field teams on the REDD+ topics, to ensure their ability to manage the future project. Finally, the experts provided the elements necessary to build an environmental services payment project (not related to REDD+ sensu stricto) for the project located in the Department of Sololá.</p>