

Establishing a National Greenhouse Gas Inventory System in Ecuador

During a recent joint meeting, Ecuador on the development of the national system for developing GHG inventory, with a focus on agriculture and LULUCF sectors.



A joint meeting was held in Ecuador from 18-21 March 2013, to support capacity development on greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory implementation in agriculture and land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sectors, particularly on the establishment of institutional arrangements and facilitation of communication among national and international stakeholders. Representatives in attendance provided information on available guidance, examples of good

practice and lessons learned in other countries as well as specific technical assistance on Ecuador's agriculture and LULUCF GHG inventory development. The meeting was organized by the Ministry of Environment's Sub-Secretary on Climate Change and facilitated with support of four initiatives: the UN-REDD Programme, the FAO project on Monitoring and Assessment of GHG Emissions and Mitigation Potential in Agriculture (MICCA/MAGHG), the Coalition for Rainforest Nations Capacity Development for REDD+ (CD-REDD) initiative and the UNDP Low Emissions Capacity Building (LECB) Programme. For the first time, the four projects joined their efforts to set a common objective and work plan for capacity development. The meeting brought together representatives from relevant ministries and institutions with a role in GHG inventory development for agriculture and LULUCF.

Additionally, it sought to obtain an initial overview of potential actors relevant to development of a national GHG inventory in these sectors, identify a core GHG inventory team within the relevant ministries and institutions in Ecuador and initiate discussions of how these team members will work together. Identification of the main data providers at the country level regarding agricultural statistics and forest data was also a key outcome. Technical specialists with expertise in key areas (e.g., land use/land cover classification, livestock population, crop management, grassland management) participated in a "hands-on" workshop segment on the meetings. During these sessions, initial work was carried out in mapping the availability of country and national specific data for the agriculture and LULUCF GHG inventory and starting to compile these data.

A major outcome of the meeting was a draft agreement, which recommends arrangements for facilitating the process of institutionalization and development of the agriculture and LULUCF GHG inventory. The agreement, which will need to be endorsed by the ministries and institutions involved

in Ecuador, also identifies the need to designate focal points across ministries and recommends institutional arrangements for a sustainable national GHG inventory management system.

Under the CD-REDD initiative, there will be follow-up activities to continue working with the identified GHG national inventory team to compile relevant data in order to generate GHG inventory estimates for these sectors. The UN-REDD Programme and FAO will continue to support this process in Ecuador, focusing on facilitation of institutional arrangements, data collection and improvement of data quality through capacity development.

In addition to the Sub-Secretary on Climate Change, the following institutions were attended the meeting: the Sub-Secretary of Natural Heritage, the National Secretary of Planification and Development (SENPLADES), the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries (MAGAP), the Sub-Secretary of Livestock and General Coordination of the National Information System (CGSIN), the National Autonomous Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Research (INIAP), and the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC).