Positive Incentives for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation

Thelma Krug National Institute for Space Research - INPE Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research - IAI <u>thelma@dir.iai.int</u>

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Reiteration of Brazilian principles presented in Rome

- Recalls UNFCCC provisions [Art. 4.1(b) ; 4.1(c)]
- Does not count towards emissions reductions commitments of Annex I countries
- Voluntary participation
- No national target established
- Does not generate commitments
- No integration with any future agreement

 Robust framework : based on solid monitoring and replication of results
Completeness : reduction of emissions from deforestation at national level
Proposal is focused on reducing gross emissions from deforestation, NOT net emissions [emissions from sources (D) removals from sinks (A/R)]

- Comprehensive, transparent and verifiable:
 - Spatially explicit
 - Wall-to-wall
 - On the lines of a Tier 2 approach
 - Reduced emissions assessed at national level using national input parameters (area change and biomass content)

Comprehensive, transparent and verifiable:

- Consistent use of reliable methods to annually estimate the reduction of emissions from deforestation
 - Data acquisition
 - Data processing
 - Data analysis

Simple and consistent

- Based on country's own definitions of forest land and deforestation
 - Consistent with previous reporting to the UNFCCC and/or FAO
 - National communication, national inventory of GHG
 - May or may not include forest degradation, depending on definitions previously adopted by the country on its national inventory

Simple and consistent

Based on actual, real and measurable emission reduction

Based on past emissions in the last 10 years

- Assessment of at least 4 representative years
- Does not include reduction from "potential" future emissions

Effective, efficient and appropriate

- Proposed system should ensure reliability and cost effectiveness
- Should allow for an equitable participation by all non-Annex I Parties that voluntarily choose to participate
 - Recognition of countries ready for a promp start
 - Recognition of countries that require creation/enhancement of capacity building and technology transfer

General

- Positive financial incentives considered on an annual basis
 - Annual rate of emissions from deforestation (RED)
 - Reference emission rate (RER)
 - If $AD_t = RED_t RER > 0$ no positive incentive

Step (1): identify all the forested land in the country, per biome type. Provide the definition used to define forest, and indicate how the definition relates to that used to report to the FAO, and that to estimate carbon dioxide emissions and removals from forests in the National **Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** (UNFCCC).

Step (2): estimate the mean carbon stock for the forest land identified in Step 1, by type of biome, or forest physiognomy, if applicable. In doing so, reliable published scientific sources shall be used.

 Step (3): provide the definition of deforestation, consistent with that used in the National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Indicate which carbon pools are traditionally assessed.

Step (4): estimate the deforestation reference emission rate (RER) for the different types of biome identified in Step (1), on the basis of the emissions from deforestation in the last 10 years. This estimation shall be consistent with the definitions provided in **Step (3). Different reference emission rates** can be established for different types of biome, if applicable.

- Step (5): find the mean and standard deviation of the four data points above, and provide a confidence interval of 95% for the "true" mean deforestation emission rate.
- Step (6): assume as the RER the lower limit of the confidence interval defined in Step (5).

Step (7): assess the annual emissions from deforestation, RED. The same methodological approach as that used to define the deforestation reference emission rate (RER) shall be used. If satellite imagery is used to assess the deforested area, participating countries need to ensure that a reduced area is not the result of areas that could not be assessed due to the presence of cloud cover.

Step (8):

- If for any given year the annual emissions from deforestation (RED) falls below the deforestation reference emission rate (RER), the participating country is eligible to receive financial positive incentives.
- In case RED falls above the RER, the participating country is not eligible. In addition, the positive difference shall be discounted from the next RED that falls below the deforestation reference emission rate. A financial incentive is provided only if this difference is negative.

Step (9): the deforestation reference emission rate (RER) shall be recalculated at every xxx years, as the average of the xxx last RED values. This re-calculated value for the RER shall only be applied IF it falls below the previous deforestation reference emission rate.



Establishing the Emission Reference Rate



