

Panamanian Proposal to LifeWeb Initiative

Piloting Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies through Payments for Ecosystems Services in Mangroves and Wetlands in Panama

June 2010

Classification of Project

- Thematic Focus: Climate Change and Biodiversity
 - Global climate protection
 - Payments for Environmental Services in and around mangrove and wetland Protected Areas as an adaptation strategy for areas and biodiversity that are vulnerable to climate change

Brief Description

- Coastal areas that are vulnerable to climate change and have existing protected mangroves and wetlands will be identified and selected to participate in a payments for environmental services project.
- Goals of the project:
 - Payments for environmental services to reduce coastal vulnerability to climate change impacts through the restoration and protection of 3000 hectares of mangroves and wetlands
 - Producing benefits to local and indigenous coastal communities and the biodiversity.
 - Pilot project will be documented in the Report on Protected Areas and the national climate change strategy.

Project Concept

- In Panama, coastal ecosystems and communities are highly vulnerable to climate change because its coasts slope low. With 1,813.38 km²¹ of mangrove forest covering 2.4% of its total surface area.
- All mangroves and associated flood forests in Panama are state-owned and thus to a degree protected for conservation.

¹ CATHALAC, 2007

Project Concept (2)

- Contribution to climate protection

The project will generate carbon sinks through the restoration of converted mangrove areas and the avoided deforestation of mangroves under demonstrable threat.

- Contribution to Economic and Social Development

In order to ensure permanence of carbon credits the project will directly involve and benefit local and indigenous communities through payments for environmental services. Local communities will be contracted directly to carry out environmental services (restoration & protection activities)

Project Concept (3)

- Integration of project in strategies of country.

The project directly addresses key issues raised within the National Government's Strategic Plan 2010-2014 which mentions that "...The increase in global temperature caused by CO2 emissions represent a major threat to the country. Sea level rise, changes in hydrological cycles, intensification of extreme events and other impacts, pose a serious threat to populations and ecosystems. The five-year investment plan in this regard includes the following activities: implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures to climate change, capacity building on climate change, and implementation of action plan on climate change in Panama".

Implementation

- Implementation

National Environmental Authority of Panama
(ANAM)

The Authority of Aquatic Resources of Panama
(ARAP)

- Implementing Partner

The Nature Conservation

Local community groups

GRACIAS

Thank You

Merci

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