

Technical note:

Calculating 2012 performance based payments to Guyana based on interim performance indicators and enabling activities

Step 1: Assess “avoided emissions from deforestation” as compared to the established reference level.

According to the Interim Measures Report and the independent verification report, the gross deforestation in Guyana (interim indicator 1) during the third reporting period (Jan 1st 2012 – Dec 31st 2012) equaled 0.079% of Guyana’s forest area. The reference level is, as stipulated in the Guyana-Norway Joint Concept Note (December 2012-revision), 0.275%. Given Guyana’s total forest area of 18 502 531 hectares at the start of the third reporting period, and the difference between the reference level and the actual deforestation of 0.196 percentage points, this yields 36 265 hectares of “avoided deforestation”.

Applying a conservative carbon factor of 100 tons per hectare, gives 3 626 500 tons of avoided carbon emissions. This carbon figure is converted to CO₂ by multiplying with 3.67 (reflecting the added weight when one atom of carbon is joined by two atoms of oxygen to form CO₂), yielding 13 309 255 tons of avoided CO₂ emissions.

Step 2: Calculate value of “avoided emissions from deforestation”

The volume of avoided emissions is multiplied with a fixed price of 5 US Dollars per ton of CO₂:

$$13\,309\,255 * 5 \text{ USD} = 66\,546\,275 \text{ USD}$$

Step 3: Subtract increased emissions from forest degradation, based on interim indicators.

Note: Forest degradation is particularly challenging to assess and quantify without a well developed system for forest measuring and monitoring. The partners have agreed to a set of interim degradation indicators, which will be gradually phased out as a more sophisticated forest carbon accounting system is implemented in Guyana. The degradation indicators yield only rough estimates of forest degradation though significant improvements have been made in quantifying the extent of forest degradation during the last few years. The process of developing the first results report, studies conducted and presented in the second results report, and their subsequent verification by DNV GL, revealed a need for adjustments in measuring methods, and adjusted application of, some of the indicators due, *inter alia*, to unforeseen effects of their very conservative design.

Loss of intact forest landscapes

The reduction of compensation on the basis of this indicator equals 957 870 USD.

The reduction in IFL area from the previous reporting period of the partnership equals 174 hectares. Following the JCN, reduction of the area that meets the IFL criteria is accounted as deforestation with full carbon loss.

Guyana and Norway have agreed that this indicator might be phased out in the future, in parallel with a process initiated by Guyana to ensure more permanent status of varying degrees of protection to significant amounts of the IFL areas.

Emission as indirect effect of new infrastructure

No reduction is made on the basis of this indicator.

The area affected by degradation under this indicator has been verified at 1963 hectares for the third reporting period. For the second reporting year, Guyana made use of a new and significantly improved method for mapping infrastructure related degradation. A historical proxy analysis of areas affected by degradation from infrastructure was conducted for the period 2000-2010. The total area of a 100m buffer surrounding all new infrastructure was calculated for the historical period, as well as for the second year period. This analysis indicated that the area affected by new infrastructure in the second reporting year was comparable to the historical period.

It was agreed that as a benchmark for infrastructure related degradation in future reporting periods, the area mapped as degraded in the second reporting period would be used. This area equaled 5460 hectares, but as the second reporting period had a length of 15 months, and subsequent reporting periods are 12 months, this number was annualized. The established benchmark is therefore 4368 hectares.

As the result verified for the third reporting year (1963 hectares) is below the established benchmark of 4368 hectares, no reduction is made on the basis of this indicator.

Emissions from forest management

No reduction is made on the basis of this indicator.

2 159 151 tons of CO₂ are reported and verified for this indicator. This is below the baseline of 4 251 583 tons CO₂ (2003 – 2008 average).

Emissions from illegal logging activities

No reduction is made on the basis of this indicator.

In the historical reporting, the default level of 15% of harvested production was used to assess illegal harvest. The rate of illegal logging in the current reporting period is informed by a database that records infractions of illegal logging in Guyana in all areas.

The indicator shows a reduction in illegal logging activities as compared to the benchmark.

Emissions resulting from anthropogenic forest fires

No reduction is made on the basis of this indicator.

The reported and verified figure is below the estimated historical rates of anthropogenic forest fires.

Value of “avoided emissions” after applying subtractions based on interim degradation indicators

66 546 275 USD - 957 870 USD = 65 588 405 USD

Step 4: Reducing the maximum amount of results based payment if deforestation is above 0.056%

As described in the Joint Concept Note, the partners have agreed that for any deforestation rate above 0.056%, payment will be gradually reduced and eventually cease if the rate in any given year is above 0.1%.

As the deforestation level in the third reporting year has been reported and verified at 0,079 %, this mechanism will be triggered in calculating performance based payments for this period.

The discount factor resulting from applying the methodology described in the JCN equals 28.66 %. This discount equals 18 797 637 USD. This amount will be subtracted from the 65 588 405 USD resulting from Step 3, resulting in a sum of 46 790 768 USD.

Step 5: Reduction based on slower than anticipated progress on the EITI process

The discount factor for slower than anticipated progress on the EITI process has been set to 6.5 % of the amount resulting from Step 4. This equals to a reduction of 3 041 400 USD. The resulting sum equals 43 749 368 USD.

Step 6: Conclusion

The maximum amount payable to the Guyana REDD Investment Fund (GRIF) based on the REDD+ Performance Indicators in the third reporting period is 43 749 368 USD.

Guyana and Norway is in agreement that as there should be an incentive for other donors to join the partnership, Norway will not in any given year pay the full amount Guyana has “earned” according to this model. Moreover, Norway’s total support for the 2010-2015 period is limited upwards to 250 million USD (1.5 billion Norwegian kroners).

On this basis, Norway will contribute 231 million Norwegian Kroner, equivalent to approximately 35 million USD, to Guyana based on Guyana’s verified results for 2012.