

# REDD+ Safeguards for Indigenous REDD+ in Madre de Dios Participative process on the construction of safeguards

**Background of the safeguards for  
Amazon Indigenous REDD+: Pilot  
Project Amarakaeri Communal Reserve**

## AMAZON INDIGENOUS REDD+ (RIA) “Indigenous Amazonia can slow the global warming”

It is an initiative from the Amazon Indigenous Peoples, to culturally adapt REDD+, which entails a redefinition of REDD+ in relation to our cosmovision and the recognition of our collective rights, as part of the right to decide and to control the strategies of our own development.

It promotes alternatives to achieve the development based on full life vision of the indigenous people and the strengthening of the indigenous economy, the conservation of the biologic and cultural diversity. At the same time, it appreciates the value of our cultural perspectives and respects our traditional system of forest management.

Indigenous people and traditional communities from Madre de Dios are essential agents of protection and conservation of the forest and biodiversity. Consequently, the mechanisms such as REDD+ must involve and respect, respectively, the vision and rights of our indigenous people and traditional communities. Rights, such as the access to information, participation, and free prior and informed consent (FPIC) within the decision-making process and the land rights recognized in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the ILO Convention 169.

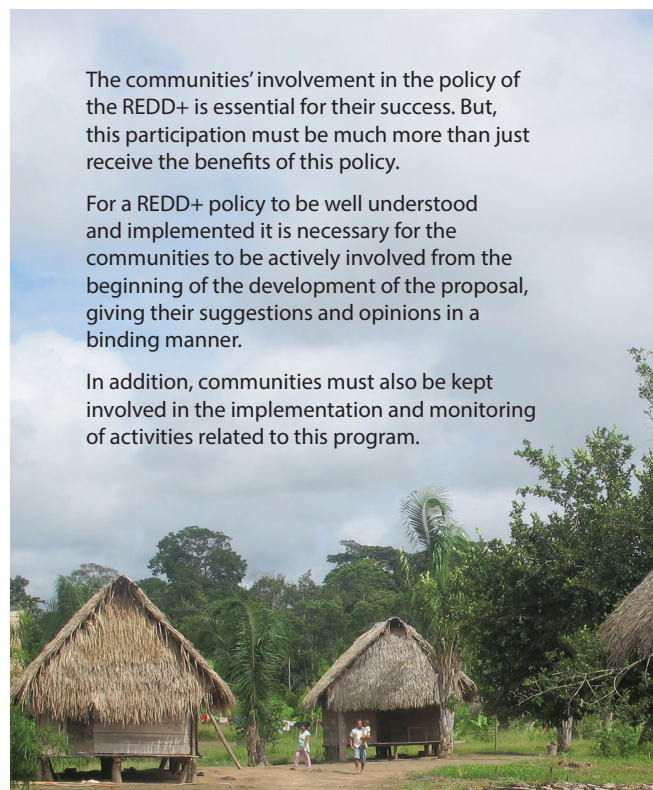
In June 2011, the Madre de Dios Indigenous REDD Roundtable (RIA roundtable) was established in Puerto Maldonado, as an own construction of indigenous organizations. To date, there have been six workshops in coordination with the members of the RIA roundtable and its allies, with the participation of representatives coming from the associates communities of the Federación Nativa del río Madre de Dios (FENAMAD) and its tributaries, and their intermediary organizations such as the Indigenous Council of the lower area of Madre de Dios (COINBAMAD), the Harakmbut, Yine and Matsigenka council (COHARYIMA), the Executor of Administrative Contract of Amarakaeri Communal Reserve (ECA-RCA) and the Association of Indigenous Forestry of Madre de Dios (AFIMAD) as well as representatives of COICA, the Ministry of the Environment (MINAM) and Regional Government of Madre de Dios (GOREMAD).

Below are the topics considered as priorities by indigenous organizations in relation to REDD+, mainly the participative construction of the safeguards related to REDD+ from the vision of indigenous peoples of Madre de Dios (MDD):

The communities' involvement in the policy of the REDD+ is essential for their success. But, this participation must be much more than just receive the benefits of this policy.

For a REDD+ policy to be well understood and implemented it is necessary for the communities to be actively involved from the beginning of the development of the proposal, giving their suggestions and opinions in a binding manner.

In addition, communities must also be kept involved in the implementation and monitoring of activities related to this program.





## Safeguards identified in the framework of a participatory analysis in Madre de Dios:

1. Consolidation of the territorial rights of PPIL: Enabling condition, not only of those who already have titles; but the recognition, respect and sanitation of the ones pursuing entitlement, specifying issues related to the rights on Reductions in deforestation, Carbon storage, and of the other eco systemic functions. It is considered the revision/suppression of the contracts or concessions of the forests within indigenous peoples' territories, to grant them in property. In MDD, attention is required on territorial reservations and territories of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact (PIACI, Pueblos Indígenas en Aislamiento Voluntario y Contacto Inicial), as well as the development of specific actions in 33 native communities for Commitment, obligation, and the appropriate verification.
2. Proper application of the right to consultation and free prior and informed consent, in good faith and binding, related to policies and Redd+ programs. Not only consultation, but participative construction, full and effective, based on the design of bio cultural community "Protocols" and "Agreements" of strengthening of capacities that express the interests of the indigenous communities, along with the FENAMAD bases, the strategic allies, the Regional Government, the Ombudsman Office and the Vice Ministry of Interculturality, oriented to the formation of community leaders and the strengthening of the community members. Likewise, it is considered that the Ombudsman's Office not only participate in every meeting between indigenous communities and promoting entities, consultants, instructors and implementers of REDD+, but also comment on and suggest in its role of enforcing the rights of indigenous peoples.
3. Revision of the economic policies, bilateral agreements, border agreements, trade agreements or diplomats, or treaties, and of development at the national level that must be in accordance with safeguards REDD+, especially the activities relating to projects for the exploitation/utilization of oil and gas. At regional and local level should conclude in proposals for regional and municipal ordinances that will help to strengthen the ways of self-determination and community governance and transparency in the policy and processes of oil and gas exploitation.
4. Put into effect the registration of REDD+ projects in Peru which are to be validated to sub national and local levels. With what it seeks to sanction bad practices in the programs and projects REDD+ and to prevent "early dangers" and follow-up, monitoring and control of the REDD+ projects in indigenous communities.
5. Integrated and holistic approach that values the integrality and interconnection of the ecosystemic functions and services; and, not only the carbon services. The RIA proposal in the Amarakaeri Communal Reserve contemplates thoroughly the development and implementation of full life plans of each people and territory involved, based on traditional knowledge, culture and identity of the peoples involved.

It is a priority that the country report on the concrete progress in consolidating and regularization of the recognized territorial rights of indigenous peoples; and, in the process of recognition (Titling, extension and rectification of the territorial spaces) as comprehensive and integrated unit, which must be shown as an enabling condition for the development of REDD+ projects.

### Transparent information for previous/prior consent

It is essential that native communities agree to participate and work with the institutions involved before any action on REDD+ is implemented.

The first step is to make sure that the entire community is aware of what is REDD+, as well as about the responsibilities they will assume, that is to say, that the community not only understand the benefits that aims to achieve, but also the commitments that must be assumed.

Indigenous communities must be very careful with ill-intentioned persons who usually offer them potential carbon credits contracts, with huge profits. These people come to visit the communities by promising a lot of money in exchange for little work, but the community never receives the benefit. For example, we have testimonies such as the Matsés community in Loreto and the Yine and Mashiguenga communities in Madre de Dios.

Frequently, these people demand from the representatives of the community to sign contracts of commitment in early visits.



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