Sustainable Forest and Chain of Custody Certification within PEFC scheme

Report

Regular Reporting on Subproject Progress
Reporting period: 2nd Semester 2016
Report No: 1

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[2016/12/13]
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1. INTRODUCTION

Mexico, Ecuador and Colombia are three of the twelve countries in the world considered megadiverse. That is why they have approximately 60 – 70 percent of the biodiversity in the world (Mittermeier y Goettsch, 1992), particularly in the forest and jungle areas, where most of the wealth and genetic diversity is found.

Therefore, topics like biodiversity and climate change are addressed in the sustainable forest certification, which guarantees to consumers that their purchases are from a sustainable forest, and it doesn’t contribute to the destruction and degradation of the Latin forests. The certification involve two aspects; on one hand, the independent evaluation of the forest management operation based on a National Standard that has accomplished with the PEFC International requirements, this one includes typically the forest health, economic operation viability, social impact of the activities about forest management and, on the other hand, the second aspect called “inspection about chain of custody” that involves the wood flux from the forest through the transformation and commercial process until the arrival to the final consumer.

2. PERFORMED ACTIVITIES

Since the last August when the project was finally approved, the three activities that are in our program and have been achieved are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Compliance Date</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1. To identify, define and approve the regional profile that the international expert has to comply within Chain of Custody-PEFC scheme.</td>
<td>2016/11/28</td>
<td>Mexico, Ecuador and Colombia have developed and approved a regional profile for the technical experts qualified in the PEFC ST 2002: 2013</td>
<td>Accreditation bodies representatives (one representative per country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2. Participation in the PEFC Forest Certification Week 2016- Bali Indonesia and report with advices about the correct PEFC application.</td>
<td>2016/11/18</td>
<td>To recognize, in an effective way, the necessities that have to be developed like accreditation body, in order to establish the Chain of Custody scheme, as well as report the main benefits to adopt PEFC with quality infrastructure in each country</td>
<td>Sub-coordinator for the regional sub-project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Compilation of existing International and National Standards related with the PEFC scheme.</td>
<td>2016/11/30</td>
<td>Each country has the PEFC ST 2002: 2013 in both languages (English and Spanish), this is the main standard which is going to be use in this project (<a href="http://www.pefc.es/documentacion/sistema_pefc/normativa/pefc-st-2002-2013_norma-cdc-es.pdf">http://www.pefc.es/documentacion/sistema_pefc/normativa/pefc-st-2002-2013_norma-cdc-es.pdf</a>), as well as the Annex 6 Certification and Accreditation Procedures (<a href="http://www.pefc.org/images/documents/Annex">http://www.pefc.org/images/documents/Annex</a> 6_Certification_procedures_5-10-2007.pdf)</td>
<td>Accreditation bodies representatives (one representative per country)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description, No. of participants, Achievements
3. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

The Action Plan considers twelve activities that the three countries involved have to develop, in December 2016 the project has successfully finished three activities, is for this reason that in four months we have the 25% percent of the project covered in the time established in the program attached like Annex.

4. ADJUSTMENT REQUIREMENTS

At the beginning of the project, it was considered to develop both scopes in the scheme that are Sustainable Forest Management and also Chain of Custody, finally after the participation in the PEFC Forest Certification Week and also in the different video conferences that three countries involved have had, we are considering to limit the scope of this project just to Chain of Custody, firstly because the main requirement for Sustainable Forest Management is to have a “National Governing Body” and the time to establish it can take longer than the considered.

5. NEXT STEPS

Table 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What?</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>When?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.3. To carry out the workshop/training about Chain of Custody PEFC certification schemes</td>
<td>Training workshop with 2 participants from each country for 4 days (included 1 travelling day).</td>
<td>17 - 20 January 2017 Geneva, Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Qualify the Technical Expert in the AB</td>
<td>Selected staff from each country</td>
<td>28 February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Development about the accreditation scheme for chain of custody (ISO 17065)</td>
<td>Selected staff from each accreditation body (ema-Mexico and SAE-Ecuador)</td>
<td>07 June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Workshop with head of state, business chambers, accreditation bodies and forestal industries in each participant country to raise awareness about accreditation program and the certification development of it.</td>
<td>Selected staff from each accreditation body (ema-Mexico, SAE-Ecuador and ONAC, Colombia), governmental bodies (Environmental ministries) and other key entities related with the Chain of Custody certification.</td>
<td>30 July 2017</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ANNEX

Updated Action Plan as annex