

Questions - ART TREE

1. The system is based on selling and transferring credits, this could be done to private representatives such as airlines, and in some cases to other countries to be included as part of their NDCs? Ecuador's legislation prohibits carbon selling and the appropriation of it when it comes from ecosystem services. If so, this system could be contradictory to Ecuador's legislation. Is there an alternative to countries like ours?
2. How and based on what is the verification body selected?
3. How will the cost of the verification process be set? It will be regulated by each institution (market) or will it be regulated by a specific control body?
4. The TREES document states: **that emission removals associated with reforestation, afforestation, enhancement of forest carbon stocks, or improved forest management are not eligible for crediting under the current version of TREES.**
5. Will this activity be recognized or subject to be credited in the future? It's only going to be accessible for countries with low levels of deforestation?
6. What's the difference, value wise, between HFLD credits and regular credits?
7. The standard determines a starting level of reversal risk for Participants of 25%. How was this percentage determined?
8. In the Safeguards chapter, the document speaks about three types of indicators (Structural, Process and Outcome indicators). It's mentioned that all process indicators must be implemented by Public Institutions. Could this type of indicator be implemented also by the private sector? If not, how can we link the actions and specially the resources that companies may invest on implementing actions related to the REDD+ Action Plan?
9. As part of the mitigating factor 1 regarding reversals, is it possible to think about an Environmental Education Strategy as a measure designed to reduce the chances of reversals or displacement emissions?
10. What happens if the country doesn't achieve the 20% reduction below the previous Crediting Level after the first period 5 years?
11. What happens if the country is implementing different indicators or alternative measurement tools as part of their Safeguards Systems rather than adapting or using the indicators mentioned in TREES?
12. What's the added value of ART in regards of Result Based Payment? Is there a linkage or connection promoted by ART from countries interested in recognizing RBP towards countries that report ERs?
13. How was the current uncertainty threshold of 15% set?

Additional reflection:

The TREES document states: **In each TREES Monitoring Report, TREES Participants must attest that REDD+ activities conducted as part of the Participant's REDD+ implementation plan to achieve ERs are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Any known instances of non-compliance or violations with laws, regulations, or other legally binding mandates directly related to REDD+ activities must be disclosed in the TREES Monitoring Report along with corrective or preventive plans or actions.**

How is this going to be effectively verified. Some participants may not disclose this information because they may choose not to publicly disclose the information or won't do it out of unawareness

of how their actions are in contradiction with laws and regulations. Maybe it should be checked by the verification body at the moment of evaluating the Monitoring Report. This could require local organizations to be part of the verification body in order to consult and investigate information regarding the violation of laws and regulations.

This process should include an interview or research with local stakeholders about the initiative or project implemented during the accreditation period.