Overview of Debt for Nature Swaps and Description of the Structure of Debt for Nature Swaps Executed Pursuant to the US Tropical Forest Conservation Act

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Part 1- Debt for Nature Swap (DNS) Overview

DNS Definition:

•A financial transaction in which debt owed by a debtor (most often a developing country government) is forgiven by a creditor in exchange for local investments in environmental conservation measures being financed by the debtor

Two types of DNS:

CommercialBilateral

Description of Commercial DNS

- NGO purchases discounted sovereign debt from commercial banks on the secondary market
- NGO then cancels the debt and in exchange the debtor country invests a percentage of the face value, normally converted to *local* currency, into domestic conservation programs

Bolivia: The First-Ever Commercial DNS Swap

- Conservation International (CI) acquired Bolivian debt with a face value of US\$650,000
- CI paid US\$100,000 for this debt on the secondary market
- In return for CI cancelling the debt, the Government of Bolivia undertook to provide the Beni Biosphere Reserve with maximum legal protection and to create three adjacent protected areas
- The Government of Bolivia also agreed to invest US\$250,000 in local currency for management activities in the Beni Biosphere Reserve

Description of Bilateral DNS

- Creditor government cancels the bilateral debt owed by debtor country
- In exchange the debtor country invests all or a percentage of the face value, normally converted to *local* currency, into domestic conservation programs
- Several creditor countries have engaged in bilateral DNS, including the US through the US Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA)

Part 2 - Description of the Structure of DNS Executed Pursuant to the TFCA

TFCA Overview:

•Enacted in July 1998

 Offers developing countries options for United States Government (USG) debt relief in exchange for financing of tropical forest conservation activities

 Transacted as either a "bilateral" swap or a "subsidized" swap, which includes NGO participation

•20 TFCA agreements have been signed with 14 countries to date and are projected to generate more than US\$340 million

TFCA Process

- Interested debtor country submits letter of interest/request to USG
- USG determines eligibility based on the debtor country having tropical forests, having eligible debt and satisfying certain political and economic criteria
- Structure and legal agreements negotiated among parties (including with participating NGOs in a subsidized swap)
- At closing, eligible country debt is cancelled and new obligations to make payments into a conservation fund become effective
- Program for use of fund amounts is implemented by an oversight committee consisting of representatives of USG, debtor country, participating NGOs and other local NGOs

Overview of Indonesia TFCA DNS Transactions

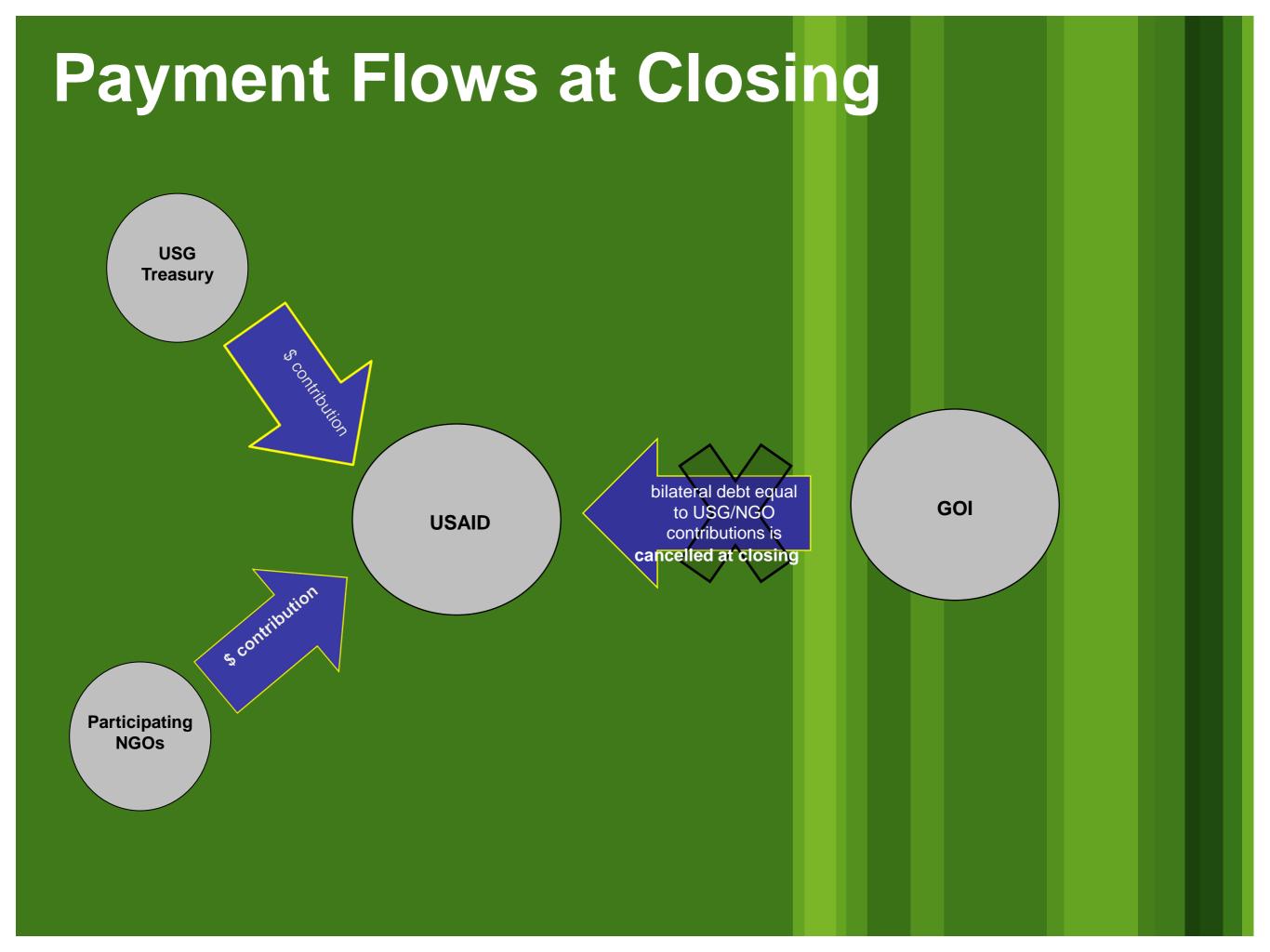
 Negotiated among USG, the Government of Indonesia ("GOI") and participating NGOs

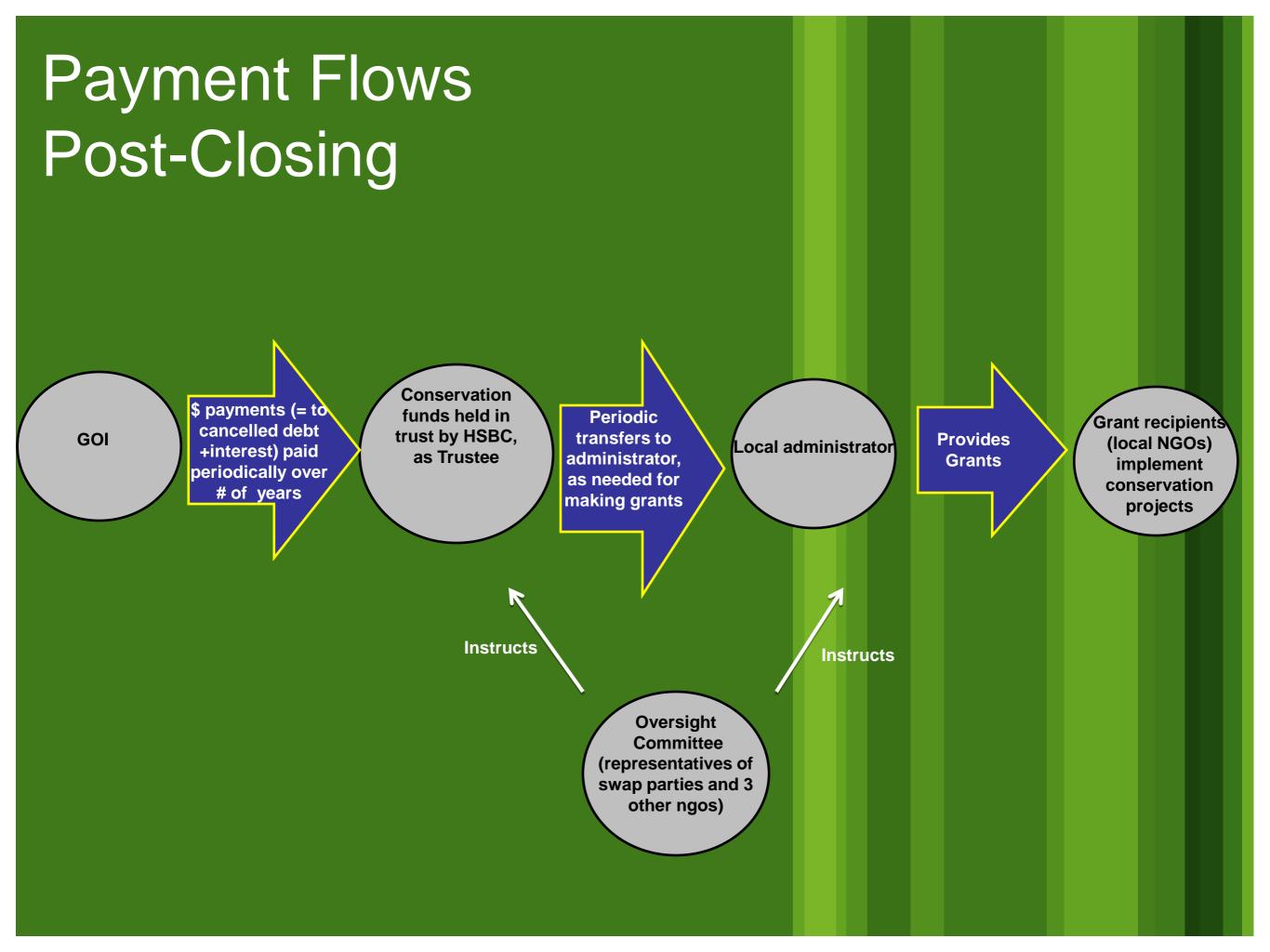
 3 transactions cancelling more than \$56 million of GOI debt to USG at closing

 Equivalent amount (+ interest) to be paid by GOI into a fund over multiple years

 Fund amounts to support conservation activities in Sumatra and Kalimantan

 Kalimantan activities are focused on 3 existing REDD+ initiatives





Benefits to Participating NGOs

- NGOs help establish conservation investment priorities
- NGO monetary contribution leveraged
- New financing sustains past NGO conservation investments
- Strengthens NGO relationship with local government
- Strengthens local NGO partners
- High communications value