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UNDP STATEMENT ON DECISION BY GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR TO CONCLUDE YASUNÍ-ITT INITIATIVE

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Over 20 percent of Yasuni ITT Trust Fund contributions have been reimbursed

Feb 26, 2014

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UNDP working with Government of Ecuador for full reimbursement in the next six months

New York/Quito -- The UN Development Programme (UNDP) has reimbursed US\$ 2.35 million of a total \$9.94 million donated to the Yasuni National Park's Ishpingo Tambococha Tiputini (ITT) initiative, which the Government of Ecuador brought to end in August 2013. UNDP, in its role of Trust Fund Administrator, through its Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office, has contacted all contributors and is working towards their full reimbursement in the next six months.

UNDP received the formal Fund closure notification on September 2, 2013 and one month later the Yasuni Trust Fund Steering Committee— composed of Government, contributing governments, and Ecuadorian civil society representatives—agreed to fully reimburse all received contributions.

Last October the Steering Committee agreed that contributing partners could choose between having their donations returned or reinvested in other projects in Ecuador. To date, some have decided to reinvest their contributions in sustainable development projects in Ecuador, while others have not yet formalized their decision.

UNDP and the UN family continue working with the people of Ecuador and its Government to promote sustainable human development, protect biodiversity and the environment, and guarantee human rights.

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