# REDD + ANNUAL COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORTING (with semi-annual update)

**COUNTRY:** [Bhutan] **PERIOD:** [July 2015- June 2016]

**Background**: This country reporting framework has been developed following the structure of the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, its logical framework and Performance Measurement Framework (PMF), so as to facilitate and systematize the data analysis. The semi-annual country reporting should provide the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) with indications of REDD+ countries' progress towards the achievement of their readiness activities and the implementation of their Emission Reductions programs overtime, in a way that data are easily consolidated and provide indications on the level of achievement of the FCPF output, outcome and impact indicators as defined in the FCPF M&E Framework.

**Report preparation**: Submitted country reports should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD + (component 6 of R-PP) and should be prepared in consultation with members of REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated into national reporting, and divergent views indicative of lack of consensus on specific issues should be recorded in the country report.

**Reporting schedule:** It is expected that the annual progress country reporting will be submitted to the FMT by August  $15^{th}$  each year. The reporting should be based on a self-assessment of progress. An update of this country reporting will also be submitted by March  $15^{th}$  each year.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This section should provide a short description of FCPF support in country (bullets on FCPF-financed activities only). Information should summarize progress, key achievements with a focus on higher level results and important issues/problems that arose during the reporting period. Highlights of next steps in following period should also be provided (key bullets only).

#### **SUMMARY:**

- Procurement of various goods (satellite image analysis software, work stations, laptops, equipment, furniture) completed and of CHNs analyzer and vehicles will be completed by October 2016
- Capacity building programme including Bhutan REDD+ academy training, workshops, write-shops and meetings conducted
- Capacity building in the form of trainings outside country on various components of REDD+ and also in attending meeting/workshops/conferences
- Awareness and sensitization workshops to take the youths on board was organized for six academic institutes where around 2000 students and teachers/lecturers participated
- Analyses of drivers of deforestation & forest degradation started and will be completed by November 2016
- Piloting of Heritage Forest in six sites on-going
- National Forest inventory completed in three remaining districts and data analysis under way
- Preparatory works for REDD+ National Strategy and Action Plan, Forest Reference Level and Monitoring, Reporting and Verification, Grievance redress mechanism, Benefit sharing & Fund

- mobilization and SESA/ESMF/SIS are under way including capacity building and the ToRs are in final stage of endorsement
- Updating of land use and land cover have already started using Landsat images of 2015. Analysis
  of satellite image is being carried out using eCognition software. By the 1st week of September,
  draft result will be produced.

## 2. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS DURING THE PERIOD

The section below should provide qualitative and quantitative data on the progress towards expected results along the following subsections. Information is to be provided cumulatively. If the information requested is not available or not relevant at the time of the reporting, mention "does not apply – n/a".

Amount of non-FCPF investments received under R-PP process (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):			
Source: UN-REDD	Amount provided:		
Source: ICIMOD GIZ	Amount provided: Euro 500000 (2015-2017)		
Source:	Amount provided:		
Amount of non-FCPF investments received for implementation of activities relevant to ER Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private sector), if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):			
Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private secto	•		
Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private secto	•		
Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private secto <i>I.2.B.i.</i> ):	r), if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator		

Describe how stakeholders are participating and engaging in REDD+ decision making processes (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.3.A):

<u>Provide examples of how IPs and CSOs are represented in institutional arrangements for REDD at</u> the national level.

CSOs are represented in REDD+ Technical Working Group. Local community representatives are involved when consultations are held at local level

Examples of stakeholder engagement platforms in country which meet regularly to discuss and provide inputs to the REDD+ readiness process (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.a.):

Frequency:	
Examples of resources made communities in national REI	e available to enable active participation of IPs , CSOs and local DD+ readiness.
<b>Communication mate</b>	rial on REDD+ for stakeholders at national level
	eforms initiated, completed or underway complying to REDD+  Framework Indicator I.3.B.):
Number of policy reforms de Underway:	uring the reporting period that are: NA
Completed:	
Please describe these policy	reforms:

Design of national REDD+ Strategies addresses indicators for enhancement of livelihoods of local communities and for biodiversity conservation (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 3.B.):
Provide examples of how national REDD Strategies address livelihoods of local communities and biodiversity conservation.
NA

# 3. PROGRESS AT R-PP sub component level

#### 3.1. REDD Readiness Progress

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please briefly describe here the progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.A.): up to 300 words, if applicable

#### Progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package:

Implementation of Readiness Program is progressing on several fronts. Advocacy, awareness and consultation are continuously organized. Procurement of goods and services initiated and on-going. Contract awarded for study on "Analyses of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and identification of response strategies". The study has kick-started and first data collection exercise comprising of bilateral discussions with stakeholders, field visits and stakeholder carried out in June 2016. The study will be completed by November 2016. The findings from the study will form the basis of identifying activities, policies and measures and their safeguard measures and MRV requirements to be implemented under REDD+ mechanism in Bhutan.

Please indicate which of	your country R-PP components and sub-component	ts have received support			
from FCPF through the Readiness Preparation Grant (>3.4 million USD)					
Components	•				
1. Readiness	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yes			
Organization and Consultation	1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach	Yes			
2. REDD+ Strategy	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Yes			
Preparation	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Yes			
	2c. Implementation Framework	Yes			
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yes			
3. Reference Emissions L	evel/Reference Levels	Yes			
4. Monitoring Systems	4a. National Forest Monitoring System	Yes			
for Forests and Safeguards	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Yes			

Level of overall achievement of planned milestones according to approved FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD) (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.b.):					
<u>Level of Achievement</u> <sup>1</sup> :	Tracking <sup>2</sup> :				
		Significant progress			
	<u> </u>	Progressing well, further development required			
		Further development required			
	<b>3</b>	Not yet demonstrating progress			
	N/A	Non Applicable			
	Please expla	in why:			
	M&E Framework 1.3.b.):	M&E Framework 1.3.b.):  Level of Achievement¹:  Tracking²:			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Countries are expected to provide data on the overall level of achievement of planned milestones as defined in their Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, and, if applicable, on their Supplementary Grant Agreement for an additional grant of up to \$5 million. For instance, under their Preparation Readiness Grant Agreement (>3.4 million USD), Countries should provide data on (i) the support to the Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-Stakeholder Consultations; (ii) the contribution to the Design of a National REDD+ Strategy; and (iii) the preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The level of achievement of planned milestones according to approved RF grant will be summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of an overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale "Non Applicable" can be selected.

Degree of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component and sub-component (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.c.).

Countries are expected to rate progress toward the implementation of R-PP sub-component only once a year, as part of the reporting submitted by August 15<sup>th</sup> each year

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup>
		Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please select your light rating)
R-PP Component 1 – Readiness Organization and Consultation	Sub-Component 1a – National REDD+ Management Arrangements Purpose: setting-up national readiness management arrangements to manage and coordinate the REDD-plus readiness activities whilst mainstreaming REDD-plus into broader strategies Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) accountability and transparency; (ii) operating mandate and budget; (iii) multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration; (iv) technical supervision capacity; (v) funds management capacity; (vi) feedback and grievance redress mechanism	Training on REDD+ PES pilot site  Training conducted on Forest and Nature Conservation Acts, Rules and Regulations & silviculture management/operations for foresters/rangers of territorial forest divisions	Bhutan REDD+ Academy Training conducted in October, 2015. Around 40 number of REDD+ Task Force and Technical Working Group members, field staffs and stakeholders were trained  Participated in UNFCC COP, other meetings/wroskhsop/tranings  Darla degraded watershed selected as REDD+ PES pilot site  A total of 165 field/front line staffs (46 trained on Forest Acts & Rules, 48 on Basic GPS & GIS, 46 on Forest Silviculture & Management, and 25 on Carbon assessment & inventory) who work in the field in implementing the regulations/public service delivery	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required  Further development required  Not yet demonstrating progress  Non Applicable  Please explain why:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The level of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component should be self-assessed and reported, as well as summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of this overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then briefly explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale 'Non Applicable' can be selected. This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework, The R-Package assessment criteria are included to assist countries identify, plan and track their readiness preparations progress with the core aspects and desired outcomes of readiness preparation activities as contained in R-Package Assessment Framework.

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup>	
	Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please select your light rating)	
Sub-Component 1b – Consultation, Participation, and Outreach  Purpose: broad consultation with and participation of key stakeholders for future REDD+ programs, to ensure participation of different social groups, transparency and accountability of decision-making Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) participation and engagement of key stakeholders; (ii) consultation processes; (iii) information sharing and accessibility of information; (iv) implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes	Awareness workshops  Bilateral consultations	Sensitization workshop was conducted in six academic institutes at College of Natural Resources, College of Science & Technology, Jigme Namgyel Engineering College, Sherubtse college, Gedu Business College & Royal Thimphu College. Around 2000 participants comprising of students and college faculty members were sensitized on REDD+ readiness program and climate change, sustainable land, soil and watershed management  The analyses of DD started with bilateral consultations with various key stakeholders to understand their perspectives on issues related to forest management in Bhutan	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required  Further development required  Not yet demonstrating progress  Non Applicable  Please explain why:	

Sub-con	nponent	Progress against annual targets			Tracking <sup>3</sup>	
		Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please s	select your light rating)	
Land Use Forest La Forest La Forest La Purpose: of defore degradate concerni manager enhancer assessme prioritize drivers/k activities address i tenure, g	aponent 2a: Assessment of e, Land Use Change Drivers, aw, Policy and Governance is identification of key drivers estation and/or forest tion, as well as activities ing conservation, sustainable ment of forests, and ment of forest carbon stocks Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) ent and analysis; (ii) ation of direct and indirect barriers to forest ment; (iii) links between the barriers and REDD+s; (iv) actions plans to natural resource right, land governance; (v) implications it law and policy	Study on DD (drivers of deforestation & forest degradation) and barriers to "Plus" activities  Revision of Forest and Nature Conservation Rules 2006	Work initiated on analyses of drivers of deforestation & forest degradation and identification of response strategies. Inception report completed, bilateral discussions carried out, field visits made to Forest Management Units, Transmission corridors, Fire burnt areas, stakeholder consultation workshop organized at central region  Consultation workshops conducted and several core group meetings conducted on draft Rules for amendment and final draft Rules ready for endorsement	All Please expl	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required Further development required Not yet demonstrating progress Non Applicable	

Sub-component	Progress aga	inst annual targets	Tracking <sup>3</sup>
	Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please select your light rating)
Subcomponent 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options  Purpose: Develop a set of policies and programs for addressing the drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation  Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options; (ii) feasibility assessment; (iii) implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies.	To explore various strategy options	Works initiated on piloting concept of Heritage Forest on six sites/districts. Heritage Forest is defined as a forested ecosystems surrounding cultural, religious or historical sites with significant ecological importance that are under increasing threat from human activities. Sites were selected by the District Administrations and proposed to DoFPS. Field survey and mapping completed, biodiversity assessment and social assessment carried out, consultations with local government leaders and communities held and preparations ongoing for developing management plans for these sites. Interventions identified in the plans will be incorporated in the National REDD+ Strategy. It will also provide lessons for measures for safeguarding forests which are of value (ecologically as well as culturally) to the local livelihoods	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required Further development Not yet demonstrating progress  Non Applicable  Please explain why:

Sub-component	Progress against	annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup>
	Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please so	elect your light rating)
Subcomponent 2c: Implementation Framework  Purpose: Set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options  Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations; (ii) guidelines for implementation; (iii) benefit sharing mechanism; (iv) national REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities	Procurement of field mobility vehicles  Procurement of laptops, equipment and furniture  Visit of 2 <sup>nd</sup> implementation support mission from World Bank	Supply order issued and vehicles will be delivered in October 2016  Procurements completed as planned  Besides revisiting and refining the work plans, meetings and a one-day stakeholder workshop were conducted to disseminate information on progress with the REDD+ readiness project, sustain stakeholder engagement and their support while exploring synergies between the project and ongoing interventions in related sectors and solicit feedback on the draft ToRs (SESA/ESMF, FREL and the National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan)	Please explo	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required Further development Not yet demonstrating progress Non Applicable

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup>	
	Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please select your light rating)	
Subcomponent 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts  Purpose: Ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)  Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i)) analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues; (ii) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts; (iii) Environmental and Social Management Framework	To initiate works on Safeguards and other work packages	Writeshop and meetings conducted to develop and produce final draft ToRs for SESA/ESMF and SIS and other work packages under R-PP	₩ Please exp	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required  Further development  Not yet demonstrating progress  Non Applicable

Sub-co	omponent	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup>	
		Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please sel	ect your light rating)
Emissi Purpos approc Countr demon use of for nat technic metho consist	Component 3 - Reference Levels ions Level/Reference Levels see: Development of the general arch to establish a REL/RL cy Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) istration of methodology; (ii) thistorical data, and adjusted cional circumstances; (iii) cal feasibility of the dological approach, and tency with UNFCCC/IPCC ince and guidelines	National Forest Inventory and related works and capacity building programs  24 Feb 2015	National Forest Inventory (NFI) field data collection works completed in three remaining districts namely; Bumthang, Trongsa and Trashigang. NFI field works started in July, 2012 and the data from NFI will be used to generate state of forest report and will also enable decision making for sustainable forest management and conservation. NFI data will also help in establishing FREL/MRV/NFMS  Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QAQC) program to validate data for NFI works completed in 10 districts  Field work for biomass equation development completed for 8 species (with co-funding from other project as well)  NFI fieldwork Valediction Workshop was conducted in January 2016 for the NFI crew members and the Department, which marked the culmination of 3 and half years of field data collection works  Supported a mission of Experts on OpenForis Collect and Calc from UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The mission was engaged to help Bhutaßese counterparts on NFI data management and analysis	And explain v	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required Further development  Not yet demonstrating progress  Non Applicable  why:

Sub-component	Progress again	Progress against annual targets	
	Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please select your light rating)
		2 Research Officers from trained on R-statistics and regression modeling for allometric equation development at the University of Geneva	
		One Research Officer trained for 27 days on Tree-Ring Software Application at the University of Bern.	
		Specialist from SPAL, NSSC trained on Forest Soil and Carbon modeling at the Korean University	
	Procurement of CHN analyzer	Contract awarded for supply of CHNS analyser and will be delivered in October 2016	

	Sub-component	Progress against	Progress against annual targets		
		Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please select your light rating)	
	Subcomponent 4a: National Forest Monitoring System  Purpose: Design and develop an operational forest monitoring system	Procurement of eCognition  Satellite imagery downloading &	Procurement of satellite image analysis software (eCognition) completed  Internet Connection completed	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development	
feguards	and describe the approach to enhance the system over time <u>Country Self- Assessment Criteria:</u> (i) documentation of monitoring approach; (ii) demonstration of early	archiving (high speed internet connection)	and downloaded Landsat satellite imageries from year 1999 to 2015. This activity is a continuous process	required Further development Not yet demonstrating	
ts and Sa	implementation; (iii) institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests	Training for object based classification using eCognition	Seven people from Ministry of Agriculture and Forests	progress  Non Applicable	
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards			U	And explain why:	
R-PP Component 4: M		Historical Land use change analysis	Updating of land use and land cover has already started using Landsat images of 2015. Analysis of satellite image is being carried out using eCognition software. By the 1st week of September, draft result will be produced		
		Procurement of hardware	Procurement of hardware (laptops, workstations and UPS) completed		

Progress again	Tracking <sup>3</sup>			
Planned milestones	Achievements	(Please	(Please select your light rating)	
	The DoFPS website updated	And expla	Significant progress  Progressing well, further development required  Further development  Not yet demonstrating progress  Non Applicable	
	Planned milestones	Revamping of DoFPS website  The DoFPS website updated	Planned milestones  Revamping of DoFPS website  The DoFPS website updated  The DoFPS website updated	

Disbursement rate of FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD), in percentage (FCPF M&E				
Framework 1.3.d.):				
	Rate	Tracking		
RF Grant - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements		Please select your rating:  Up to 10% variance with plans  Between 10-25% variance with plans  Between 25-40% variance with plans  More than 40% variance  Non Applicable		

Disbursement rate of Total R-PP Budget in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):				
	Rate	Tracking		
Total Budget in R-PP - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements (including other funding sources and FCPF Readiness Grant)			ur rating: Up to 10% variance with plans Between 10-25% variance with plans Between 25-40% variance with plans More than 40% variance	

# 3.2. Engagement of stakeholders within the approach to REDD +

Examples of actions/activities where IPs, CSOs, and local communities participate actively, if		
relevant (FCPF M&E F	ramework 3.1.a.):	
Action/activity:	Describe IP, CSO, and local community participation:	
Training on REDD+ structure	CSOs participated very actively in the training	
Piloting of Heritage Forest	Local communities actively participate and have shown keen interest and support to ensure sustainable management of heritage forest for the local livelihood	

Number of IP and REDD country CSO representatives (men/women) having been successfully				
trained by FCPF training prog	grams (FCPF N	1&E Framework 3.1.b.)	):	
Please list the training conducted:	<u>Duration</u> (# of days)	# of participants # of men / # of women	<b>Ø</b>	Targets in terms of number of men and women to be trained by country to be defined
Bhutan REDD+ Academy Training	5	40 (37 men, 3 women, 4 CSOs)	1	
Training on Forest & Nature Conservation Acts & Rules, Basic GPS & GIS, Forest Silviculture & Management,	14 days	165 (22 women)	<b>&amp;</b>	Non Applicable
Carbon assessment & inventory				
Sensitization workshop in six academic institutes	1 day			

# 3.3. Knowledge sharing

# of Men: # of Women:

Has your country developed and published REDD+ knowledge products with FCPF support:		
Yes/No:	Please provide the list of published REDD+ knowledge products, if any during reporting period:	
How many people ha	ave been reached by these knowledge products, if any:	
Overall number by pr	oduct:	

Have some experts of your country participated in any South-south learning activities? If yes, how				
many (men and women)?				
Yes/No:	List the South-South learning activities:	<pre># of men:(IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives)</pre>		

	# of women: (IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives)
--	--

## 4. ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND RISKS

This section should present any problems, difficulties or constraints faced by the country in making progress towards the intended REDD+ results (outputs, outcomes and possible impacts), the main causes and their expected effect on the work plan. Actions that have been taken to overcome or manage these constraints/flaws/problems identified should be stated. Each problem/constraint should be stated as a separate point, along with associated proposed changes in work planning for the next six month/year to address it, as relevant.

It is expected that the country monitors any changes in the assumptions that underpin the logic of intervention of FCPF at the national level and other significant risks that may arise. This section should explain through a narrative any changes in the level of risk associated with the different assumptions, or describe new risks that may have emerged and have a significant bearing on the national work-planning with respect to FCPF support for the next year and beyond, along with the associated measures required to address this change.

Disbursements are delayed sometimes due to lengthy procurement process both of RGoB and World Bank

## 5. MAIN LESSONS LEARNED

This section should be used to provide information on important lessons learned since the beginning of the readiness process. It is expected that this section will be fairly substantial, making reference to different lessons learned, analysis documents developed, and/or experiences made in dealing with issues of particular interest to REDD+.

Engagement of stakeholder is a continuous process and enough resources should be dedicated to build their capacity to engage them effectively in REDD+ process.