

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TFOA0984
Printed On: 06/08/2020

Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TFOA0984

Thailand - FCPF Readiness Preparation Proposal FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000186457 - Lan Thi Thu Nguyen
Approving Manager: 00000175113 - Christophe Crepin

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Thailand
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9532 - SEAE2
Grant Start Date / End Date	06/17/2016 to 12/31/2020
Original Grant Amount	3,600,000.00
Grant Amount	3,600,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	1,065,235.50 as of 06/30/2019
Disbursed 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019	733,526.10
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Disbursements.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TFOA0984
Printed On: 06/08/2020

Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

The Project Development Objective is to support the development of the Readiness Preparation Activities. This will be achieved by supporting the preparation of its REDD+ strategy, the design of a national MRV system, and by producing technical work and policy advice.

Overall progress from 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

The objective of the Grant is to support the development of the Readiness Preparation Activities. This will be achieved by supporting the preparation of the Recipient's REDD+ strategy, the design of a national MRV system, and by producing technical work and policy advice. The Government has maintained strong commitment to REDD+ as demonstrated by active participation in international processes around REDD+ within the global FCPF partnership and beyond. Over the past year, substantial progress has been made to all of the grant activities, including signing contracts for all of the large consultancy packages and quality initial results of these packages. However, staff shortages in the REDD+ Office will pose significant bottlenecks, especially in performing technical review when the large package deliverables are due such as REDD strategy, SESA, MRV and REL work. It was discussed and agreed with DNP that additional support is needed including mobilization of technical expertise from the Steering Committee and technical review consultant.

More broadly, the Government remains committed to advancing with REDD+ readiness preparation with the longer-term objective to become ready to participate in and benefit from emerging performance-based payment systems from REDD+ within the context of the UNFCCC. The grant activities aim to develop or enhance socially and environmentally sound policies and interventions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, establish internationally recognized reference emission level, design technically robust systems for forest monitoring and reporting. This REDD+ readiness preparation grant assists the Government of Thailand in preparing a comprehensive national REDD+ strategy and aims to coordinate forest-friendly land use planning across the landscape.

Overall progress from 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

While implementation has been slower than anticipated due to a long-time shortage of staffing for project implementation in DNP, progress has been made following the change in leadership of the Office of Forests and Climate Change and the broader reorganization with DNP. Changes in the coordinator responsible for grant implementation as well as changes in the procurement authorization have led to progress with the signing of contracts for all key consultant packages (including National REDD+ Strategy/SESA, Communications, and FREL/MRV) and procurement of essential equipment for necessary for the function of day-to-day operations of the Office of Forests and Climate Change (REDD+ Office). As a result disbursement has increased significantly including initial payments upon effectiveness of major consultant firm contracts for which contracts were signed and results are delivered. Disbursement to date reaches 38% of the total grant amount.

During the last mission, the task team was informed that the DDG DNP would welcome support to the development of sector policy and better reflection of REDD+ opportunities as part of the strategy. As a first step a study tour for a high-level delegation to visit Vietnam was agreed to foster knowledge and learning on REDD+. This study tour would be timely to ensure that policy considerations related to REDD+ would inform the new Forest Sector Master Plan that is currently under development for Thailand and expected to be completed in the next few months. The mission was further informed that there was specific interest from DNP to learn from other countries' experiences with Payments for Environmental Services (PES) schemes, which could offer incentives for reforestation and rehabilitation in Thailand. Additional technical level study tours and south-south-knowledge exchanges were identified to support this interest.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

N/A

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up Bank project/loan/credit/grant

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref.	TF0A0984	Reporting Period:	07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019
Printed On:	06/08/2020	Report Type:	Progress Report
		Report Status:	Approved

Comment on follow up:

- Implementation of main consultant contracts to support key components to start in earnest within the first few months of the next reporting period.
- Preparation of a Mid Term Progress Report for submission during the next PC meeting in the Spring.
- Additional technical review expertise to be mobilized or contracted to perform the review of large package deliverables.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

The Grant closing date was extended by 6 months to allow the delivery of the grant results. The new closing date is June 30, 2020.

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

- Capacity on REDD+ readiness is continuously enhanced with the establishment of regional REDD offices
- REDD+ readiness preparation in terms of capacity building, communication, MRV, safeguards, and legal frameworks was improved

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Support readiness organization and consultation

Status:	Under Implementation
Planned Output:	National REDD+ readiness institutional arrangements, REDD+ Regional Offices established, Outreach program, capacity building and info dissemination
Actual Output:	National REDD+ readiness institutional arrangements, REDD+ Regional Offices established, Outreach program, capacity building and info dissemination

REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Status:	Under Implementation
Planned Output:	REDD+ strategy incl. identification of drivers and causes of D&D and respective REDD options, SESA , ESMF; Feedback and GRM
Actual Output:	REDD+ strategy incl. identification of drivers and causes of D&D and respective REDD options, SESA , ESMF; Feedback and GRM

Forest Monitoring and Emissions

Status:	Under Implementation
Planned Output:	Developed reference emission level (#REL#) and monitoring, reporting and verification system (MRV)
Actual Output:	Developed reference emission level (#REL#) and monitoring, reporting and verification system (MRV)

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref.	TF0A0984	Reporting Period:	07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019
Printed On:	06/08/2020	Report Type:	Progress Report
		Report Status:	Approved

Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Status: Under Implementation
Planned Output: Well functional management and coordination of REDD readiness activities
Actual Output: Well functional management and coordination of REDD readiness activities

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

Component 1: Under this component, the following activities have been achieved during the reporting period:

About two hundred representatives from the upper Northern, Central, Western, and Eastern regions were trained on REDD+ Framework.

Sharing information and knowledge on REDD+ Framework to related stakeholder at the eight forest and climate change education and action centers in 5 regions.

Establishment of the REDD+ Regional Office in the North Eastern region. Offices in other regions are in process for management approval.

The CS-5 contract to develop a Communication and outreach strategy was signed by end of June 2019 and inception report was submitted with high quality.

Component 2: Under Component 2, the CS-6 Contract for REDD+ /SESA was signed by DNP's Deputy Director General on June 12, 2019. This is a significant improvement on the progress of this project when the consultant of CS-6 was on board. Given the significantly large contract, DNP was urged to work closely with the consultant to ensure that activities will be on track and completed on time and with no delay.

Component 3: Progress under component 3 includes the hiring of two Remote Sensing and GIS officers to support DNP with data processing completed in May 2019. Several workshops and trainings on forest reference level (FRL) had been organized by DNP with support from FAO as a consultant of CS-7. The main outcome of this component is the conclusion on the definition of forest/forest classes and key FRL decision were made. Given that this outcome will have significant impact to the project as well as at the national level, the mission has requested DNP to share the progress report prepared by FAO. DNP needs to ensure the quality and timely delivery of the activities under this component.

Component 4: Activities under this component support the management and coordination of REDD readiness activities, financial and procurement services, as well as monitoring and coordination of the overall operation.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P130115 - TH FCPF Readiness Preparation Project
Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Climate change
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref.	TF0A0984	Reporting Period:	07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019
Printed On:	06/08/2020	Report Type:	Progress Report
		Report Status:	Approved

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency:	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Division of Foreign Affairs		
Contact:	Dr. Prasert Sornsathapornkul		
Address:	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Division of Foreign Affairs		
Phone:	025610777	Email:	ps_dnp@yahoo.com
Website:			

PROGRAM

Program Specific Questions

1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f

REDD+ grant activities will be coordinated with other related initiatives via the REDD+ Task Force, which was established for the purpose of inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral coordination. The REDD+ Task Force includes governmental and non-governmental representation. The development of a action plan for 2018-20 has ensured that grant activities are coordinated with other ongoing related activities and initiatives in the country.

2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.

There have been no significant changes to technical design of grant activities

3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.

The assignment of a new coordinator has significantly improved overall grant implementation progress. Further, a financial officer from the DNP has been assigned to maintain and operate project financial and accounting transactions in accordance with the Thailand Accounting Standards and relevant government guidelines. Support on procurement and FM was mobilized within the DNP and has improved the implementation progress

4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?

Training on the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), a safeguards instrument specific to REDD+ readiness, has been conducted by the Bank's team during the reporting period. The SESA which is being developed will be in accordance with the Common Approach

5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

It will be, once it will be prepared.

6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

The project is led by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plan Conservation (DNP) under the Division of Foreign Affairs within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Responsibility of REDD+ implementation lies with the Office of Forests and Climate Change. Two consultation events with CSOs were held to support the formation of stakeholder working groups. Further, training on the REDD+ readiness for communities and NGOs has been carried out in the Northern, Central and North-Eastern regions of the country during the reporting period.

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A0984
Printed On: 06/08/2020

Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	300,000.00	300,000.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	300,000.00	0.00
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	300,000.00	0.00
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	331,709.40	31,709.40
07/01/2018	12/31/2018	0.00	0.00	1,053,245.11	721,535.71
01/01/2019	06/30/2019	0.00	0.00	1,065,235.50	11,990.39
07/01/2019	12/31/2019	0.00	0.00	1,416,659.86	351,424.36
01/01/2020	06/30/2020	0.00	0.00	1,440,537.01	23,877.15
07/01/2020	12/31/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00