



FCPF Readiness Fund

Uganda Annual Report
(July 2019-June 2020)

Ministry of Water and Environment
Uganda

July 2020



FCPF Readiness Fund: Uganda Annual Progress Report

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities and achievements delivered within your country during July 2019 - June 2020?

The REDD+ process continued to receive financial and technical backstopping from FCPF (through the World Bank) and financial support from Government of Uganda.

Component 1: Coordination and Monitoring of REDD+ Readiness Process

Technical Support / REDD+ Secretariat personnel (LTA (not full time); Communications / Project Officer; Additional TA on ER Programs. The Contracted REDD+ Secretariat Technical Staff continued to support the REDD+ Readiness Activities. The Short-Term TA for Emissions Reduction Programmes provided home based and in country support to the ER programme activity.

REDD+ Secretariat Office and operational costs (including vehicle running costs). FCPF-AF and Government of Uganda (GoU) budget continued to support the Office operational costs covering vehicle running costs, office space, office supplies, internet services and support to communication component activities. The Office hosted working sessions of PROBICOU, Arbonaut, FAO and Winrock consultants as well as some of the Taskforce meetings between July 2020-March 2020. The office could not continue to provide venue for Consultants work due to restrictions imposed by government measures against spreading CORONA 19 Virus.

REDD+ representation in regional/international meetings. The Alternate National REDD+ Focal Point represented Uganda at the Conference of the Parties (COP 25) of the UNFCCC in Madrid (Spain) between 30th November to 16th December 2019.

Representation in national policy, planning and coordination processes. The REDD+ Secretariat participated and made presentations in Joint Water and Environment Sector Working Group meetings as well as Ministry of Water and Environment Top Policy meetings, Senior Management meetings. The REDD+ National Focal Point supported MWE in profiling the REDD+ Strategy actions within the Uganda's National Development Plan 3 (NDP3).

Resources mobilization for implementation of REDD+ Strategy: the following undertakings were accomplished or were in the pipeline by time of reporting.

- a. REDD+ Secretariat continued to spearhead the preparation of a 6 year USD 178.2 million "Investing in Forest and Protected Areas for Climate Smart Development Project (IFPA-CD). The project funding was approved by World Bank on 22 April 2020. However, REDD+ Secretariat continued to engage approval processes by remaining government authorities. The IFPA-CD project is landmark achievement for Uganda

whose focus and implementation originates from the Forest Investment Plan (2017) that focuses on reducing emission form deforestation and forest degradation through land scape level action. The IFPA-CD investments demonstrates the influence REDD+ process has imparted Uganda's development policy as articulated in national Development Plan 3 (2021-2025) and political agenda of increasing forests and tree cover in the country whilst strengthening the role of forestry in national economy and mitigation of climate change and associated disasters.

- b. The REDD+ Secretariat reviewed/updated the GCF Concept Note that seeks to mobilize USD30 million from GCF as co-finance to the IFPA-CD project. The updated Concept Note was formally submitted to World Bank (*Uganda's Authorized Entity for GCF on this project*) by the GCF NDA in June 2020 for follow up with GCF Secretariat.
- c. REDD+ Secretariat continued to engage with the process of reviewing the Uganda Forest Policy Process. By December 2019, REDD Secretariat provided inputs into the Review process roadmap and approach and laid foundation for considering REDD Strategy recommendations into ongoing forestry policy review. The review process await approval by Cabinet before subsequent actions are undertaken.

National level supervisions/ coordination and harmonization processes (meetings of National Climate Change Advisory Committee (NCCAC), National Technical Committee (NTC), Taskforces (TFs). During the reporting period, the following REDD+ Steering Committee (NCCAC), NTC and Taskforce meetings were held:

- a. **NCCAC:** None.
- b. **NTC:** One NTC meeting to consider the Inception report for the design of two Emissions Reduction Programs in Uganda was convened on 8th August 2019. 22 NTC members participated, of which 6 were females.
- c. **TASK FORCES:** Over-all, 4 taskforce meetings involving 70 Taskforce members (18 females; 52 male) were held to support the design of ERPs, and 2 meetings to support the preparation on Uganda's SIS.

Taskforce meetings – design of Emissions Reduction Programmes					
Meeting Date	Nature of the meetings	Committee	Total numbers (Gender dis-aggregated)		Total
			Male	Female	
7th August, 2019	Review of the ERPs Inception report	Combined Taskforces	23	8	31
6th September, 2019	Support to WINROCK team to consider the data requirements for the ER-programs.	Sub-team MRV Taskforce	5	1	6
16 th - 17 th October, 2019	Support to WINROCK team to consider the data requirements for the ER-programs.	Sub-team MRV Taskforce	7	4	11
23rd October, 2019	Consultative meeting as part of the process for developing an Action Plan for the Emissions Reduction Programs in Uganda	Combined Taskforces	17	5	22
Taskforce meetings - Preparation of Uganda's SIS					
21st August, 2019	Preparation of Uganda's SIS	Combined Taskforces			
22nd August, 2019	Preparation of Uganda's SIS	Combined Taskforces			

Preparation and approval of Revised R-package: Uganda's revised R-package and prepared formal Response to TAC and FCPF Participants Committee comments on 2018 edition was re-submitted in July 2019 (Appendix 1).

Audits: The July 2018 – June 2019 annual audit was completed and submitted to World Bank.

Component 2: Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process

Support to implementation of Uganda REDD+ Gender Strategy (integrating Gender into REDD+ processes): The objectives of this undertaking are: i) To support mainstreaming of gender considerations into REDD+ Strategy implementation, through implementation of key activities from the REDD+ Gender Roadmap; ii) Enhance coordination of forest-dependent IPs in Uganda Albertine region to be able to network, share information and monitor their inclusion in REDD+ processes ; iii) Enhance the capacity of forest-dependent indigenous people and other forest dwellers to understand REDD+ process in Uganda, and enable them effectively participate and voice their concerns in policy-making and decision-making processes; and, iv) Ensure forest-dependent indigenous peoples' issues are mainstreamed national REDD+ Strategy and v) Training NCCAC & NTC members in Gender Mainstreaming into REDD+ Strategy implementation.

By end of the financial year, all undertakings were completed and reported on.

Component 3: REDD+ Strategy and SESA

The undertakings under this component aimed to achieve 3 objectives, namely;

- a. To revise and update Uganda's REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan and Budget (including developing a Vision for REDD+ Strategy implementation approach showing how to practically roll out REDD+ across the country and how the overall approach to the ER Programs is conceptualized by the country) and the REDD+ SESA report and ESMF.
- b. Based on the National REDD+ Strategy, SESA report and ESMF and the extensive consultation process to date, to develop the following safeguards frameworks (some initial scoping for these is already included in the SESA report and its annexes): (i) Process Framework; (ii) Indigenous Peoples' Planning Framework; and (iii) Resettlement Policy Framework, consistent with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). Specific requirements for these are laid out in the Integrated Safeguards Datasheet dated September 13, 2017 and the Project Paper for the Additional Funding (publicly available on the World Bank website and the FCPF Uganda webpage). Considering extensive consultations undertaken to date on the Strategy and SESA, this assignment will include only targeted consultations absolutely necessary for completion of the assignment.
- c. Design and support to operationalization of a Safeguards Information System (SIS). By reporting time, all tasks had been completed and the following reports were under review by the REDD+ Secretariat pending their presentation to the NCCAC for endorsement.

This undertaking has been completed and reported on.

Component 4: REDD+ Implementation Framework (ER Programs)

The objective of this undertaking was to support the Government of Uganda to design and develop at least two Emissions Reduction Programs (ER Programs) in the (i) Albertine and (ii) Mt. Elgon Regions as grounded in the National REDD+ Strategy. The performance of this undertaken was significantly affected by restrictions on travel and meetings imposed by COVID 19 pandemic. Consequently, the Consultant terminate his services on 12th June 2020. By reporting time, the following deliverables were completed: i) Inception Report - Design and Documentation of two REDD+ Emission Reduction Programs in Uganda; and, ii) Action Plan for Establishment of Emission Reduction Programme in Kyoga and Albert WMZs.

Uganda will prepare an action plan to carry forward the activity to complete the R-PIN by April 2021, subject to easing restrictions in-country travel and convening meetings.

Component 5: National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

This undertaking aim was to further support the Government of Uganda in establishing and institutionalizing a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS). The specific undertakings were to: i) complete a geographically representative National Forest Inventory (NFI) with updated data produced to improve carbon measurements and other relevant information on forest use and forest cover; ii) Update data series to produce activity data for 2017/2018 (2018/2019); iii) Improve forest reference level for REDD+ (including estimation of emissions from forest degradation, inclusion of soil and litter pools and improved estimation of emissions due to fire) ; and, iv) Strengthen institutional capacities and systems in order to institutionalize NFMS/MRV, including carrying out a pilot to explore the potential role of communities in MRV (e.g. verifying NFI and AD results).

By reporting time, the undertaking was completed and reported on.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

The key challenge during the reporting period was lack of engagement with stakeholders due to COVID 19 restrictions on travel and meetings. This significantly affected the undertaking to design the Emission Reduction Programme.

3. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver, and achievements anticipated during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

Uganda will focus on:

- Preparing the Emission Reduction Programme Idea Note
- Preparing for the implementation of the land scape project (IPFA-CD). The IFPA-CD project support implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

4. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:

(Indicator OV.1. B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

5	Completed	The sub-component has been completed
4	Significant progress	Significant progress
3	Progressing well, further development required	Progressing well, further development required
2	Further development required	Further development required
1	Not yet demonstrating progress	Not yet demonstrating progress
0	N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)			Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation				
Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ Management Arrangements	5	Completed	5	National Management Arrangements have continued to function satisfactorily
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	5	Completed	5	REDD+ process has continued being inclusive, with engagement of stakeholders and feedback in Readiness process through Task forces and consultation meetings supporting ongoing work under REDD+ Strategy revision, SESA and ESMF, NFMS, Integrating Gender in REDD+ Process and Capacity Building of Forest Dependent Indigenous people on REDD+
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation				
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	5	Completed	5	REDD+ Strategy and implementation frameworks updated and completed
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	5	Completed	5	The Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, completed
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	5	Completed	5	Updating REDD+ Strategy options completed
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	5	Completed	5	Updating Implementation Frameworks (BSA, FGRM) completed
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)		Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	5	Completed	Revisions of SESA and ESMF and preparation of SIS, IPPF, PF safeguards frameworks completed
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels			
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	5	Completed	Uganda will submit to UNFCCC updated FREL in the coming year, 2021
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards			
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	5	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The task of completing design of the National Forest Information Monitoring system is well underway. The forest inventory process focused on areas previously not covered. On mapping, the LULC Maps that include 13 classes (5 for forest and 8 for other Land Uses) consistently with the other LULC maps produced since the 1990 are being made for 2018. ✓ The NFMS IT infrastructure is in phase of completion and currently includes all the relevant information on the same server. Institutional ✓ The following additional work will be addressed in near future (subject to funding availability). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training national level experts in the assessment of forest degradation, GHGi inventory ○ Training District Forest Officers in Data capture and sharing ○ Finalizing arrangements for Right to access Data ○ Finalizing data sharing and management Protocols ○ Generating information on Forest Plantation and Wild fires and entering this information into the NFMS.
	4	Significant progress	
	3	Progressing well, further development required	
	2	Further development required	
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress	
	0	N/A	

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)			Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5	Completed	5	The design of Uganda's SIS was completed
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		

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SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

5. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes

If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

The following Strategic Options and interventions aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods. *For details please refer to Uganda's REDD Strategy and Action Plan (June 2020: ref: www.mwe.org)*

1. Strategy 1. *Climate smart agriculture* has three sub-options, which all aim to reduce the need for agricultural expansion from forest areas by intensifying and increasing agricultural production on existing agricultural land, and include:
 - a. Sustainable Land Management and agroforestry practices
 - b. Rainwater harvesting with collection tank and drip irrigation
 - c. Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables
2. Strategy 2. *Sustainable fuelwood and (commercial) charcoal production* has three sub-options, which aim to reduce need of use of wood sourced from natural forest by providing energy wood, charcoal and construction materials from forest plantation, and include:
 - a. Commercial small-holder and community bio-energy woodlots
 - b. Commercial small-holder and community poles and timber plantations
 - c. Improved charcoal kilns linked to bio-energy woodlots
3. Strategy 7. *Livestock rearing in the Cattle Corridor* has three sub-options aiming at improving and intensifying livestock management to reduce the need for clearing up forests for pasture lands.
 - a. Livestock breeding programme
 - b. Establishment of drinking water dams for livestock
 - c. Establishment of fodder agroforestry plantations

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes

If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

The following Strategic Option and interventions also aim to conserve forests within forest protected areas. *For details, please refer to Uganda's REDD Strategy and Implementation Plan (June 2020: ref: mwe.org)*

1. Strategy 4. *Restoration of natural forests in the landscape* has three sub-options, which aim to restore and maintain the existing forested areas. Aim is also to involve local people and the forest dependent communities with the activities including;
 - a. Designated areas for natural forest regeneration.
 - b. Restoration of degraded protected natural forest (i.e. national parks and forest reserves and forests on privately owned land).
 - c. Devolution of forest management through Participatory Forest Management and similar set-ups.
 - d. Traditional/customary forest management practices.

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SECTION D: FINANCE

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

7. Please detail the amount of **all** finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process **since the date that your R-PP was signed**. Figures should only include **secured finance** (i.e. fully committed) – **ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included:**

(Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$184,000	NORAD	03/2011	Public	Grant
\$3,634,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	07/2013	Public	Grant
\$890,797	Austrian Development Cooperation	07/2013	Public	Grant
\$150,000	UN-REDD Targeted Support	04/2014	Public	Grant
\$1,833,760	UN-REDD	10/2015	Public	Grant
\$320,947	Government of Uganda	07/2014	Public	Grant
\$422,197	Government of Uganda	07/2015	Public	Grant
\$898,797	Government of Uganda	07/2016	Public	Grant
\$831,025	Government of Uganda	07/2017	Public	Grant
\$250,000	CIF (FIP), World Bank, FAO	2017	Public	Grant
\$3,750,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	09/2017	Public	Grant
\$811,800	Government of Uganda	07/2018	Public	Grant
\$939,562	Government of Uganda	07/2019	Public	Grant

8. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

n/a

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SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

9. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects				X	
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

n/a

10. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information				X	
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements					X
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements				X	
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

n/a

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

11. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

The REDD+ Readiness has provided solid basis for the:

- a. Design and approval of the “Investments in Forest and Protected Areas for Climate Smart Development project –IFPA-CD” and, proposal for leverage funding from GCF to further support mitigation and resilience at land scape level.
- b. Profiling the role of forestry in national development plans (the National Development Plan 3 (2020/21-2024/25)).

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