

Appendix 1 to the July 2018-June 2019

UGANDA REDD+ PROCESS



**RESPONSES TO COMMENTS OF THE FCFP PARTICIPANTS
COMMITTEE MEETING AND INDEPENDENT TAP REVIEW**

ON

**UGANDA'S REPORT OF PARTICIPATORY SELF ASSESSMENT OF
UGANDA'S REDD+ READINESS PROCESS (Uganda's R-Package
2018)**



Ministry of Water and Environment
Forestry Sector Support Department
National REDD+ Secretariat

June 2019

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List of Acronyms

CSO	Civil Society Organization
DESS	Department of Environmental Support Services
ERP	Emissions Reduction Program
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations)
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FREL	Forest Reference Emission Level
FRL	Forest Reference Level
FSSD	Forestry Sector Support Department
GoU	Government of Uganda
IP	Indigenous Forest Dependent People
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
MoGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
NCCAC	National Climate Change Advisory Committee
NGO	Non - Governmental Organization
NFA	National Forestry Authority
NFP	National Focal Point (of REDD+ Process)
NTC	National Technical Committee
PC	Participants Committee (of FCPF)
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SIS	Safeguards Information System
TAP	Technical Advisory Panel (of UNFCCC)

1. INTRODUCTION

Uganda is grateful to the positive assessment of Uganda’s R-Package by the FCPF Participants Committee and forward looking comments from TAP.

This report presents Uganda’s responses to comments by TAP Review (12th September 2018) and FCPF Participants Committee meeting (11th October 2018) on 2018 R-package. The information presented combines clarifications and progress made towards addressing the Comments as at 30th June 2019.

The report is presented in two sections: Section ONE presents responses to comments provided by FCPF Participants Committee meeting while Section TWO presents responses to comments of an Independent TAP Review.

Uganda’s efforts to complete its REDD+ readiness with additional funding support from FCPF are ongoing and outstanding preparations are scheduled to be completed by 31st December 2019.

2. RESPONSES TO COMMENTS OF THE FCPF PARTICIPANTS COMMITTEE

Recommendations	Responses
<p>Address issues of land tenure, including in relationship to benefit sharing, and continue engaging with other bodies responsible for land resources</p>	<p>Uganda’s Benefit Sharing Arrangements (BSA) identify tenure of land and forests a critical issue underpinning future sharing of carbon benefits and recommends legal definition of carbon rights. Specifically, the BSA recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Integrating BSA into policy and legal frameworks: The BSA is new policy measure that will be incorporated into future or ongoing policy and legal reforms such as the National Environment Management Policy, National Environment Act, and Wildlife Act. With regards to the Wildlife Policy and Law, the BSA will be incorporated into the broader Revenue Sharing Mechanism benefitting communities adjacent to the wildlife protected areas. b. Defining carbon rights: There is urgent need to legally define carbon rights or carbon tenure for Uganda. Several policy and legal instruments clearly define resource rights in relation of land tenure systems. Land tenure and tree tenure and therefore, carbon they contain, are critical for achieving benefit sharing arrangements. About 70% of the forest, mostly woodland, is on private land and therefore, privately owned while 30% comprising of Central Forest Reserves and Local Forest Reserves (15%) and National Parks and Wildlife Reserves (15%) is held in trust by Government on behalf of all Ugandans. This implies that carbon in trees on public lands is held in trust by Government on behalf of Ugandans. Regarding Community Forests, Communities claim all land, tree and carbon tenure rights.

<p>Clarify carbon rights, considering legal as well as social issues and taking into account Uganda's experiences under VCS and CDM.</p>	<p>Uganda is embarking on revising the Forestry Policy (2001) with support from FCPF and FAO and the recommendation to put in place a legally binding definition of carbon rights will be addressed through this policy reform and thereafter in the Forests and Tree Planting Act (2003).</p>
<p>Strengthening coordination with other sectors and also inclusion of local governments and private sector in REDD+ processes, considering their importance to success of ER Programs</p>	<p><u>A: Current Institutional arrangements for REDD+</u></p> <p>A1: Coordination</p> <p><u>National Framework:</u> The REDD+ process is a national undertaking well positioned within the over-policy framework of Climate Change Policy and National Climate Change Action Plan. The Climate Change Action Plan recognizes REDD+ as a mitigation and adaptation measure.</p> <p>The National Climate Change Advisory Committee (NCCAC) which is statutory organ established to advise on climate change agenda serves as the Steering Committee for the REDD+ process. The NCCAC provides policy level guidance and coordination of REDD+ process within the climate change agenda as well as across the different sectoral and economic sector. Membership to the NCCAC is comprised of representatives of key government and non-government institutions with significant mandate over climate change issues or significant interest in issues of climate change and REDD+.</p> <p>Climate change and REDD+ processes are integral components of the Water and Environment Sector. The 2018-2027 Water and Environment Sector Investment Plan integrates REDD+ actions, funding and reporting arrangements.</p> <p>REDD+ processes is coordinated by the Ministry of Water and Environment through its Forest Sector Support Department which also serves as the REDD+ Secretariat.</p> <p>A2: Technical oversight to REDD+ process</p> <p>a. <u>Technical oversight:</u> A National Technical Committee (NTC) provides technical oversight and guidance to the REDD+ process. The membership to NTC is drawn from REDD+ stakeholders within and outside government institutions (at managerial or senior level) with significant mandate over climate change issues or significant interest in issues of climate change and REDD+ and holding technical expertise required to ensure that the technical aspects of the various components of R-PP implementation and the over-all REDD+ process are effectively addressed, including adherence to REDD+ principles, national policy and legal frameworks, World Bank and UNREDD safeguards, among other</p>

standards. The National Technical Committee reports to the Steering Committee on technical aspects.

- b. Technical Experts Support (Taskforces): Three taskforces namely: SESA/Safeguards Taskforce, Policy Task Force (*Policy, Legislation, Regulations*) Taskforce and Methodological Taskforce (*MRV*) serve as platforms for specialists or experts to provide input into REDD+ preparatory activities. Membership to the Taskforces is based on individual technical relevance to the business of the taskforce. Members are drawn from REDD+ stakeholder's institutions or independent specialists. Members of the Taskforce serve on individual basis.

A 3: Implementation arrangements for REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan

- a. Institutionalizing the Framework Strategy for implementing Uganda's REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan: The framework recognizes that REDD+ implementation is a multiyear undertaking with long-term commitments to programmes and investments at national and subnational levels, within and outside protected areas. It emphasizes:
- i. institutionalizing the REDD+ Strategy implementation into national institutions responsible for the respective options of tackling drivers and underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation.
 - ii. arrangements that integrating REDD+ actions into other conservation and land use policies and practices encompassing, agriculture, energy, livestock, rural development, among others.
 - iii. capacity and skills transfer to ensure sustainability of the REDD+ investments.
 - iv. measures for cost-effective implementation in order to realize optimal and equitable benefits from the REDD+ investments.
- b. De-alienating institutional mandates and obligations to implementing National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan: The Ministry of Water and Environment is designated (and continues to serve) as the lead institution for the overall implementation and coordination through its departments and agencies responsible for forestry, environment, climate and water.

The ministry collaborates with: i) Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) which manages forests in wildlife conservation areas; ii) Ministries responsible for Agriculture and livestock (Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries – MAAIF), Energy (Ministry of Energy and Minerals Development- MEMD) , Gender and Social Development (Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – MoGLSD), and Local Governments in

management of Local Forest Reserves and Forests outside protected areas as well as Sustainable fuel wood and commercial charcoal production and utilization.

The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development coordinates governments financing and resources mobilization (from within and outside the country) for REDD+ Strategy Implementation.

The National Planning Authority integrates REDD+ into the over-all national Development Plans, including the ongoing preparation of National Development Plan III (2021-2025).

- c. REDD+ data and information: The MWE collaborates with Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) for official forestry and land use data management as well as state and non-state research agencies.

B: Planned actions/ongoing

- a. Strengthening capacities, structures, processes and platforms for stakeholder engagement with the REDD+ process at national and subnational levels. There is ongoing Capacity building effort targeting Indigenous Forest Dependent People (IPs), mainstreaming Gender in REDD+ Strategy implementation, and, capacity building at various levels on REDD+ Strategies and action Plan.
- b. Developing and implementing Guidelines for mainstreaming REDD+ Strategy implementation into targeted sectors including wildlife, tourism, land, agriculture, energy, health, education, and, infrastructure development.
- c. Mobilizing financial and technical resources for REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan.
- i. Government of Uganda has maintained core budget support for REDD+ Strategy Implementation during the 2019/2020 financial year.
 - ii. Uganda is making good progress towards accessing GCF and World Bank funding to support implementation of REDD+ Strategy and Action.
- d. Uganda has embarked on designing two (2) Emission Reduction Programmes (ERPs) covering two landscapes that present great potential for Carbon abatement. The design of the ERPs is expected to be complete by June 2020. The ERPs aim to target FCFP and other Carbon funds.

<p>Completing the next steps for developing a functional National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)</p>	<p>The following activities for completing the design of NFMS are ongoing and expected to be completed by 31 December 2019.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Completion of geographically representative National Forest Inventory (NFI) with updated data in order to improve carbon measurements and other relevant information on forest use and forest cover b. Updating data series to produce activity data for 2017/2018 c. Improving forest reference level (i.e. estimation of emissions from forest degradation, inclusion of soil and litter pools and improved estimation of emissions due to fire). d. Strengthening institutional capacities and systems for institutionalizing NFMS/MRV, including carrying out a pilot to explore the potential role of communities in MRV.
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3. RESPONSES TO TAP COMMENTS

3.1 Responses to general TAP comments and recommendations

	Recommendations	Responses
<p>1.</p>	<p><u>General Recommendations:</u> <u>Par 45.</u></p> <p><i>On matters regarding the coordination of REDD+ at a national level and in the long-term, policy coordination across sectors that will affect the implementation and success of Uganda's REDD+ Programme and the FIP which is one of its key mechanisms, should be stated more explicitly than is currently the case.</i></p>	<p>Matters regarding the Coordination of REDD+ at national level and in the long-term, policy coordination across sectors have been addressed under sections 2 above (<i>recommendation from FCPF Participants Committee</i>).</p> <p>With regards to FIP, the following arrangements were entrenched in the FIP design:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Development Oversight by the Policy Committee on Environment (PCE) at the Cabinet level. b. Policy oversight and coordination by the NCCAC at the program steering level. c. Implementation by the Project Management Units (PMU) mainstreamed in the relevant coordinating departments, Agencies or ministries at the investment level. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. FIP implementation is led by three entities: (i) MWE (through NFA, FSSD and DWRM), (ii) UWA for investment in forested National Parks, and, (iii) DLGs for investment in local forest reserves and landscapes outside protected areas. ii. Implementing entities will collaborate with CSOs, private sector, research and academic institutions and other stakeholders.

		iii. FIP will be implement in form of landscape investments utilizing the Water Management Zone structures and processes.																																																			
2.	<p><u>General Recommendation: Par 46.</u> <i>In addition to what the self-assessment observed, inclusion of local governments and the private sector as partners in the implementation of the REDD+ Strategy is and worthwhile and should be supported by a clear objective-led action plan.</i></p>	<p>The REDD+ Strategy implementation emphasizes jurisdictional Emissions Reduction Programmes (ERPs) implemented at scale of Water Management Zones. The ongoing process of designing ERP will ensure that the role/participation of the Local Governments and Private Sector are prominent. It is envisaged that elements of capacity building will be included to prepare the local government and private sector for their intended active participation.</p> <p>The institutional arrangements for REDD+ Strategy implementation provide for the lead role of Local governments and participation of Private Sector in each Strategic options as indicated below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Strategy</th> <th>Activity</th> <th>Lead institutions</th> <th>Collaborating institutions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">SO 1. Climate smart agriculture</td> <td>SLM and agroforestry practices</td> <td>MAAIF, Districts. NARO, NAFFORI</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rainwater harvesting with collection tank and drip irrigation</td> <td>MAAIF Districts</td> <td>DWD CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables</td> <td>MAAIF Districts, NARO</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">SO 2. Sustainable fuel wood and (commercial) charcoal production</td> <td>Commercial small-holder and community bioenergy woodlots</td> <td>MEMD, Districts Private Land Owners</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commercial small-holder and community pole and timber plantations</td> <td>Districts Private Land Owners</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Improved charcoal kilns linked to bioenergy woodlots</td> <td>MEMD, Districts Private Sector</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">SO 3. Large-scale commercial timber plantations</td> <td>Commercial transmission pole and timber plantation</td> <td>Districts Private Land Owners</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commercial pole and saw log plantation</td> <td>NFA Private Land Owners Districts</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Improved charcoal kilns linked to plantation sites</td> <td>Private Sector</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">SO 4. Restoration of natural forests in the landscape:</td> <td>Designated areas for natural forest regeneration</td> <td>NFA, Districts UWA,</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protected natural forest management (i.e. national parks and forest reserves)</td> <td>NFA, Districts UWA,</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Devolution of forest management through Participatory Forest Management and similar set-ups</td> <td>NFA, Districts UWA,</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Traditional/customary forest management practices</td> <td>District Cultural Institutions, Community</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SO 5. Energy efficient</td> <td>For fuel wood</td> <td>MEMD, FSSD, Districts</td> <td>CSO/NGO</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Strategy	Activity	Lead institutions	Collaborating institutions	SO 1. Climate smart agriculture	SLM and agroforestry practices	MAAIF, Districts. NARO, NAFFORI	CSO/NGO	Rainwater harvesting with collection tank and drip irrigation	MAAIF Districts	DWD CSO/NGO	Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables	MAAIF Districts, NARO	CSO/NGO	SO 2. Sustainable fuel wood and (commercial) charcoal production	Commercial small-holder and community bioenergy woodlots	MEMD, Districts Private Land Owners	CSO/NGO	Commercial small-holder and community pole and timber plantations	Districts Private Land Owners	CSO/NGO	Improved charcoal kilns linked to bioenergy woodlots	MEMD, Districts Private Sector	CSO/NGO	SO 3. Large-scale commercial timber plantations	Commercial transmission pole and timber plantation	Districts Private Land Owners		Commercial pole and saw log plantation	NFA Private Land Owners Districts		Improved charcoal kilns linked to plantation sites	Private Sector		SO 4. Restoration of natural forests in the landscape:	Designated areas for natural forest regeneration	NFA, Districts UWA,	CSO/NGO	Protected natural forest management (i.e. national parks and forest reserves)	NFA, Districts UWA,	CSO/NGO	Devolution of forest management through Participatory Forest Management and similar set-ups	NFA, Districts UWA,	CSO/NGO	Traditional/customary forest management practices	District Cultural Institutions, Community	CSO/NGO	SO 5. Energy efficient	For fuel wood	MEMD, FSSD, Districts	CSO/NGO
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3.	<p><u>General Recommendation: Par 47.</u> <i>The economic feasibility of strategy options and their carbon abatement potentials could also be included in the R-Package.</i></p>	<p>a. The national level assessment of economic feasibility of strategy options and their carbon abatement potentials is ongoing and due to be completed by 31 July 2019. This action is being supported by FCPF – Additional Funding.</p> <p>b. Land scape level assessments of the economic feasibility of strategy options and their carbon abatement potentials is planned during the design of the two (2) ERPs to be ready by June 2020</p>																																			
4.	<p><u>General Recommendation: Par 48.</u> <i>While adding additional carbon pools to generate a further improved REL and RL, Uganda should critically assess the current methodologies for soil carbon assessment in order to overcome the technical challenges associated with that.</i></p>	<p>The assessment of soils Carbon pools is ongoing.</p> <p>Uganda is confident that the methodology being applied addresses the likely technical challenges and shortcomings.</p>																																			
5.	<p><u>General Recommendation Par 49.</u> <i>The development of a National Forest Monitoring System</i></p>	<p>Uganda’s NFMS will be completed by December 2019. It will entails recommended collaborative frameworks, protocols and processes for collecting and handling data and information with key stakeholders, notably, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Districts, NGOs, Uganda Bureau of Statics, among others</p>																																			

<p><i>(NFMS) will require a clear and agreed collaborative framework, protocols and processes for collecting and handling data and information. As mentioned in the R-Package more institutions will need to be brought on board to support FSSD.</i></p>	
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3.2 Responses to specific TAP comments

No	Comment/Observation	Response
1.	<p><i>Par. 12. The self- assessment report provides a clear picture of stakeholder participation, presents and discusses shortcomings and concludes with a first set actions listed as 'next steps'. While the list can be made more elaborate to reflect what is in the main body of the R-package more accurately, it is clear and relevant.</i></p>	<p>The following are the details on the next steps.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalize a clearly-prioritized REDD+ strategy and initiate design of at least two jurisdictional ER programs with strong engagement from local government, private sector and IPs and through consolidation of actors in the landscapes around the identified REDD+ Strategic options. This is an ongoing activity being implemented under the FCPF additional funding, due to be completed by December 2019. <p>The following specific actions are being implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engaging REDD+ Secretariat to identify issues/gaps that will later be incorporated during the revision of Uganda REDD+ Strategy. b. Engaging REDD+ Secretariat to identify issues and requirements for rolling out REDD+ countrywide, including implementation arrangements and engaging with the DWRM of the MWE to flesh out adequate implementation arrangements at the WMZ level. c. Preparing a concise version of the National REDD+ Strategy, including an implementation strategy, plan and budget and subjecting the draft document to

		<p>validation by the National Technical Committee for REDD+.</p> <p>d. Finalizing the concise version of the National REDD+ Strategy document.</p> <p>2. Update the FREL through finalizing and updating the description of national reference level, updating the data series, data collection and analysis, and strengthening national capacities for MRV system.</p> <p><i>The specific actions being undertaken are:</i></p> <p>a. <i>Improving estimations of emissions from forest degradation... using RADAR technology,</i></p> <p>b. <i>Implementing the 2018 National Forest Inventory to update forest inventory and quantifying biomass and stock estimates for trees outside "forests" Also, includes updating the database of inventory data and training the National Forestry Authority (NFA) and the Uganda Wildlife Authority staff (and others) in forest inventory and data analysis. Inventory work is being carried out at the national level but with a particular focus on the landscapes / areas proposed for the ER-Programs.</i></p> <p>c. <i>Institutionalize the MRV system and its deployment at regional/zonal level – as per the approved design.</i></p> <p>d. <i>Piloting community-led monitoring and integrating community-based data into national MRV systems. This includes ground truthing of forest inventory land cover changes, exploring existing community monitoring practices in Uganda, and how these could be beneficial in support of forest co-management, monitoring, benefit sharing and the design of landscape programs.</i></p> <p>3. Establish a fully functional NFMS. The specific actions being undertaken are:</p> <p>Forest inventory process focused on areas previously not covered, preparing 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</p>
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		<p>relevant information on the same server. Institutional NFMS roles and responsibilities are being defined.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Establish a SIS to operationalize the ESMF and to comply with Cancun and Warsaw agreements under UNFCCC. 5. Integrate REDD+ activities in mandates of GoU institutions, job descriptions of staff assigned REDD+ work and in other economic sectors such as agriculture, energy, wildlife, roads and infrastructure development, etc.
6.	<p><i>Par.17. The bullets below represent the areas under each of the five components where Uganda would like to do more work. However, the actions under 'next steps' do not have a time frame attached to each.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing actions to address all outstanding activities and processes are scheduled for completion by December 2019. These are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. NFMS b. SIS <p>In addition, ongoing actions to updated/improve the REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Frameworks (SESA and ESMF, BSA and FGRM) are scheduled for completion by August 2019</p>
7.	<p>Under Par 17: <u>National and Provincial REDD+ Management Arrangements:</u></p> <p><i>Capacitation plan for the Forest Sector Support Department within the Ministry of Water and Environment was needed.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The FSSD is funded according to government budget process. The FSSD request for allocation of additional resources to recruit more personnel and equip the department with facilities is under consideration within the MWE. b. Since September 2018, FSSD has posted 4 of its personnel to operate from each of the four Water Management Zone office with the objective to strengthen the integration of Forestry into catchment management processes.
8.	<p>Under Par 17: <u>National and Provincial REDD+ Management Arrangements:</u></p> <p><i>information sharing needed to be considered a continuous process, since it had been constrained by fact that there are diverse stakeholders, which would require the 'packaging' of information into appropriate formats and in many local languages, recognizing the fact that some</i></p>	<p>During the 2018-2019:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan document and implementation roadmap is being revised and concise documents is expected by July 2019. It is intended to render revised REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan document and implementation roadmap user friendly and reference for better communication messages and materials. b. In March 2019 Uganda launched the National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan, FGRM and BSA at a National level event of commemorating the World

	<i>stakeholders have no access to e-communication facilities.</i>	<p>Forest Day. Publicity and other communication materials on REDD+ and the implementation frameworks were widely distributed and uploaded on MWE website (<i>www.mwe.org</i>)</p> <p>c. Uganda intends to address the communication challenge through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Translating messages on different segments of the REDD+ Strategy into four key languages (Runyakitara/Luganda/Luo/Lugbara) that widely spoken and understood nationwide. ii. Increase the production and dissemination of the REDD+ messages/publicity materials. iii. Unpack and disseminate the REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan into separate communication packages (one package for each Strategy Options and their implementation strategy/plan).
9.	<p>Under Par 17: <u>National and Provincial REDD+ Management Arrangements:</u></p> <p><i>need to streamline feedback mechanisms between the National REDD+ Secretariat and the participatory structures, as well as between the structures and the different stakeholders they represent</i></p>	<p>The following actions are ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Realign the FGRM to the updated/revised REDD+ Strategy b. Realign the FGRM to integrate the NFIMS and SIS <p>Plan for operationalizing the FGRM Unit is still under review by government/MWE.</p>
10.	<p>Conclusion under par 17: <u>REDD+ strategy and interventions</u></p> <p><i>need to build capacity (human/skills and financial resources) to ensure continuous assessment of drivers of deforestation and forest degradations, so that mitigation actions would keep up with the dynamic nature of some drivers.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Human capacities are being addressed under the ongoing work; i) completion the FREL; ii) complete NFMS; iii) Design SIS. The ingredients of this effort include: skilling personnel within the lead institutions, joint ventures/collaboration efforts between NFA and academic institutions/research institutions. b. Though not documented, there on going human skills development and training by various NGOs and research/academic institutions. c. Under the ongoing FREL work, additional facilities in terms of software's and field equipment's have been procured and installed, while training of handlers in the use and maintenance of these software's and equipment's is ongoing.
11.	<p>Conclusion under par 17: <u>REDD+ strategy and interventions</u></p> <p><i>actions to influence or integrate development strategies, priorities and</i></p>	<p>The following action are ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Working with the National Planning Authority to integrate REDD+ strategic interventions and performance indicators for National Development

	<p><i>plans for key sectors such as infrastructure development (roads, rail), agriculture (livestock development, commercial agriculture) and refugee policies, would be critical to achieving emission reductions. <u>This is an issue in which virtually all FCPF countries have had to contend with.</u></i></p>	<p>Plan III. An issues paper on REDD+ has been presented for formal consideration.</p> <p>b. Updating REDD+ M&E Framework to integrate indicators in the Sector Investment Plans and annual work plans and budgets of key /targeted sectors.</p> <p>In addition, it planned to integrate REDD+ into the targeted sectors during the ongoing design of the ER Programmes for Albertine and Mt. Elgon Regions.</p>
12.	<p><u>Conclusion under par 17: REDD+ strategy and interventions</u></p> <p><i>While there was a conclusion that on the over-all, the policy and legal environments are conducive for REDD+, later in the document policy coordination between forestry and other sectors was identified as weak and presumably because of 'barriers' that would require comprehensive strategies and actions to overcome. These seemingly contradictory observations require some clarification.</i></p>	<p>Government/ MWE (with budget support from FCPF-AF and FAO) has embarked on a review of the National Forestry Policy and revision of the National Forest Plan. Through these processes, the identified issues will be addressed at policy level.</p>
13.	<p><u>Under par 17: Implementation Framework</u></p> <p><i>Whilst these frameworks have been developed and ready for application, the lack to date, of legal definition of rights to carbon or carbon tenure is considered a significant gap that needs to be addressed to facilitate and incentivize implementation</i></p>	<p>The ongoing Forestry Policy review will address the definition of carbon rights and carbon tenure.</p>
14.	<p><u>Under par 17: Implementation Framework</u></p> <p><i>need for settling historical injustices such as evictions of forest-dependent indigenous people evicted from forest reserves in early 1990's when these forest reserves were made national Parks.</i></p>	<p>Uganda is preparing a Resettlement Policy Framework and Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework to be complete in July 2019. Through these frameworks, the issue of historical injustices will be addressed.</p>

15.	<p><u>Under par 17: Implementation Framework</u></p> <p><i>While respondents on the self-assessment acknowledge and appreciate the presence of an Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF), it has yet to be tested so that its value has yet to be fully appreciated</i></p>	<p>The SESA and ESMF are undergoing review to reflect the improvements in the REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan, Resettlement Policy Framework and Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework and Safeguards Information System.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the application of ESMP will be relevant during the implementation of ERPs whose design is ongoing.</p>
16.	<p><u>Under par 17: Reference Emission Level and Monitoring Systems</u></p> <p><i>While significant progress has been made on Reference Emission Levels (REL) and Reference Levels (RL) a few areas for improvement have been identified. These include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Use of high satellite imagery to improve the collection and updating of activity data</i> <i>• Inclusion of additional carbon pools – soil carbon, litter, dead wood and gases</i> <i>• Updating the data series, data collection and analysis, strengthening national capacities for MRV system</i> <i>• Piloting community-led forest monitoring with a gender-responsive approach</i> 	<p>The identified areas for improvements are being addressed under the ongoing activities (due to completion by December 2019):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Updating/completing FREL b. Institutionalizing NFMS c. Piloting community led Monitoring and gender responsive approach d. Strengthening capacity of IPs for engaging in REDD+/ERPs e. Mainstreaming gender REDD+ Strategy implementation
17.	<p><u>19. The institutional arrangements</u></p> <p><i>some changes may be necessary if for example, the private sector and local government are substantively included in specific jurisdictions within the country.</i></p>	<p>The foreseen changes/improvements will be addressed during the design of the ERPs during 2019.</p>
18.	<p><u>Par 20... coordination</u></p> <p><i>A comprehensive strategy to effect functional co-ordination with a low-emissions policy framework is needed and sectors such as; as agriculture, mining, energy transport infra-</i></p>	<p>Same as Under #11:</p>

	<i>structure and others are important in that regard.</i>	
19.	<u>par 23: technical supervision capacity</u> <i>A clear time bound capacity building plan is therefore required.</i>	Capacity strengthening is an ongoing and continuous activity with no deadline, reflecting the staff/personally changes within leas institution
20.	<u>Par 24: draft Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM)</u> <i>testing FGRM as the self-assessment process has also recommended.</i>	Same as under #9:
21.	<u>Par 25: Stakeholder engagement</u> <i>engagement action plan is required since in Uganda the Private Sector is strong in sectors such as ecotourism, infrastructure, commercial agriculture and forestry, oil and gas, etc. In addition local governments are crucial to political ownership of programme, implementation, monitoring and others</i>	Same as under #1
22.	<u>Par 26: public disclosure of consultations outcome</u> <i>how stakeholder concerns were used to design or review policy documents, programme documents and even laws, have not been provided but would have been useful</i>	The feedback loop has been recognized and is being applied during the implementation of the following actions in 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Updating REDD+ Strategy and implementation frameworks b. Updating/completing FREL c. Institutionalizing NFMS d. Piloting community led Monitoring and gender responsive approach e. Strengthening capacity of IPs for engaging in REDD+/ERPs f. Mainstreaming Gender REDD+ Strategy implementation
23.	<u>Par 27: Assessment Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</u> <i>need to build capacity (human/skills and financial resources) to ensure continuous assessment of drivers of deforestation and forest</i>	Same as under #10:

	<p><i>degradations, so that mitigation actions would keep up with the dynamic nature of some drivers</i></p>	
24.	<p><u>par 29...assessment of policy and legal implications</u></p> <p><i>policy and legal implications of the proposed strategy options were done but no summary on what those are, or a few examples, are not provided in the R-Package.</i></p>	<p>a. The following analysis was undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Enforce existing laws.</i> the SESA finds that the relevant laws of Uganda are good for the intended purposes, but they are not fully enforced or implemented, as needed. (Strategy 8) • <i>Land tenure:</i> the problems of land ownership and shared utilisation rights should be solved to avoid conflicts and so that the user(s) of a piece of land can be certain that the returns from an investment in the land (e.g. land productivity or a forest plantation) comes back to the user. (Strategies 4 and 7) • <i>Governance:</i> all plans for implementation of the REDD+ Strategies need to have action plans for transparency, accountability and anti-corruption. An anti-corruption plan should be a compulsory component of all REDD+ plans. (Strategy 8) • <i>Integrate with poverty reduction.</i> poverty reduction should be included in REDD+ objectives, apart from other objectives such as productivity and carbon capture. (Strategies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7) • <i>CFM agreements not fully operationalized</i> and slow long bureaucratic process of registering CFMs. Administrative measures within NFA and stronger instructions to the field organisation are recommended to improve performance. (Strategy 4) • <i>Boundaries of protected areas</i> should be clearly and permanently marked in the terrain, early on in the implementation programme. (Strategy 4) • <i>Private owners of natural forests</i> need incentives for maintaining their forests. (Strategies 2 and 3) • <i>Politicians' unduly interference.</i> there are many examples of politicians' disrespect of Ugandan laws, in particular land and forestry laws and in time of elections. This risk of interference needs to be eliminated or mitigated. (Strategy 8) • <i>Benefit sharing arrangements</i> must be very clear and well understood in advance by all affected by REDD+ programme implementation. (Strategy 8 and section Implementation Arrangements and Financing) • <i>Gender aspects and human rights issues</i> should be addressed in plans for Strategy implementation. (Across all Strategies) • <i>Clear roles and responsibilities</i> should be defined and well understood for all implementing units. (Section in implementation arrangements plus across all Strategies) • <i>Capacities</i> should be built on all levels and for all stakeholder categories, including capacity development and training in environmental and social issues, integrating gender, culture and other social inclusion issues, and capacities to manage a robust MRV system and a safeguards information system. (Section on

		<p>Implementation arrangements, financing and respective strategies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resettlements and compensation:</i> There is also a need to settle the issue of <i>compensation to forest-dependent people earlier evicted</i> from protected areas • <i>Budget allocation</i> to lower levels of the Government must be significantly (actually several times) increased, not least to the forestry sector. (Section on financing and institutional arrangements) • Ensure that forestry activities also <i>contribute to food security and nutrition</i>. (Strategies 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7) <p>b. Further analysis is being undertaken during the Forest Policy Review</p>
25.	<p><u>par 30...strategy option</u> <i>undertaking economic analyses of the options.</i></p>	a. Same as Under # 3 (Section 3.1)
26.	<p><u>Par 31: assessment of policy and legal implications</u> <i>The policy implications of a REDD+ Strategy and its options at a national level needs to be stated more clearly, so that areas that need review are clearly spelt out.</i></p>	a. Same as Under #24
27.	<p><u>Par 31: assessment of policy and legal implications</u> <i>legal definition of Carbon Rights has not been done.</i></p>	Same as under # 13
28.	<p><u>Par 33: BSA</u> <i>Not tested and then reviewed accordingly in line with policies, laws and stakeholder interests</i></p>	Same as under # 6
29.	<p><u>Par 34: REDD+ Registry</u> <i>need for a REDD+ registry has been recognized as a gap. It now needs a time-bound road map to establish a geo-referenced National Registry as Uganda has put it.</i></p>	The REDD+ Registry will be developed by December 2019 under ongoing tasks of designing the NFMS

30.	<p><u>Par 42: Social and environmental safeguards</u></p> <p><i>Uganda has not shared any experiences on the applicability of social and environmental safeguards. This may be because the REDD+ Strategy is a first at the national level. However, some experiences from existing Voluntary Carbon Projects could yield useful information on safeguard issues.</i></p>	<p>Uganda benefits from experiences from elsewhere and will maintain interest to learn and share with these experiences.</p>
31.	<p><u>Par 43...Institutional arrangements for NFMS</u></p> <p><i>need to agree on the necessary modalities for multi-institutional collaboration.</i></p>	<p>Same as #5 (section 3.1)</p>