



## REDD+ Country Participant Completion Report Template for the Readiness Fund of the FCPF

### About this template

The Grant Agreements for the Readiness Fund of the FCPF with the World Bank require the grant recipients to prepare and furnish to the World Bank a Completion Report in accordance with the provision of Section 2.06(b) (ii) of the Standard Conditions not later than six (6) months after the Closing Date of the grant. The REDD+ Country Participants who entered into a Grant Agreement with the World Bank should prepare the Completion Report using this template, and submit it to the World Bank Task Teams not later than six (6) months after the Closing Date of the grant.

### Submission Date:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Nigeria Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD Readiness</b>
<b>Country</b>	Nigeria
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	Federal Ministry of Environment
<b>Grant Objectives</b>	Project Development Objective for the Readiness Preparedness Support is to support Nigeria design a socially and environmentally sound strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
<b>Original Amount (US\$)</b>	8,740,000.00
<b>Revised Amount (US\$)</b>	8,740,000.00
<b>Actual Disbursed (US\$)</b>	8,739,875.87
<b>Effectiveness Date</b>	25/02/2015
<b>Original Closing Date</b>	31/12/2021
<b>Actual Closing Date</b>	30/06/2022

## 1. Overall Outcome and its Sustainability

*This section provides overall accomplishment of the objectives of the Grant and a plan designed to ensure the sustainability of the Project's achievements.*

Project Development Objective for the Readiness Preparedness Support is to support Nigeria design a socially and environmentally sound strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and potentially participate in future forest carbon market and REDD+ carbon payment transactions.

The Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) aims to assist Nigeria to prepare itself for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), and become 'ready' for the implementation of an international mechanism for REDD.

The components under which the activities were implemented are as follows:

Component 1. Strengthen National and State Level Readiness Management Arrangements

Component 2. Develop REDD+ Strategies and Conduct SESA

Component 3. Reference Emissions Level – REL

Component 4. Enhance Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, Consultation and Feedback for REDD+

## Readiness Process.

The FCPF grant has enabled Nigeria to scale-up REDD+ Readiness activities to the national level, while enabling a more in-depth engagement in two additional states: Nasarawa and Ondo. The Additional Financing (AF) supports the following key activities:

- (i) support wider National/subnational REDD+ Readiness Management Arrangements to four (4) additional States: Ogun, Edo, Plateau and Kaduna;
- (ii) reinforce the capacities and ensure the operation of the national-level and state-level REDD+ management bodies to provide political and technical guidance to the development of the REDD+ Strategy;
- (iii) reinforce the capacities and organization of the main stakeholders for a more effective participation in the development and implementation of the REDD+ Strategy;
- (iv) finalize the REDD+ Strategy with a detailed action plan and implementation budget;
- (v) strengthen national policies to support REDD+ implementation;
- (vi) establish a Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for REDD+;
- (vii) support enabling activities for the REDD+ investment program in Cross-River State under development;
- (viii) prepare Nigeria to access available national and international funding for REDD+ investments

Overall achievements of the FCPF grant include:

- Platforms for multi-actor dialogue and coordination as well as national and sub-national management mechanisms have been built and are in use.
  - At national level, the Programme Steering Committee (PSC), the National Technical Committee (NTC) and the National REDD+ Secretariat (NRS) have been established and are operational.
  - National Council on REDD+ (NCR) has been established as the highest-level decision-making body on REDD+ issues, though not yet operational.
  - At subnational level, REDD+ Secretariats have been established and fully equipped in Cross-River, Nasarawa, Ondo, Edo, Ogun, Plateau and Kaduna States.
  - REDD+ Readiness Package (R-Package) has been developed and approved by the governing body of the Participants Assembly (PA15) and Participants Committee (PC31).
  - National REDD+ Strategy has been launched by the Federal Government of Nigeria.
  - Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) as well as the associated safeguard instruments (Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), and Process Framework (PF)) have been developed.
  - Safeguards Information System (SIS) and Multiple Benefits analysis and mapping has been concluded.
  - Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) has been developed and submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
  - The country has developed and operationalized the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)
  - The capacity of the Technical Working Group (TWG) in Forest Monitoring System has been adequately built.
  - National Forest Inventories are regularly conducted to update the FREL.
  - South-South Knowledge Exchanges (SSKE) with REDD+ Countries and REDD+ communities were organized
  - Supported livelihood enhancement through capacity building for forest dependent communities.
  - Audio/Visual documentary of REDD+ activities from inception.
- All the achievements are highly sustainable and beneficial to the country.

## 2. Outcome of each Readiness Grant Activity

*This section outlines assessment of achievement of each Activity indicated in the Grant Agreement.*

## **Component 1: Strengthen National and State Level Readiness Management Arrangements**

There has been a remarkable improvement in the institutional frameworks, synergy transparency, cross-sectoral coordination, technical supervision, staffing, and financial management. National REDD+ Management Arrangements are in place, and they are effective. Enhancing collaboration and synergy with other relevant Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) is necessary. Additional private sector participation and investment are also required. To achieve successful implementation in the next phases, FGRM and SIS framework systems must be demonstrated.

## **Component 2: Develop REDD+ Strategies and Conduct the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)**

**Strategy:** The National REDD+ Strategy document evolved from the analytical results obtained through a participatory and inclusive process, which used SESA. The National REDD+ Strategy was completed and launched in 2021. The primary national development objectives and policies are well linked with Nigeria's REDD+ agenda. As a result of the close linkage between the REDD+ Strategy and Nigeria's NDC, the REDD+ FREL was used to report to UNFCCC for AFOLU sector and BUR's, it also explains Emissions Reduction strategies featuring climate smart agricultural practices.

**SESA:** The ESMF was developed after a detailed procedure was utilized to identify potential effects and environmental risks related to REDD+ related activities. The ESMF offers recommendations for reducing any negative impacts of REDD+ implementation along with the appropriate monitoring indicators. The ESMF developed through the SESA process was modified for use in future transactions involving emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for the development of safeguards instruments. The investment phase interventions are crucial for Nigeria because they will help the country reach its NDC targets for national emission reductions, both conditionally and unconditionally, while also boosting the trust of the forest dependent communities and other private sector.

## **Component 3: Develop the Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL)**

Nigeria has its emission base line or reference level which was established based on accuracy assessment and change detection mainly to address deforestation. It is expected that Nigeria by the year 2023 will upgrade its FREL including other REDD+ activities to capture the country's effort on afforestation and restoration.

**National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS):** A robust National Forest Monitoring System developed for Nigeria to track changes on REDD+ activities in the country during REDD+ investments. The NFMS was in line with the latest international guidance and meets IPCC/UNFCCC standards will be able to measure deforestation, degradation and enhancement of carbon stocks. Clear roles and responsibilities have been agreed regarding the operationalization of the NFMS. Standard operating procedures were developed. The NFMS demonstration and testing for the first monitoring is the next target for Nigeria to have her NFMS operational.

## **Component 4: Enhanced Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, Consultation and Feedback for REDD+ Readiness Process**

**Information System for Multiple Benefits, Forest Governance, and Safeguards:** At the local and subnational level, inclusive forest governance structures were developed through the review of existing policies, laws and regulations that are relevant to the application of Nigeria's safeguards principles and criteria, and identification of further processes that are needed to establish new policies and laws for safeguards which results to a robust forest management feedback at the national level. The forest governance structures were the country's approach to safeguards, in compliance with the UNFCCC and

World Bank safeguard requirements for REDD+. The Safeguard Information structures developed will run along with NFMS.

### 3. Lessons Learned

*This section briefly presents the most significant positive and negative lessons learned from the operation's experience.*

During the readiness activities, several lessons were learnt, which include the following:

- Stakeholders and multi- sectoral engagements and synergy throughout the REDD+ readiness process was critical and important
- Participation by the Nigeria's States and National Assembly Parliamentarians and other Government organs gave the REDD+ readiness a national visibility and in-road to political buy-in.
- The need for special intervention to provide livelihood support to the forest dependent communities so as to stop reversal and maintain attitudinal change towards proper sustainable forest management was topmost in the pursue of next step.
- Private sector participation and engagement in sustainable forest management issues in the country need to be more visible
- Harmonization of varied government policies and laws on forest and climate change issues was identify as panacea to sustainable management of project and programmes.
- Knowledge management and communication of carbon credit issues and the multiple benefits of REDD+ programme need to be communicated appropriately and regularly to all Stakeholders operating within the forest landscape.
- The emergence of voluntary carbon market, requires the National government to put in place a robust framework to guide and regulate the REDD+ carbon credit market so as to open up jurisdictional REDD+ project in Nigeria.
- Capacity enhancement of the national and subnational PIU and stakeholders including forest community leaders, farmers, and the private sectors on REDD+ implementation, enabled the success stories recorded during the REDD+ readiness phase and the sustenance of this will be key to delivering on REDD+ programme in the next phase.
- Non-carbon component of REDD+ need to be revisited for improvement of socio-economic impartation of forest dependent communities as well as sustainable forest management gains.

### 4. Project Cost by Readiness Grant Activity

Activities	Amount at Approval (US\$)	Actual at Project Closing (US\$)	Percentage of Approval
Activity 1: Strengthen National and State Level Readiness Management Arrangements	2,825	2,825	100
Activity 2: Develop REDD+ Strategies and Conduct SESA	1,757	1,757	100
Activity 3: Reference Emissions Level – REL	1,980	1,980	100
Activity 4: Enhance Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, Consultation and Feedback for REDD+	2,028	2,028	100