

## Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

### Summary of Proposed FY12 Budget Activity: Reference Levels

June 14, 2011

**Background:** The COP16 REDD-plus decision, in Annex II, requests developing country Parties to develop: “(b) A national forest reference emissions level and/or forest reference level, or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational forest reference emissions levels and/or forest reference levels...” (collectively referred to here as reference levels (RL)). The decision also requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to develop a work program to develop modalities related to paragraph 71 (b), including on RLs, for consideration by the COP at its 17<sup>th</sup> session in Durban, South Africa, in November 2011.

**Scope of Work:** This activity is designed to learn what countries in FCPF are planning to do regarding RLs in the near term, until additional guidance is available from the COP process, and to assist them to continue their early work building capacity for eventual work on RLs. About 25 countries have written R-PPs that summarize their current efforts, and propose additional activities to advance their capacity to do RL work. They propose to assess data availability, explore options and methods for producing a RL, to learn how to operationalize IPCC Good Practice Guidance methods for the REDD-plus context, and to begin to build technical and institutional capacity for RL work.

This budget activity supports FMT staff time to oversee work funded by other non-FCPF sources that will support country RL work by several activities:

- **Review the roughly 25 country Readiness Preparation Proposals (R-PPs) submitted to FCPF thus far:** This work would summarize how they propose to approach the R-PP component 3 on RL setting. It would summarize: data available or sought, methods being considered, comments regarding any national and subnational linkages, current capacity and required capacity, issues identified. It could identify: what trends are evident in RL approaches; what capacity that is needed; and how enhancement of RL capacity might efficiently be provided via technical assistance, methods development, training, etc
- **Discuss country proposed R-PP component 3 RL activities in more detail with 3-5 countries:** This would help the FMT to assess how best to assist countries to enhance their ability to carry out their early plans for developing an RL. This work largely would be conducted remotely via a review of their R-PP, conference calls or virtual interactions with country technical staff to learn their needs, views, barriers, other related work, etc. Site visits may be possible to one or more countries. Countries interested in cooperating in this activity would be identified by the FCPF FMT and could include: 1-2 large countries with significant experience or capacity for undertaking RL work, and 2-3 countries with less capacity to date that are beginning work on RLs. These countries would attend the proposed sharing workshop below.
- **Organize and hold a focused technical workshop at the World Bank in Washington, DC or another location:** This sharing event would present the results of the assessment above, share country experience and needs, and assess potential next steps in providing technical assistance

to FCPF countries on RL development. Potential next steps could include further analysis, South-South tech exchange of experience to date or case studies; a summary document of experience to date, etc. The workshop could bring together one or more relevant experts and government officials from each of the 3-5 countries above; roughly a half-dozen technical experts in aspects of RL work; civil society experts or RL practitioners; and FMT staff. (Travel and per diem costs for roughly 15 country and 5 expert participants would be provided by other, non-FCPF sources.)

**Timeframe:** The assessment of FCPF country R-PPs would begin in July-August, 2011. The workshop would be held in late 2011, date to be decided. A summary report on the workshop would be produced and shared by late 2011 or early 2012. Follow up tech assistance could be provided in late 2011 to mid-2012, depending on what needs are identified and if funding is available from other sources.

**Budget request for FY12:** \$55,000 for FMT support to this activity.

This request would leverage substantial co-funding of about \$150,000, provided from GEF grant funds to the FMT, for analysis, workshop and travel costs, etc. via consultants. However, this cofinancing is contingent on FCPF budget being made available for FMT staff time to manage this work.