
**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE R-PP
IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT PROJECT (RSP) (WB Grant No. TF014956; Project
ID: P124296), AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND THE UNITED
NATIONS REDD+ NATIONAL PROGRAMME (UN-REDD NP)**

REFERENCE NO: MWE/...../...../.....

Mid-Term Review of the R-PP Implementation Support Project

1.0 Introduction

Uganda became a Participant of FCPF in 2008 and in 2009 received a first US\$200,000 Grant through the World Bank to prepare a REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). Uganda embarked on R-PP preparation phase in March 2010 which was approved during the ninth Participants' Committee meeting in Oslo in June, 2011 with comments. Uganda submitted an acceptable and updated R-PP in May 2012 after which a second US\$3,634,000 Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement was signed on July 10, 2013 between the Government of Uganda (GoU) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD/World Bank). Additional support has been received from the Grant Agreement with Austrian Development Agency (ADA – US\$ 870,000) and UN-REDD Targeted Support (US\$ 75,000) and GoU contribution (US\$ 472,000 in kind).

Uganda was furthermore retained by the UN-REDD Policy Board as priority country from Africa, and requested to express interest in National Programme (NP) support, to which Uganda responded favourably. Uganda's UN-REDD NP was approved by the UN-REDD Programme 13th Policy Board in November 2014 in Arusha, Tanzania (US\$ 1,798,670 until January 2017).

As per Section 6.3(b) of the FCPF Charter and Resolution PC/7/2010/3, during implementation of a Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, a REDD Country Participant must submit a mid-term progress report to the FCPF Participants' Committee. A UN-REDD mid-term review also planned under Uganda's UN-REDD NP, to be carried out by an independent reviewer to assess achievements and lessons and to make recommendations for remedial actions. In this regard it has been decided that a joint mid-term review will be undertaken. Uganda intends to submit its mid-term progress report to the 21st FCPF Participants' Committee in February 2016, and to the first up-coming UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting in 2016.

It is important to note that the Austrian contribution is provided as part of the Joint Water and Environment Sector Support Programme (JWESSP). The funds are managed under the SWAP basket fund arrangement (Joint Programme Fund – JPF). A mid-term evaluation of the JWESSP will take place in the first half of 2016. It is planned that the TORs for the JWESSP mid-term evaluation will consider the TORs and findings as available of this joint review.

2.0 R-PP Implementation Support Project (RSP) objectives

The over-all development objective for the RSP is to contribute to the design of a socially and environmentally viable national strategy for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation as compared to a reference level. The RSP has five components elaborated hereunder.

Component 1: Coordination and Monitoring of REDD+ Readiness Process

Strengthening coordination and management of the REDD+ process at the national level, through:

- 1.1 Implementing the National Readiness Management Arrangement Activities including strengthening the capacities of all relevant institutions through the provision of technical advisory services, goods, works, workshops and training and operating costs.
- 1.2 Designing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation framework for overall reporting on the progress of implementation of REDD+ readiness activities, including, among others, the carrying out of an independent assessment of progress at mid-term and at the end of the activities financed by the Grant.

Component 2: Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process

Strengthening stakeholder engagement with a view to informing REDD+ readiness, through:

- 2.1 Strengthening participatory structures at the local and national level, with a view to enhancing stakeholder engagement in REDD+, including, among others, community based forest associations, religious institutions, women and youth associations and national association of tree growers, all through provision of technical advisory services, goods, workshops and training and operating costs.
- 2.2 Developing and disseminating communication materials and tools pertaining to the Readiness Preparation Activities, including, among others, creation of a national REDD+ website to be hosted by the Ministry of Water and Environment, use of public media such as TV and radio, development of policy briefs, newsletters, and brochures in local languages, and the use of pictorials, and other social networks at the local levels.
- 2.3 Strengthening national feedback and grievance redress mechanisms for REDD+ including, among others, a comprehensive review of the capacities of relevant institutions and customary mechanisms for handling grievances.

Component 3: REDD+ Strategy and Strategic Environmental and Social and Assessment

- 3.1 Carrying out of a comprehensive strategic environmental and social and assessment (“SESA”) with a view to evaluating, inter alia: (a) REDD+ strategy, in particular, how said strategy addresses environmental and social priorities associated with current patterns of land use and forest management, to identify gaps and make recommendations for improvement; and (b) environmental and social impacts of implementing REDD+ activities under the REDD+ strategy (to be developed under this Part) and preparing an appropriate environmental and social management framework, through provision of technical advisory services, goods, workshops and training and operating costs for that purpose.
- 3.2 Developing an appropriate REDD+ strategy (said strategy informed by SESA considerations pursuant to Part 3.1 immediately above).

Component 4: REDD+ Implementation Framework

Designing REDD+ implementation framework, in particular:

- 4.1 Carrying out of a comprehensive review and assessment of existing benefit sharing arrangements in country and within the region for use under REDD+ , including, analyses of carbon rights, and making appropriate recommendations for improving said benefit sharing arrangements.
- 4.2 Preparation of national guidelines and standards (including, eligibility criteria) for design and implementation of REDD+ demonstration activities or pilots drawing upon national and regional experience.
- 4.3 Carrying out of a comprehensive review of on-going REDD+ efforts and demonstration activities or pilots.

Component 5: National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

Establishment of a reference scenario for emissions from deforestation and/or forest degradation by designing an appropriate methodology, reviewing national circumstances, preparing an inventory of forests, mapping forest cover, spatial modelling, calculating carbon emissions and establishing the reference level, all through the provision of technical advisory services, goods, workshops and training, and operating costs.

3.0 Austrian Development Corporation outcomes

The ADC support will contribute to the Natural Resources Management component under the Joint Water and Environment Sector Support Programme (JWESSP) by establishing a robust national system for monitoring and reporting of all REDD+ activities. By the end of the Project, Uganda will have a functional: a) national forest monitoring system for monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities (including but not limited to emissions and removals of greenhouse gases due to avoided deforestation and forest degradation, conservation and sustainable management of forests, enhancement of forest carbon stocks and b) national system of monitoring and providing information on how multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and actual safeguards are being addressed and respected during the implementation of REDD+ activities. Specifically, the project component will deliver the following results:

- a. **Project Result 1:** A national and subnational robust forest monitoring system appropriate for monitoring and reporting on REDD+ actions in Uganda designed and consulted upon and deployed.
- b. **Project Result 2:** Information and data requirements (including but not limited to activity data, emission factors, and for greenhouse gas (GHG)), identified and collected through a combination of expanded remote sensing and inventory.
- c. **Project Result 3:** A national and subnational system of monitoring and providing information on how multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and actual safeguards are being addressed and respected during the implementation of REDD+ activities in Uganda designed, consulted upon and deployed.
- d. **Project Result 4:** Spatially based biodiversity and ecosystem-based multiple benefits of REDD+; including land-use and pressures on natural resources, identified and mapped.
- e. **Project Result 5:** The forest monitoring system (including a system for monitoring and providing information on how multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and actual safeguards) is fully linked and compatible with REDD+, NAMA, Biodiversity, Land registries, safeguards, UBOS'

FAOSTAT forestry statistics database, National biodiversity exchange mechanism and other relevant information systems.

4.0 Uganda UN-REDD NP outcomes

The overall National Programme goal is to enable Uganda to be ready for REDD+ implementation, including development of necessary institutions, policies, instruments and capacities, in a collaborative and leveraging way with other REDD+ readiness partners. The NP has three major outcomes - led by UNDP, FAO and UNEP, respectively - elaborated hereunder.

Outcome 1 (led by UNDP) – A transformational national REDD+ strategy is designed through substantial multi-sectorial technical and policy dialogue, including robust policy options and measures, mainstreamed and anchored in national development vision, planning and framework. This outcome would be realized through the following outputs:

- 1.1 The strategy design process is run in a timely manner, respectful to REDD+ readiness principles, with robust technical backstopping and in smooth coordination with all other components of REDD+ readiness (for instance with the SESA and broader safeguards work supported by the FCPF).
- 1.2 The analytical inputs to the national strategy are robust and comprehensive.
- 1.3 The policy dimension of the strategy is strengthened through policy-level and cross-sectorial dialogue and assessment of options.
- 1.4 The national REDD+ strategy is fully embedded in, and directly contributes to the national development planning and budgeting processes.
- 1.5 The national REDD+ strategy enjoys strong international recognition and mobilizes support for the investment phase.

Outcome 2 (led by FAO) – A National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is designed and set up, with appropriate Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) functions. This outcome would be realized through the following outputs:

- 2.1 Field data and relevant supplementary information for the development of emission factors are collected and analyzed.
- 2.2 NFA capacities to systematically monitor forest and land cover/use change (REDD+ activity data) are strengthened.
- 2.3 NFA has the capacities and tools to store, update and disseminate REDD+ information.
- 2.4 Government of Uganda has the capacities to report on its GHG emissions from the forestry sector and a draft GHG-I report.

Outcome 3 (led by UNEP) – Sub-national implementation of the REDD+ national strategy is prepared and facilitated through an “integrated landscape management” approach, building on a comprehensive set of analytical work, engagement and capacity building of stakeholders, and early actions. This outcome would be realized through:

3.1 Understanding of land use systems, rightful access to and the spatial-temporal resource use patterns are enhanced drawing on lessons learned from selected representative landscapes.

3.2 Engaging subnational stakeholders effectively in the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy.

3.3 Developing a strategy for the implementation of the National REDD+ strategy.

Capacity building is a transversal stream of work that aims at enhancing national capacities to manage a high-quality and timely-delivered REDD+ process, mobilizing and engaging the required institutions and stakeholders, exploiting synergies between work streams as well as with initiatives beyond the REDD+ arena, sustaining the policy work, and building the national case for REDD+ in order to foster international dialogue and resource mobilization for REDD+ implementation. It will comprise the deployment of international and national expertise to plan, coordinate, sequence, facilitate, monitor and connect the different work streams and actors in REDD+.

5.0 Objectives of the Consultancy

The objective of the consultancy is to support Uganda's National REDD+ Secretariat i) in preparing their FCPF Mid-Term Progress Report, and ii) to assess broader achievements and lessons under the FCPF, UN-REDD and Austrian-funded activities , including recommendations for remedial actions.

In doing so, the consultant will (i) review progress made in the implementation of the R-PP and National REDD Programme (NP), (ii) review progress on activities funded by the FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant, the UN-REDD and ADC financed activities

6.0 Scope of Work

The REDD+ Secretariat will provide a Program Monitoring Report to the consultant ahead of time which will provide qualitative and quantitative data on the progress and results of the support achieved thus far.

6.1 Support for preparing FCPF MTR: The Consultant shall support Uganda's National REDD+ Secretariat to prepare Uganda's mid-term report in accordance with FCPF guidance (contained in FMT Note 2012-7 rev), and using the FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework as a guide¹. The template for the Mid Term Review is attached to these TORs of Reference as Annex 1.

6.2 FCPP/REDD Support Implementation project mid-term evaluation: The Consultant shall assess broader achievements and lessons under the FCPF, UN-REDD and Austrian-funded activities, including recommendations for remedial actions. The consultant shall consider:

a) Technical aspects

Indicative list of issues to review:

- i. What key results or targets that have not (yet) been achieved and why?
- ii. What have been the biggest successes and key results and achievements of RSP so far? What are the factors for this level of success and or achievements?

¹ <http://forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2013/July2013/FCPC%20framework%20text%207-25-13%20ENG%20web.pdf>

- iii. What are recent (contextual) developments (positive and negative) that have affected or will affect the progress of RSP, NP and REDD+ process over-all?
- iv. What are the strengths of the REDD+ Process which benefit from or mitigate these developments?
- v. How could the RSP and NP performance be improved? Are there elements in the RSP and NP which are not working optimal and how could these be improved?

b) Financial status of the Program

- i. What is the status of grant disbursement and utilization? Is the project likely to fully disburse by close of the grant in June 2016 in case of RSP and January 2017 in case of NP?
- ii. What are the financial management bottlenecks that need to be overcome in order to improve on grant utilization? How can these bottlenecks be addressed.

c) Opportunities

- i. What new opportunities can be identified within REDD processes within and outside Uganda and Uganda's R-PP and NP components that could help implementation achieve foreseen results.

d) Priorities:

Considering (a) and (b) above:

- i. What are the main results (and related activities) which are needed to be prioritized to optimize progress in order to achieve the FCPF and UN-REDD Project Development Objectives and key results by the project end?
- ii. What actions would it require in 2015/2016 to realize the prioritized results in (i) above?

e) Restructuring

Make suggestions for program restructuring to achieve objectives and provide an updated financial plan including a brief description of the activities, reflecting the sources of funds.

f) Coordination

- i. Are coordination activities as presently performed by REDD+ Secretariat and MWE considered sufficient? If necessary, what adaptations on the coordination could be proposed?
- ii. Are the supervision activities as presently performed by National REDD+ Steering Committee and national Technical Committee considered sufficient? If necessary, what adaptations on the supervision could be proposed?
- iii. How can coordination and synergy between different REDD+ components and partners be improved?

g) Learning experiences

- i. What lessons can be learned on the linkages between REDD+ process and national development on one hand, and Environment and Natural Resources sector broadly and Forestry subsector in particular?
- ii. How can drawing, sharing and documenting lessons and best practices be improved?

7.0 Methodology

In carrying out the assignment the Consultant shall propose a methodology and work plan. The Consultant is expected to undertake an extensive desk review of available secondary information (a list of relevant references is included in Table 2). The Consultant will also be expected to undertake structured interactions with key stakeholders including the National REDD+ Focal Point, REDD+ Secretariat and REDD+ Partners and stakeholders, including civil society representatives. It is expected that the consultant will adopt different participatory appraisal techniques to obtain quantitative and qualitative information.

8.0 Timetable and deliverables

The Consultancy for the mid-term review will be undertaken in two (2) calendar months. In order to accomplish the assignment, it is the responsibility of the Consultant to establish a detailed work program within the above time frame, taking into consideration the estimated man-month requirements.

Reporting to Permanent Secretary (MWE), the consultant will deliver outputs described below and shall submit them in written (in English) and electronic copies at each stage for review and / or approval in accordance with the schedule of reporting indicated (below Table):

Table 1: detailed schedule for the required reporting

ITEM	REPORT/DOCUMENT TITLE	TIMING AFTER COMMENCEMENT	CONTENT	NO. OF COPIES
A.1	Draft Inception report	1.5 weeks	The consultant shall submit an inception report before the end of <u>1.5 weeks after commencement of the assignment</u> . The employer will be given <u>1.5 weeks</u> for review and approval. The consultant may be invited by the employer to present the inception report to the REDD+ Steering Committee and/or other stakeholders. This draft inception report shall contain the methodology, and work plan, including consultations and schedule of delivery.	6 to the FSSD

ITEM	REPORT/DOCUMENT TITLE	TIMING AFTER COMMENCEMENT	CONTENT	NO. OF COPIES
	Final Inception report	3 weeks	The consultant shall submit a final inception report before the end of the <u>3 weeks after commencement of the assignment</u> . The Final Inception Report will address comments on the draft Inception report. The consultant may be invited by the employer to present the inception report to the REDD+ Steering Committee and/or other stakeholders. This final inception report shall contain the following content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All the content agreed upon in the draft inception report but revised to reflect the comments of the employer, REDD+ Steering Committee, the World Bank (and the FCPF's FMT), the UN-REDD and/or other stakeholders. b) Comments matrix indicating how the comments of the employer, REDD+ Steering Committee and/or other stakeholders were reflected. 	6 to the FSSD
A.2	Draft FCPF MTR and REDD+ mid-term evaluation	6-weeks	The consultant shall submit the reports before the end of <u>6 weeks after commencement of the assignment</u> . The employer will be given <u>2 weeks</u> for review and approval. The consultant will be invited by the employer to present the report to the REDD+ Steering Committee and/or other stakeholders including World Bank, UN Agencies and ADC. ² The draft FCPF MTR will be a standalone document that will form the basis for Uganda's reporting obligation to 21 st FCPF Participants' Committee and UN-REDD Policy Board.	6 to the MWE
	Draft FCPF MTR and REDD+ mid-term evaluation	8 - weeks	The consultant shall submit final reports before the end of <u>8 weeks after commencement of the assignment</u> and no later than 2 weeks after presenting the draft report to the National REDD+ Steering Committee that meets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Uganda's reporting requirements to the 21st FCPF Participants' Committee and UN-REDD Policy Board and enjoys strong international recognition and would be the basis for mobilizing support for additional investment into Uganda's REDD Process. b. The Terms of reference and scope of work. 	6 to the MWE

All reports have to be submitted in both soft (*unlocked MS Word, PDF*) and hard copy. The hard copies will be prepared in DIN A4 format, except for plans and drawings which should be prepared in DIN A3 format. The reports should be clearly labelled i.e. title of the study indicated, for easy identification and documentation purposes. All reports shall be prepared in English language. The

² Suggested MTR mission by funders (Bank, UN Agencies/FAO, ADC)

Client³ will provide comments on each as indicated for each report (below), and the consultant will only proceed thereafter.

8.0 Payment schedule

Indicative Delivery and payment schedule Output	Payment (%)
Contract Signature	10
Inception report	20
Draft Report	40
Final report	40

9.0. Qualifications and Experience

This Consultancy will be carried out by an independent international consultant with experience and exposure to World Bank funded projects and evaluations in Uganda and other regions. The consultant cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation, and/or implementation (including the writing of the Project Document) and should not have a conflict of interest with project-related activities.

The reviewer needs to be an international consultant with the following qualifications and experiences:

- a. Post graduate degree (PhD or Masters) in Natural Resources/Environmental Management, forestry or related field.
- b. At least 15 years of proven experience in natural resources management and rural development in sub Saharan Africa.
- c. Significant experience in result-based management reviews or evaluation, including reviewing/evaluating REDD+ projects or World Bank or other similar related Government programs.
- d. Good understanding of climate change mitigation and FCPF/REDD+ mechanisms.
- e. Ability to work with government, private sector and civil society organizations.
- f. English language required.

10. Relevant resources

Table 2:

Document	Author	Location
REDD+ Secretariat Program Progress Report	Uganda REDD + Secretariat	FSSD - to be prepared
FCPF mid-term progress reporting template	FCPF	http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/forestcarbonpartnership.org/files/Documents/PDF/Aug2012/FMT%20Note%202012-7%20rev%20Mid-term%20Progress%20Reporting%2008-27-12%20-%20clean.pdf
Guide to the FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework	FCPF	http://forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2013/July2013/FCPC%20framework%20text%207-25-13%20ENG%20web.pdf

³ means Govt of Uganda

Uganda R-PP & Appendices	Government of Uganda	FSSD, Uganda and FCPF Website: https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/uganda
Uganda UN-REDD National Programme Document	Government of Uganda	FSSD, Uganda and UN-REDD Website: www.unredd.net
Uganda Country Progress Sheets	REDD+ Secretariat (FSSD), Uganda	FSSD, Uganda and FCPF Website: https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/uganda
Uganda semi-annual and annual progress reports	REDD+ Secretariat (FSSD), Uganda	FSSD, Uganda and UN-REDD Website: www.unredd.net
ADC Project documents/Project Funding Agreement with GoU	REDD+ Secretariat (FSSD), Uganda	REDD+ Secretariat
Policy, Legislation and Regulations related documents	Government of Uganda	Various Locations
Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The National Water Policy (1997) ii. The National Land Use policy (2000) iii. The Wildlife Policy (2013). iv. The Forestry Policy (2001). v. The National Tourism Policy (2003). vi. The National Oil and Gas Policy (2008). vii. The National Policy for Conservation and Management of Wetland Resources (2005). 		
Legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Constitution of Republic of Uganda (amended 2005) ii. The Environment Act, Cap 153. iii. The Water Act, Cap 152. iv. The Local Governments Act Cap 243. v. The Land Act Cap 227. vi. The National Forests and Tree Planting Act, 2003. vii. The Wildlife Act, cap 200. 		
Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The National Forests Regulations (<i>unpublished</i>) ii. The National Environment (Environment Impact Assessment) Regulations, S.1 No. 153-1 iii. The National Environment (Wetlands, River Banks and Lakeshores Management) Regulations. S.1 No. 153-5. iv. The National Environment (Minimum Standards for Management of Soil Quality) Regulations, S.1. No. 59/2001. v. Petroleum (Exploration and Production)(Conduct of Exploration Operations) Regulations 		
Development Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Vision 2040 ii. The National Development Plan I (2009). iii. The National Development Plan II (2015). iv. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 1(2002). v. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2(?). vi. The National Environment Action Plan (1994). vii. The National Forest Plan (2002). 		

viii. The National Forest Plan (2013).		
ix. The Wetlands Sector Strategic Plan (2013).		
x. The Land Sector Strategic Plan (2001)		
xi. Biomass Energy Strategic Plan (BEST)		
xii. Energy and Minerals Invest Plan (2014)		
xiii. Uganda Strategic Investment Framework for Sustainable Land Management (2010-2020)		
NP Planning Monitoring Reporting Framework 2012	UN-REDD	UN-REDD Website www.unredd.net under Templates, Forms and Guidance
Mainstreaming Gender considerations into REDD+ processes a Gender and REDD+ Roadmap for Uganda	IUCN	REDD+ Secretariat
Communications and Outreach Strategy for REDD+ processes for Uganda	IUCN	REDD+ Secretariat
Conflict and Grievances Management Strategy for REDD+ for Uganda	ACODE	REDD+ Secretariat
Consultations and Participation Strategy for REDD+ from Uganda	IUCN	REDD+ Secretariat