

# World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF010903  
Printed On: 12/24/2015

Reporting Period: 12/01/2011 to 06/30/2015  
Report Type: Completion  
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF010903

## GHANA - FCPF READINESS GRANT

## FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000109226 - Martin Fodor  
Approving Manager: 00000084421 - Paola Agostini

Summary Information	
TF Status	LCLS
Recipient Country	Ghana
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9061 - GENDR
Grant Start Date / End Date	12/01/2011 to 05/03/2015
Original Grant Amount	3,400,000.00
Grant Amount	3,186,317.08
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	3,186,317.08 as of 06/30/2015
Disbursed 12/01/2011 to 06/30/2015	3,186,317.08
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

*This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Completion, Disbursements, Procurement Plan, Procurement Actuals.*

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## OVERVIEW

### Overall Assessments

#### Grant Objectives:

The Project Development Objective is to support Ghana in preparing itself to engage in an international REDD+ mechanism through the design of a socially and environmentally sound national REDD+ strategy and the development of a reference scenario that takes into account national circumstances.

#### Overall progress from 12/01/2011 to 06/30/2015 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

##### Comment:

The grant objectives have been achieved, allowing Ghana to engage in an international REDD+ mechanism, especially by means of designing a national environmentally and socially sound REDD+ strategy and a reference scenario that takes into account national circumstances.

#### Overall progress from 12/01/2011 to 06/30/2015 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

##### Comment:

Overall grant implementation and progress during the grant period is Moderately Satisfactory. There were moderate shortcomings in that the activities had a slow start; however, all planned activities were completed by the Closing Date, and the grant was near fully (approximately 95%) utilized.

The Forestry Commission Climate Change Unit actively engaged national and sub-national stakeholders in developing the national REDD strategy and REDD readiness. The Forestry Commission has over the grant implementation period markedly improved co-ordination with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources which is responsible for the Forest Investment Program (FIP). The Forestry Commission Climate Change Unit has demonstrated significant commitment and drive in the course of preparing the ER-PIN for a planned ER program in the High Forest Zone mosaic forest landscape. The Forestry Commission also effectively engaged critical private sector stakeholders in the course of preparation of ER-PIN. The grant laid grounds for Ghana selection into the FCPF Carbon Fund pipeline, and created opportunity to address the key driver of deforestation in the High Forest Zone - cocoa farming.

### Grant follow-up and structure

#### Description and context of Grant:

Grant Context: The Bank has supported Ghana's REDD+ program (promoting Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) since 2008 through a three phase process: (1) readiness preparation being implemented through the FCPF Readiness Fund (providing financing for the Formulation and Preparation stages); (2) investment being prepared through the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and the related Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Local Communities (DGM); and (3) potentially a performance-based payment program being identified through the FCPF Carbon Fund. These phases integrally reinforce each other: national policies and strategies developed with FCPF readiness support and investments under FIP can help to lay the groundwork for later emissions reductions and ultimately facilitate performance based natural resource finance for Ghana. Ghana's REDD+ Readiness program is a key feature of the Government's response to climate change and contributes to its efforts to access and apply global climate finance to development challenges (with support of the Bank and other partners).

Ghana is one of just a few countries globally that has been able to access REDD+ financing at all three phases and is considered a REDD+ champion in Africa. With the available financial resources, Ghana can therefore take the necessary steps towards the attainment of the goals and objectives of REDD+ and thereby contribute to national development as well as global efforts aimed at mitigating climate change.

Grant Description: grant-financed activities are organized into four Components (see detailed information on Components in the corresponding section):

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Component 1. Support to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness process and to project

Component 2. Contribution to the Design of the National REDD+ Strategy

Component 3. Preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+

Component 4. Support for a monitoring, reporting and verification system for REDD+

**Expected follow up (if any):** Follow up Bank project/loan/credit/grant

### Comment on follow up:

Ghana applied for and received additional funding from the FCPF Readiness Fund in the amount of US\$5.2 million. This funding became effective in March 2015 and will close in December 2017. Activities under additional funding build on activities started under the grant, subject of this GRM, to help Ghana achieve REDD+ Readiness.

Ghana Emission Reductions Program (ER-Program) - Cocoa Forest Mosaic Landscape (Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program) - was selected into the pipeline of the FCPF Carbon Fund. This ER Program focuses on sustainable cocoa production, given that cocoa expansion is a key driver of deforestation in Central part of Ghana - the target area of ER-Program. A Letter of Intent was signed in September 2014. Ghana is expected to finalize ER Project Document in early 2016 and submit it to the Carbon Fund. If Ghana is successfully selected to sign an Emission Reduction Payment Agreement, Ghana could potentially receive up to US\$70 million in performance-based payments.

Ghana also submitted a request for Additional Financing (US\$10 million) to the FIP for targeting mining as a specific deforestation and degradation driver - the request was approved in principle by the FIP Sub-Committee in May 2015.

**End Date of Last Site Visit:**

**Restructuring of Grant:**

None.

## OUTCOME

### Comments on outcome achieved from 12/01/2011 to 06/30/2015

N/A

### Grant Outcome Indicators

Grant outcome indicators are listed below.

**A socially and environmentally sound national strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) is prepared and validated by national stakeholders**

Baseline No

Value:

Date: 09/20/2011

Progress to Yes

Date:

Date: 06/30/2015

Target Value: Yes

Date: 11/03/2014

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## A reference scenario is developed taking into account national circumstances

Baseline No  
Value:  
Date: 09/20/2011  
Progress to Yes  
Date:  
Date: 06/30/2015  
Target Value: Yes  
Date: 11/03/2014

## A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is submitted and associated frameworks are prepared and validated

Baseline No  
Value:  
Date: 09/20/2011  
Progress to Yes  
Date:  
Date: 06/30/2015  
Target Value: Yes  
Date: 11/03/2014

## COMPONENTS

### Output and Implementation by Component

#### Component 1. Support to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness process and to project management including Monitoring and Evaluation

Status: Completed  
Planned Output: Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output  
Actual Output: Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output

#### Component 2. Contribution to the Design of the National REDD+ Strategy

Status: Completed  
Planned Output: Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output  
Actual Output: Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output

#### Component 3. Preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+

Status: Completed  
Planned Output: Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output  
Actual Output: Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output

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### Component 4. Support for a monitoring, reporting and verification system for REDD+

Status:	Completed
Planned Output:	Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output
Actual Output:	Please see next section, Comment on planned and actual Output

## Comment on planned and actual Output

### Component 1 - Planned Output-

Strengthen the capacity of the REDD+ Technical Working Group through, inter alia, the provision of training to the staff of the said institution and the provision of specialized input and technical guidance to national REDD+ coordination processes; support the communication activities related to national REDD+ coordination, including overseeing development of a national communication strategy for REDD+; support the coordination functions of the REDD+ management structures; and support to the implementation of the Readiness Preparation Activities, including the carrying out the fiduciary and procurement activities and the external audits, and the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework.

### Component 1- Actual Output.

Sub-Component 1.1.: Institutional arrangements for Ghana's REDD+ implementation set up and fully functional; Project Oversight Committee (POC) of the Forestry Commission chaired by the Chief Executive has responsibility for coordinating and enhancing synergies of all donor funded projects being implemented by the FC; POC also carries out regular monitoring of projects; REDD+ readiness process has been carried out in an open and transparent manner: e.g. in selection of REDD+ pilots and the active engagement of stakeholders; a sub-website on REDD+ has been developed under the FC official website [www.fcghana.org/nrs](http://www.fcghana.org/nrs); a database created at National REDD+ Secretariat (NRS) for registering of individuals and organizations engaged in REDD+ interventions in Ghana; training and capacity building for NRWG, sub-working groups and other REDD+ actors in Ghana; and full adherence to World Bank financial management and procurement procedures and Ghana's Public procurement authority guidelines in the use of REDD+ funds.

Sub-Component 1.2. REDD+ Communication Strategy developed and being implemented starting with a REDD+ Roadshow for creating public awareness; preparation and distribution of 20,000 brochures on REDD+ in Ghana; collaboration with civil society platforms, e.g. Forest Forums, for dissemination of information to grassroots forest communities and other stakeholders; development of road map for mainstreaming gender considerations into Ghana's REDD+ process undertaken in partnership with IUCN; consultative workshops for REDD+ pilot proponents and for stakeholders at the pilot sites including traditional authorities, land owners and local communities; extensive consultations undertaken under ongoing SESA process in a transparent, inclusive, culturally appropriate manner.

### Component 2 - Planned Output:

Preparation of the National REDD+ Strategy; conducting a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and preparing an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); set up and implementation of a conflict resolution mechanism for REDD+ strategy preparation, in particular in regard to benefits sharing and carbon rights; establishing the functional modalities of a fund under the oversight of the Forest Research Institute of Ghana to support REDD+ pilot projects; strengthening of the institutional set-up and modalities for REDD+ implementation, including through development of operational guidelines and standards for sub national/national REDD+ programs; and information sharing and multi-stakeholder Consultation Process

### Component 2 - Actual Output:

Validation of analytical work undertaken previously in relation to the assessment of forest law, policy and governance under various natural resource management programs (key issues identified include: land tenure, natural resource rights, benefit sharing, livelihoods, forest law, policy and governance); 13 REDD+ candidate strategy options identified in Ghana's R-PP # and three strategic interventions for REDD+ implementation in Ghana proposed; final reports on the development of a benefit sharing mechanism for Ghana's REDD+, on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism, and on Operational Guidelines and Standards for Sub-National REDD+ programs prepared; REDD+ Strategy for Ghana prepared; SESA conducted and ESMF prepared; various information sharing and public awareness events conducted, including a REDD+ Roadshow (in 2014). REDD+ Fund work to be financed under additional funding (supplementary grant from the FCPF Readiness Fund).

### Component 3 - Planned Output:

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Developing a national reference scenario, including through the following outputs: (i) mapping existing capacities and identifying capacity building needs in the Forestry Commission and relevant institutions for establishing Reference Scenario. Subsequently, providing training for staff leading the work on Reference Scenario development, including modeling exercise for establishing Reference Scenario; (ii) updating quantitative information on possible future emissions and removals and other relevant technical work (basemap development, mapping land cover change, performing quality control and accuracy assessment); and (iii) developing a future trajectory including modeling of deforestation and forest degradation rates under different economic and development scenarios.

### Component 3 - Actual Output:

National reference scenario developed, building on earlier efforts to develop a country biomass map and carbon estimation conducted under the Forest Preservation Programme, with satellite data procured and analyzed for the 1990-2000-2010 epochs; training and capacity building of staff of the REDD+ Secretariat and other REDD+ key stakeholders on setting up REL and MRV.

### Component 4 - Planned Output:

Support planning and preparatory activities for the design of a monitoring, reporting and verification system; Contribute to developing a blueprint for a monitoring, reporting and verification system capable of tracking all activities (deforestation, degradation, reforestation and enhancement of carbon stocks).

### Component 4 - Actual Output:

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the MRV system developed.

## Comment on component implementation progress

Activities were largely completed as planned, with minor modifications due to the evolving nature of REDD+ and global processes around REDD+, and some initial delays.

## EXECUTION

### Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name:	P124060 - Ghana-FCPF REDD READINESS
Project Status:	Lending
Global Focal Area:	Climate change
Product Line:	CN - Carbon Offset

### Implementing agency and contact details

Agency:	Forest Commission Climate Change Unit		
Contact:	Mr. Yaw Kwakye, Manager, Climate Change Unit		
Address:	P. O. Box MB 434 Accra-Ghana		
Phone:	+234-09-5233611	Email:	beemayaw@gmail.com
Website:	<a href="http://www.fcghana.org/">http://www.fcghana.org/</a>		

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## PROGRAM

### Program Specific Questions

**1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f**

The Grant activities are coordinated with other REDD+ activities by the National REDD+ Secretariat hosted by the Forestry Commission. The National REDD+ Secretariat is active in mobilizing and coordinating REDD support from multiple sources to supplement the Grant (as the main source of REDD support in Ghana).

**2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.**

The Grant followed standard approach tried and tested by FCPF in other countries. There were no significant changes in technical design or approach necessary.

**3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.**

There has been significant progress in improving capacity. The Government key interlocutor for REDD, the Climate Change Unit at the Forestry Commission, is well established and fully functioning on technical, fiduciary and implementation matters.

**4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?**

There was significant progress on safeguards front through preparation of SESA and ESMF consistently with the Common Approach. The safeguards processes benefitted from extensive public consultations.

**5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?**

Yes.

**6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.**

There has been extensive, multi-stage, multi-stakeholder national and sub-national public consultations organized on technical, procedural and safeguards issues related to REDD strategy and SESA, among others. These are well documented in SESA.

## COMPLETION

### Overall Assessments and Lessons Learned

**Main lessons learned:**

- #Design of REDD+ Readiness Support operations needs to be flexible, to allow responsiveness to evolving global guidance on REDD+
- #Engagement of the country's REDD+ team in the global REDD+ dialog is important, to allow transfer of knowledge and experiences
- #Management of stakeholders' expectations is key
- #Communication on REDD+ should focus on non-monetary benefits e.g. ecosystem services, as monetary benefits are not easy to realize
- #Building and sustaining partnerships between public and private sectors, NGO and civil society takes time and resources but the dividends are valuable and long-lasting
- #Alignment with national development programs and sector priorities is crucial for cross-sector buy in and engagement

**Overall outcome (and its Sustainability):**

**Comment:**

The grant financed activities largely achieved their objectives # Ghana was also, during this time period, able to position itself

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as one of Africa's champions on REDD+. The REDD+ dialog and enhanced attention to the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and increased cooperation between the forestry sector and other sectors that are at the root of DD (agriculture, energy) should be sustainable over time with Government's own resources. In the mid-term, REDD+ Readiness activities are sustained with financing from the additional funding grant.

### Bank Performance:

#### Comment:

The Bank's GP team and the FMT provided close support throughout implementation of the grant financed activities and helped Ghana identify additional funding opportunities for REDD+.

## Additional Assessment

### Development / strengthening of institutions:

#### Comment:

The Climate Change Unit in the Forestry Commission has developed significant capacity to handle REDD+. More opportunities for strengthening institutions outside of the Forestry Commission, and especially in the NGO sector, could have been utilized.

### Mobilization of other resources:

#### Comment:

Ghana is considered a REDD+ champion in Africa. Ghana is one of just a few countries globally that has been able to access REDD+ financing at all three phases: (1) readiness preparation being implemented through the FCPF Readiness Fund (providing financing for the Formulation and Preparation stages); (2) investment # being implemented through the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and the related Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Local Communities (DGM); and (3) potentially a performance-based payment program # Letter of Intent signed with the FCPF Carbon Fund. In addition, Ghana mobilized support to REDD+ from a variety of government and non-government sources (see above).

### Knowledge exchange:

#### Comment:

As REDD+ is a rapidly evolving field, the grant financed activities focused heavily on knowledge exchange within Ghana. Beyond the grant period, Ghana was selected to participate in the knowledge exchange with Kenya as a knowledge provider, considering its wealth of experiences with REDD+.

### Client's policy / program implementation:

#### Comment:

Largely thanks to the efforts of the Forestry Commission Climate Change Unit and awareness creation efforts supported by the Project, REDD+ features prominently in Ghana's new National Climate Change Policy (NCCP, 2014). Work on feedback and grievance redress mechanism, supported through the grant, came up with a recommendation to amend the Alternative Disputes Act # the policy drafting will be supported by the Additional Funding grant. However, this prominence at the policy level has not resulted in any changes at the policy implementation level, nor has extended beyond the core forestry and climate change discussions. It seems to early in the REDD process to achieve tangible changes on these fronts.

### Efficiency:

#### Comment:

Economic and / or cost effectiveness analysis is not possible for REDD+ Readiness support; however, outcomes of Ghana's initial REDD+ Readiness Grant (the subject of this GRM) are comparable to outcomes of similar grants in other countries; outcomes planned at the onset have been produced. Thus, the task team rates efficiency as satisfactory.

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## Replicability:

### Comment:

At the national level, initial REDD+ readiness support had the convening power for maintaining the dialog on deforestation and forest degradation and allowed Ghana mobilize new financing for REDD+ readiness and investments for various sources. In the short term, project gains will be replicated through the Additional Funding under FCPF and investment financing under FIP. In the mid-term, there are opportunities for replication through results-based financing and private sector dialog. At the international level, Ghana has been one of the pioneers on REDD+ in Africa and its experiences with REDD+ will be replicated in other REDD+ countries; additionally, the emerging lessons on integrated landscape management in the cocoa/forest mosaic can help inform similar engagements in other countries.

## Main recommendations to stakeholders:

Need for Careful Management of Expectations

REDD+ has been communicated globally as a mechanism which seeks to incentivise activities targeted at reducing emissions from the land-use sector. This line of communication has somewhat created high and often unrealistic expectations amongst some sections of stakeholder groups of huge financial inflow for REDD+. In order to ensure the effective management of these exaggerated and unrealistic expectations, deliberate efforts need to be made to emphasize the various co-benefits which will arise from REDD+ implementation, and that any payments for implementation of REDD+ will be performance-based and will consequently require continual support and commitment from all stakeholders.

## Main recommendations to Bank Management:

Need for More Specific Guidance to Teams on Supervision and Support on REDD+ related matters

REDD+ is an evolving effort, with new international rules and agreements coming up nearly at every global meeting. It is difficult for GP task teams, which are not involved in this global dialog, to stay on top of these developments AND help the client understand them. More support to teams, like a REDD+ specific event during GP week or the currently discussed guidance on safeguards (coming out after six years of REDD+ implementation), is needed.

## DISBURSEMENTS

### Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2012	06/30/2012	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
07/01/2012	12/31/2012	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	0.00
01/01/2013	06/30/2013	0.00	0.00	712,184.37	312,184.37
07/01/2013	12/31/2013	0.00	0.00	1,112,184.37	400,000.00
01/01/2014	06/30/2014	0.00	0.00	1,982,184.79	870,000.42
07/01/2014	12/31/2014	0.00	0.00	3,389,060.13	1,406,875.34
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	3,186,317.08	202,743.05-

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## PROCUREMENT PLAN

None

## PROCUREMENT ACTUAL

None