

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A1121
Printed On: 02/17/2017

Reporting Period: 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF0A1121

Domincan Republic: FCPF REDD Readiness Preparation

FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000187035 - Gerardo Segura Warnholtz
Approving Manager: 00000483596 - Raul Ivan Alfaro Pelico

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Dominican Rep.
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9272 - GEN04
Grant Start Date / End Date	10/06/2015 to 12/30/2019
Original Grant Amount	3,800,000.00
Grant Amount	3,800,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	480,000.00 as of 06/30/2016
Disbursed 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016	480,000.00
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Disbursements.

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to support key efforts by the Dominican Republic to prepare a national REDD+ readiness strategy.

Overall progress from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

High level authorities from the Ministries of Finance, Agriculture and Environment have shown a high commitment to the successful execution of this Grant which gives confidence to the Bank team that aggressive policies and activities to achieve transformation in the landscape is possible in DR in the next coming years.

The GoDR was able to submit successfully an Emission Reduction Program Idea Note (ER-PIN) to the Carbon Fund of the FCPF and was accepted into the pipeline of the CF. With the signing of the Letter of Intent (LOI) the GoDR commit to prepare an Emission Reductions Programme Document (ERPD) of nationwide coverage which, if technically sound will entitle them to sign an Emissions Reduction Payment Agreement (ERPA) of over 7,5 million tons of carbon reductions.

The project has had a slow execution of funds since first disbursement was done in June 2016. A change of government in March led to a change of the authorities of the Ministry of the Environment that slowed down the actions previously planned.

Dominican Republic advances in the development of Estrategia Nacional REDD+ (ENREDD+).

The Ministry of Environment had initially considered to have 3 instances of decision making for the project implementation. These are the Steering Committee composed of the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture; the Technical Advisory Committee and the Roundtable Forest. It was decided that the Roundtable on Forests was not part of the decision-making / coordination as are the Technical Steering Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee, but will be convened in exceptional cases to play specific technical issues, it is expected that the vast majority of the issues will be addressed within the Technical Advisory Committee.

##Establishment of the Steering Committee for REDD + (CD-REDD +), composed by the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development and the Ministry of Agriculture who appoint a permanent representative.

##Establishment of Technical Advisory Committee for REDD + (CTA-REDD +), composed of one representative of each public institution identified as a key player for REDD +, a representative of civil society, a representative of the private forest sector, representative of the production sector private agricultural and a representative of universities and / or research centers. This group was expanded within the preparation process timeframe with the FCPF.

##RD has a first version of reference levels, developed with funding from REDD / CCAD-GIZ Programme and the Regional Programme for Climate Change USAID (PRCC)

##A document of the SESA Work Plan was developed in 2015 in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Participation of the Ministry of Environment and technical advice of the FMT.

##An initial proposal for the complaints and allegations mechanism (FGRM) was made in 2015 in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Participation of the Ministry of Environment

##Completion of the Pre-sampling for National Forest Inventory (INF), conducted with funding from REDD / CCAD-GIZ Program was done in 2015.

##ER-PIN document presented to the Carbon Fund and DR accepted into the portfolio. The Letter of Intent with the Carbon Fund was signed as well.

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Overall progress from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities: Comment:

Funds have not started to be implemented yet but the first disbursement was approved. Procurement plan, budget, and TORs have been written for the personnel who will join the PIU. The government has separated an office space within the Ministry of Environment to accommodate up to 10 consultants of the PIU. Full implementation of all components of the Project should have started by now, and the Bank is working with the government towards that. The Bank expects that once the PIU key people are hired, fund execution will get up to speed for the demanding deadlines that the FCPF have set.

A mission was conducted in June 2016 to discuss preparatory activities for FY17. Activities that took place during the mission: a) agreed on the actions to establish the Project Implementation Unit (PIU); b) write the procurement plan and timetable for 2016 and 2017; c) guide the administrative staff in the Trust donation procedures, and discuss the main responsibilities of the Ministry of Environment on this issue; d) set a timetable for developing the Emission Reduction Program Document; and e) carry out coordination and synergy with other public and private agencies that are supporting the Ministry on issues of forests and climate change.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

The project contemplates activities to design and implement policies and programs to reduce emissions from deforestation/degradation, which anticipates a full and meaningful engagement with potentially impacted stakeholders. The main results expected at project closure are:

- a) A cross-sectoral government coordination body (Comité Directivo) and a multistakeholder participatory platform (Comité Técnico Asesor) for REDD+ have been established and are under regular operation;
- b) A national consultation and participation strategy, including a gender mainstreaming strategy, has been designed and is under operation;
- c) A citizen feedback mechanism, also known as a Grievance Redress Mechanism, for REDD+ has been designed and is under operation;
- d) A National REDD+ Strategy (ENA- REDD+) has been designed with the support of a broad stakeholder participation;
- e) A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) has been carried out, and informed the preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), as the country's main safeguards instrument;
- f) The capacity and progress to establish a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level has been improved;
- g) The capacity and progress to develop a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) for the Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) of Green House Gases (GHG) emissions reductions and non-carbon impacts from REDD+ activities has been improved.

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

Comment on follow up:

As broader steps for the next FY17 the government established the goals of:

- ##Selection of consultants for the Project Implementation Unit for REDD + (PIU)
- ##Purchasing equipment for the PIU
- ##Second phase of the National Forestry Inventory
- ##Capacity building for REDD + at the provincial and municipal level for key stakeholders
- ##Strengthening the capacities of personnel involved in sampling methods, data collection and analysis
- ##Strengthening the Department of Inventory System of GHG remote sensing and the forest monitoring unit.
- ##Institutional arrangements to manage the process of SESA and ESMF
- ##Policies and legal instruments to regulate the LULUCF sector

More immediate activities once the core team of the PIU is hired to organize a mission to the country to revise the Operational Annual Plan, set up activities, Procurement plan modifications if any, discuss thoroughly ER-Program implementation and

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deadlines for ERP submission, and hold a workshop with civil society as continuation of SESA planned activities

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

N/A

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016

Main project outcomes achieved so far are presented in the Overview section.

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS

There are no components defined for this trust fund / grant.

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

Implementation with Bank resources have not started yet, however as explained in the Overview, several actions took place in FY16 with international cooperation partners and in Bank support through the due diligence process. However without Bank funds the government was able to prepare:

- 1) A preliminary study on causes of Deforestation and Forest Degradation was made.
- 2) A preliminary analysis of the legal framework on land tenure was made
- 3) A first version of the emissions reference level. The baseline that was developed by GIZ was elaborated by the Austral company in Chile at the end of 2014. The base was made containing different types of forests and degraded forest areas to establish baseline emission. The end calculations as described in the ER-PIN resulted in 15.6 M tCO₂ during a 5 years period.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name:	P151752 - DO FCPF REDD Readiness Preparation
Project Status:	Lending
Global Focal Area:	Climate change
Product Line:	CN - Carbon Offset

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency:	Ministro del Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales		
Contact:	Minister Francisco Domínguez and Mr. Pedro García. Head of Climate Change Unit		
Address:	Av. Cayetano Germosen, Santo Domingo República Dominicana		
Phone:	+ 1 (809) 567-4300	Email:	Garcia@ambiente.gob.do
Website:			

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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 GIZ has been involved for several years in the REDD+ agenda of the country. With their help the Reference Level presented in the ER-PIN was developed. FAO has also been supporting with safeguards workshops in recent years. In addition through the PRCC-USAID (Programa Regional de Cambio Climatico) for Central America, support was provided for the development of the financial model of the ER-PIN. The Regional Climate Change Program, with support from USAID worked in the Dominican Republic a process of national dialogue through a roundtable where partner organizations PRCC (CATIE, DAI, IUCN, TERRA and CARE) and national and / or regional projects related to climate change participated. The results of the round tables lead to important feedback strategies for sustainable landscapes (REDD +) and climate change .

Country organizations and government institutions different from the Ministry of Environment have also been active supporting the efforts made by the government on the implementation of the project. For instance The Steering Committee for REDD + (Comite Directivo Asesor) composed by the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Agriculture met once in July 2016 with the World Bank team and the Minister of Economy to discuss issues related to Readiness implementation and ER-Program and steps forward.

The Technical Advisory Committee for REDD + composed by civil society, universities and government organizations met twice in January and July 2016. Meetings onwards are expected to take place against demand.

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

No changes made to project design

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

Procurement and financial management training was given to the Project Implementation Unit in FY16

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?

A first SESA national workshop took place in Santo Domingo looking at validating strategic option for deforestation and forest degradation, and collecting information for the SESA plan.

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

The ESMF preparation has not started yet

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

The Environment Ministry has provided logistical resources for the preparation of workshops and meetings; communication (telephone and digital); information documents (print and digital) and human resources which is composed of 39 provincial and municipal and headquarters.

Workshops done so far with regards to early dialogue and consultations:

##1st national workshop REDD Santo Domingo, definition of scope and preliminary identification of parties involved in the preparation of the R-PP.

##3 regional workshops (North, South and East) and one in the National District consultation on the causes of deforestation and forest degradation.

##3 regional workshops (North, South and East), to identify strategies for the causes of deforestation and forest degradation options.

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##4 regional workshops (North, South, Northeast and East) on early dialogue to map definition of relevant stakeholders for REDD +; in the 4 workshops 132 people, 102 men and 30 women participated; which they represented 76 organizations and institutions

##1st national workshop SESA, Santo Domingo, for validation of strategic options for deforestation and forest degradation and gathering information for the national plan SESA.

##3 workshops socialization (Regions North, South and East) on the REDD + process in the Dominican Republic "Idea Note Program Emission Reduction (ER-PIN, for its acronym in English)".

Other communications materials haven't been displayed yet given that communications specialist hiring is still in process.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	480,000.00	480,000.00
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	480,000.00	0.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	480,000.00	0.00
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2018	12/31/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2019	06/30/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2019	12/31/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00