

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

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Ref.

Reporting Period: [Click here to enter a date.](#) to 4/30/2017

Printed On: 04/30/2017

Report Type: Interim Progress Report

Report Status: Draft

Assignment: [TF0A0709](#)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 199291

Jiang Ru

Approving Manager: 82671

Kseniya Lvovsky

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Pakistan
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9274 - GEN06
Grant Start Date / End Date	6/12/2015 to 6/30/2018
Program Manager	Simon J. Whitehouse
Original Grant Amount	\$3,800,000
Grant Amount	\$3,800,000
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements ¹	\$932,147.16 as of 4/25/2017
Disbursed 07/01/2015 to 4/25/2017	\$932,147.16
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

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

¹ The disbursement as per client's Mid-term report is \$598,484. The discrepancy is because the fund (\$932,147) has been disbursed from the Bank to the client, but some of that is yet to be disbursed from the client's account.

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments and Ratings

Grant Objectives:

The development objective of the Grant is to provide support to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Pakistan to monitor deforestation and reduce forest and land use change related greenhouse gas emissions through a socially, environmentally and technically sound national REDD+ strategy.

Overall progress from 7/1/2016 to 4/30/2017 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

After initial delay caused by personnel changes and limited experience with Bank managed operations, Pakistan has made **significant progress** in implementing the FCPF financed REDD+ Readiness Grant (see the following section for details) since June 2016. With a fully staffed and functional National REDD+ Office and the high commitment of the Pakistani Government to the REDD+ agenda, it is expected that all grant financed activities will be completed satisfactorily by June 2018.

Overall progress from 7/1/2016 to 4/30/2017 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

Since FY17, **significant progress** has been made in implementing this grant. Institutionally, the National REDD+ office is now fully staffed with qualified technical staff members to implement this grant. Through various grant activities, staff members attended several FCPF-sponsored events on REDD Readiness and all have been trained on project fiduciary and safeguard aspects. They have, hence, gained the necessary knowledge on proper Bank policies and procedures to manage this grant. At the province level, REDD+ Cells are functional with re-designated provincial focal points to maintain effective liaison with the National REDD+ Office and to support international and local consulting firms in carrying out the various studies funded by the grant. In early 2017, all provinces established their provincial REDD+ Management Committees to coordinate provincial REDD+ activities with the federal government. More importantly, a proposal to confirm the National REDD+ Office as a permanent unit under IGF/MOCC has been prepared per the decision of the 4th meeting of the National Steering Committee of REDD+. This proposal, if approved, will be key for the long term sustainability of REDD+ agenda in Pakistan.

Backed up by these strong entities, Pakistan has made significant progress on REDD+ consultation, participation and outreach activities. A large number of capacity building, consultation and awareness raising activities have been carried out under the grant.

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In terms of procurement, with close supervision of the Inspector General of Forests, all major consulting contracts except one have been being implemented satisfactorily. The procurement of the last contract on SESA (including the development of ESMF and FGRM) is expected to be signed in early May 2017. For signed contracts on REDD+ Strategy and Forest Reference Level and Monitoring System, international firms with rich REDD+ experience have been mobilized with strong support of local partners. It is evident that the National REDD+ Office has also made its utmost efforts to closely monitor implementation progress and to ensure that all contracts be completed within the existing implementation period.

As of April 25, 2017, a total of \$2.4 million has been committed, accounting for over 63% of the approved \$3.8 million. As such, Pakistan is on track to fully utilize the available grant funding.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Not applicable.

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

The Bank is working on an analytical study to identify potential investment opportunities in the forest sector of Pakistan. This initial grant is focusing on establishing necessary institutional arrangements for the implementation of REDD+ Readiness activities at the national level. Additional support will be needed to support capacity development at the provincial, district and even community levels, and examine potential investment opportunities that can help the Bank and the government define concrete forest investment opportunities at the provincial level.

Comment on follow up:

The REDD+ Readiness Preparation Grant enabled the Ministry of Climate Change (MOCC) of Pakistan to mobilize the support of a wide range of national and provincial stakeholders on REDD+ and improved their understanding of the forest sector's contribution to climate mitigation and resilience and the country's sustainable development. However, in multiple consultation events, stakeholders have requested openly that the National REDD+ Office and MOCC mobilize additional financing to support provincial governments and local communities. This additional funding is needed to create sufficient institutional and technical capacity and to design community focused and gender responsive REDD+ investment plans at the local level to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and reduce associated GHG emissions. With concrete climate change mitigation potential, such REDD+ investment plans can be presented to the federal and provincial governments of Pakistan and donors for financial support.

Based on such requests, the Pakistan Government is therefore keen on receiving the FCPF additional funding to supplement the ongoing readiness activities aimed at further strengthening the institutional capacity and the enabling policy space and continued effective stakeholder engagement, and

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identifying pilot REDD+ investment opportunities at the community level. Going forward, the government is interested in exploring potential funding opportunities by developing an Emission Reductions Program.

End Date of Last Site Visit: February 24, 2017

Restructuring of Grant: Not applicable.

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 7/1/2016 to 4/30/2017

During the reporting period, the capacity of the government of Pakistan in participating in global REDD+ mechanism has been significantly enhanced. Most basic prerequisites for REDD+ readiness have been successfully initiated, enabling the country to be well positioned to avail of future REDD+ financing. Level of understanding of REDD+ and related concepts has increased significantly among relevant stakeholders through frequently organized advocacy, awareness and consultation events. Consultative and participatory processes adopted and technical analyses conducted under the grant could lead into improved forest governance overall. Civil Society Organizations are represented in REDD+ Technical Working Group. Knowledge and skills of technical staff increased through REDD+ trainings.

Based on the performance of grant implementation in FY17, it is evident that the National REDD+ Office has also developed sufficient technical and project management capacity and sound working relationships with all provincial REDD+ Cells to manage the implementation of additional funding from FCPF at the provincial and community levels.

Grant Outcome Indicators

Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS/OUTPUTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Component 1. REDD+ Organization and Consultation

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: The key output of this component is the establishment of national readiness management arrangements and consultation, participation and outreach activities.

Actual Output: Implementation of this component so far has made **significant progress** as all the national and provincial institutional arrangements that were outlined in Pakistan's R-PP have been set up. Relevant stakeholders have been identified and given due consideration at all levels through

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regular consultations. Further improvements regarding multi-sectoral consultations at the community level have been suggested by provincial REDD+ management committees. National REDD+ Office, through the operationalization of the Provincial REDD+ Committees, is moving towards implementation of the suggestions. In addition, the recently signed REDD+ Awareness and Outreach Contract will help further improve awareness of the public and key stakeholders, such as parliamentarians, journalists, religious scholars and other politicians.

Component 2. National REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: The output of this component is the national REDD+ strategy, the Environmental and Social Management Framework, and Feedback and Grievance Redressal Mechanism for REDD+.

Actual Output: Pakistan's National REDD+ Strategy formulation process has been initiated in January 2017 in a transparent manner and solid foundations have already been laid. The formulation is based on the results of specific analytical studies and inputs received from a multi-stakeholder consultative process both at the national and sub-national levels. A joint venture of Indufor Oy (Finland) and CHIP Training and Consulting (Pakistan) has been mobilized to provide needed technical support. In addition, a contract named "Through Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), Preparing a Social and Environmental Management Framework (ESMF) & Developing Safeguards Information System (SIS) and Feedback and Grievance Redressal Mechanism (FGRM) for REDD+ after an Explicit Assessment of Existing Feedback and Grievance Redressal Mechanisms" is being procured with the expectation that a top ranked international firm will be mobilized in May 2017.

Component 3. Reference Emission Levels

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: The outputs of this component is the Forest Reference Level (FRL).

Actual Output: The FRL is being developed with the technical support of a joint venture of OY Arbonaut (Finland) and WWF-Pakistan. An inception workshop has been conducted in March 2017 with detailed description of methodology and work plan.

Component 4. Monitoring System for Forests

Status: Under Implementation

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Planned Output: The outputs of this component is the national forest monitoring system (NFMS) including a Measurement, Monitoring and Verification (MRV) system.

Actual Output: Based on existing draft NFMS Action Plan, a joint venture of OY Arbonaut (Finland) and WWF-Pakistan has been mobilized to design and develop the NFMS with a web-portal. The Work Plan and Methodological Framework proposed by the consultant has been endorsed by all stakeholders.

Comment on planned and actual Output

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Comment on component implementation progress

After initial delays caused by personnel changes and lack of familiarity with Bank policies and procedures, the National REDD+ Office overcame these challenges and made significant progress in implementing planned activities of this grant. More importantly the National REDD+ Office has effectively mobilized key stakeholders, in particular those at the provincial level, to actively participate in all grant activities, including but not limited to providing valuable inputs on the planned REDD+ readiness activities.

The design of grant components were adjusted during this reporting period based on actual implementation needs. The original four components are: (a) REDD+ Policy Analysis; (b) REDD+ Technical Preparation; (c) REDD+ Readiness Management; and (d) Designing and Testing REDD+ PES. All proposed activities under these components were repackaged under the four new components except that the original Component 4 was cancelled due to resource constraints and the misunderstanding about whether this grant can be used to pilot or implement any activities on the ground. The rationale for repackaging components was to make them consistent with those in the R-PP and to align them with the FCPF reporting structure such as per the R-Package Assessment Framework.

As noted in the above section, the implementation of the four new components are on track.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P152465 - Pakistan: REDD Preparation Project

Project Status: Lending

Global Focal Area: Climate change

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Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: The Inspector General of Forests Office (National REDD+ Office)

Contact: Syed Mahmood Nasir

Address: Ministry of Climate Change - Islamabad

Phone: +91-51-9245589

Email: igf.moenv@gmail.com; mnasirn@yahoo.com

Website: [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROGRAM

Program Specific Questions

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

Currently, FCPF/World Bank is the only major partner supporting Pakistan on REDD+. Since 2010, Pakistan received support of national and international NGOs to improve its knowledge and capacity on REDD+. In 2014, the government accessed the UNREDD Programme Targeted Support of UNREDD and the One UN Joint Program on Environment (totaling about \$0.235 million) to develop a Pakistan REDD+ Roadmap. Based on consultation of local forest communities, forest contractors, NGOs, academia, the media and officials from various government agencies, the UN grants helped MOCC to develop national consensus on the needs of REDD+ activities as well national capacities and strategies on the NFMS. All these activities helped Pakistan become a member of FCPF in 2013 and prepare a REDD+ Readiness Preparation proposal for FCPF support. Led by the IGF of MOCC, outputs of these pre-FCPF activities have been well fed into all activities under this FCPF grant.

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

As noted above, the design of the grant activities is largely kept intact except that the originally planned Component 4 (Designing and Testing REDD+ PES) was cancelled due to resource constraints as well as to the misunderstanding about whether this grant can be used to pilot or implement any activities on the ground. The components were repackaged for consistency with the R-PP Components and with the FCPF reporting structure as per the R-Package Assessment Framework.

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

The National REDD+ Office is now fully functional with dedicated and technical staff capable of implementing grant activities in compliance of Bank policies and procedures. Specifically, its staff now have substantial knowledge and experience on procuring consultant and non-consultant services, and handling technical and financial matters. The Bank's specialists are providing regular support to related staff members of the National REDD+ Office on fiduciary aspects. As a result, progress has been significant to date. The proposal of making the National REDD+ Office a permanent entity will ensure that all capacity developed in the office will be sustained in the long run.

In line with the grant objectives and components, the National REDD+ Office has organized targeted awareness and information sharing activities for stakeholders. Financial and procurement management staff have also attended training to improve performance. This has been manifested in the on time project reporting and delivery.

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?

The selection of the SESA consultant is at the final stage. The contract is expected to be signed in early May. The SESA TOR, cleared by the Bank, specifically states that the SESA be prepared in accordance with the Common Approach.

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

Per the requirements of the SESA TOR, ESMF will be prepared in accordance with the Common Approach after the contract signing in May 2017.

6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation and disclosure related to this Grant.

Stakeholder consultation and public disclosure have been essential components of the REDD+ Readiness process for Pakistan since the country initiated its REDD+ initiatives in 2010. Under this grant, the National REDD+ Office has organized a large number of meetings of the National Working Groups, National Steering Committee on REDD+, provincial REDD+ Management Committees. The National REDD+ Office also participated in provincial workshops on REDD+ and Climate Change Policy. The consultation and public outreach process has recently been accelerated after commencement of various studies and tasks viz. i) National REDD+ Strategy and its Implementation Framework; ii) Development of NFMS and FREL/ FRL along with MRV Mechanism; and iii) REDD+ Awareness and Outreach. The National REDD+ office is also conducting awareness-raising seminars on new emerging concepts related to REDD+ in collaboration with academic institution and universities. The National REDD+ Office has continued to strengthen its partnership with CSOs.

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REDD+ readiness studies are being carried out following the FCPF/UN-REDD Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness and the UNREDD supported stakeholder guidelines. The launching and implementation of these studies have been participatory involving comprehensive consultation plans.

As noted, under the SESA contract, a robust feedback and grievance redress mechanism (FGRM) will be developed to institutionalize stakeholder participation, grievance redress mechanism and disclosure procedures under the country's REDD+ initiatives.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	8,536.16	8,536.16
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	450,831.16	442,295.00
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	826,437.16	375,606.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	932,147.16 ²	105,710.00
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.		

Approved by:

Kseniya Lvovsky, Practice Manager, GENDR, 5/14/2017

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