

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A1121
Printed On: 03/22/2018

Reporting Period: 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Draft

Assignment: TF0A1121

Domincan Republic: FCPF REDD Readiness Preparation

FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000467066 - Rodrigo Martinez Fernandez
Approving Manager: 00000253690 - Valerie Hickey

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	787,207.06 as of 02/28/2018
Disbursed 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018	252,934.99
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 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

Progress in achieving key results:

- a) A cross-sectoral government coordination body (Comité Directivo) and a multi-stakeholder participatory platform (Comité Técnico Asesor) for the management of REDD+ have been established and operating regularly.
- b) A broad national consultation and participation strategy that mainstreams gender elements has been designed.
- c) A National REDD+ Strategy (ENA- REDD+) is being designed
- d) A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is being designed to inform the preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- f) 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 with the production of land use maps.

Main progress includes:

Consolidation of the Project Implementation Unit by hiring a team of consultants that is undertaking and supervising activities under the four components, and the purchase of equipment for the PIU.

Creation of Safeguards Committee as an institutional arrangement that will support the establishment of a national safeguards framework for the EN-REDD+. This Committee will help shape the analysis of risks related to REDD+ initiatives, the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and the establishment of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

Key studies under component 2 hired.

The National Forestry Inventory under development (the firm was recently hired and is starting to work).

Terms of reference for a consultancy that will establish Reference Levels and develop the MRV have been prepared and the consultancy is under bidding process.

Overall progress from 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

The implementation of the grant has been successful. Despite delays, by March 2018 it is expected that 65% of the funds will be committed. The PIU is working both on executing REDD+ Readiness Grant and preparing the Emission Reduction Program. During calendar year 2018 the PIU has been following the Operational Annual Plan with great dedication, although procurement timeliness have not run in their favor on certain cases. For calendar year 2018, a new Operational Annual Plan has been established and less delays in procurement processes are expected.

The firms and consultants to develop specific technical studies were hired including for: the National Forestry Inventory, Non forest Inventory, ESMF and SESA, Elaboration of cover and land use maps for 2015, Legal and institutional analysis, Carbon rights and transfer titling, Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, ER Program investment plan.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

N/A

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

Comment on follow up:

A supervision mission will take place in August 2018 to review progress on activities being executed.

With regards to the main steps expected for the next semester are:

Component 1

Director's Level Committee and Technical Advisory Committee (CTA) meetings, and establishment of at least two committees within the CTA framework.

Execute the REDD+ training plan for Provincial and Municipal authorities.

Conduct ten (10) SESA workshops

Continue working with the safeguards training program for the Safeguards Facilitation Group.

Component 2

Hire a consultant to write the REDD+ Strategy and write the strategy.

Component 3

Hire a consultancy that will develop and Submit Reference Levels to the UNFCCC .

Component 4.

Hire the consultancy in charge of the MRV mechanism

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

N/A

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018

Component 1:

Although there is a Technical Advisory Committee in place, there need for a deeper engagement of the members of the Committee with the REDD+ Strategy under preparation. To address this issue, sectoral sub-committees are been created. In addition, a coordinator will be hired to support the PIU in the engagement with CTA and other stakeholders.

Component 2:

The consultancy firm that will develop the SESA and ESMF has presented a good work plan. This plan has been revised and adjusted to include a detailed social characterization of intervention zones of the REDD+ strategy as an output.

Components 3 and 4.

The activities related to the establishment of Levels of Reference and MRV system be developed by a single consultancy that is currently under bidding process. Everything related to monitoring of social components and the safeguards information system will be covered by the same consultancy that will develop the SESA and ESMF.

Although institutional arrangements for MRV are under discussion, three entities within the Ministry Environment and Natural Resources have been identified as very adequate with clear responsibilities to set MRV institutional arrangements.

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

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COMPONENTS

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

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

Component 1.

#Cross sectoral coordination body (CD) and multi-stakeholder participation platform (Technical Advisory Committee - CTA) established and operating. The next is to achieve a more active participation of CTA members in sectoral sub-committees (e.g. safeguards, legal).

National communication and dissemination strategy designed

#Consultancy undergoing to develop SESA and ESMF.

#Consultancy undergoing to develop ESMF based on participatory processes and SESA. This consultancy will develop a gender strategy, will identify REDD+ co-benefits, and will design the safeguards Information system.

Component 2

#Study on drivers of deforestation and degradation and proposal of REDD+ actions undergoing. Reversal risks analysis will also be covered by this study

#Study on costs and benefits and financial plan starting

#Study on legal aspects of ER and carbon property rights undergoing

#SESA/ESMF study undergoing

Strong grievance and redress mechanism in place that has been strengthened by the Project with equipment provision to the provinces. The next step is to articulate REDD+ activities to this mechanism.

Component 3

A consultancy to prepare the National Forest and Emission Reference Level is under bidding process. This study will also perform the uncertainty analysis of land use change maps from the consultancy that created 2015 land use cover and land use change maps, analyse and evaluate pre-sampling plots for the National Forest Inventory and Emission Factor estimation, estimate and prepare the uncertainty reversal buffer. The same firm will be in charge MRV design

Component 4

#2005 and 2010 land cover and use maps based on Landsar images finalized. 2015 maps under validation process.

#Second phase of the National Forest Inventory undergoing

#Non-Forest Inventory undergoing

#MRV study under bidding process.#

#Study that will prepare the SIS undergoing. In 2017 the National Safeguards Committee was formed to work on a road map for setting up the national system.

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

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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:

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

Donor agencies and the Government of the Dominican Republic have contributed to the R-PP phase. Non-FCPF investments received under the R-PP process include funds from GIZ (USD\$845,000.00) and from the Dominican Republic's Government (USD\$432,000.00). In addition, non-FCPF investments received for implementation of activities relevant to ER Programs include USAID #Climate Change Regional Program (USD\$48,160.84) used for the establishment of the Safeguards Committee through CARE, and UN-REDD (USD\$85,000.00). Recently, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources indicated that new activities related to REDD+ are undergoing with other agencies, including GIZ, the Coalition for Rainforest Nations, and GEF.

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

No changes to report

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

The Bank team of specialists has provided a close collaboration to the Project Implementation Unit team throughout year. Two missions have taken place in FY18 to further support technical aspects of implementation. In addition, video-conferences have also taken place on a regular schedule. The PIU members also participated on a procurement training session to transition to STEP among other topics in Nicaragua, and the transition to STEP is finalized.

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 Safeguards Committee is in place. A dialogue and consultation with local communities and civil society has started with a workshop held by the Safeguards Committee in which stakeholders were able to state their desires and concerns regarding safeguards.

SESA and ESMF are in their early development stages consultancy firm that will generate the inputs for SESA has already started. The Safeguards Specialists from the Bank have carefully reviewed and adjusted the work plan presented by the firm to ensure that the SESA and ESMF will be conducted in accordance to the Common Approach.

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

ESMF has not yet been prepared.

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

Local communities have participated actively through a CTA meetings and safeguards training workshops, two workshops to advance in the definition of Forest and Forest Degradation in the REDD+ context.

The safeguards workshop was an opportunity for CSOs to express their expectations and concerns related to safeguards and their role in the construction of the REDD+ strategy.

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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	534,272.07	54,272.07
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	787,207.06	252,934.99
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	957,783.93	170,576.87
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