

# Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report Template

v. 2018



## FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

### About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

### Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30<sup>th</sup> June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework (<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

### Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15<sup>th</sup> July** every year.

## SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

### 1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities delivered within your country during the last year?

- For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
  - Please be as specific as possible, e.g. name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting
- Training of the Trainers Workshop for conducting the REDD+ Strategy consultation workshops in August 2 to 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The meeting was attended by the Chiefs of all field divisions and parks of the Department of Forests & Park Services. Total participants of 51 (44 males and 7 females).
  - REDD+ Strategy consultation workshops conducted across the Country from September to December, 2018. The workshops identified policies and measures against each drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. A total of 20 district and 24 local level workshops were conducted which were attended by more than 1229 participants (170 female & 1059 males) from key stakeholders including agriculture, livestock, environment, land sector, planning, private sector, corporations and local government leaders.
  - Tarayana Foundation conducted the workshop on REDD+ strategy options, policies and measures with remote and isolated communities in 58 villages under 8 Districts across the country. Total number of 749 women and 564 men participated in these workshops.
  - REDD+ SESA workshop conducted in January 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> for identifying the risks and benefits of the REDD+ Strategy Options and PAMs. Total participants was about 60 (11 Females and 49 Males)

- Several rounds of workshops held with stakeholders for developing the Forest Reference Emission Level starting from June, 2017. Final validation workshop carried out on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.
- Various capacity building for REDD+ and other related activities such as forest fire, valuation of ecosystem services, forest rules and regulations, community forest management, forest management, forest reference level building, safeguard were carried out in the year.
- Series of workshops organized for the valuation of the ecosystem services. Final validation workshop of the valuation of ecosystem services carried out June, 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## 2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related achievements in your country during the last year?

- For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalised, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed

- Draft SESA report submitted by the consultancy firm to WMD/TWG for review
- Grant agreement for REDD+ Additional funding signed
- Valuation of ecosystem services as part of non-carbon benefits completed and delivered
- Draft Forest Reference Emission Level ready and submitted to Ministry for further review
- Draft Strategy Options along with Policy and Measures (PAMS) finalized for the REDD+ Strategy
- Funding mobilization framework for the REDD+ Strategy drafted
- Cost-Benefit analysis of the REDD+ Strategy drafted
- Benefit sharing mechanism for the REDD+ drafted
- National Forest Monitoring System and MRV under construction
- Hiring of Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism consultancy work started. Firm shortlisted and technical proposal evaluated.
- The second volume of the National Forest Inventory report consisting of information on carbon and forest health published
- SESA-ESMF-SIS consultancy work awarded and work started
- National Legal expert to support the SESA-ESMF-SIS work completed.
- Identification and assessment of relevant legal framework for addressing the UNFCCC Safeguard in Bhutan completed
- 20 Heritage forests established in each Dzongkhags of Bhutan (20 districts)

## 3. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

- Delay in release of fund from World Bank. Fund is released after submission of IUFR quarterly and there are delays in fund released due to online system issues.

## 4. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

- SESA-ESMF-SIS to be finalized
- REDD+ Strategy document to be finalized
- Forest Reference Emission Level to be finalized
- Drafting of R-Package of to be started
- NFMS and MRV to be finalized and launched
- FGRM to be finalized

- Various consultation and trainings/capacity building to be organized in forest management and REDD+
- Draft of resources mobilization strategy for REDD+ Strategy implementation

## SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

5. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:  
(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

Complete	The sub-component has been completed
	Significant progress
	Progressing well, further development required
	Further development required
	Not yet demonstrating progress
N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
<b>R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation</b>		
Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Complete	REDD+ readiness phase progressing well. Several capacity building workshops organized for the REDD+ Secretariat, Taskforce and TWG members. More institutional arrangements to be established with the REDD+ Readiness fund and Additional Funding.
	X	
	N/A	
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	Complete	REDD+ Website revamped and materials are now available for stakeholders. Further development required to reach and involve more stakeholders for REDD+ activities
	X	
	N/A	
<b>R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation</b>		
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Complete	Drivers of Deforestation and forest degradation, assessment of land use and land cover change completed, revised Forest & Nature Conservation Rules & Regulations, review of policy and laws completed. Further requirement is on the Land use zoning to be done.
	X	
	N/A	
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	Complete	REDD+ Strategy preparation works completed with the conduct of various workshops conducted across the Country.

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)	
	Yellow	REDD+ Strategy Options & PAMs finalized. REDD+ Strategy components such as Benefit sharing, Cost benefit analysis and Fund Mobilization drafted. Further work on finalizing the Strategy to be done.	
	Orange		
	Red		
	N/A		
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	Complete	Various capacity building on FREL, GHG carried out. Various activities completed as part of the REDD+ Strategy development work. Further work on the institutional reforms to be carried out.	
	Green		
	Yellow		X
	Orange		
	N/A		
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	Complete	Draft SESA report submitted for review. ESMF initiated	
	Green		X
	Yellow		
	Orange		
	N/A		
<b>R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</b>			
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Complete	Draft Forest Reference Emission Level/Forest reference level is complete and submitted to Secretariat, Ministry for further review and complete.	
	Green		X
	Yellow		
	Orange		
	N/A		
<b>R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards</b>			
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	Complete	National Forest Monitoring System is under development. Web portal almost complete. MRV requires further work.	
	Green		
	Yellow		X
	Orange		
	N/A		
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Complete	Valuation of ecosystem services completed and delivered. SIS will be started after ESMF.	
	Green		
	Yellow		X
	Orange		
	N/A		

## SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
-----	--	-------------------------

If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

The Strategy Option 5 of the draft REDD+ Strategy is Enhancing Economic growth of rural communities. The Strategy Options will focus on rural communities which depend on agriculture activities, livestock management and forest resources for their livelihoods. Support on making these activities more efficient and productive, and the creation of alternative income will help reduce the pressure on the forest resources. The Strategy Option will be achieved via Policy and Measures (PAMS) such as Non-Wood Forest Products management and enterprise development, income generation through ecosystem services, climate smart livestock and climate smart agriculture practices.

7. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
-----	--	-------------------------

If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

The Strategy Option 5 of the draft REDD+ Strategy is Strengthening forest management activities. The activities will be carried out in different forest management regimes such as Protected areas and biological corridors focussing on biodiversity conservation, forest management units, community forests focussing on efficient and sustainable harvesting of forest produces (timber and non-timber) and watershed focussing on water resources management. The PAMs such as zoning at the national level will also identify areas of rich biodiversity and will be taken up for conservation.

## SECTION D: FINANCE

8. Please detail the amount of all finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process since the date that your R-PP was signed. Figures should only include secured finance (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included:

(Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
------------------	---	---------------------------	--	---

\$ 3.8 million	FCPF Readiness Grant	March/2015	Public / Private	Grant
\$ 4.8 million	FCPF Readiness Grant	February/2018	Public / Private	Grant

9. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

## SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

10. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a <b>central influence</b> on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has <b>improved the quality</b> of our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has <b>improved national capacities</b> to develop and deliver REDD+ projects					X
The FCPF's support has <b>helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders</b> (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes)					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

11. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
We <b>regularly access</b> FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information				X	
FCPF knowledge products are <b>relevant</b> to our REDD+ related information requirements				X	
FCPF knowledge products are <b>sufficient</b> to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements				X	
The FCPF <b>website</b> is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information				X	

**Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:**

## SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

12. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

Bhutan’s National REDD+ strategy and Action Plan which is being developed in a participatory manner backed by solid analyses of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation identified some of the key Policies and Measures that can be implemented to conserve the existing carbon stock and biodiversity of the Country. Around 60% of Bhutan’s forest cover is located outside Protected Areas and most of the resources are allocated from these areas. Therefore, managing these forest is key for contributing to Bhutan’s NDC and sustainable development goals. However, at the moment, the concern is the lack of funding for the implementation of the REDD+ Strategy, which needs to be explored if Bhutan wants to maintain status quo of sustainable development with high forest low deforestation Country.

The closing of FCPF by June 2020 is also a limiting factor as it gives us very limited time for Bhutan to implement the additional funding project in the most efficient manner.