

ANALYSIS OF THE FINAL VERSION OF GHANA'S REDDPLUS READINESS PREPARATION PROPOSAL(R-PP)

The Republic of Ghana presented its Readiness Preparation Proposal(R-PP) for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC), at its 5th meeting, held in March 2010, in Gabon. At this meeting, the PC adopted Resolution number PC/5/2010/3, where they decided to allocate grant funding for Ghana to enable it to move ahead with preparation for readiness. The PC requested Ghana to submit a revised R-PP addressing the key issues identified in a summary report to the resolution.

Ghana has submitted a revised R-PP to the FCPF FMT on 23rd December, 2010. The table below presents the main issues raised in the PC Resolution and the response provided in the revised R-PP. This analysis should allow the FMT to assess whether the issues raised by the PC Resolution have been attended to, which would allow the World Bank to continue its due diligence process in view of making the REDD+ Readiness grant available to the country. Key issues raised by the PC and how they were addressed in the final R-PP version (December 23, 2010) is presented in the table below.

Issues that Ghana needed to address before entering into a Readiness Preparation grant agreement with the Trustee of the Readiness Fund	Response in revised R-PP
<p>1) Clarification that stakeholders, in particular civil society will be engaged in the consultation process to ensure that adequate opportunities are provided for inputs from them into the readiness preparation process:</p>	<p>Indeed, the relevant civil society groups are already involved in the REDD+ consultation process in Ghana. The REDD+ Secretariat has contacted key civil society organizations such as Tropenbos, Civic Response, IUCN and HATOF Foundation who have interest and experience in VPA and REDD+ issues to conduct stakeholder consultations with their constituents at the local level particularly the forest fringe communities, traditional authorities and landowners and submit feedback to the National REDD+ Steering Committee on specific REDD+ issues. This will ensure that levels of communication and consultation are representative both in their groups and between them.</p> <p>Besides this initiative, Civil Society platforms such as the Forest Watch and Forest Forums have been identified as structures for further dissemination of REDD+ information to grass root forest -fringe communities. The contact group established during the VPA negotiating phase with Forest Watch as the hub will again be reactivated. The contact group is made up of representatives of identifiable stakeholders like the Trades Union, People with Disability and Women's groups. The contact group will thus help reach the respective stakeholder groups.</p>

	<p>The National REDD+ Steering Committee has also put in place a multi-stakeholder Working Group on Consultation and Participation which involves Civil Society Organizations and a traditional ruler with the following terms of reference:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Terms of Reference</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a detailed national consultation and participation plan outlining how local institutions and communities should be engaged in the REDD+ process. 2. Facilitate the development of a communication strategy for REDD+ 3. Oversee the development of REDD+ information booklet and training materials for dissemination to the stakeholders and platforms for broad information sharing on REDD+ through stakeholder based consultation. 4. Promote stakeholder based consultation on key pilot projects and legal/institutional changes. 5. Facilitate the establishment of and building capacity of Community REDD+ advocacy volunteers in pilot areas. 6. Facilitate expert and focused consultations through working groups and National Expert Consultations for thematic areas. 7. Facilitate validation workshop on the National REDD+ Strategy. 8. The Chairman reports on progress of work to the National REDD+ Steering Committee every quarter. 9. Co-opt other members as and when necessary to assist in the work of the group <p>Already, the traditional ruler on the working group has agreed to facilitate an outreach programme to the National House of Chiefs. (see page 28 of R-PP for details)</p>
<p>2) Provide information on how the existing consultation structures such as those provided by the FLEGT VPA could contribute to the consultations for REDD readiness;</p>	<p>Five (5) members of FLEGT/VPA Steering Committee are also members of NRSC which is mandated to provide an opportunity for discussion of plans and programmes initiated under VPA to inform actions for REDD+ implementation process.</p> <p>The organizations with representations on both VPA and REDD+ Steering Committees are: Tropenbos, Civic response, Ghana Timber Association (Loggers), Ghana Timber Millers Organization and Attorney General's</p>

	<p>Department.</p> <p>The structures used in the VPA processes have also been earmarked for use under the REDD+ process (see further elaboration of this above). Collaborative mechanisms both vertical (down to community level) and horizontal (across Government level) between VPA and REDD + have been proposed for discussion at the next NRSC meeting to enhance effective collaboration of efforts to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. (See page 25 of the R-PP for the details).</p>
<p>3) Include an analysis of experiences and lessons learnt from past and ongoing addressing deforestation and forest degradation. The linkages between Forest Investment Programme (FIP) and the REDD readiness process should be clarified.</p>	<p>This comment will be addressed with support from United States Forest Services (USFS) International Programs.</p> <p>A consultant will be selected to undertake Ghana's Forest Sector Assessment with the following Terms of Reference (TORs):</p> <p>Terms of Reference for Ghana's Forest Sector Assessment</p> <p>Under the guidance of the USFS, a team of consultants consisting of one expatriate and two Ghanaians will be lead authors and researchers on an assessment/study on lessons learnt from forest sector projects in Ghana over the past 25 years. The development of this report shall include a series of consultative meetings with key stakeholders of the Ghanaian forest sector. Those stakeholders shall include, but not limited to civil society, private sector, local, regional, and national government representatives, and donors. Preliminary interviews with stakeholders will culminate in a stakeholder workshop to be held in Accra halfway through the development of the evaluation report. The workshop shall be coordinated with the National REDD Steering Committee.</p> <p>The final report should have the following sections (illustrative page lengths included):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Description of the current context of the forest sector (20 pages). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summary of current forest concession system, regulations, authorities, and incentives ○ Overview of existing forestry extraction agreements such as the Voluntary Partnership Agreement and how such agreements will impact REDD+ systems ○ Identification of off-set, set-back, easement

	<p>requirements, and protected areas within current forest sector law and the relative enforcement of these systems throughout the country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analysis of experiences and lessons learnt from past and ongoing initiatives addressing deforestation and forest degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (30 pages) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Analysis of policy reforms linked to the forest sector for the last 25 years and the relative success of those reforms on achieving measurable change in the forest sector ○ Analysis of site-level interventions over the past 25 years and their relative success in conserving or enhancing forests ○ Description of ongoing projects and policy reforms, particularly as they relate to forests and climate change issues. ○ Summary of lessons learned from past and current activities ▪ Recommendations (5 pages) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The types of further analyses needed to assist the GOG plan its REDD+ program ○ The types of activities a REDD+ program should engage in to promote a forestry system in Ghana which would be capable of buying into a forest carbon system underneath a REDD+ protocol ▪ Annexes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ List of stakeholders consulted ○ Selected bibliography <p>It is imperative to note that the revised statement of work will clarify the linkages between Forest Investment Programme (FIP) and the REDD readiness process in Ghana. The study will provide useful information for both FIP and FCPF REDD+ Process in Ghana.</p> <p>Role of USFS and Government of Ghana</p> <p>As the holder of the contract, the USFS will provide technical, managerial, and budgetary oversight of the consultants. In addition to guiding and approving the work of the consultants, USFS will contribute their technical insights to the report. The USFS will stay in close contact with the Government of Ghana National REDD Steering Committee update them on progress of the consultants work and to obtain input and assistance on questions and</p>
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issues as they arise.

The review of the interim draft will be coordinated by the USFS so as to include all comments and issues raised by USAID and National REDD Steering Committee and the final report will be approved by the USFS, USAID, and the National REDD Steering Committee.

Timeline

The consultants shall commence work on the evaluation early in the month of January 2011 with the stakeholder workshop anticipated for mid February 2011. The draft report shall be submitted no later than March 1, 2011. Following two weeks of time for comment by USFS, USAID and the National REDD Steering Committee, the consultants should submit the final report by March 30, 2011.

The Ghana Forest Sector Specialists shall have the following skills:

- 15 years senior supervisory experience coordinating national and/or trans-boundary forest and wildlife policies, between communities and government agencies/staff within national forests and protected areas.
- 15 years experience in natural resource management including forest planning, environmental assessments, extractive industries, and wildlife management.
- Intimate knowledge and familiarity with the forest sector of Ghana including a deep understanding of the reforms that have been made to the sector and the interconnectedness of other rural sectors such as agriculture and fisheries to the forest sector.
- Broad understanding of the Ghanaian engagement with the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) including the development of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP).

<p>4) Confirm (with appropriate TORs) that REDDplus is part of the mandate of the Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Council (ENRAC), the apex body at the Cabinet level for providing oversight on the national climate change issues.</p>	<p>The apex body was launched on Friday 7th May 2010 in the office of the Vice President who is the Chairman of Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Council (ENRAC).</p> <p>The National Management Arrangement technical working group has incorporated REDDplus initiatives in the mandate of ENRAC as per its TORs (see mandate 5 below).</p> <p>FRAMEWORK FOR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL</p> <p>INTRODUCTION</p> <p>Ghana’s economy is highly dependent on the utilization of natural resource especially forestry, wildlife and the mining which account for almost 15% of gross domestic production. A greater proportion of the population (about 70) depends on natural resources for their livelihood (food, water and energy requirements). In the face of increasing population, there is enormous pressure on the environment and natural resources. For the natural resources to continue supporting economic growth there is the need to strengthen environmental governance through the improvement of the policy, regulatory and institutional framework.</p> <p>This calls for the establishment of a national inter-ministerial advisory body consisting of stakeholders representing government, labour, business and civil society to discuss environmental and natural resource issues and provide strategic direction on matters concerning environmental and natural governance and management prior to decision making.</p> <p>The establishment of the proposed inter-ministerial advisory body shall have the following elements.</p> <p>NAME</p> <p>Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Council (ENRAC)</p>
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MISSION STATEMENT

- A body which will provide overall strategic direction to government and relevant stakeholders on environmental and sustainable development issues

MANDATE

- The ENRAC will be a high level policy coordinating body that will deliberate on critical national issues, priorities, strategies and policies necessary for sustainable development and advise government on appropriate action.
- The ENRAC shall provide strong political leadership to build on economic strengths in harmony with environment as a basis for prosperity.

To achieve their mandate and mission the Council will specifically:

- Ensure stronger integration of environmental perspectives into decision making
- Ensure government protects the environment and natural resources of the country for the benefit of present and future generations
- Ensure that government takes the lead in combating environmental and natural resource degradation and the adverse effects thereof and initiate actions on Climate Change adaptation and mitigation including REDD+ actions as outlined in the National Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)
- Assist government to take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent or minimize the causes of environmental and natural resource degradation and mitigate adverse effects to avoid irreversible

	<p>damage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure environment is mainstreamed into development processes and other relevant policy areas • Promote coordination of policies and programs and facilitate a platform for dialogue among all stakeholders (including private sector and the civil society) on environmental and natural resource governance. • Assess current policy reform and provide feedback on their impact on environment and natural resources management, enhance policy options and help shape future policy • Assist Government in decision making and policy formulation on the environment and natural resources • Identify priority areas for change or improvement and suggest solutions including law enforcement • Increase the government’s understanding of factors driving or hindering sustainable environmental and natural resources management • Conduct regular policy reviews on the local implications of global agreements on national development • Conduct regular policy reviews and provide periodic reports on trends of sustainable development in Ghana <p>ENRAC MEMBERSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership should be ten or eleven in number including Vice President, Ministers of Food and
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Agriculture, Local Government and Rural Development, Environment Science and Technology, Lands and Natural Resources, Finance and Economic Planning, Energy, Water Resources, Works and Housing, Representatives of the Private Sector, President of the National House of Chiefs and a Representative of Civil Society.

- The Council shall have the power to invite or co-opt individuals or representatives of groups to enrich deliberations.
- The ENRAC will be chaired by HE Vice President. There shall be a vice chair which will rotate between MEST and MLNR on yearly basis.

The existing TCC is made up of EPA, Minerals Commission, Forestry Commission and Ministries of Environment Science and Technology and Lands and Natural Resources and relevant institutions.

The Expanded NREG Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC+) will include the following institutional arrangements:

Ghana FIP Institutional Arrangements:

- (i) Focal Point: Official FIP Focal Point remains the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources as stated in the original expression of interest to the FIP.
- (ii) Environmental and Natural Resources Advisory Council (ENRAC): ENRAC is the high-level body that is to meet twice a year to discuss key environmental issues to be presented at parliamentary level.
- (iii) Technical Coordination: The NREG Technical Coordination Committee (TCC) which has been operational for three years will form the basis for overall guidance of the FIP and will be expanded with additional members (including two from private sector, two from civil society, one from Forest Forum representing community point of view, one

	<p>from research institution, one from traditional authorities, one from Ministry of Agriculture, one from Ministry of Energy, and one from the Lands Commission. In this new configuration the TCC will be renamed TCC+, and will be responsible for coordinating Ghana's FIP, FCPF (REDD+) and other initiatives. The existing Steering Committees including VPA, National Forest Forum, Non-Legal Binding Instruments (NLBI), and the FIP will be converted into Technical Working Groups and report to the TCC+. The TCC+ will meet four times per year.</p> <p>(See pages 12-13 of the R-PP annex for the TCC+ ToR)</p>
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