

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: LIBERIA

SEPTEMBER, 2012

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- R-PP assessed by FCPF PC at PC6.
- \$200K FCPF Formulation Grant is signed and disbursed as of 2010
- R- PP presented and approved in June 2011
- R- PP Revised and submitted to the FCPF in accordance with the PC 9 resolution
- FCPF Readiness Grant finalized (grant agreement signed June 29, 2011, fiduciary arrangements finalized, WB due diligence completed, R-PP Assessment Note prepared, 1st disbursement completed)
- Terms of Reference for recruitment of key staffs ongoing following World Bank technical mission in October 2012

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- A National REDD + Technical Working Group established to play a technical advisory role for the National Climate Change Steering Committee. This Group liaised directly with the Advisor to the president on Climate Change and energy during the R-PP formulation phase
- A National Climate Change Steering Committee launched by the President of the Republic of Liberia. The Terms of Reference have been developed and approved.
- The National Climate Change Secretariat Administrative Coordination has been recruited to facilitate implementation of R-PP activities, with office at the Ministry of States & Presidential Affairs
- The REDD+ consultation & Participation Task Forces established (C&P Taskforce), and provide expertise and oversight on communication, outreach and public participation.
- REDD Implementation Unit housed in the FDA and will be under the oversight of the REDD Project Coordinator

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- Regional dialogue and information sharing workshops on REDD+ held in 15 counties during the R-PP formulation phase
- A National REDD+ Stakeholder awareness and Consultations Workshop started in 2009 as part of consultations on the National Climate Change Response Strategy
- Three National Civil Society Dialogue Workshops held with representative from all civil society groups including NGO, academia, media, youth groups, women group
- Nationwide radio campaign for REDD+ and R-PP awareness raising – Dissemination of REDD+ and R-PP (FCPF) information in both Liberian English and translated into 16 local Liberia languages, and broadcast via 54 local radio stations nation- wide

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- Five R-PP multi-stakeholder proposal writing team meetings organized
- A Stakeholder Consultation and Participation (C&P) Plan was designed and implemented in the formulation phase.
- A national validation workshop was held in March 2011.
- RTWG developed a national REDD+ and climate change website, Communication materials (brochures) were prepared before the consultations.
- A plan to follow up on consultations during Readiness Preparation phase has been developed.
- A communication strategy on REDD developed.
- Gender and Climate Change information sharing and plan of action workshop held with participant from both rural and national women groups and structures.
- Information sharing and sensitization workshops continued.
- A REDD+ workshop was held on 1st February 2012 with local authorities and FDA regional staffs in Sinoe County, FDA to discuss community options between REDD+ activities and logging on their deeded land
- Workshop for the National Forest Forum (NFF) on REDD+ and Forest Governance for the actors from 15 counties was held on April the 11th, 2012
- National REDD+ and Land use workshop held on April 12, 2012 for the Liberia National Chainsaw Union on REDD+ and Forest Governance for the actors in 15 counties
- Workshop held on April 28, 2012 for students of the UMU Agriculture College in Gbason Town , Sinoe County on REDD+ to inform them about REDD as alternative forest use options

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- Forest re-assessment and land use options analysis will be central elements of FCPF support
- Candidate strategies, their objectives and expected outcomes are described in the R-PP. Next steps will be to evaluate and monitor outcomes of early action testing followed by scaling up of measures deemed successful.
- The R-PP provides overview of strategy option in energy, agriculture and forestry sectors
- A low carbon development strategy paper completed.

5. Implementation Framework

- R-PP implementation option developed which highlights an acceptable procedure of transparency, conflict resolution and grievance management
- A benefit sharing mechanism already developed under Community Forestry will be adapted for REDD+ through further analysis

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6. SESA

- Draft ToRs for SESA were prepared and included in the R-PP.
- Draft Road-map for the implementation SESA developed
- Draft ToRs for recruitment of SESA facilitator prepared
- The assessment of social and environmental considerations will be integrated with REDD readiness and the C&P Taskforce to lead SESA process and will be synergized with the REDD+ standards developed and the CCBA standards work

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- Data needs and availability of support to develop a Reference scenario and the Monitoring system has been identified.

8. MRV

- Discussions currently ongoing on how best to develop an effective MRV system using fund allocated from other government ministry and agencies activities budget.
- Supports are been source to enhance capability within the forestry sector in Liberia to carry our forest resource assessment and monitoring in support of REDD+ efforts.

9. Other

- Negotiation and discussions have commenced with local development partners in sourcing support the implementation of specific components and activities within the RPP.
- A REDD+ and R- PP awareness and information sharing process was organized with key government ministries, Land Commission and National Legislature
- CARE USA through CCBA has provide funding support to start discussion on establishing a National REDD+ SES Standard Committee
- Discussions are ongoing to ensure synergies between the other funding sources and the FCPF grant.
- Information sharing and sensitization of communities continued.
- A two week Forest Governance Training course was held from the February 20th- 2nd March

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2012 for thirty (30) participants including civil societies, communities, private sector and government institutions in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, and facilitated by the Center for International Development and Training (CIDT) of the University of Wolverhampton, UK.

- Inter-ministerial workshop held on 7th September 2012 involving Ministries of agriculture, mining, planning, MIA, Land Commission, FDA EPA, CSOs and traditional rulers.
- The National REDD+ SES Standard Committee Established.
- National Gender and Climate Change Strategy Developed.