

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: REPUBLIC OF CONGO

September 2011

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- The revised final R-PP was submitted by the Republic of Congo to the FMT in September. This version incorporates further comments from PC members and observers made at the PC 10 meeting in June 2011. This version has been shared with the PC members and is available on the FCPF website.
- The WB is currently conducting its due diligence with the view of signing a USD3.4 million grant to support the implementation of key activities identified in the final R-PP.
- \$200K FCPF Formulation Grant is fully disbursed.
- The UN-REDD Program has announced that the Republic of Congo has been selected for UN-REDD full-scale technical and financial support. A first joint mission between the FCPF and UN-REDD programs took place from September 13 to 16, 2011.
- The national government has made 150 million FCFA (around 300,000 USD) available for the year 2011, which should be used to implement the national management arrangements for REDD+, capacity building, support to the design of the national REDD+ strategy and initial analysis necessary for the establishment of a national reference scenario and a MRV system.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- The National REDD Committee is not operational yet. The official legal text for the creation of the Committee is under preparation. However, various members of the Committee already have informal meetings to discuss REDD-related issues, including representatives from other Ministries.
- The National REDD Coordination is not formally created, but operational with three technicians and the national coordinator.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- A Provisional Committee (Commission intérimaire REDD+ de la Société civile) regrouping members of the national civil society was put in place in 2010, with the goal of closely working with the National REDD Coordination towards the finalization of the R-PP; ensuring a proper level of consultations.
- At the joint FCPF & UN-REDD mission in September, CSOs have expressed interest in formalizing this structure, and the UNDP will provide support to this process, including the preparation of a General Assembly of CSOs in January 2012.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- In-depth analysis of causes of deforestation and forest degradation, and REDD+ options are to be launched once the FCPF USD3.4 million grant is available. The National Coordination has refined the ToRs for these studies, which can be found in the final R-PP.
- Pilot projects proposals for submissions to CBFF, AFD and other potential donors will be prepared with the support of a technical assistant to be hired under UN-REDD financing.
- An initial REDD Opportunity Scoping Exercise (ROSE), including government, civil society and private sector stakeholders, will be held in November 2011 in order to provide more detail on pilot projects.

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5. Implementation Framework

- Analytical studies (funds management, benefit sharing, carbon ownership, REDD+ regulations) to be launched once the second part of FCPF financing is available. ToRs for these studies have been refined and can be found in the final R-PP version.

6. SESA

- Terms of Reference for the SESA have been prepared as part of the R-PP.
- A first SESA capacity-building workshop is to take place in September, in Brazzaville, bringing together CSOs and government officials.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- No activity to report at this stage. Activities to be launched once the second tranche of FCPF financing is available.
- GAF-AG working on historic deforestation with ESA funding, and the data will allow RoC to build its reference scenario.

8. MRV

- The WRI-led project “Quantification of carbon and emissions from deforestation and degradation from forests of the Republic of Congo” aims to generate accurate data, develop methods and strategies, and build relevant stakeholder platforms for measuring, accounting for and monitoring forest carbon and emissions in the Republic of Congo. The international project team is fully in place. Technical partners (Winrock, SDSU, OSFAC and Imazon) are on board.

9. Other