

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF094778
Printed On: 11/05/2013

Reporting Period: 07/21/2009 to 11/30/2011
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF094778

REPUBLIC OF CONGO: FCPF READINESS GRANT FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000055111 - Simon A. P. Rietbergen
Approving Manager: 00000096218 - Idah Z. Pswarayi-Riddihough

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Congo
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	8107 - AFTN1
Grant Start Date / Closing Date	07/21/2009 to 11/30/2011
Program Manager	
Original Grant Amount	200,000.00
Grant Amount	200,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	195,362.16 as of 11/30/2011
Disbursed 07/21/2009 to 11/30/2011	195,362.16
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Completion, Disbursements, Procurement Plan, Procurement Actuals.

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

To support the preparation of the Republic of Congo's Readiness Preparation Proposal for the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Overall progress from 07/21/2009 to 11/30/2011 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

The revised final Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) was submitted by the Republic of Congo to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Management Team (FMT) in September 2011.

Overall progress from 07/21/2009 to 11/30/2011 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

The grant was successfully implemented. Final delivery of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) was a bit later than originally planned as the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's Participants Committee provided extensive comments that took considerable time to address.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up project or grant (non-Bank funded)

Comment on follow up:

The follow-up Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) grant agreement for USD3.4 million was signed in January 2012 between the World Bank and Congo's Ministry of Finance. The follow-up grant will assist the country to prepare a Strategy for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

COMPLETION

Overall Assessments and Lessons Learned

Main lessons learned:

There are a number of lessons learned:

1. Like in many other FCPF countries, it has been difficult to mobilize the national REDD committee and to make it work in terms of mobilizing cross-sectoral interest in REDD (e.g. agriculture, transport & infrastructure, extractive industries). Early IEC activities to mobilize other Ministries than Forestry and training for national REDD committee members would therefore appear to be essential;
2. It has been easier to engage with civil society (environment & development NGOs, indigenous peoples associations) than with the private sector. The latter will hopefully be more engaged in the development of the national REDD strategy, which is being funded in part by the second FCPF grant of 3.4 million US\$.
3. Strong leadership within government allowed for efficient implementation of the grant and for effective coordination of the efforts of different REDD+ donors.

Overall outcome (and its Sustainability):

Comment:

The work the Congo is doing on Readiness for REDD has been successful so far, and this has enabled the country to attract significant additional funding for the follow-up work on a national REDD strategy.

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Bank Performance:

Comment:

The Bank performance was satisfactory. The presence of a Bank carbon finance specialist in the nearby Kinshasa office, who functioned as co-TTL, allowed for more frequent in-person implementation support than would otherwise have been possible.

Additional Assessment

Development / strengthening of institutions:

Comment:

The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment (MSDFEE) was significantly strengthened through working on the grant. In addition, MSDFEE's relationship with the Congolese civil society improved significantly over the grant implementation period, as a result of the consultative and participatory process put in place for completing the R-PP.

Mobilization of other resources:

Comment:

The country's participation in the FCPF enabled it to attract a multiple of the US\$200k FCPF grant managed by the Bank. UN-REDD in particular has become an important donor for the elaboration of the national REDD+ strategy.

Knowledge exchange:

Comment:

There was considerable knowledge exchange during the implementation period, for example through the collaboration between foreign consultants and local experts, through exchange visits to Brazil, and through exchanges with DRC. The latter was especially useful for Congo, as the REDD Readiness process in DRC was slightly ahead of that in Congo.

Client's policy / program implementation:

Comment:

Given that REDD is a very new issue and that the REDD+ mechanism has not yet been adopted by the international community, implementation is not yet opportune.

Efficiency:

Comment:

The grant was implemented in an efficient way.

Replicability:

Comment:

A number of lessons learned from the way the work was done could easily be applied elsewhere, e.g. re the value of open collaboration between UNREDD and WB FCPF.

Main recommendations to stakeholders:

Open, active collaboration with other donors is key, as was demonstrated by the close collaboration between the UN-REDD and WB-FCPF teams in Congo.

Main recommendations to Bank Management:

REDD+ is not just a self-standing activity, but it can also serve to improve the quality of the country policy dialogue, as it is cross-sectoral in its outlook..

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DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2009	12/31/2009	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2010	06/30/2010	0.00	0.00	87,330.42	87,330.42
07/01/2010	12/31/2010	0.00	0.00	87,330.42	0.00
01/01/2011	06/30/2011	0.00	0.00	195,362.16	108,031.74
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	195,362.16	0.00

PROCUREMENT PLAN

None

PROCUREMENT ACTUAL

None