



Readiness Fund  
Annual Progress Report  
Pakistan (2017-18)

v. 2018



## FCPF Readiness Fund: Pakistan 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 **10<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

Government of Pakistan (GoP) has been working on REDD+ Readiness Activities since June 2015 under the overall guidance of Office of the Inspector General of Forests and with the technical support of national and international consulting firms. With the ongoing readiness activities in concluding phase, Government of Pakistan is also working side by side for initiation of readiness activities under additional funding.

In April 2017 GoP submitted its Mid-Term Report with request for Additional Funding (AF) that was approved in January 2018 vide Resolution PC/Electronic//2018/1 dated January 3, 2018. The Participant Committee decided to allocate funding to Pakistan of an additional USD 4.014 million to continue with its preparation for readiness. Pakistan was encouraged to take into account better coordination among REDD+ readiness activities and continue to engage key stakeholders throughout the readiness phase. GoP intends to extend the readiness phase by initiating sub-national level studies on assessment of demand and supply of forest products and services, assessment of existing forestry systems, upgradation of provincial Measurement Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems, Private sector engagement and legalities of REDD+ and preparation of sub-national management and action plans.

This report describes progress made by Pakistan, during the reporting period, considering the FCPF Monitoring & Evaluation Framework.

### **Component 1: Readiness Organization and Management:**

- National REDD+ Office convened four meetings of the National Steering Committee (NSC) in Islamabad at Ministry of Climate Change for the overall monitoring and evaluation of the readiness activities in Pakistan. The meetings were conducted on July 20, 2017 (46 participants including 8 women in the meeting representing Key Ministries, Organizations, CSO and Forest Communities), January 23, 2018 (35 participants including 9 women), April 9, 2018 (37 participants including 7 women) and a special meeting on June 13, 2018 (30 participants including 7 women). During the meetings the National Steering Committee evaluated the subsequent progress of readiness activities in Pakistan. .
- During the reporting period, Thematic REDD+ Working Groups met twice on 7-8 August 2017 and 15-16 January 2018. Important decisions included finalization of the National Definition of Forest for REDD+, Institutional arrangements for the National Forest Monitoring System and establishment of sub-national REDD+ Cells for leading the REDD+ interventions at Provincial/territorial levels among others. Key recommendations for setting national standards for developing NFMS / FRELs were formulated. During the meetings 52 members including (11 Females) of the Working groups and experts from Provincial Forest departments, Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO), Survey of Pakistan, CSO representatives were consulted.

### **Capacity Building:**

#### **Training of Trainers**

- A series of training of trainers (TOT) was conducted at International, National and Provincial Levels. In the training of trainers organized in Joensuu-Finland from August to September 2017. Master trainers (9 males, 1 female) were trained in thematic areas of Satellite Land Monitoring System and National Forest Inventory. The master trainers afterward conducted four training of trainers at national and provincial levels in which number of participants aggregated as 111 including 23 females.
- Two training of trainers conducted on Safeguards Information System at National and Provincial Levels on 19 January 2018 & 13 April 2018 respectively in which a total of 70 individuals participated including 13 females.
- Three training/consultative workshops were conducted on Payments for Ecosystem Services for Mangrove Forests in Karachi, Sindh i.e. i) First Workshop had 42 participants with 36 men and 6 women, it was held from February 8-10, 2018 ii) Second Workshop was held from March 12-13, 2018, it had overall 52 participants with 50 men and 2 women iii) Third Workshop was held from May 14-15, 2018. This was conducted for the women community of Mangrove Forests and overall 25 women participated. Another training/consultative workshop was conducted in Quetta for Mangrove Forests of Balochistan. It was conducted from April 17-18, 2018 and there were 36 participants, with 31 men and 5 women. Four more training/consultative workshops were conducted for PES of Moist Temperate Forests in Kaghan i.e. i) First Workshop was conducted at Balakot from April 23-24, 2018. It was attended by 62 participants with 60 men and 1 women ii) Second Workshop was conducted at Malakandi, Balakot from April 30, 2018 to May 1, 2018, where 49 participants attended, with 48 men and 1 women iii) Fourth Workshop was conducted at Balakot from May 11-12, 2018, where 66 participants attended with 61 men and 5 women iv) Third Workshop was conducted at Balakot from May 14-15, 2018, where 30 women participants attended.

#### **Awareness raising and outreach:**

- A training was conducted for 15 journalists on July 19, 2017 in Islamabad on REDD+. A visit for 13 journalists was organized to Murree from May 19-20, 2018. A visit for journalists was organized to Babusar, Gilgit and Diamer from October 3-6, 2017 (20 journalists that comprised 10 males and 10 females) to sensitize them about forestry issues. The visit resulted in five newspaper articles that were published by different journalists in various dailies.
- Side event for proposing policy messages for the Conference of the Parties (COP) 23 was organized in Islamabad on November 1, 2017. There were 50 participants who attended the session and provided valuable recommendations for the COP 23 which was held in Bonn, Germany. The event was also reported in various national dailies.

- A panel discussion on REDD+ attended by 46 participants was conducted at Annual Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) on December 7, 2017 in Islamabad.
- In recognition of the media professional's dedicated work on REDD+, a competition titled "REDD+ Media Awards, 2017" was organized. A total of 57 entries were received. Four participants were awarded for their media coverage on REDD+. The awards were announced on December 6, 2017 in Islamabad at the 20<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Development Conference. The selection for awardees was conducted by the group of senior journalists.
- Three public awareness raising seminars were conducted on a) "Agriculture system of Gilgit Baltistan (GB): Potentials and Challenges" on 7th August, 2017 in Islamabad. Youth was sensitized about the REDD+ and forestry issues in the country. 28 participants attended the seminar; b) "Payment for Environmental Services" on February 6, 2018 in Islamabad in which 35 individuals. The third seminar on c) "Urban Forestry" was conducted in Islamabad on the occasion of International Day of Forests, March 21, 2018. 82 participants attended this seminar. Wide coverage in English and Urdu newspapers was ensured.
- A consultative session was held at the event titled, "Peaceful, Green and Clean Pakistan" on April 24, 2018 in Islamabad. About 100 students from various universities were sensitized about the importance of REDD+ during the session.
- An international visit of delegates from Provincial Forest Departments of FATA was organized to Nepal Kathmandu for 5 days from 13-17 February 2018.
- A scoping mission of Coalition for Rain Forest Nations (CfRN) under Reporting for Results based REDD+ Actions (RRR+) was facilitated by the National REDD+ Office under which various meetings with national authorities and focal points have been convened from 17-20 July 2017. RRR+ has also facilitated visit of two Provincial representatives to a regional workshop conducted by Coalition for Rain Forest Nations (CfRN) under Reporting for Results based REDD+ Actions (RRR+) at Cameroon on 17-19 October and at Singapore from 26-27 June 2018.

#### **National REDD+ Internship Program:**

National Internship Programme was completed for two batches from January-June 2018 for a duration of three months each in which 32 students (including 25 female) from 13 Universities across Pakistan conducted research in various thematic areas of REDD+.

#### ***Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation:***

- Comprehensive consultations encompassing the national and provincial surveys on drivers of deforestation for preparation of National REDD+ Strategy were organized. Target groups included Government departments, CSOs, Forest communities and academia. During Second round of consultation in November 2017 meetings with each Provincial REDD+ Management Committee was conducted in which a total number of 392 people consulted with representatives of forest communities, Provincial Forest Departments, CSOs, Academia etc. During the consultation process 63 females were consulted. Main direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation were identified and analysed during the consultations. Results were shared with the Thematic REDD+ Working Groups held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017 in which 52 participants, including 11 women, participated. However, the ranking of drivers in the order of severity could not be established due to absence of timber and fuelwood extraction data at National level. In addition to that, results from the development of National Forest Monitoring System are still under review process.
- The land tenure issues for the implementation of REDD+ interventions in Pakistan were identified through the consultation process, however, further actions are required to formulate clear policies and measures towards REDD+ result based payments during implementation of Additional Funding.
- A legal, institutional and policy framework for REDD+ in Pakistan was drafted and revised in consultation with the Thematic REDD+ Working Groups. A national vision was proposed by Thematic REDD+ Working Group and was presented in a consultation workshop conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 that included 38 participants (8 women) from Provincial Forest Department, Civil Society Organizations, and NGOs among other REDD+ Stakeholders. The institutional arrangements for REDD+ were presented, however, these are yet to be approved.
- An Implementation Framework was proposed based on set of seven strategic options, however, it still lacks design of the specific intervention and the enabling conditions described in the strategic framework. A gap analysis of the current governance structure has also been conducted in this regard for further actions required in the readiness phase.

Although, the Action Plan lacks specific and detailed set of actions for provincial forest departments to start implementation, however, this gap can be fulfilled with the set of activities to be worked upon in provincial level action plans.

- In a parallel study on developing Feedback Grievance Redressal Mechanism, Strategic Environment and Social Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Framework, various activities have been conducted to support National REDD+ Strategy of Pakistan. A workshop was held in Islamabad with objectives; i) Share countries' best practices and lessons learnt on meeting REDD+ Safeguard ii) requirements and processes under the UNFCCC and FCPF iii) To build capacities and gather feedback on the proposed Safeguards Information iv) System (SIS) framework design iv) To build capacities and gather feedback on the proposed Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF) v) To build capacities and gather feedback on the proposed Feedback Grievance Redressal Mechanism (FGRM) Design Framework. There were 46 participants who attended the workshop including 8 women.
- Another workshop on "Safeguards for REDD+ Program" was conducted from January 17-18, 2018 in Islamabad. The workshop had following objectives to achieve; i) To build awareness on REDD+ Safeguard requirements and processes under the UNFCCC and FCPF ii) To present findings of analysis of legal and institutional capacity to address safeguards iii) To present proposed interpretation of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards in accordance with Pakistan's national circumstances and identify associated reporting needs iv) To present assessment of historical social and environmental issues in the forest/land use sector relevant to REDD+ v) To gather feedback on the potential impacts (negative and positive) of REDD+ strategic options and identify potential mitigation measures. 49 participants attended this workshop that included 40 men and 9 women. Salient features of the workshop are as under:
  - Potential conflicts and grievances associated with REDD+ Strategy Options were identified.
  - Current institutional strengths and capacity gaps for grievance resolution were identified.
  - Existing land tenure and national resource rights at district level and relevant issues in grievance redressal mechanism identified.
  - Social risks, environmental risks and potential benefits associated with REDD+ Strategic Options were prioritized.
  - Existing policies, regulations, procedures and institutional structures that are supporting the Implementation of environmental and social safeguards in Pakistan were assessed.
  - Potential benefits associated with REDD+ Strategy Options were prioritized.
  - SIS information needs were identified.
  - Information systems and sources in relation to SIS information needs were identified.
  - Interpretation of Cancun safeguards and linkages to World Bank Operational Policies was conducted.
  - Assessment of historical social and environmental issues in the forest/land use sector was conducted.
  - Mapping of relevant stakeholders and platforms to be involved in the evaluation of potential risks and benefits associated with the implementation of REDD+ activities was conducted.
  - World Bank's environmental and social safeguards policies were identified, i.e. Environmental Assessment (Operation Policy 4.01), Natural Habitats (Operation Policy 4.04), Forests (Operation Policy 4.36) and Indigenous People (Operation Policy 4.10). Details available at: [https://www.redd-pakistan.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Output-9-Draft-ESMF-Report\\_clean.pdf](https://www.redd-pakistan.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Output-9-Draft-ESMF-Report_clean.pdf)
  - Relevant stakeholders and platforms to be used in Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) were identified.
- A consultation workshop was conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for the validation of SESA, ESMF, FDRM and SIS for Pakistan
- A study on Payment for Ecosystem Services was initiated in the Inception workshop on January 19, 2018. 49 participants (including 9 women) attended the event. Two sites, i) Mangrove Ecosystems in Sindh and Balochistan ii) Temperate Forest Ecosystem in Kaghan Valley, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), were selected after consultation with stakeholders. During the study analysis and review of existing policies, legal and institutional framework with regards to REDD+ PES conducted. Governance and institutional arrangements for the REDD+ PES schemes at the two selected sites were also proposed. The findings of the study were presented in a workshop on 12 June 2018 at Islamabad. According to the findings of the study, the selected forest ecosystems provide substantial contribution in the economy of the country as evident from the derived facts and valuations of the services. The buyers and sellers of various ecosystem services were identified at the two sites and a mechanism for disbursement and management of benefits was also proposed. The participants of the workshop included representatives of Provincial Forest Departments, Forest Communities among other REDD+ Stakeholders.

**Component 3: Reference Emission Level/Reference Levels:**

- A consultation session of Thematic REDD+ Working Groups and Key REDD+ Stakeholders was conducted on August 8, 2017 in which 50 participants (including 8 women) provided technical inputs on finalization of a National Definition of Forests and 18 Forest Sub Types / Sub categories for Pakistan. The definition and land use land cover scheme was documented and applied during assessment of Activity Data and Emission Factors. Modelling / estimations and statistical projections of emissions and removal were also reviewed.
- For assessment of Activity Data 399 Landsat Satellite Imageries were acquired and processed for five time periods from 1996-2016, using Free and Opens Source Software's (FOSS) for estimating deforestation and enhancement of forest carbon stock. Whereas, for estimating forest degradation, proxy measures were used considering limited available historical data at national scale on supply and demand of timber and fuel wood. Production and accuracy assessment of land use and forest cover maps of 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012 and 2016 are in final stages. Uncertainty assessment was also conducted.
- Field Surveys were conducted across Pakistan (Except Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Gilgit Baltistan (GB)) using systematic sampling at 10' x 10' intervals visiting 365 forest sample plots covering proportionally all the forest types of Pakistan. Existing data and estimates were used for KP and GB.
- The methodology and process of generating Activity Data and Emission Factors was documented in the form of training manuals.
- A national consultative workshop of 27 participants including 3 female representatives was organized on 12 June 2018 to present National Forest Reference Emission Levels & Reference Levels and obtain feedback of provincial/ regional forest departments, CSO and other key stakeholders for further improvement of these documents. . FRELs and/FRLs are under review process.

**Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards:**

- A robust and transparent methodological framework and design for MRV system was established through a consultation process, consistent with the methodological framework of the Forest Reference Emission Levels and Forest Reference Levels.
- National Standards were finalized for conducting National Forest Inventory and Satellite Land Monitoring. For the National Forest Inventory, permanent sample plots information was recorded for future monitoring. It was recommended to further increase the number of sample plots as per the resources available. Furthermore, a desktop based SLMS workflow was also designed. The design and methodological framework of SLMS and NFI was documented through training manuals. The methodological framework and design was consulted with 27 Key REDD+ Stakeholders in a consultative workshop held on 11-12 April 2018.
- An institutional arrangement was recommended and finalized in consultation with 49 National REDD+ Stakeholders (including 9 females) in a consultative workshop held on 16 January 2018. The institutional arrangement was, furthermore, endorsed by the National Steering Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
- Design of a National Carbon Tracking System / REDD+ Registry was shared with the Key REDD+ Stakeholders for inputs on 12 June 2018.
- A National Forest Monitoring System Web-Portal was established in consultation with the National REDD+ stakeholders that is currently under review process. A policy on data, sharing, protocols and modalities (Terms and conditions) was proposed that is being reviewed. The NFMS Web application contains different server parts built on top of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) (including Geo-Server, database, proxy, map server), open source map handling applications and libraries.
- Training Manual for SLMS, NFI and GHG-I were prepared and implemented during International, National and Provincial Level training of trainers
- A methodological Framework for Multiple Benefits, Impacts Governance and Safeguard was shared with REDD+ Stakeholders on 12 June 2018 that is still under review. The MBIGS for REDD+ in Pakistan was designed in coordination with identification of SIS information needs and proposed framework design of SIS in Pakistan.
- A Safeguards Information System was designed for Pakistan in consultation with the key REDD+ Stakeholders and presented in a consultative workshop on 15 May 2018 at national level. A website of SIS is in final stages of launching.

## 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

- All Provinces and Territories of Pakistan notified their REDD+ Cells for implementing REDD+ interventions on permanent basis.
- Government of Pakistan notified National Definition of Forest with the technical recommendations of the Thematic Working Groups for REDD+ in Pakistan
- Draft National Forest Reference Emission Levels compiled from Provincial / Territorial AD and EF estimates.
- NFMS Web portal was established and is in final stages of launching
- Report on Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment finalized.
- Draft Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) report prepared.
- Draft Report on Safeguards Information System (SIS) is available.
- Draft Report on identification of information systems and sources in relation to SIS information available.
- A SIS website and an android Mobile Application for enhancing stakeholders' engagement and for responding to requests for feedback or complaint was developed. The website can be accessed at; <http://reddpakistansis.com/>. A user's manual on Standard Operating Procedures for filing and addressing complaints was also developed for supporting SIS.
- REDD+ Feedback Grievance Redressal Mechanism (FGRM) Design Framework was developed based that provides recommendations for amendment/renewal of laws, policies and procedures.
- Report on the Assessment of historical, social and environmental issues in the forest/land use sector relevant to the assessment of potential risks and benefits arising from the proposed REDD+ strategy finalized.
- Report on analysis of legal and institutional and governance capacity to address safeguards in relation to UNFCCC and World Bank finalized.
- Report on interpretation of Cancun safeguards and linkages to World Bank Operational Policies finalized.
- Report on identification of relevant stakeholders and platforms to be used in SESA available.
- Validation Workshop for endorsing SIS framework design, ESMF and FGRM Design Framework by 38 participants (including 8 women) was conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018.
- Two design documents for REDD+ Payment for Ecosystems Services were prepared for the two pilot sites i) Mangroves Ecosystem and ii) Temperate Forest Ecosystem-Kaghan Valley. Each design document elaborated the following sections; i) Ecosystem services identified ii) Buyers and sellers of the identified ecosystem services iii) Prices set for different ecosystem services iv) Business As Usual and project scenarios and their comparison v) Measurement, Reporting and Verification vi) Land and forest tenure issues in PES scheme vii) Benefits allocation, distribution, disbursement and management mechanism viii) Promoting the role of women in PES scheme ix) Governance and institutional arrangements for PES and REDD+ xii) Project risks and risks mitigation strategies xiii) Conflicts and conflicts resolution mechanisms xiv) Roadmap for PES project implementation.
- A strategic communication plan for mass awareness for engaging all the relevant stakeholders developed.
- Two policy briefs developed on i) REDD+ Framework in Pakistan and Selected Countries ii) Mainstreaming REDD+ in National and Sub-National Forest Management System.
- A visit of 20 journalists (10 males and 10 females) was organized to Babusar, Gilgit and Diamer from October 3-6, 2017,. The journalists were sensitized about the forestry issues. The visit resulted in five newspaper articles that were published by different journalists in various dailies. Another visit of 13 journalists was organized to Murree. The visit was conducted from May 19-20, 2018. A training of 15 journalists was also conducted on July 19, 2017 in Islamabad.
- Side event for proposing policy messages for the Conference of the Parties (COP) 23 was organized in Islamabad on November 1, 2017. 50 participants attended the session and provided valuable recommendations for the COP 23 that was held in Bonn, Germany. The event was also reported in various national dailies.
- A panel discussion with 46 participants was conducted on REDD+ at Annual Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) on December 7, 2017 in Islamabad.
- A competition was organized on "REDD+ Media Awards, 2017". A total of 57 entries were received. Four participants were awarded for their REDD+ coverage. The awards were announced on December 6, 2017 in Islamabad at the 20<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Development Conference. The selection of awardees was conducted by a group of senior journalists.
- Three public awareness raising seminars were conducted on a) "Agriculture system of Gilgit Baltistan (GB): Potentials and Challenges" on 7th August, 2017 in Islamabad. 28 young participants were sensitized about the REDD+ and forestry

issues in the country; b) Payment for Environmental Services on February 6, 2018 in Islamabad. 35 participants participated in the seminar that included international experts; and c) Urban Forestry conducted in Islamabad on the occasion of International Day of Forests, March 21, 2018. 82 participants attended this seminar. The seminars were covered in both English and Urdu newspapers. Moreover, a consultation session was conducted at the event titled "Peaceful, Green and Clean Pakistan" on April 24, 2018 in Islamabad. 100 students from various universities were sensitized about the importance of REDD+.

- A WhatsApp group titled 'Friends of Forests' was formed with 130 people from various fields. Two way information sharing is taking place within this group i.e. both from the technical team working on REDD+, and other members including Provincial Forest Officers, representatives of forest communities, CSOs and Journalists. Furthermore, a total of 315 and 200 people are following 'friends of forest' page on Facebook and Twitter account. The web-links are as under:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1630906273591789/>

<https://twitter.com/FOForestPK>

- A series of training of trainers (TOT) was conducted at International, National and Provincial Levels. In The training of trainers organized in Joensuu, Finland from August to September 2017 master trainers (9 males, 1 female) were trained in thematic areas of Satellite Land Monitoring System and National Forest Inventory. The master trainers thereafter conducted four training of trainers at national and provincial levels in which number of participants aggregated to 111 including 23 females that will be readily available for further capacity building in Pakistan. Three Training Manuals on SLMS, NFI and GHG-I were prepared and disseminated among trainees and students of universities.
- Three training/consultative workshops were conducted for Mangrove Forests in Karachi, Sindh i.e. i) First Workshop had 42 participants with 36 men and 6 women, it was held from February 8-10, 2018 ii) Second Workshop was held from March 12-13, 2018, it had overall 52 participants with 50 men and 2 women iii) Third Workshop was held from May 14-15, 2018. This was conducted for the women community of Mangrove Forests and overall 25 women participated. In addition to above, a training/consultative workshop was conducted in Quetta on Mangrove Forests of Balochistan from April 17-18, 2018 that had 36 participants, with 31 men and 5 women.
- Four training/consultative workshops were conducted for Moist Temperate Forests in Kaghan i.e. i) First Workshop was conducted at Balakot from April 23-24, 2018 where 62 participants attended with 60 men and 1 women ii) Second Workshop was conducted at Malakandi, Balakot from April 30, 2018 to May 1, 2018, where 49 participants attended, with 48 men and 1 women iii) Third Workshop was conducted at Balakot from May 11-12, 2018, where 66 participants attended with 61 men and 5 women iv) Fourth Workshop was conducted at Balakot from May 14-15, 2018, where 30 women participated.
- Four awareness raising materials and one manual was developed i.e.; i) what is REDD+? A Guide for Local Communities ii) Risks and benefits of REDD+ iii) Climate Change and the Role of Forests – A Community Guide iv) A Community Guide for REDD+ PES Monitoring v) A Manual to Measure Forest Carbon Stock.

### 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

- Deliverables/ Reports of the various studies were delayed due to replacement of Key staff and team leaders of two consulting firms. Moreover, the operational staff of one consulting firm in Pakistan was replaced due to concerns of National REDD+ Office which was also reported to the FCPF
- National Project Director was replaced three times that delayed the process of disbursement of payments due to long process of change in signatories as per Government rules. A few staff left due to personal reasons and replacement of key staff is time consuming.
- Delays on the part of consulting firm in getting License from Survey of Pakistan (SOP) for Surveying and Mapping Works, which significantly delayed the initiation of field data collection and subsequently preparing land use and other mapping works.
- The national forest inventory was designed by the firm to measure (with field data collection in real time) 365 field plots across Pakistan (excluding parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit Baltistan considering their recent existing inventory data)

- Other major issues reported by firm was delays in the field work due to difficulties in coordination with local authorities/forest departments and the weather conditions. Overall the field work was planned to be completed in 59 days, took 118 days. There were procedural delays also in getting the soil laboratory/litter/shrub testing at the Nuclear Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Peshawar for organic carbon due to their limited resources and busy schedule.

#### 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

- Acceptance of the Draft National Forest Monitoring System and Forest Reference Emission Levels / Forest Reference Levels for Pakistan and launching of the official web portal
- Acceptance of Safeguards Information System and launching of the official web portal
- Revision and Acceptance of the National REDD+ Strategy at National level
- Finalization of the National REDD+ Strategy and its approval by the competent forum at the highest level including the NSC
- Release of USD 4.014 million additional FCPF funding.
- Hiring of International / National Consulting Firms for initiation of following studies at national and sub-national levels:
  - Assessment of Demand and Supply of forest products and services
  - Assessment of existing forestry systems
  - Establishment / upgradation of existing sub-national FMS / MRV systems
  - Private sector engagement and legalities of REDD+
  - Preparation of Sub-National management and Action Plans
  - Facilitate sub national management for processing cases to seek carbon credits through transaction advisor
- National REDD+ Office envisaged to complete the study on assessment of existing forestry systems with specific deliverables on assessment of forest technical and extension system to enhance institutional capacities; prospects of resin tapping, including technical guidance on fire and disease protection and marketing; and assessment of seed and seedling supply system for forest plantations, including tissue culture and seed bank.
- Furthermore, it is expected that another study will be completed i.e. assessment of private sector engagement in forestry sector and REDD+, and measures to promote it.
- Four meetings of the National REDD+ Steering Committee and Two meetings of Thematic REDD+ Working Groups will be conducted on implementation of readiness activities under AF
- National REDD+ Internship Programme will be continued with development of research papers on thematic areas of REDD+.
- Three capacity building trainings at Provincial and District levels will be conducted on various thematic areas of REDD+ including preparation of training manuals (where required).
- National REDD+ Office plans to consult with provincial governments and recommend concrete actions to integrate the most pertinent recommendations from Readiness studies into existing forestry laws and policies at national and provincial level
- Publication and dissemination of findings from REDD+ Readiness studies is also envisaged.

## SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

#### 5. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:

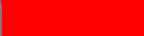
(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

#### Progress rating key:

Complete	The sub-component has been completed
Significant progress	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>		
<b>Sub-component 1a:</b> National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Complete	X
	N/A	
All the planned activities under this component have been achieved including establishment of Sub-National REDD+ Cells and Provincial REDD+ Management Committees. All the activities have been reviewed by the Thematic REDD+ Working Groups and meetings of the National Steering Committee held periodically as planned		
<b>Sub-component 1b:</b> Consultation, Participation and Outreach	Complete	X
	N/A	
The consultation process planned for the readiness phase from 2015-2018 has been completed. A series of awareness raising events across Pakistan were conducted in this regard		
<b>R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation</b>		
<b>Sub-component 2a:</b> Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Complete	
		X
	N/A	
Although a wide consultation with the Key REDD+ Stakeholders was conducted, however, the results of studies are still under review process for final endorsement and acceptance by the National Steering Committee on REDD+		
<b>Sub-component 2b:</b> REDD+ Strategy Options	Complete	
		X
	N/A	
Although a set of seven strategy options have been formulated, however, the results are still under review process for final endorsement and acceptance by the National Steering Committee on REDD+		
<b>Sub-component 2c:</b> Implementation Framework	Complete	
		X
	N/A	
An implementation Framework with Roadmap of REDD+ Interventions has been prepared, however, the roadmap lacks details and clarity for implementation at national and sub-national levels.		
<b>Sub-component 2d:</b> Social and Environmental Impacts	Complete	X
All the required deliverables planned for this sub-component have been completed and validated at National Level		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		
		
	N/A	
<b>R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</b>		
<b>Component 3:</b> Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Complete	
		
	 X	
		
		
	N/A	
<b>R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards</b>		
<b>Sub-component 4a:</b> National Forest Monitoring System	Complete	
		
	 X	
		
		
	N/A	
<b>Sub-component 4b:</b> Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Complete	
		
	 X	
		
		
	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

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

Livelihoods of local communities are at the centre of Pakistan's REDD+ Strategy. It features in the national vision and its guiding principles. It includes a programme of action on supporting alternative livelihoods for forest dependent communities. The National REDD+ Strategy, and its development, has been based on a set of guiding principles that

align with the vision. One of the guiding principles is *“to Safeguard forest dependent livelihoods”*. Moreover, the national vision for REDD+ will consider forest ecosystem as a public good and as a source of multiple benefits and development. In order to achieve the National Vision for REDD+, several aspects and sectors need to be addressed. One of the specific objective of Strategy is *“Make available alternatives for sustainable livelihoods to people dependent on forests”*. Against this specific objective a strategic alternative is being proposed for “promotion of improved and integrated livelihood approaches” with three proposed strategy options in the National REDD+ Strategy of Pakistan i.e. **a) Silvo-pastoral practices and sustainable grazing, b) Agroforestry and c) Sustainable tourism and eco-tourism**. Clear set of REDD+ interventions on implementing the strategy options will be addressed in the sub-national REDD+ Action plans specific to six provinces and territories of Pakistan as envisaged in the readiness activities under additional funding of the FCPF.

Further details are available in the draft national REDD+ Strategy at:

<https://www.redd-pakistan.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/REDD-Strategy-V1.1.pdf>

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

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

Due to the diversity and complexity of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the country, there is no single solution, so a mosaic of alternatives is to be implemented in order to effectively and sustainably achieve REDD+ objectives, including biodiversity conservation and ensuring long-term resilience and adaptation to climate change. The draft national REDD+ Strategy of Pakistan is proposed to guide on developing sub-national action plans where biodiversity conservation is expected to be achieved through good governance and monitored and assessed through MRV systems. For this purposes, several sources of information shall become available, including the National Forest Monitoring System and the Safeguards Information System, but other sources might be required to capture the complexity of the actions to implement, including topics such as impact on the local economy and gender.

## 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)
\$3,800,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	06/2015	Public	Grant

\$4,014,000	AF of FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant*	01/2018	Public	Grant
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\* Additional FCPF grant of USD 4.014 million has not been released.

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)
\$500,000	Govt. of Balochistan	Public	Annual Development Plan
\$500,000	Govt. of KP	Public	Annual Development Plan
\$300,000	Govt. of Punjab	Public	Annual Development Plan
\$450,000	Govt. of AJ&K	Public	Annual Development Plan
\$400,000	Govt. of Gilgit Baltistan	Public	Annual Development Plan

## 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:

NIL

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:

NIL

## 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:

The formal intimation to extend the REDD+ Readiness activities with the existing grant upto 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 was conveyed in the last week of June, 2018. Extension of ongoing activities and planning of logistic arrangements got delayed. Furthermore, initiation of additional activities from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 through additional FCPF REDD+ Readiness grant of USD 4.014 million would have been possible if the requisite amount was released during last year. Delays in release of additional FCPF grant of USD 4.014 million will cause delays in starting additional activities.