

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY:ETHIOPIA

March, 2013

1. R-PP Implementation and FCPF Readiness grant

- The R-PP was approved at PC8 of March 25, 2011 in Da Lat, Vietnam through Resolution PC/8/2011/4 with conditions to undertaking adjustments on some of the components
- The R-PP was revised as per Resolution PC/8/2011/4 and was submitted to the FCPF FMT on May 25, 2011.
- Ethiopia officially launched a REDD+ Readiness Phase on the 15th of January.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- A Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) was established in year 2010 by the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) to oversee the development and the realization of Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy
- The MSC is accountable to the Parliament and to the Environment Council (EC) that is chaired by the Prime Minister. It is responsible to review and approve all initiatives (including REDD+) in order to bring about zero net emission economic development of the country
- A multi-sectoral National CRGE Technical Committee (TC) was established at the beginning of 2011 with the main objective of supervising at higher level activities of emission reduction across seven sectors. This body is now also designated as REDD+ Steering Committee of the country
- Under the TC, multi-sectoral REDD+ Technical Working Group (RTWG) exists with main function of reviewing REDD+ policies, programs and projects in order to inform decision at TC and REDD+ Secretariat level
- The REDD+ Secretariat was situated at the Federal Environmental Protection Authority (FEPA) during the R-PP development phase (2009-2011). It was moved to the Natural Resources Management Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) in accordance with the agreement between the GoE and Development Partners at the November 2011 mission for the R-PP assessment
- The National REDD+ Steering Committee and Technical Working Group for the R-PP Implementation Phase will be launched in March 2013.
- The State Minister of Natural Resource Sector will oversee the development of REDD+ Readiness Process

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- 1st National level Consultation and Participation Workshop was held from April 29-30, 2010 where relevant stakeholders were invited and able to discuss among others on global REDD+ initiative for the first time, on who should actively engage on REDD+ initiative (stakeholder analysis) and on the scale and drivers of D&D in Ethiopia
- 2nd National C&P workshop was called on June 17th& 18th, 2010 to discuss specific issues of the R-PP, including: the design and ToR for RSC, RTWG, RTFG, and RRTWG; D&D drivers; and preliminary REDD+ strategy options
- A total 26 sub-national, local and forest dependent community C&P workshops were conducted across 7 regions from July 2010 to February 2011.
- The CRGE development was also another important platform for furthering R-PP discussions. Through this programme, key issues under the R-PP were presented and dialogues were held across all the regions of the country, among sectoral agencies and all concerned NGO groups.
- Several of these national and sub-national discussion forums were covered by national and local media outlets including radio, TV and newspaper. In addition, the REDD R-PP Secretariat contracted a national radio station to run a 20 minute weekly awareness raising programme emphasizing on problem and possible solution of D&D
- Feedbacks collected from all C&P forums were incorporated in the R-PP

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4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- Through the formulation process of CRGE Strategy, it became evident that the two main drivers of D&D are agricultural land (crop land) expansion and unsustainable fuel wood consumption.
- Based on these two main D&D drivers, Ethiopia has identified 9 candidate REDD+ strategic options (emission reduction levers)
- A preliminary baseline, BAU and REDD+ based emission quantification have been already established. But, these processes (results) are still crude; need further refinement through action research on the ground.
- A preliminary study on the cost benefit as well as environmental social impacts on the identified strategic options has also been included at this stage.
- At the Readiness phase, those prioritized strategic options will be tested through action research using pilot projects;
- GoE is in the process of identifying potential REDD+ pilot projects that are expected to feed lessons learned in the process for developing REDD+ Strategy. These include Bale Mountain Eco-Region REDD+ project.
- A study on causes of deforestation and forest degradation, and identification of potential strategic options, will be launched. ToRs have been prepared.

5. Implementation Framework

- Review, adjustment and where relevant, formulation of conducive-new policies, legislations and other regulatory measures are to be carried out in order for Ethiopia to be ready for REDD+
- Mechanism for effective enforcement and redressing illegality shall be put in place during the readiness phase
- A REDD+ institutional set-up is under development within the CRGE unit of Ministry of Agriculture; considerable capacity building activities are planned to strengthen the REDD+ Unit as well as the RTWG/RRTWG
- A dedicated national forestry institution has been in place both at the federal and regional levels, the Forestry Case team in the Natural Resources Management Directorate of MoA. In addition, the CRGE coordination unit, which has direct and indirect responsibilities for REDD+ implementation, has already been setup with 6 key expertise positions and a National Coordinator;
- Nine candidate/potential REDD+ project forest sites have so far been identified from different regions of the country
- Eight regional REDD+ focal points have been identified (out of the 11 regions of the country) and the remaining three regions will soon be expected to identify and communicate the MoA.

6. SESA

- The Ethiopia's R-PP mainstreamed requirements of SESA into its components/sub-components. It includes the terms of reference for the development of Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- A SESA or safeguard sub-unit will be established within REDD+ Secretariat; similar SESA focus group will also be organized under the REDD+ Technical Working Group
- Extensive SESA/ESMF capacity building activities are to be carried out at the REDD+ Secretariat and RTWG levels.
- ToRs for SESA were prepared. A Sub-Working Group on SESA will be created.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- A preliminary assessment of baseline and 20-year projection of emission and potential emission reduction levels

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were undertaken while preparing the National CRGE Strategy. The result of this assessment will be further investigated in the R-PP implementation stage.

- Both national and sub-national approach will be employed to establish RL/REL
- Woody Biomass Inventory and Strategic Planning Project (WBISPP) data and classification approach is to be adopted again in order to do inventory and quantification
- A unit for Reference Scenario and MRV will be created within REDD+ Secretariat

8. MRV

- Both national and sub-national approach will be employed for developing MRV system; a process to develop MRV roadmap has already been started by experts from Wageningen University (WU) and financial assistance from the Norwegian government. A teleconference (between MoA, EPA, the Norwegian Embassy, experts from WU and Ministry of the Environment of Norway) was conducted. A draft roadmap has been developed.
- MoA conducted a national workshop in October 2012 in Addis Ababa in which 140 participants from different stakeholders participated.
- Woody Biomass Inventory and Strategic Planning Project (WBISPP) data and classification approach is to be adopted again in order to do inventory and quantification
- A unit for Reference Scenario and MRV will be created within REDD+ Secretariat.

9. Other