



TAP Independent Review: R-Package Submitted by DRC

**Independent TAP-Expert Review on the Self-Assessment
of the REDD+ stakeholders in the Democratic Republic of Congo**

FCPF PC-19

17 May 2015 - Juergen Blaser

Purpose of the TAP's review

...”Assess whether a due process and approach was followed while performing the self-assessment of REDD+ readiness”:

- Part A: Review of the self-assessment **process** of REDD-Readiness
- Part B: Review of the **results** from the multi-stakeholder R-Package Self-Assessment based on the multi-stakeholder consultation workshop
- Part C: Assess what needs still to be done in the Readiness Process

→ *TAP Recommendation*

PART A: Self-Assessment Process

- Complete self-assessment process conducted (R-Package guidelines)
- Well facilitated (separate stakeholder meetings with only minor differences)
- Self-assessment described well the Readiness process since 2009
- Degree of achievement of main results honestly communicated
- National (“Kinshasa-based”) ownership of the readiness process
- Broad consultation and ownership at subnational level (selected provinces)
- Critical issues have been reflected and listed:
 - governance, capacities, means to implement and monitor,....

PART B: REDD+ Processes: Results (i)

- 34 Assessment Criteria, as assessed by the stakeholder groups

Group	Consultation	GREEN	YELLOW	ORANGE/RED
Civil Society (Société civile, GTCR)	Feb 5, 2015	28	6	0
REDD+ Implementers (porteurs des projets REDD+)	Feb 6, 2015	30	4	0
Stakeholders Bandundu Province (parties prenantes)	Feb 13, 1015	29	5	0
Technical and financial partners	Feb 16, 1015	24	10	0
MEDD and Sectorial Ministries	Feb 19, 1015	26	8	0
Technical Committee (Suivi et Réforme, CTR)	Feb 20, 1015	27	7	0
CN-REDD	March 10, 2015	25	9	0
National Validation Workshop (all together)	March 12, 2015	26	8	0

PART B: REDD+ Processes: Results (iii)

Readiness Arrangements and Consultation (criteria 1-10)

- Institutional arrangements in place at operational level, further need to be strengthened at the strategic level
- Feedback and grievance redress mechanism still to be established
- Dynamic culture of debate, consultation and participation process in place, but the national communication strategy not yet implemented

PART B: REDD+ Processes: Results (iv)

REDD+ Strategy Preparation (criteria 11-25)

- Framework for Economic Governance as innovative approach
- Broad REDD+ strategic framework, multisectoral, crucial to establish effective and efficient intersectoral and cross-sectoral collaboration
- Challenging coordination role of the CN-REDD that need to apply a functional monitoring/evaluation framework
- Continuous challenge to develop a functional benefit sharing mechanism and to operationalize a national REDD+ registry
- Well conducted SESA process, still the need to finalize the modalities to operationalize the safeguards/integration into law

PART B: REDD+ Processes: Results (v)

Reference Emission Level/Reference level (Criteria 26-28)

- Methodological basis developed (Terra Congo, DIAF)
- Forest stratification tested at the level of one province
- Reference level for Mai-Ndombe expected to be finalized by end of 2015

PART B: REDD+ Processes: Results (vi)

Monitoring system for forests, and safeguards

(Criteria 29-34)

- National system to monitor the forests (SNSF) yet not in place
- Action plan developed for implementation (2015-2018), still to be operationalized
- MRV system in process of preparation at sub-national level for Mai-Ndombe expected to be finalized by end of 2015
- Need to continuously share information on carbon and non-carbon aspects, and apply the tools that are being developed
- Maintain a pro-active and critical independent monitoring on social and environmental issues

PART C: What still needs to be done

- Open issues as identified in the self-assessment process and summarized in Table 7 of the SA-Report
- **Continuously** address issues to mainstream REDD+, including
 - Nationwide information sharing and capacity building
 - Maintain a critical policy dialogue based on true monitoring on a variety of issues on REDD+ and wider land-use/rights
 - Conclude a national RL and MRV system
 - Enhance CN-REDD into a functional clearinghouse for REDD+
 - Reinforce the governance structure of the REDD+ process

Conclusion

On the Self-Assessment of DRC's REDD+ Readiness Process:

- Well conducted self-assessment process and analysis of the results
- Still an impressive list of work to do in further strengthening readiness
→ readiness can not be “finalized”, it is a continuous process

Decision to be taken to embark in parallel with a ER-Program

→ Recommendation of TAP expert:

- Endorse a realistic work plan with clear targets and time frame to further enhance the readiness process and monitor it closely; and
- Embark with the preparation of an ER-Program as pilot at a subnational level (Mai-Ndombe)