



FCPF External Technical Advisory Panels

Initial lessons learned in R-PP reviews

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**For the TAP: Jürgen Blaser
with inputs from Sandra Brown, Jayant Sathaye, Steve Cobb and David Kaimowitz**

TAP (composition and organization)

Composition:

- “Experts”, scientists, local/indigenous/traditional forest communities...
- A mix: in-country, regional, international backgrounds
- Different competences (policy, social, economics, forestry, carbon accounting, MRV); “peer review”

TAP process:

- Individual assessment of R-PPs by the experts; joint TAP discussion (Tel conference, e-mail exchange) and preparation of a joint summary document.
- Names of TAP members are not disclosed (except the lead and in-country expert)
- (Tel) Exchange with R-PP country teams (on TAP assessment)
- Speed!
- Continuous interactions (issue by issue)

TAP (its role → own perspective)

- Assessments and Recommendations are meant to assist the countries to meet the criteria [standards] set by FCPF
- Plays a supportive and advisory role in the process towards Readiness and functions in a collaborative manner
- Recognizes the difficulties (for the countries and the TAP) inherent in the process (e.g. to identify precisely what is needed to deliver at the R-PP stage)
 - What is requested for a R-PP preparation and implementation *versus* the requirements to be ready to implement REDD in a country?
- Recognizes that some of the issues that need to be addressed for REDD readiness are much broader than can be fully solved in a R-PP.

TAP functioning (lessons learned I)

- A main focus on participation/consultation issues
What needs to be consulted about and what exactly needs to be delivered at the stage of the preparation of the R-PP document?
 - Local knowledge/general expert advise? How detailed should we be?
 - Assessment by country expert and by external technical expert can be divergent.
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- ➔ Various level of compromise building needed (within the TAP)
 - ➔ Find a way to express a range of viewpoints from diverse expertise
 - ➔ The issue for the TAP is make a comprehensive assessment and to make coherent and implementable recommendations...

TAP functioning (lessons learned II)

Assessments *versus* Recommendations:

There is an inherent tension in the TAP's role in providing an independent review, and at the same time offering detailed recommendations to the country

- The more the TAP gets involved in proposing how to improve a document, it risks no longer being an independent reviewer. We would need to define the role in the process once the first full review of TAP has been done

→ **One possible idea for the follow-up process:**

e.g. some TAP members become "mentors", other remain reviewers.

General observations from the 5 R-PPs

What makes the work of the TAP easy is:

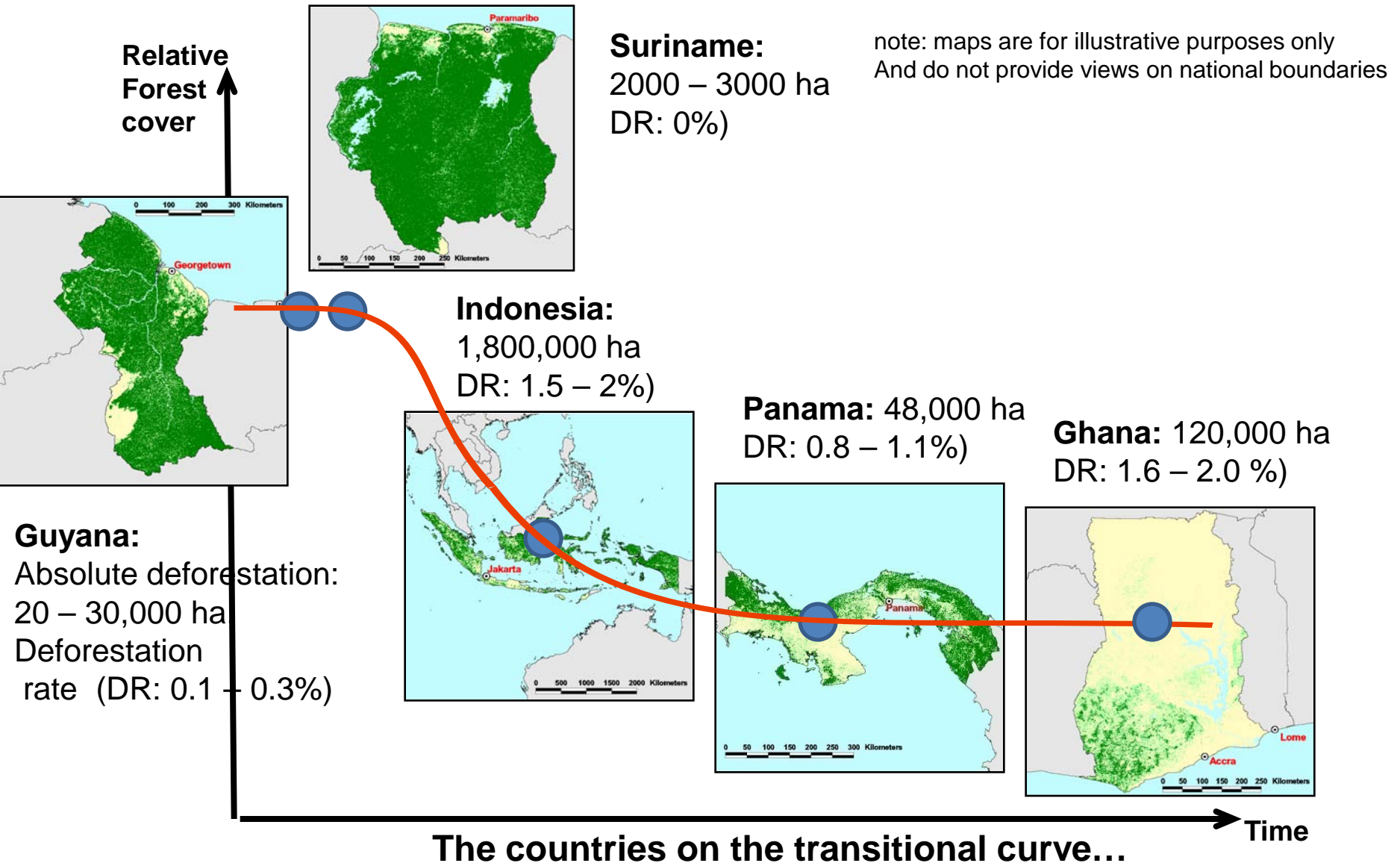
From the submitting countries:

- The demonstrated commitment by the countries
- Substantive and serious effort from countries to present information
- Some progress towards conceptualizing Readiness, initial strategy, formulation and planning
- Consultations/inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder approaches: more inclusive and determined than in any other forest-related processes in the past (e.g. national forest programs, nfps)

From the FCPF (technical group, PC):

Relatively clear template (i) Overall Assessment; (ii) Standards (assessments and recommendations) → **has well evolved**

Five R-PPs reviewed, 5 distinct situations



Issue 1: New tasks: limited REDD experience to date

- Most FCPF countries do not have policies to “reduce deforestation” (for minimizing the carbon footprint)
 - They might have a Permanent Forest Estate, protected areas under various categories, production forests for timber management, indigenous territory, environmental service payment or integrated conservation/ development project policies
 - None of these but have been designed to maximize the reduction in loss of forest carbon, or complimented with other policies designed to reduce deforestation and degradation (and enhancement of sinks)
- Countries doing something rather new, with little clarity on how to progress (including TAP).
- help countries to realize (in an early stage) how significant and cross-sectoral an undertaking on REDD really is.
 - make available experiences from those tropical countries that have successfully tackled deforestation without REDD

Issue 2: Indigenous peoples, traditional rights

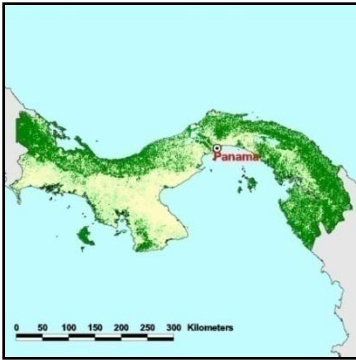
Against the background of IPs and local people rights, how to deal with practical questions in respect to REDD?

- Some countries have not legally recognized IPs/local people rights;
 - In some countries a significant portion of the forests are under indigenous management and / or control of traditional communities (e.g. in some of the Latin America cases, also Nepal and Ghana and elsewhere).
- We need to learn from existing experiences
- Share solutions in between countries with similar experiences

Issue 3: Institutional challenges

- The difficulties that countries have had producing these documents reflect both, their institutional challenges and the newness of the topic.
 - Some are yet not “ready for readiness”
(need additional assistance for launching an R-PP formulation process)
 - Many countries are not sure what the main sources of GHG’s are: Proper data on deforestation and forest degradation are generally lacking (without secured data, no currency for a future deal)
- Capacity building and creation of ownership need to be a key element in the R-PP formulation and implementation**

Issue 4: From RED to REDD to REDD-plus



REDD-plus is more inclusive, using all mitigation potential of forests and trees, but

- Complexity increases
- More challenging is the treatment of areas outside the jurisdiction of the forest sector (from a REDD perspective)
- Evidence of formal engagement/ commitment of other ministries and agencies more demanding

→ More guidance is needed for those countries that go towards REDD-plus (as defined in the Bali Action Plan)

Some more detailed observations, based on the External Review Template

Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Mechanism Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) External Review Template

(interim, September 10, 2009, from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 3)

- Template is clear and comprehensive
- Room for some adjustments can be made (TAP proposals this week)
 - A challenge is what is written under each component and how it captures the underlying issues of REDD, e.g. at the level of governance

R-PP Component: X

Standard	Lesson learned

R-PP Component 1: Organize and consult

Standard	Early lessons learned
National Readiness Management Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Solid TORs for REDD Steering Committees (legal underpinning, concurrence of all stakeholders)
Stakeholder Consultation and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ In R-PP stage, forestry often in the driver seat; how to guarantee sufficient ownership by all concerned stakeholders/rights holders?▪ Interdisciplinary and inter-actors working groups seems to be a good way develop Readiness ownership▪ Identify and further elaborate on issues identified for consultation with relevant stakeholders for the future

R-PP Component 2: Prepare the REDD Strategy

Standard	Early lessons learned
▪ Assessment of Land Use, Forest Policy, and Governance	▪ Generally insufficient use of lessons learnt from past or ongoing initiatives in the forest and other sectors
▪ REDD Strategy Options <i>(this standard is rather complex)</i>	▪ Drivers of DD often insufficiently analyzed (in particular in respect to the economics of DD), often due to lack of data about rates of emissions ▪ Integration in the overall sustainable development strategy (including Climate change) ▪ REDD-plus comes with new challenges (e.g. jurisdiction, stakeholder involvement,...) ▪ Leadership for the design of the REDD strategy not necessarily the same as under 1a
▪ REDD Implementation Framework	▪
▪ Assessment of Social and Environmental Impacts	▪ ...

R-PP Component 2: Prepare the REDD Strategy

Standard	Early lessons learned
Assessment of Land Use, Forest Policy, and Governance	...
REDD Strategy Options	...
REDD Implementation Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Relates already to policy and measuresThe institutional dimension (getting the right institution with sufficient convening power ready) need to be tackled here; governance issues are crucial.
Assessment of Social and Environmental Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Still a complex and innovative issue , which most countries have limited experience so far.Safeguards → relative weight in the process?

R-PP Component 3: Develop a Reference Scenario

Standard	Early lessons learned
Reference scenario	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Most countries will require additional data and training in approaches for quantifying historic carbon stock changes or future projections▪ A Gap analysis will be crucial (existing data, new data needs, how to obtain data, define time duration)▪ Linking DD drivers (policy) by quantifying the impact of each driver will be challenging for many countries▪ Start with pilot programs to understand how the system can work

R-PP Component 4: Design a monitoring system

Standard	Early lessons learned
Design a monitoring system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="691 406 1773 464">■ Component 2, 3 and 4 need to be closely linked<li data-bbox="691 539 1879 725">■ Need for both, satellite-based MRV and ground based measurements, as well as MRV implementation capacity<li data-bbox="691 803 1841 989">■ The institutional arrangement for MRV would need particular attention (e.g. alternatives to be proposed and tested during the R-PP implementation)<li data-bbox="691 1068 1802 1196">■ REDD-plus will have additional challenges to the MRV system (e.g. double counting)<li data-bbox="691 1275 1802 1389">■ How to link “technical” monitoring and “locally – based social” monitoring?

R-PP Component 5: Schedule and Budget

Standard	Early lessons learned
Completeness of information and resource requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ For the time being, the TAP cannot assess budgeting ▪ It will be most probably difficult for the countries too to come up with very detailed budgets due to the newness of most of the planned activities ▪ Countries need to better engage Finance/Treasury Ministries ▪ Countries should better identify potential funding sources beyond FCPF

R-PP Component 6: Design Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Standard	Early lessons learned
<p>Design a program monitoring and evaluation framework (of the readiness process and the R-PP implementation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A number of indicators for program progress and achievement can be elaborated most probably based on the criteria to be achieved under each R-PP component▪ Program monitoring and evaluation framework needs to be the first step of the whole REDD process. Once the steps for this process are laid out verification becomes more routine.

Overall suggestions (I)

R-PP: make clear what it is (and what it is not)

- As part of the readiness process, it is important to clarify the role of REDD in a national vision for sustainable development
- R-PP should be viewed as a proposal on organizing for readiness and as such requires understanding of the critical issues for REDD Readiness.
- Make clear that the complete information/capacities on most components will only be available after implementation of R-PP activities

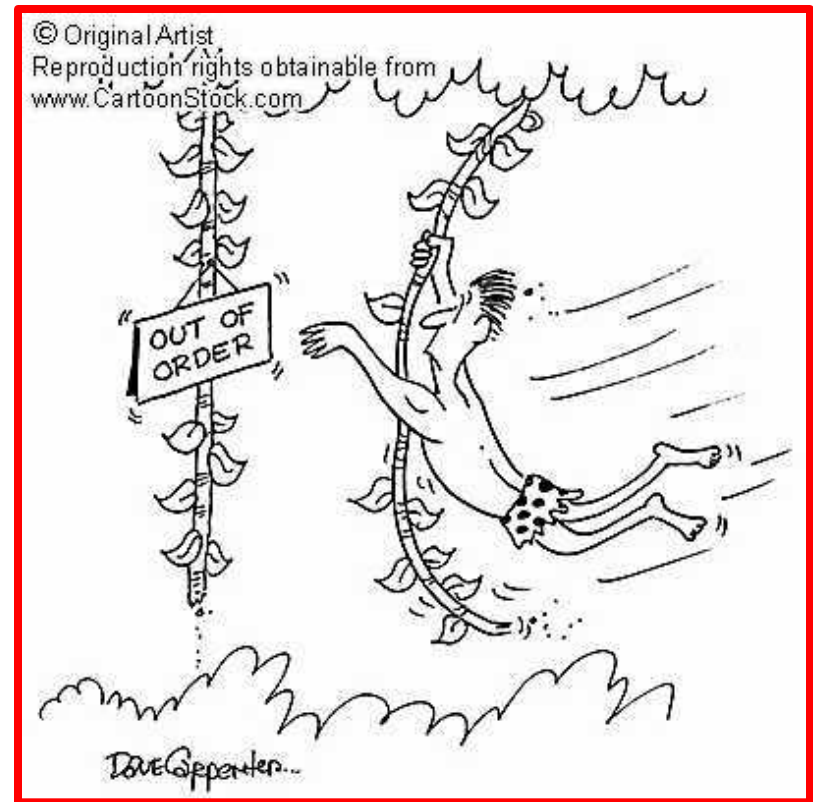
Overall suggestions (II)

Better mobilize support and expertise (for R-PP preparation)

- Need to provide technical support in identified areas of Reference Scenario and MRV, Benefit sharing mechanisms, etc
- Reference scenarios will likely be based on historic emissions, thus capacity and training is needed for countries to develop such a scenario with low uncertainty
- Regional collaboration, sharing of experiences in R-PP formulation
- Better scoping (in the FCPF countries) to include lessons learned from ongoing demonstration activities of relevance to REDD, e.g. natural resource management, governance, decentralization, etc.

... and finally- this is still an unfinished assessment of lessons learned

- Countries and all partners in R-PP preparation are still in early stages of experience: combination of newness and institutional challenges.
- We are getting better, step by step
- What should and should not be expected at this stage ought to be clear to all involved and interested parties: first step of Readiness
- As there is still insufficient expertise in REDD available, the focus on information gathering and capacity building needs further strengthening



R-PPs: help moving through the REDD jungle...