



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

4. Report on Progress of Readiness Package Working Group

Tenth Meeting of the Participants Committee (PC10)

Berlin, Germany

October 18-19, 2011

Session Objectives

- Report on R-Package Working Group
 - After PC9: REDD country Participants, Donors and Observers have discussed and developed early ideas on:
 - Basic R-Package structure and main components
 - Relation to COP decisions and R-PP
 - Assessment approach
- Solicit PC feedback on R-Package use
 - What is the relation to REDD+ elements as defined in Cancun Agreement and to the R-PP components?
 - What is the function in relation to the Carbon Fund and results-based piloting activities?
- Solicit PC feedback on process to develop R-Package assessment approach
- Define tasks for working group and road map to PC11

R-Package: Context

- FCPF is a pilot program to promote REDD+ readiness
 - Provide funding and assistance to countries for initial REDD+ preparations
 - Support learning and capacity-building; R-Package is a step in the process
 - Objective is NOT to sell forest carbon or to design the international REDD+ regime
- R-Package will provide confidence to national and international actors that
 - The country is making progress on REDD+
 - Activities are tested within a transparent framework and are consistent with COP decisions
 - Social and environmental risks are mitigated

Purpose of R-Package

- FCPF Charter states:
 - “ 58. “Readiness Package” means a package of activities designed to support a REDD Country Participant’s capacity to participate in possible future systems of positive incentives for REDD, which include the following elements:
 - (i) A Reference Scenario;
 - (ii) A REDD Strategy; and
 - (iii) A Monitoring System; “
- R-Package needs to
 - Define the critical elements as part of early action on REDD+
 - Provide the basis to determine whether a country has reached important milestones

R-Package documents Readiness to Participate in Performance-based Payment Schemes

Readiness Fund

Readiness Preparation

Progress Report

R-Package

ERPA

ER-PIN

WB's Due Diligence

Carbon Fund

R-Package Submission

- R-Package submission is voluntary
 - Assessment by PC at REDD Country Participant's request
- R-Package is a benchmark for REDD+ readiness with focus on progress
 - FCPF grant funds a fraction of overall national REDD readiness program
 - Grant implementation is tracked by Grant Reporting and Monitoring (for World Bank) or equivalent system of other Delivery Partners
 - R-Package covers progress on REDD+ readiness
 - Countries continue to advance and innovate after R-PP endorsement

Assessing Country Readiness

Early Proposals to Reflect Different Country Circumstances

- R-Package submissions need assessment
 - FCPF REDD countries need to provide critical input to definition of minimum standard (as they will have to meet it)
- Some countries will be more advanced than others and may
 1. “have significantly progressed towards Readiness to enter into an ERPA with the FCPF Carbon Fund”
 2. “have significantly progressed towards Readiness and meet basic requirements but require more time and assistance for developing some elements/components”
 3. “be progressing towards Readiness but have not advanced on all elements/components to meet minimum standard”

Cancun Text has 4 core REDD+ Elements

“Requests developing country Parties [...] to develop the following elements:

- a) **A national strategy or action plan**
- b) **A national forest reference emission level and/or forest reference level** or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels, in accordance with national circumstances, and with provisions contained in decision 4/CP.15, and with any further elaboration of those provisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties
- c) **A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of the activities** referred to in paragraph 70 above, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, in accordance with national circumstances, and with the provisions contained in decision 4/CP.15, and with any further elaboration of those provisions agreed by the Conference of the Parties
- d) **A system for providing information on how the safeguards** referred to in appendix I to this decision are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities referred to in paragraph 70 above, while respecting sovereignty; ”

R-PP has 12 (Sub-)Components

Component 1: Organize and Consult

- 1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements
- 1b. Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups
- 1c. Consultation and Participation Process

Component 2: Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy

- 2a. Assessment of Land Use, Forest Law, Policy and Governance
- 2b. REDD-plus Strategy Options
- 2c. REDD-plus Implementation Framework
- 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts during Readiness Preparation and REDD-plus Implementation

Component 3: Develop a Reference Level

Component 4: Design a Monitoring System

- 4a. Emissions and Removals
- 4b. Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, and Governance

Component 5: Schedule and Budget

Component 6: Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Three Options for R-Package Structure

R-Package Working Group discussed Pro's and Con's of R-Package Structure Options

1. 'Strict Cancun'
 - 4 REDD+ Elements and Sequence
2. 'Hybrid'
 - Cancun REDD+ Elements plus R-PP Components
3. 'Strict R-PP'
 - Building on 12 R-PP components and sub-components (and corresponding standards)

Rationale for Building on R-PP Components

- Recognizes country ownership and experience of 26 FCPF REDD Country Participants (out of 54 REDD+ Partnership countries)
 - Builds on 3 years of debate within the FCPF, both by PC members and Civil Society
- Incorporates all 4 Cancun elements
- Continuity of guidance and sequencing of activities to countries
 - Existing review standards and progress indicators
 - Already agreed and in use with UN-REDD Programme
- Cancun elements alone provide no guidance on how and in which sequence countries would develop the elements in order to implement and assess them

Cancun/R-PP Hybrid Option

Cross-Walk is complex, since R-PP focus is more operational

4 Cancun REDD+ Elements	12 Corresponding R-PP (sub-)components
National strategy or action plan	1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements 1b. Information Sharing and Dialogue 1c. Consultation and Participation Process 2a. Land Use, Forest Law, Policy and Governance 2b. REDD-plus Strategy Options 2c. REDD-plus Implementation Framework 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts
National forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels	3 Develop a Reference Level
Robust, transparent national forest monitoring system	4a. Emissions and Removals
System for providing information on safeguards	1b. Information Sharing and Dialogue 1c. Consultation and Participation Process 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts 4b. Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, and Governance

Cancun/R-PP Hybrid Option

Proposed Components

4 Cancun Elements	12 R-PP (sub-)components	5 R-Package Components
National strategy or action plan	1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements 1b. Information Sharing and Dialogue 1c. Consultation and Participation Process 2a. Land Use, Forest Law, Policy, Governance 2b. REDD-plus Strategy Options 2c. REDD-plus Implementation Framework 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	REDD Strategy Implementation Framework
National forest reference emission level and/or forest reference levels	3 Develop a Reference Level	Reference Level
Robust, transparent national forest monitoring system	4a. Emissions and Removals	Forest Monitoring System
System for providing information on safeguards	1b. Information Sharing and Dialogue 1c. Consultation and Participation Process 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts 4b. Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance	Safeguard Application

Early Idea on R-Package Assessment Approach

- Use standards approach
 - Needs to cover all 4 Cancun elements and all relevant R-PP components
 - *Standard*: A qualitative description of what has to be achieved at a minimum at time of R-Package submission
 - *Indicator*: A qualitative measure to assess whether minimum standard has been met
- Build on R-PP assessment framework
 - Established standards from R-PP review process
 - COP REDD+ text is not specific on assessment
 - Carbon Fund Methodological Framework based on Standards (proposed)
- Rely on Technical Advisory Panel

Example from R-PP Review Template

- Standards approach for R-PP Review

- Example: R-PP component 2c - REDD+ Implementation Framework

- *“Describes activities [...] and a work plan to further elaborate institutional arrangements and issues relevant to REDD-plus in the country setting. Identifies key issues involved in REDD-plus implementation, and explores potential arrangements to address them; offers a work plan that seems likely to allow their full evaluation and adequate incorporation into the eventual Readiness Package. Key issues are likely to include: assessing land ownership and carbon rights for potential REDD-plus strategy activities and lands; addressing key governance concerns related to REDD-plus; and institutional arrangements needed to engage in and track REDD-plus activities and transactions.”*

- Similar descriptors for other R-PP components and sub-components

Process of Defining an Approach for R-Package Assessment

- Step 1: Review existing R-PP Review Standard
- Step 2: Assess needs for R-Package to reflect progress towards readiness (Implementation of R-PP Activities)
- Step 3: Develop draft Standard
 - Building from existing R-PP assessment standard to define necessary milestones in Readiness preparation
 - How many standards do we need, how to cluster them?
 - Show evidence of meeting standard (indicators)

Early Ideas on Assessment Standards

Draft Example: Forest Monitoring System

- Related R-PP Component: *4a. Emissions and Removals*

Draft R-Package standard:

The national framework for forest monitoring includes

- *a rigorous methodological approach to map forest cover change using data from existing sources or ongoing mapping activities, and an assessment of the accuracy of forest map products;*
- *technical capacities to track forest cover change operationally on a routine basis (as documented by ongoing mapping activities)*
- *clear institutional roles (as applicable) for performing forest inventories, analysis of satellite data, data management, emissions accounting and reporting*
- *steps to develop initial mapping and inventory work into a full national system*
- *a system to publically share forest and emissions data and to inform forest resource management and REDD+ activities*

The Common Approach and FCPF Safeguards

- Implementation of SESA (per FCPF Common Approach) is how relevant safeguards are complied with during **both** the preparation and the implementation of the REDD+ strategy
- These safeguards are consistent with the 7 Cancun safeguards, and go beyond them in several important respects
- The FCPF approach is designed to generate data that could be captured in a system of information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected (as referred to in Cancun Agreement)
- The R-PP Template (in Annex D) requires the country to provide a summary of how SESA was conducted during Phase One (R-PP Formulation and Readiness Preparation) and the production of an ESMF/advanced draft ESMF

Progress of the Working Group and Key Aspects for PC consideration

- Progress on several issues related to the function of the R-Package in the readiness process
 - During >5hrs of discussion over the last 2 days the group covered a broad range of issues and could achieve a richer common understanding
- Key points of discussion included:
 - R-Package Components
 - Phasing of Readiness
 - Assessment of Readiness
 - Access to Carbon Fund and other uses

Synthesis of Working Group's Discussion (1)

- R-Package Components

1. General agreement on basic components

- REDD Strategy
- Implementation Framework
- Reference Levels
- Forest Monitoring Systems
- Safeguards

2. Components need to be consistent with 4 Cancun REDD+ elements

Synthesis of Working Group's Discussion (2)

- Phasing of REDD readiness activities
 3. R-Package falls in phase 1 and phase 2 of Cancun phases
 4. Consistency with emerging guidance from SBSTA
 5. Important to design R-Package to allow demonstration and learning effects from Carbon Fund to be harnessed (and inform phase 3)

Synthesis of Working Group's Discussion (3)

- Assessment of Readiness

6. Readiness is a continuum; not everything can be resolved at time of R-Package submissions
7. R-Package is not the final statement of readiness, but provides assessment of progress at a point in time
8. An assessment approach is needed
9. R-Package can identify gaps, further capacity building needs and funding

Synthesis of Working Group's Discussion (4)

- Access to FCPF Carbon Fund
 10. Requirement to enter into the Carbon Fund, but also pathway to engage in piloting activities more generally
 11. Original purpose (per Charter) was eligibility for Carbon Fund, but R-Package also Informs UNFCCC process through piloting results-based payments
- Acknowledge that flexibility is necessary
 12. In design of R-Package and its timing to assure that near-term piloting of performance-based systems is possible in a timeframe that can inform UNFCCC phase 3 design
 13. Harness incremental learning as countries submit first R-Packages and ER-PIN for Carbon Fund
- Coordination with UN-REDD is crucial

Proposed Next Steps

- Continue Working Group
 - UN-REDD participates in and contributes to Working Group
 - Seek targeted input from REDD countries and Delivery Partners
- Drafting and Solicitation of Technical Inputs between PC10 and PC11
 - Detailed steps and actions (next slide)
- Presentation of Advanced Draft by PC11

Proposed Timeline for Development of R-Package Structure and Assessment Approach

Task	Tentative Due Date
Request submissions from Participants on R-Package Structure (Components)	November, 2011
3 Regional Conference calls Americas, Africa, Asia with focus on Components/Sub-Components	end December 2011
FMT drafts assessment approach with draft standards; solicits feedback from Working Group; TAP provides review and feedback	January 2012
FMT generates a draft Note detailing R-Package structure and assessment approach (Standards); working group, including REDD countries, provide review and input electronically	February 2012

Timeline for Development of R-Package Structure and Assessment Approach (cont.)

Task	Tentative Due Date
FMT shares draft Note with Participants for review prior to PC11. Participants provide comments feedback prior to PC11. FMT summarizes feedback at PC11	By end February 2012
FMT, with working group input, presents draft Note on R-Package and assessment approach at PC11. Feedback and guidance by PC.	March 2012
Public comment and review period, seek targeted input from key stakeholder groups at national level	April/May 2012
Produced Revised R-Package and assessment approach for discussion at PC12	June 2012



THANK YOU!

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