

Review of R-PP of: Liberia

Reviewer:

Uganda (lead), European Commission
and Norway

Date of review: 9-15th February 2011

First – a caveat

- PC review was not able to assess the latest version of the R-PP. We assume many of our comments have already been incorporated in the latest version.

Liberia (L)EITI

- Liberia is the first country in the world to set up an Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative specifically for timber. This is much welcomed, and of high interest to the FCPF.
- An analysis of early lessons from the EITI consultative process as well as information on how the REDD+ consultations will link to this process would be greatly beneficial for the PC.

Component 1. Organize and Consult

- Elaborate further on the roles and functions and composition of various working groups.
- Describe consultations processes in REDD+ and links with the ones used in the context of FLEGT and the NAPA.
- With respect to the governance, could the description shed more light as to how various stakeholders are engaged in forest governance?

Component 2. Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy

- The R-PP states several places that much of the policies, financial structures, as well as institutions needed to initiate a REDD+ programme nationally are already present. This seems like an optimistic statement.
- Some major shortcomings in the existing law and policy frameworks should still have been pointed out, including the lack of a clear land use policy.

Comp. 2 cont'd

- Information of forest resources is critical prerequisites to the development of a REDD+ strategy
- The allocation and management of recent logging concessions has been a controversial issue in Liberia. More information on this would be appreciated.
- The description on the land tenure and tenure /rights to natural resources

Link to FLEGT

- We welcome the inclusion of the VPA platform as part of the groups targeted by the consultation and participation process: this will promote coherence between actions undertaken in the context of the FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) and in the context of REDD+.

Standard 2.b: REDD-plus strategy Options:

- The proposed REDD-plus strategies are well aligned with the identified drivers and a plan of how to address the identified drivers is given.
- There is, in the proposed options, a strong intention to increase the role of conservation and its associated co-benefits;

- REDD+'s role in Liberian development needs to be considered in relation to broader issues in agriculture, food security and climate change adaptation, going beyond its potential to provide bonus payments for keeping forests intact.
- FDA's capacity concerns – only few trained and experienced forestry staff

Component 3. Develop a Reference Level

- A thorough assessment is given of data needs, available data on historical land use changes and carbon stocks as well as key challenges and options for developing a reference level for the country.
- Building staff capacity is identified as a major challenge for this work and for the development of a national MRV-system. A wide spectrum of external actors is providing Liberia with technical support within this field, but close focus must be kept on internalizing key capacities in Liberian authorities.

THANK YOU

Table 1: Summary of attainment of standards

Standard	Summary of attainment of the standard
Standard 1a: National Readiness Management Arrangements:	Standard Partially met.
Standard 1b: Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups	Standard Partially met.
Standard 1c: Consultation and Participation Process	Standard partially met.
Standard 2.a: Assessment of Land Use, Forest Policy, and Governance:	Standard not met.
Standard 2.b: REDD strategy Options:	Standard not met.
Standard 2.c: REDD implementation framework:	Standard not met
Standard 2.d: Assessment of social and environmental impacts:	Standard met.
Standard 3: Reference scenario:	Standard Partially met.
Standard 4a: Emissions and Removals	Standard Partially met.
Standard 4b: Other Multiple Benefits, Impacts, and Governance:	Standard not met.
Standard 5: Completeness of information and resource requirements:	Standard partially met
Standard 6: Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework :	Standard met.