

**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Mechanism  
Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) External Review Template**  
(interim, April 20, 2012, from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 5)

**Guidelines for Reviewers:**

- 1) *FCPF REDD Country Participant R-PPs will be reviewed and assessed by the FCPF Participants Committee, the FCPF's governing body, taking TAP comments into account. External (Technical Advisory Panel or other) and Bank reviewers may provide recommendations on how a draft R-PP could be enhanced, using this template on a pilot basis until a process is approved by the PC.*
- 2) *One set of criteria should be used for review: specific standards each of the current 6 components of an R-PP should be met.*
- 3) *Your comments will be merged with other reviewer comments (without individual attribution) into a synthesis document that will be made public, in general, so bear this in mind when commenting.*
- 4) *Please provide thoughtful, fair assessment of the draft R-PP, in the form of actionable recommendations for the potential enhancement of the R-PP by the submitting country. A REDD Country Participant would be allowed three submissions of an R-PP to the PC for consideration.*

**Objectives of a Readiness Preparation Proposal** (condensed directly from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 3)

*The purpose of the R-PP is to build and elaborate on the previous Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) or a country's relevant comparable work, to assist a country in laying out and organizing the steps needed to achieve 'Readiness' to undertake activities to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), in the specific country context. The R-PP provides a framework for a country to set a clear roadmap, budget, and schedule to achieve REDD Readiness. The FCPF does not expect that the activities identified in the R-PP and its Terms of Reference (ToR) would actually occur at the R-PP stage, although countries may decide to begin pilot activities for which they have capacity and stakeholder support. Instead, the R-PP consists of a summary of the current policy and governance context, what study and other preparatory activities would occur under each major R-PP component, how they would be undertaken in the R-PP execution phase, and then a ToR or work plan for each component. The activities would generally be performed in the next, R-PP execution phase, not as part of the R-PP formulation process.*

## Review of R-PP of : BURKINA FASO

Reviewer : SUMMARY: G. Ken Creighton (lead) and four other reviewers

Date of review : 10 October 2013

### SUMMARY

#### Burkina Faso – RPP Synthesis update - 11 November 2013 – Summary Ratings

Component	April 2012 Submission TAP Rating	June 2012 Submission TAP Rating	July 2013 TAP Submission TAP Rating (October review)	November 2013 resubmission TAP Rating (November review)
1a National readiness management arrangements	Standard Partially met	Standard met	Standard met	Standard met
1b Information sharing and early dialog with stakeholders	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met	Standard met
1c Consultation and participation process	Standard Partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
2a Assessment of land use, forest law, policy and governance	Standard largely met	Standard met	Standard met	Standard met
2b REDD+ Strategy options	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met
2c REDD+ implementation framework	Standard partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
2d Social and environmental impacts during readiness preparation	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met	Standard met
3 Develop a national forest reference emissions	Standard partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
4a National forest monitoring system	Standard partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
4b Designing an information system for multiple benefits, etc.	Standard not met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
5 Schedule and budget	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met
6 Design a program monitoring and evaluation framework	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met

**Standard Met** – no further work needed to describe the actions proposed under the standard

**Standard Largely Met** – Proposed work is acceptable but can be enhanced with additional information

**Standard Partially Met** – Some additional information is required before the proposed strategy fulfills the terms of the standard

**Standard Not Met** – Information is incomplete and does not fulfill the terms of the standard

## Summary

### Review History:

This proposal has benefitted from three rounds of review based on documents submitted in April and June 2012 and July 2013. A teleconference discussion was held with the National Coordination unit on 24 October 2013. Additional revisions and clarifications were received on November 9 2013 and are taken into account in this review synthesis.

The team of TAP reviewers that participated in the review noted that Components 1c (consultation and participation process) and 5 (schedule and budget) would benefit from some minor additional adjustments as noted in the observations for these individual components that follow below. For component 1c, specific suggestions were provided to improve the consultation process and to ensure effective participation by women and traditional leaders. For component 5 it was suggested that a more complete presentation of the sources of funding and the schedule of anticipated expenditures be provided. It was noted for components 3, 4a and 4b that the guidelines recommend inclusion of workplans. The TAP reviewers note that all of the above recommendations have been addressed in the current version received on November 9 2013.

### Strengths:

The national RPP process and this proposal have obviously benefitted from the preparation work that has gone on in preparing the FIP investment plan that took place from February to November 2011, and was approved in June 2011, conditional on some modifications and alignment with a national RPP process. The FIP and RPP processes share a common coordination unit and steering committee. The development of a baseline and methodology for monitoring of carbon stocks and safeguards is well integrated into a program of capacity building within existing institutions and institutional mandates. The consultation process is well designed and provisions for ongoing participation by an appropriately broad constituency of stakeholders is well described and adequately funded. The provisions for technical audits of the methodologies and their applications are notable.

Specific Strengths of the proposal include:

- The four key areas that will be the focus of the REDD Readiness Strategy and Action Plan (RSAP) are clearly defined and described (Component 1a).
- Regional and commune level committees have been established for consultation. The consultation and participation plan including the platform (PCN) implementation cost is: \$2.427m. (Component 1a)
- Analysis of drivers (Component 2a) is thorough and well structured to provide a basis for setting up a baseline and monitoring system. Lessons learned from previous projects and interventions, such as the basis and principles of government-community collaboration, are being incorporated into the design of the anticipated RPP interventions.
- “Representative” projects are described in Annex 2c. The intention to rely to some extent on existing programs, after appropriate evaluation and assessment of performance and capacity, rather than anticipate many new ones is a practical and potentially efficient and cost-effective approach. The intention to explore/encourage NGO and private sector projects and the intention to establish two “channels” for financial benefit streams (state and non-state) is noted and this intention should be accountable in review of the workprogram. The summary of activities to be conducted during the REDD preparation phase provides a concise roadmap of the intended actions and covers the main issues and the approach to addressing them well.

## Key Recommendations

- **Component 1a:** Capacity building within national research institutions should be emphasized. This has now been addressed in specifying the institutions that will be the focus of capacity building and their roles in the implementation process.
- **Component 1b:** The semi-annual meetings of the National Coordination should include representatives of civil society (NGOs) and the private sector as participants and observers. This is now clearly acknowledged in the description of operations of the coordination unit.
- **Component 1c:** The establishment of the consultation bodies at all levels should take special care to ensure inclusion of ethnic minorities, traditional leaders and women. The later could be facilitated by the engagement of womens associations. Also the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Gender should be included in the National REDD Coordination Committee along with the sectoral ministries noted and represented in each of the levels established for the consultation and participation processes. These recommendations have been addressed and the procedure for ensuring representation of women and ethnic minorities in the various levels of review committees from commune to regional to national is clearly described.
- **Component 2d:** The document should be clear that information sharing will still be needed during implementation and reporting on REDD+. It seems implied in the Permanent Commission for Sustainable Development but it needs to be more explicit. Component 1a now indicates that the structure established for initial consultations will be maintained throughout the course or program implementation to facilitate ongoing feedback from stakeholders - this adequately addresses this recommendation.
- **Component 3:** The R-PP now provides a workplan and schedule (p135 - Table 30(?)) that identifies key milestones and expected outputs and the entities responsible for their accomplishment.
- **Component 4a:** A work plan and implementation schedule are provided as well as additional text description of how local residents will be involved with the MRV process. In the new document, additional material has been added to further explain how the MRV will be developed and there is additional explanation about institutions.
- **Component 4b:** In the new document, the explanation is much improved and the issues to be dealt with have been adequately identified. A work plan has been included and description of how data amalgamation from the various participating entities is described. Additional funding has been allocated to ensure ongoing public consultation.
- **Component 5:** The budget clearly outlines the range and scope of intended activities and representative costs. The presentation is consistent with the TAP recommendations.
- **Component 6:** The revised document describes clearly the process and timing for development of indicators including a table that helps to link outputs to budget allocations. The revised document also includes an analysis of risks and identifies the institutions responsible for delivery and monitoring of each element. There is a need for two types of performance level monitoring indicators: one related to priority areas and activities that will include some high priority indicators, some of which are related to the inclusion of gender, human resource development, etc., and another collecting the remaining quantitative indicators on carbon stock change, etc. Do not get carried away by only quantitative indicators.

## Key Observations

- **Component 1a:** To facilitate conflict resolution, the R-PP document highlights clearly the strategy for conflict resolution based on structures established under existing legislation

(Land Law 034) such as the *Chartes foncières*. This is beginning to be tested by NGO and research centers at village and commune level. *Chartes* are the first level. The Law provides additional structures for appeal and high level resolution. The deployment of advanced students and researchers should be considered to accelerate implementation and to capture lessons learned from the process. The process, based on the implementation of Land Law 034 is well described and if effectively implement should meet all requirements.

- **Component 1b:** Involvement of traditional leaders is a good way to reach some constituents whose participation will be crucial for successful implementation. This is acknowledged in the revised text.
- **Component 1c:** As noted (P44) “The organization of village forums in 8,000 villages and REDD Commune-level Committees in 302 rural communes” is an ambitious objective. And, “The first round which is the awareness campaign will be a test of the capacities to implement the plan.” The communities targeted by the FIP projects will be the first to host these fora.” This shows a clear appreciation of the challenges and a sensible starting point linked to the FIP project that is already effective.
- **Component 2a:** The breakdown by agro-ecological zones illustrated in table 9 (P 49), drawing on the results of a previous project initiative, is an appropriate framework for organizing the driver analysis. P50-52 provides a good overview of changes in forest cover, quality and carbon stocks over the past 20 years. These data will be essential to creation of a baseline. Figure 4 (P 53) shows the change in rainfall patterns that indicate significant consequences for changes in carbon sequestration potential that will have to be taken into account in modeling future potential. The need for ongoing monitoring is acknowledged and process to achieve it is well described.
- **Component 2b:** The proposal (P 83) indicates the intention to focus on addressing the core issues through organizing actions around four “strategic pillars” (land use planning, securing land rights, improved management of agro-pastoral systems, and improved governance as that relates to land and natural resource ownership and management). A key element of this approach is to improve land tenure security at the most local level as a basis for encouraging investment in actions that conserve or enhance biocarbon stocks. The legal and regulatory frameworks to accomplish this are mostly in place but the need is to promote broader understanding of these “rights” and to strengthen and expand their application at local scale. This will be addressed through ongoing consultation over the full course of program implementation.
- **Component 2d:** The scope of the planned SESA is well described. The time and funding allocated and the TORs provided in Annex 2d are appropriate. Initiating work on the SESA during the preparatory phase of the project will help inform and improve project design.
- **Component 3:** The existence and intended use of a national database on land use and the application of modeling on existing data are appropriate measures as described on pp 125-127 that should contribute to deriving a credible baseline. The intended use of data spanning a 20-year horizon at 5-year intervals is noted and the plan to “validate” the data assembled in the existing database is relevant.
- **Component 3:** The proposed provision for an independent audit of the baseline methodology and calculations is noted. The five-year interval for review and adjustment of baseline calculations is appropriate. P134. The proposed budget allocation for

development, implementation and auditing of the baseline/reference level scenario is appropriate.

- **Component 4a:** The decision to measure (net) overall national forest emissions and sequestration by monitoring changes in carbon stocks is appropriate. The choice of a 0.25 ha level of resolution for monitoring is ambitious. The document also notes the intention to develop data that takes into account changes in carbon stock by “stratum” (height of vegetation) in order to better capture the impact of degradation. The proposed five-year reporting interval by area, strata and sequestration rate and the inclusion of agro-forestry data is appropriate though ambitious.

## Standards to be Met by R-PP Components

(From Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 6)

### Component 1. Organize and Consult

**Standard 1a: National Readiness Management Arrangements:** The cross-cutting nature of the design and workings of the national readiness management arrangements on REDD, in terms of including relevant stakeholders and key government agencies beyond the forestry department, commitment of other sectors in planning and implementation of REDD readiness. Capacity building activities are included in the work plan for each component where significant external technical expertise has been used in the R-PP development process, and mechanisms for addressing grievances regarding consultation and participation in the REDD-plus process, and for conflict resolution and redress of grievances.

#### Reviewer’s assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

##### Recommendations:

The village/commune committee structure should be increased to assure representation of all relevant stakeholder groups, with particular attention to participation by women and minorities. However, one reviewer expressed concern over the commune committees becoming too large to be workable. A system to ensure representation of key stakeholders while keeping the numbers manageable is needed. Comment: The revised structure takes this recommendation into account effectively.

To facilitate conflict resolution, the R-PP document should highlight clearly the strategy for conflict resolution based on structures established under existing legislation (Land Law 034) such as the *Chartes foncières*. This is beginning to be tested by NGO and research centers at village and commune level. *Chartes* are the first level. The Law provides additional structures for appeal and high level resolution. The deployment of advanced students and researchers should be considered to accelerate implementation and to capture lessons learned from the process.

Capacity building within national research institutions should be emphasized as is acknowledged in the revised document and addressed in the included workplans.

##### Observations:

P 15 - the revised calculations of potential emissions reduction or increases sequestration from program interventions are based on realistic assumptions and reflect potential results from an appropriate diversity of potential land use and land management interventions.

P 18. The intent to establish baseline and monitoring system based on forest inventory and carbon content calibration of forest cover types and remote sensing of change is a sound approach.

P 19. The 30-month implementation period seems realistic if funding is available and administrative/management capacity is established quickly.

P 20- Org and Management section. The consultation plan is well structured and if implemented well should provide a mechanism that is inclusive of the broad range of concerned stakeholders from community to provincial to national levels.

P 21 The “Platform” avoids creation of new structures. The plan is to strengthen capacity in existing agencies and national institutions and facilities.

P 22. Figure 1 illustrates clearly the proposed structure for national consultation and program management. It provides a balance between management and oversight and, appropriately, provides for several levels of engagement for consultation with civil society and with various relevant government sectors.

***The standard is met.***

### **Standard 1b: Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups:**

The R-PP presents evidence of the government having undertaken an exercise to identify key stakeholders for REDD-plus, and commenced a credible national-scale information sharing and awareness raising campaign for key relevant stakeholders. The campaign's major objective is to establish an early dialogue on the REDD-plus concept and R-PP development process that sets the stage for the later consultation process during the implementation of the R-PP work plan. This effort needs to reach out, to the extent feasible at this stage, to networks and representatives of forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers and forest dependent communities, both at national and local level. The R-PP contains evidence that a reasonably broad range of key stakeholders has been identified, voices of vulnerable groups are beginning to be heard, and that a reasonable amount of time and effort has been invested to raise general awareness of the basic concepts and process of REDD-plus including the SESA.

### **Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

#### **Recommendations:**

The revised text describing the semiannual organization meeting of the REDD Coordination unit makes clear it will be open to civil society and private representation and observers.

#### **Observations:**

Modifications of the original proposal to expand the participation of representatives of grassroots stakeholders, including traditional leaders and women, is addressed appropriately in the revised document.

***GKC: The standard is met.***

### **Standard 1c: Consultation and Participation Process**

Ownership, transparency, and dissemination of the R-PP by the government and relevant stakeholders, and inclusiveness of effective and informed consultation and participation by relevant stakeholders, will be assessed by whether proposals and/ or documentation on the following are included in the R-PP (i) the consultation and participation process for R-PP development thus far<sup>3</sup> (ii) the extent of ownership within

<sup>3</sup>Did the R-PP development, in particular the development of the ToR for the strategic environmental and social assessment and the Consultation and Participation Plan, include civil society, including forest dwellers and Indigenous Peoples representation? In this context the representative(s) will be determined in one of the following ways: (i) self-determined representative(s) meeting the following requirements: (a) selected through a participatory, consultative process; (b) having national coverage or networks; (c) previous

government and national stakeholder community; (iii) the Consultation and Participation Plan for the R-PP implementation phase (iv) and concerns expressed and recommendations of relevant stakeholders, and a process for their consideration, and/or expressions of their support for the R-PP.

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Recommendations:** none.

**Observations:**

As noted (P44) "The organization of village forums in 8,000 villages and REDD Commune-level Committees in 302 rural communes" is an ambitious objective. And, "The first round which is the awareness campaign will be a test of the capacities to implement the plan." The communities targeted by the FIP projects will be the first to host these fora." **This shows a clear appreciation of the challenges and a sensible starting point linked to the FIP project that is already effective.**

***"The National Participatory Consultation Platform for REDD (PCN-REDD)"***

CONEDD is composed of three components: the National Conference, the Special Commissions and the Permanent Secretariat. The National Participatory Consultation Platform will be established as a special committee of CONEDD." This shows clearly the intention to establish appropriate cross-sectoral and civil society engagement. **Table 5 (p 35) shows the structure of PCN-REDD that illustrates broad representation of official and civil society.**

P43. "The foundational element of the process is the village forum. After these forums have taken place, synthesis meetings will be organized by the Commune-level committees. The summarized findings of the Commune-level committees are in turn synthesized and harmonized by the regional committees, and the results sent to the PCN-REDD to be taken into account in the national vision. A complete cycle, i.e., from the villages to the National Platform, is called a "consultation wave", or round of consultation." **This provides for adequate input from various levels.**

Table 8 (P 48) outlines the activities and costs for the participation component. **The budget allocations are realistic but annual monitoring and "stock taking" may indicate appropriate adjustments to improve performance once the program goes into operation.**

The implementation work plan should confirm and make clear the central role of the local community-based mechanisms in decisions concerning land use.

***The standard is met.***

**Component 2. Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy**

**Standard 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Forest Law, Policy, and Governance:**

A completed assessment is presented that: identifies major land use trends; assesses direct and indirect deforestation and degradation drivers in the most relevant sectors in the context of REDD-plus; recognizes major land tenure and natural resource rights and relevant governance issues; documents past successes

experience working with the Government and UN system; (d) demonstrated experience serving as a representative, receiving input from, consulting with, and providing feedback to, a wide scope of civil society including Indigenous Peoples organizations; or (ii) Individual(s) recognized as legitimate representative(s) of a national network of civil society and/or Indigenous Peoples organizations (e.g., the GEF Small Grants National Steering Committee or National Forest Program Steering Committee).



and failures in implementing policies or measures for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; identifies significant gaps, challenges, and opportunities to address REDD; and sets the stage for development of the country's REDD strategy to directly address key land use change drivers.

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Recommendations:**

Table 14 (P 54) indicates "The area planted with cash crops has increased by an average of 5.6% annually. Climate change may affect (decrease) the rate of future conversion in some areas and increase it in others. *The intention to take this into account in developing the monitoring strategy and plan for monitoring changes in carbon stocks on a national scale is well noted.*

**Observations:**

It is necessary to establish more clearly the different rights and opportunities for women so that the impacts and benefits of implementing the strategy can be accurately predicted and assessed. For example, in Act 034, it is assumed that the state and local authorities can organize special awards of individual or collective land rights to women. The law could potentially benefit women. However, as they are still "subject " in their domestic and social environments to traditional land tenure customs, the impact may be limited. Involvement of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Gender at the various levels from commune to national, as indicated in the revised text, should help to ensure that benefits accrue to women.

Table 6 (P39-40) gives a good description of the stepwise process of getting the program into operation including consultation. Operational aspects including budget allocations are well presented and budgetary provisions are adequate.

The breakdown by agro-ecological zones illustrated in table 9 (P 49), drawing on the results of a previous project initiative, is an appropriate framework for organizing the driver analysis. P50-52 provides a good overview of changes in forest cover, quality and carbon stocks over the past 20 years. These data will be essential to creation of a baseline. Figure 4 (P 53). Shows the change in rainfall patterns that indicate significant consequences for changes in carbon sequestration potential that will have to be taken into account in modeling future potential.

The sub-component has presented an impressive amount of information on forest cover and changes over the years, as shown in tables 9 to 13. Despite the fact that there are rough estimates, the data on above and below-ground biomass is indicative of what can be achieved under REDD+

Overall, this section does a good job of describing the relative importance of different drivers of deforestation and degradation.

***The standard is met.***

**Standard 2.b: REDD-plus strategy Options:**

The R-PP should include: an alignment of the proposed REDD-plus strategy with the identified drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and with existing national and sectoral strategies, and a summary of the emerging REDD-plus strategy to the extent known presently, and of proposed analytic work (and, optionally, ToR) for assessment of the various REDD-plus strategy options. This summary should state: how the country proposes to address deforestation and degradation drivers in the design of its REDD-plus strategy; a plan of how to estimate cost and benefits of the emerging REDD-plus strategy, including benefits in terms of rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and other developmental aspects; socioeconomic, political and institutional feasibility of the emerging REDD-plus strategy; consideration of environmental and social issues; major potential synergies or inconsistencies of country sector strategies in the forest, agriculture, transport, or other sectors with the envisioned REDD-plus strategy; and a plan of how to assess the risk of domestic leakage of greenhouse benefits. The assessments included in the R-PP eventually should result in an elaboration of a fuller, more complete and adequately vetted REDD-plus strategy over time.

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:****Recommendations:**

The proposal emphasizes the key importance of rural land tenure to success in implementing the program. To achieve this the reviewers recommend efforts to expand awareness, understanding and application of Law 034 in rural communities.

There should be more detail on the proposed strategy and programme to increase area under classified forests from today's 14% to 30% in the future, the afforestation programme and development of NFTP. Text has been added that clarifies how this process will be implemented.

**Observations:**

This section captures lessons and experience from previous donor funded projects and interventions at varying scales and geographical scope. Lessons learned from previous projects and interventions, such as the basis and principles of government-community collaboration, are being incorporated into the design of the anticipated RPP interventions. (P71)

The proposal (P 83) indicates the intention to focus on addressing the core issues through organizing actions around four "strategic pillars" (land use planning, securing land rights, improved management of agro-pastoral systems, and improved governance as that relates to land and natural resource ownership and management). A key element of this approach is to improve land tenure security at the most local level as a basis for encouraging investment in actions that conserve or enhance biocarbon stocks. The legal and regulatory frameworks to accomplish this are mostly in place but the need is to promote broader understanding of these "rights" and to strengthen and expand their application at local scale. The intention to expand and extend the consultation process throughout implementation will address this.

***The standard is met.***

**Standard 2.c: REDD-plus implementation framework:**

Describes activities (and optionally provides ToR in an annex) 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.

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Recommendations:**

The reviewers emphasize the importance of promoting understanding and moving forward with implementation of the land tenure law (034) as a key condition for successful implementation of the program. To do so will require mobilization of qualified facilitators to stimulate the dialog at the commune and village levels. Domestic research and academic institutions are potential sources of assistance in addition to NGO and ministerial staff such as from the Ministry for the Women's Empowerment and Gender. The involvement of these institutions as described in the revised text is appropriate.

A clearer representation of the connection between the causes of deforestation and the components of the strategy would be helpful. Perhaps, creating a "tree diagram" showing the relationship of the proposed strategic axes and actions to the principal drivers of deforestation would accomplish this and more clearly demonstrate the "logic" of the proposed program to address the key drivers and to build the requisite capacities to address key issues such as land tenure and empowerment of women and rural stakeholders. Note: The tree diagram added in the latest revision addresses this well.

An information sharing platform on REDD+ should be added to the registry of Projects. The intention to do this in the revised version is noted.

**Observations:**

This section describes a balanced, realistic and practical set of goals and outputs from the Strategy process. "Representative" projects are described in Annex 2c. The intention to rely to some extent on existing programs, after appropriate evaluation and assessment of performance and capacity, rather than anticipate many new ones is a practical and potentially efficient and cost-effective approach. The intention to explore/encourage NGO and private sector projects and the intention to establish two "channels" for financial benefit streams (state and non-state) is noted and this intention should be accountable in review of the final Strategy.

The summary of activities to be conducted during the REDD preparation phase given in this section provides a concise roadmap of the intended actions and covers the main issues and the approach to addressing them well.

***The standard is met.***

**Standard 2.d: Social and Environmental Impacts during Readiness Preparation and REDD-plus Implementation:**

The proposal includes a program of work for due diligence in the form of an assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts as part of the SESA process. It also provides a description of safeguard issues that are relevant to the country's readiness preparation efforts. For FCPF countries, a simple work plan is presented for conducting the SESA process, cross referencing other components of the R-PP as appropriate, and for preparing the ESMF.

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment proposed in component 2d will particularly include an assessment of risks and potential benefits in terms of parity, according to the operational policy of the World Bank on the dimensions of gender equality in development (OP 4.20) to identify the possibilities of reducing gender disparities so that everybody can have access to and benefit from REDD + initiatives.

**Recommendations:**

The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) should be initiated early in the process and, build on similar work being carried out under the FIP. Reviewers felt that this should include periodic monitoring as the program goes forward of the key factors identified in the initial SESA study. **This has been taken into account in the proposed work program and implementation schedule.**

**Observations:**

The scope of the planned SESA is well described. The time and funding allocated and the TORs provided in Annex 2d are appropriate. Initiating work on the SESA during the preparatory phase of the project will help inform and improve project design.

Reference to decision 1/CP16 of UNFCCC is noted. Reference to relevant aspects of existing legislation and regulations, the need for compliance with international conventions and to the importance of good governance is also noted as well as intended consistency and harmonization with the SESA being carried out for the FIP.

***The standard is met.***

**Component 3. Develop a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level**

**Standard 3:a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level**

Present work plan for how the reference level for deforestation, forest degradation (if desired), conservation, sustainable management of forest, and enhancement of carbon stocks will be developed. Include early ideas on a process for determining which approach and methods to use (e.g., forest cover change and GHG emissions based on historical trends, and/or projections into the future of historical trend data; combination of inventory and/or remote sensing, and/or GIS or modeling), major data requirements, and current capacity and capacity requirements. Assess linkages to components 2a (assessment of deforestation drivers), 2b (REDD-plus strategy activities), and 4 (monitoring system design).

(FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a stepwise approach may be useful. This component states what early activities are proposed.)

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Recommendations**

Linkage with the drivers analysis (2a) should be accomplished by use of the land-use database to "calibrate" the historical influence of drivers on land use and forest cover change and thus to refine estimates of anticipated future change rates.

The R-PP still lacks a work plan, having merged activity, sub-activity, and budgets all into one table. It would be better to separate out a work plan with a table that shows activity, sub-activity, actors, and deliverables with a time line that is separate from the budget itself. The material for the plan is already in the text, but should be pulled out into a table so that the organization and responsibilities are clear. The workplan included with the revised text fully addresses this recommendation.

**Observations**

The existence and intended use of a national database on land use and the application of modeling on existing data are appropriate measures as described on pp 125-127 that should contribute to deriving a credible baseline. The intended use of data spanning a 20-year horizon at 5-year intervals is noted and the plan to "validate" the data assembled in the existing database is relevant.

The proposed provision for an independent audit of the baseline methodology and calculations is noted. The five-year interval for review and adjustment of baseline calculations is appropriate. P134. The proposed budget allocation for development, implementation and auditing of the baseline/reference level scenario is appropriate.

Burkina Faso could refer to the Ghana RPP that has proposed a clear methodology; and combined with the BODT and the data on agricultural expansion and other variables Burkina Faso can generate quite credible reference scenarios.

***The standard is met.***

**Component 4. Design Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards****Standard 4a: National Forest Monitoring System:**

The R-PP provides a proposal and workplan for the initial design, on a stepwise basis, of an integrated monitoring system of measurement, reporting and verification of changes in deforestation and/or forest degradation, and forest enhancement activities. The system design should include early ideas on enhancing country capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities) to monitor emissions reductions and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, and to assess the impacts of the REDD-plus strategy in the forest sector.

The R-PP should describe major data requirements, capacity requirements, how transparency of the monitoring system and data will be addressed, early ideas on which methods to use, and how the system would engage participatory approaches to monitoring by forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers. The R-PP should also address the potential for independent monitoring and review, involving civil society and other stakeholders, and how findings would be fed back to improve REDD-plus implementation. The proposal should present early ideas on how the system could evolve into a mature REDD-plus monitoring system with the full set of capabilities.

(FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a staged approach may be useful. The R-PP states what early activities are proposed.)

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-Plan meets this standard, and recommendations:****Recommendations**

In the new document, additional material has been added to further explain how the MRV will be developed and there is additional explanation about institutions. But there is still a lack of information on technology available and capacity for MRV. As with Component 3, there needs to be a separate work plan that shows activity, sub-activity, actors, deliverables, and a time line, separate from the budget statement. The revised work plan and budget fully address this recommendation.

The document should describe what measures will be employed to ensure transparency in the system and to distribute the data and information generated by the work proposed. The increased commitment to consultation and increased funding allocated for that purpose as described in the revised text adequately address this recommendation.

Description of how to apply the system of participatory approaches for monitoring by forest-dependent communities and other local communities is lacking and should be included.

There should be some description of how the involvement of civil society and other stakeholders

in the MRV program will be implemented. The added text addresses how this will be accomplished.

### **Observations**

The decision to measure (net) overall national forest emissions and sequestration by monitoring changes in carbon stocks is appropriate. The choice of a 0.25 ha level of resolution for monitoring is ambitious. The document also notes the intention to develop data that takes into account changes in carbon stock by “stratum” (height of vegetation) in order to better capture the impact of degradation. The proposed five-year reporting interval by area, strata and sequestration rate and the inclusion of agro-forestry data is appropriate though ambitious.

The integration of contracted work with responsibilities of existing national institutions as described should build/enhance the necessary capacity for ongoing monitoring, data interpretation and analysis within national institutions. P144-5. The proposed budget allocations are realistic and adequate.

*The standard is met.*

### **Standard 4b: Designing an Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards :**

The R-PP provides a proposal for the initial design and a workplan, including early ideas on capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities) for an integrated monitoring system that includes addressing other multiple benefits, impacts, and governance. Such benefits may include, rural livelihoods enhancement, conservation of biodiversity, and/or key governance factors directly pertinent to REDD-plus implementation in the country.

(The FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a staged approach may be useful. The R-PP states what early activities are proposed.)

### **Reviewer’s assessment of how well R-Plan meets this standard, and recommendations:**

#### **Recommendations**

In the new document, the explanation is much improved and the issues to be dealt with have been adequately identified. The elements of a work plan have been summarized in section C, but it would be useful to put these into a table as noted above with activities, sub-activities, actors, deliverables and a time line. Some of this information is already provided in the budget table. The work plan that has been added effectively addresses this concern.

#### **Observations**

The “amalgamation” of data collected from a number of specialized bureaus and agencies will contribute to capacity building and connectedness but presents a challenge to assuring data quality and compatibility. The initial outline of the work plan is described at a general level but more detailed elaboration will be needed as “co-benefits” are more clearly defined and the

capabilities of the various institutions to collect and manage data meeting adequate quality standards will need to be considered. The process outlined on these pages and the budget table on p.148 should take into account the needs for broader public consultation in the definition of co-benefits and the indicators that will be used to measure them to achieve broader public understanding of these benefits. Provisions for extension of public consultation included in the revised text and budget address this concern adequately.

The issue of multiple benefits should be addressed more directly, including the develop of indicators and a more detailed monitoring plan during the course of program implementation. The revised text describes the intention to address this concern in the course of program implementation as better knowledge of the possibilities of multiple benefits is acquired.

*The standard is met.*

## **Component 5. Schedule and Budget**

### **Standard 5: Completeness of information and resource requirements**

The R-PP proposes a full suite of activities to achieve REDD-plus readiness, and identifies capacity building and financial resources needed to accomplish these activities. A budget and schedule for funding and technical support requested from the FCPF and/or UN-REDD, as well as from other international sources (e.g., bilateral assistance), are summarized by year and by potential donor. The information presented reflects the priorities in the R-PP, and is sufficient to meet the costs associated with REDD-plus readiness activities identified in the R-PP. Any gaps in funding, or sources of funding, are clearly noted

#### **Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Recommendations** The budget clearly outlines the range and scope of intended activities and representative costs. However, there is no summary by year of contributions of the Government and of each technical and financial partner. The sources of funding of the various activities should be more clearly identified in this table or a separate one. The activities proposed are appropriate and well described. There should be some further thought given to the public consultation process in developing the definitions of “co-benefits” and the indicators and monitoring plan for these. The revised budget table included in the recent submission effectively addresses this recommendation.

**Observations** The applicant should consider organizing the presentation of data on financing in a format such as is provided below.

*The standard is met.*

## **Component 6. Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

### **Standard 6:**

The R-PP adequately describes the indicators that will be used to monitor program performance of the



Readiness process and R-PP activities, and to identify in a timely manner any shortfalls in performance timing or quality. The R-PP demonstrates that the framework will assist in transparent management of financial and other resources, to meet the activity schedule.

**Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**

**Recommendations**

There is a need for two types of performance level monitoring indicators: one related to priority areas and activities that will include some high priority indicators, some of which are related to the inclusion of gender, human resource development, etc., and another collecting the remaining quantitative indicators on carbon stock change, etc. Do not get carried away by only quantitative indicators. The need to adjust indicators as the implementation program goes forward is appropriate and the plans to do so are well described.

The Reviewers suggest that a paragraph on the analysis of assumptions and risks and the proposed climate change mitigation measures be added to the document. It would be an improvement if the description of anticipated outputs and outcomes is formulated to allow monitoring of the functioning of the performance of the various participating institutions. A similar monitoring framework for financial management would also be useful for tracking implementation performance. A table has been added to identify potential risks. This, along with the text added that describes how performance of the implementing institutions and monitoring of budget expenditures will be accomplished addresses this recommendation adequately.

**Observations**

The monitoring framework captures well the sequence of actions and the proposed mechanisms for monitoring as well as a logical list of indicators. As noted in comments on the preceding sections, there needs to be better provision for public consultation and input on developing and deploying the system for monitoring co-benefits. This has been adequately addressed in the preceding sections.

***Standard met.***

End - gkc - 11 Nov 2013