

**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Mechanism
Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) External Review Template**
(interim, January 14, 2011 based on Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 5)

For use reviewing R-PPs submitted using version 4 R-PP template in January 2011

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 (*fill in country name*): **Uganda**

Reviewer (*fill in*):

1. Uganda **Xavier Mugumya/Alex Muhweezi**
2. The European Commission (EC): **Valerie**

Date of review (*fill in*): **8th February 2011**

Standards to be Met by R-PP Components

Note: This uses FCPF version 4 template standards. Since the new R-PP template version 5 revises these standards, potential upgrade to meet version 5 are also noted.

Overview

The PC reviewer congratulate the R-PP team in the Central African Republic for the work and effort expended. The R-PP is precise, concise and to the point; and allows for the ability to follow the dialogue that was involved in the R-PP process.

Table 1: Summary of attainment of standards

Standard	Summary of attainment of the standard
Standard 1a: National Readiness Management Arrangements:	The standard is partially met.
Standard 1b: Stakeholder Consultation and Participation:	The standard is partially met.
Standard 2.a: Assessment of Land Use, Forest Policy, and Governance:	The standard is met.
Standard 2.b: REDD strategy Options:	The standard is partially met
Standard 2.c: REDD implementation framework:	The standard is partially met
Standard 2.d: Assessment of social and environmental impacts:	The standard is partially met.
Standard 3: Reference scenario:	The standard is met.
Standard 4: Design a monitoring system:	The standard is partially met.
Standard 5: Completeness of information and resource requirements:	The standard is met.
Standard 6: Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework :	The standard is met.

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;

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard:

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.

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

1. Standard is partially met.
2. The National Readiness Management Arrangements are generally clear and are well described.
3. The following observations and questions emerged during the review, which would benefit from additional information:
 - a. It is not clear whether the CN REDD+, the CIM REDD+, the CT REDD+ and its 5 thematic groups are already active or whether they still need to be put in place. If they are already in place, adding official documents setting in place these different groups would be a useful addition to the document. This is clarified p57 'La

composante 1a détaille les compositions et missions des institutions qui seront mises en place :CN REDD+, CIM REDD+, CIP REDD+ et CT REDD+. Ces nouvelles institutions seront désignées et installées rapidement par voie de Décret présidentiel, avant même qu'une éventuelle Loi REDD+ (Cf. infra) ne soit adoptée, afin de faciliter l'élaboration et l'adoption de celle-ci.' But it would be useful to the reader to get this clearly stated in the text as soon as the CN REDD+, the CIM REDD+ and the CT REDD+ are introduced.

- b. In the CN REDD+, we note the presence of representatives from the Ministries of Water and Forestry, Agriculture, Finance, Planning but not from mining and energy, urbanism, equipment, which are members of the CIM REDD+. This seems strange since some disagreement may emerge in the CIM REDD+ that will need to be resolved by the CN REDD+ and would therefore need the same administrative competencies to be represented both in the CN REDD+ and the CIM REDD+.
 - c. It would be useful to provide information on the composition of the CNEDD (Commission Nationale de l'Environnement du Développement Durable) or at least state to what extent it differs or is similar to the composition of the CN REDD+. Some additional information on the mandate of the CNEDD, the way it functions, the way the CNEDD relates to it would also be useful.
 - d. P14: Fonds National pour l'Environnement (FNE): it is stated that the Comité National de Trésorerie (CNT) supervises the management of all funds, including the FNE. The FNE is placed under the supervision of the Ministry of Environment but the Ministry of Environment does not seem to be represented in the CNT. This may translate into a lack of relevant information of the CNT about the functioning of the FNE. Has any specific measure been taken to mitigate this potential lack of information? Additional clarification on this issue would be appreciated.
4. Elements where significant technical expertise has been used in the preparation of the R-PP development process and corresponding capacity building needs and proposed activities are not indicated in Chapter 1a. Complements of information are needed on this issue.
 5. We observe that the level of stakeholder involvement in **preparing** the R-PP is very high. Please explain or clarify if, these institutional frameworks described under this element, are the ones who have prepared this R-PP and, if in addition to this responsibility they will be the ones responsible for the implementation of the R-PP actions
 6. If the latter be the case, could you clarify whether the structures for continued stakeholder participation shall need to be reviewed and confirmed during R-PP implementation?

Standard 1b: Stakeholder Consultation and Participation

Ownership, transparency, and dissemination of the R-PP by the government and relevant stakeholders: Inclusiveness of effective and informed consultation and participation by relevant stakeholders, assessed in the following ways:

- i. the consultation and participation process for R-PP development thus far³, the extent of ownership within government and REDD coordinating body, as well as in the broader national stakeholder community; and

the Consultation and Participation Plan included in the R-PP (which looks forward in time); and the inclusion of elements in the R-PP that adequately document the expressed concerns and recommendations of relevant stakeholders and propose a process for their consideration, and/or expressions of their support for the R-PP.

Version 5 standard text on 1c Stakeholder Consultation and Participation, not included in version 4 standard:

R-PP should include mechanisms for addressing grievances regarding consultation and participation in the REDD-plus process, and for conflict resolution and redress of grievances.

(Standard 1c (version 5): This standard is very similar to version 4 standard 1b.)

Standard 1b in version 5: Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups (This is a new text and standard called 1b that did not exist in previous versions)

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:

1. The standard is partially met
2. The R-PP presents evidence of the government has undertaken efforts to disseminate to ensure dissemination of information and transparency about the preparation of the R-PP. An early dialogue on the REDD-plus concept and R-PP development process has taken place. However, the description of stakeholder participation could include an indication of the process of national ownership and endorsement of the R-PP.
3. The 6 targeted groups of stakeholders (p16) adequately cover all stakeholders

³ 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 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).

interested in REDD+. However, there is no mention of the method used to select the representatives and interviewed persons in each stakeholder group: on which basis has it been done? Have government agencies used existing lists of stakeholder? Has the FLEGT multi-stakeholder platform been used for this purpose? Has a specific study been launched to identify relevant contacts?

4. The regional consultations according to the CIP REDD+ in order to better fit the local context is a good idea.
5. The reports presented in Annexes 1b1 to 1b10 (p103 to 127) are very useful to understand the context in which the consultations were carried out and should be commended. Nonetheless, 2 comments:
 - a. The basis on which the consultations were conducted is not clear: according to p16 and 17, it seems that consultations were conducted on the basis of the 8 questions quoted on p17. These are complete and cover the whole range of issues dealt with in the R-PP but require a minimum level of understanding of the REDD process. Were explanatory background documents distributed to the groups ahead of the meetings ? and if yes, what were they?
 - b. Based on the consultations conducted so far, it would be useful to provide an assessment of the level of knowledge and ownership of the R-PP process by the different stakeholders groups that could be the basis for the next consultation phase to be conducted from 2011 to 2013. Currently, chapter 3 (p20-21) describes how the consultations will be carried out but lack information on what the scope of these consultations will be.
6. There is intention to develop an Awareness and communications strategy as well as Consultations and Participation strategy. These intentions could be elaborated further.

Component 2. Prepare the REDD Strategy

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

A completed assessment is presented that identifies major land use trends, direct and indirect deforestation and degradation drivers in the most relevant sectors in the context of REDD, and major land tenure and natural resource rights and relevant governance issues. It documents past successes and failures in implementing policies or measures for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and identifies significant gaps, challenges, and opportunities to address REDD. The assessment sets the stage for development of the country's REDD strategy to directly address key land use change drivers.

(Version 5 standard: no significant changes from version 4)

1. Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations.
2. The standard is met.
3. We commend the way the drivers for deforestation have been well elaborated. The documentation of past and ongoing policies and projects addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation both on the positive and negative sides is well substantiated. We note the effort to assess how ongoing policies, initiatives and projects such as PNAE, DSRP, FLEGT VPA, PARPAF, CDF, OEFB etc... can support the development

of the REDD+ strategy and identify specific areas for synergies between them.

Standard 2.b: REDD strategy Options:

Alignment of the proposed REDD strategy with the identified drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and with existing national and sectoral strategies: the R-PP includes a summary of the emerging REDD strategy to the extent known presently, and of proposed analytic work (and, optionally, ToR) for assessment of the various REDD strategy options. This summary states:

- i. how the country proposes to address deforestation and degradation drivers in the design of its REDD strategy;
- ii. early estimates of cost and benefits of the emerging REDD strategy, including benefits in terms of rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and other developmental benefits;
- iii. socioeconomic, political and institutional feasibility of the emerging REDD strategy;
- iv. major potential synergies or inconsistencies of country sector strategies in the forest, agriculture, transport, or other sectors with the envisioned REDD strategy; and
- v. 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 strategy over time.

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard:

For point ii (cost benefits), and point iv (risk of domestic leakage), R-PPs should present only a plan, not the actual work.

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

1. Standard is partially met
2. There is a very rich and unique analysis of the potential strategy options as presented. They are well linked to the Drivers identified in 2.a. However, it would have been even better if all the tables were in English as well. Likewise, the strategic options are well prioritized and described
3. Strategic option 1 and sub strategic options 1.1 (p45): the description of Strategic option 1 and the title of sub strategic option 1.1 (zoning of the complete territory) point to an objective of zoning the complete national territory ie not only forests but also agriculture land, mines, infrastructure, which is clearly a very interesting idea since it would allow to better capture external pressures on the forest. However, the description of sub strategic option 1.1 seems to limit the zoning approach to forests only and not other lands. It would be useful to clarify the exact scope of the zoning foreseen under Strategic option 1.
4. The process for identifying and implementing pilot activities could be made clearer.

Standard 2.c: REDD implementation framework:

Describes activities (and optionally provides ToR in an annex) to further elaborate institutional arrangements and issues relevant to REDD in the country setting that identifies key issues, explores potential arrangements to address them, and offers a work plan that seems likely to allow their full

evaluation and adequate incorporation into the eventual Readiness Package.

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard::

- i) 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.*
- ii) 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:

1. Standard is partially met.
2. The proposed process for defining and putting in place the REDD+ implementation framework seems adequate.
3. However, is it possible then, that the proposed action to "legalize" the institutional arrangements described in section 1a could wait until REDD+ implementation arrangement are confirmed after REDD+ Strategies have been developed and approved by the country?
4. In particular to allow for time to elaborate and clarify on the rights to land and by relation the rights to carbon especially by the current majority who only, currently claim their rights through customary means?

Standard 2.d: Assessment of social and environmental impacts:

The proposal includes a program of work for due diligence for strategic environmental and social impact assessment in compliance with the Bank's safeguard policies, including methods to evaluate how to address those impacts via studies, consultations, and specific mitigation measures aimed at preventing or minimizing adverse effects.

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard:

For countries receiving funding via the World Bank, a simple work plan is presented for how the SESA process will be followed, and for preparation of the ESMF.

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

1. The standard is partially met.
2. The TORs for developing the SESA needs to be further elaborated to cater for processes that will ensure stakeholder participation; including the forest dependent people as well mechanisms for feeding back into the finalization of the REDD+ Strategies.

Component 3. Develop a Reference Scenario

Standard 3 Reference scenario:

Present work plan for how the reference scenario for deforestation, and for forest degradation (if desired), will be developed, including early ideas on feasibility of which methods to use (e.g., scenario of forest cover change and emissions based on historical trends in emissions and/or based on projections into the future of historical trend data), major data requirements and capacity needs, and linkages to the monitoring system design.

(The FCPF recognizes 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.)

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard:

i) The work plan also needs to include, besides deforestation and forest degradation, conservation, sustainable management of forest and enhancement of carbon stocks.

ii) Assess current capacity as well as future capacity needs.

iii) Assess linkages to components 2a (assessment of deforestation drivers), 2b (REDD-plus strategy activities), and 4 (MRV system design).

iv) A stepwise approach.

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

1. The standard is met.
2. CAR presents a frank data requirements analysis, and limitations of scenario setting; still there a rich comparison of baseline setting options including the potential for sub national baseline development (of course to be brought as a single datum at national level)
3. The section also links to the Component 4

Component 4. Design a Monitoring System

Standard 4: Design a monitoring system:

The R-PP provides a proposal for the initial design of an integrated monitoring system of measurement, reporting and verification of changes in deforestation and/or forest degradation. The system design should include early ideas on including capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities) to monitor other benefits and impacts, for example rural livelihoods, conservation of biodiversity, key governance factors directly pertinent to REDD implementation in the country, and to assess the impacts of the REDD 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. It should also address independent monitoring and review, involving civil society and other stakeholders, and how findings would be fed back to improve REDD implementation. The proposal should present early ideas on how the system could evolve into a mature REDD monitoring system with this full set of capabilities.

(The FCPF recognizes 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.)

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard:

Provide proposal and work plan for the initial design, **on a stepwise basis**.

Monitoring other benefits and impacts is broken into a separate subcomponent 4b in version 5, but the substance is consistent.

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

1. The standard is partially met.
2. The component describes clearly the capacity and data requirements for CAR. It outlines both the steps for the MRV as well as the details of important definitional approaches. It talks of issues that are cross-cutting.
3. It also presents the institutional framework as proposed by the CAR.
4. There is also a plan (4.b) for considering the monitoring of other benefits and impacts. This plan could benefit from further elaboration. The "how the system would engage participatory approaches to monitoring by forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers" is not directly seen.

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 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, as well as from other international sources (e.g., UN-REDD or 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 readiness activities identified in the R-PP, or gaps in funding are clearly noted.

Version 5 standard text not included in version 4 standard:

Any gaps in funding, and sources of funding, are clearly noted.

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

1. The standard is met
2. A budget and schedule for funding and technical support requested from the FCPF, as well as from other international sources is prepared (Fig.40). It is commendable that CAR government is already accepted to allocate resources to REDD-plus. The scheduling is also included as Fig.41 (albeit in strong French);

Component 6. Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Standard 6: 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:

1. The standard is met.