

Analysis of the revised request for additional funding

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presented a request for additional funding for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) at its 13th meeting held in October 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. At this meeting, the PC adopted a resolution PC/13/2012/3 and allocated funding to the DRC up to an additional US\$5 million to continue with its preparation for Readiness. The PC requested that the DRC submit a revised request for additional funding to the FMT, reflecting the key issues summarized in the annex of the Resolution.

The DRC submitted a revised request for additional funding to the FCPF FMT on July 12th, 2013. The table below presents the main issues raised in the PC resolution PC/13/2012/3 and the responses provided in the revised request for additional funding. This analysis allows the FCPF FMT to assess whether the issues raised by the PC were addressed and the World Bank to continue its due diligence process in view of making the Readiness Preparation grant available to the country.

Key issues identified in PC Resolution PC/13/2012/3	Responses in the revised request for additional funding
<p>1. Include a detailed budget and timeline for implementation of the activities for which additional funding is requested, clearly ranking activities in terms of priority, explaining why those activities have been prioritized, and presenting the expected outcomes of the activities, including expected contributions to the country's national capacity building, if relevant. The budget will be developed in consultation with stakeholders.</p>	<p>The revised request for additional funding includes an annex (annex 6) which is an in depth analysis of the tasks to be implemented over a three year period (January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2015) to reach “significant progress” for all the 9 sub-components of the R-PP (1a through 4b). This analysis has been done by referring to the 34 assessment criteria of the R-Package. Over this three year period, needs are estimated to cost US\$15.5million. This assessment took also in consideration existing and future contributions from the donor community. FCPF priorities (additional funding plus remaining funds of the current grant) were identified accordingly to avoid any overlap. They are organized around seven major pillars as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CN-REDD functioning, - Decentralization, - Reforms, - SESA & ESMF, - Information, communication & education, - Registry. <p>Section 4 of the request provides detailed expected outcomes for each of these pillars, as well as for initiatives supported by other donors.</p> <p>Annex 6 is the best evidence to demonstrate the</p>

	<p>large consultation process having supported the development of the request for additional funding. From now on the DRC has a broad and clear vision of its action plan toward finalizing the REDD+ readiness, with donors well aligned and initiatives well-positioned to supplement and not duplicate efforts.</p>
<p>2. Describe the specific achievements of activities financed thus far by the FCPF, and identify associated co-financing and previous financing provided for these activities.</p>	<p>Different tables were included in Section 2 of the request to respond to PC members' expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Table 1: funds pledged by development partners, with specifications about disbursements and remaining funds available, as of December 31, 2012, - Table 2: FCPF fund utilization (disbursement and commitment) as of December 31, 2012, with further details in an annex (annex 4), - Table 3: UN-REDD fund utilization as of December 31, 2012. <p>Section 1 provides qualitative details about achievements thus far.</p>
<p>3. Provide details on how the additional FCPF funds will contribute to the decentralization of the REDD+ readiness process, and how the proposed activities link to land use planning, actions to address illegal logging, and improving access to information in the forest sector.</p>	<p>Decentralization is developed in the section 4.6.11. As a full deployment would be costly, the DRC proposes to shrink its ambition geographically while strengthening the content of the mission of the regional REDD+ Focal Points. The deployment will occur in 5 provinces (pilot provinces supported by Norway) with the FLEGT agenda as part of the core mission of the REDD+ focal points.</p> <p>The DRC is currently discussing with the European Forest Institute (EFI) about identifying and building operational synergies between the REDD+ and the EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) processes so as to increase the effectiveness of both processes. A partnership is envisioned with the EU REDD facility.</p> <p>An annex (annex 2) elaborates on progress relative to illegal logging. This annex shows significant achievements even if the DRC recognizes that challenges remain important.</p> <p>The section 4.6.9 (Investment Programme) is a response to the question relative to land use planning. The existing integrated REDD+ projects (Mai N'Dombe, Mbuji-Mayi, Kananga, Kisangani,</p>

	<p>etc.) as part of the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) and the investment programme to be developed by Norway will promote innovative approaches to foster management planning at the community level, as well as for the private sector, while financing first investments.</p>
<p>4. Describe how the Government is tracking its REDD+-related financing from different sources, the activities being financed, and the outcomes of these activities. Describe how the registry could assist DRC in coordinating governmental and non-governmental REDD+ financing in DRC more comprehensively.</p>	<p>Once the DRC deemed “ready”, the National REDD+ fund (section 4.6.3) established in November 2012 through the signature of an agreement between the Government and the UNDP / Multi-Partner Trust Fund will handle all the future financial aspects of the REDD+ process, including REDD+-related financing, investments in the field and monitoring & evaluation of REDD+ activities. A first draft of an operational manual is available since June 6th, 2013. This initiative, as well the design of an Investment Programme, is supported by Norway.</p> <p>Regarding REDD+ readiness, the CN-REDD remains the body responsible for its implementation, including the design of work plans and financial needs estimate, etc. This is what the CN-REDD did through the review of the request for additional funding. In January 2013, a new organizational chart for the CN-REDD was designed taking into account the findings of the independent mid-term review and the set of criteria and indicators of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework approved by the FCPF Participants Committee with a view to finalizing the REDD+ readiness process by the end of 2014. An ambitious action plan was designed aiming at operationalizing the new organizational chart by the end of August 2013. In the frame of this reorganization, proper human resources were allocated to accounting, with a Coordinator Deputy mainly dedicated to management tasks, including the REDD+ financial follow-up.</p>