



**Completeness Check for Belize**

**RPP dated March, 2015**

**FCPF Facility Management Team, March 4th, 2015**

**Background:**

Belize submitted a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to the Facility Management Team (FMT) in July 2013, in accordance with Resolution PC/14/2013/2, and the R-PP was reviewed by a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), and a working group consisting of PC members established for this purpose;

At the sixteenth PC Meeting, Belize presented its R-PP and was encouraged to resubmit its R-PP for formal assessment and consideration for selection at the seventeenth PC Meeting;

Belize subsequently revised its R-PP, taking into account the issues that were identified in the R-PP assessments by the TAP and the PC working group, as well as those raised by the PC, as summarized in the Co-Chairs’ Summary for the sixteenth PC Meeting. The revised R-PP was reviewed by a TAP and a working group consisting of the PC members established for this purpose, and was presented at the seventeenth PC Meeting on July 2-4, 2014 in Lima, Peru.

At this meeting, the PC adopted PC resolution PC/17/2014/8 deciding to allocate funding to enable Belize to move ahead with REDD+ readiness preparation.

Belize submitted a final revised R-PP to the FCPF FMT on March 4th, 2015. Completeness check by the FMT is formally required in the above-mentioned PC resolution.

The table below presents the results of the completeness check per issue raised in the Resolution.

Issues raised by the Resolution	Response in revised R-PP	FMT Comments
1. Provide additional information on the process for clarifying the consultation standards that will be applied during Readiness, and explain how the development of the national REDD+ strategy options will take into account and respect indigenous peoples’ views on land	<p>Subcomponent 1b. acknowledges now that a consultation Protocol was developed and agreed to with representatives of IPs which will be put into practice when conducting consultations with IP’s.</p> <p>The Government of Belize plans to do a second round of consultations once funds are received with all stakeholders identified through early dialogue and those stakeholders not reached in the early dialogue. The R-PP states that these consultations will be carried out</p>	Item Completed.

<p>and forest management.</p>	<p>following the “REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards for consultation”.</p> <p>The R-PP further states that Indigenous Peoples will continue to be a target of consultations going forward. According to the new edits of the R-PP all dialogue with these groups will follow the “IP Consultation Protocol” strengthened since the early dialogue took place. This Protocol follows the principles of FPIC and has been tailored to the Belize situation and approved by village Alcaldes. During the Readiness phase, the document reads, consultations with IPs will focus on REDD+ strategies that are in harmony with cultural practices and traditions in respect to forest management.</p>	
<p>2. Provide a fuller description of the recent decisions of the Belizean Supreme Court and Court of Appeals and the ongoing Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) process in relation to Mayan land rights in the southern part of the country. Reiterate in the R-PP the Government of Belize’s commitment to comply with the findings of the CCJ, once these are issued.</p>	<p>Under Subcomponent 2a, the Government of Belize added a section entitled “The Ongoing Indigenous Maya Land Rights Issue”. The description is a historical summary from 1995 to 2015 of the lawsuits and decisions on different courts providing a good picture of the discussions that have taken place so far. In addition the R-PP now has a section about Government of Belize commitment to comply with the findings of the CCJ. The R-PP states that among others “...in consideration of Belize’s participation in the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice it is the opinion of the Solicitor General’s chamber that Belize is legally obligated both in complying and enforcing all decisions and orders from the appellate jurisdiction of the Caribbean Court of Justice.”</p>	<p>Item completed</p>
<p>3. Describe the steps that will be taken as part of the SESA process to identify the risks related to land tenure</p>	<p>In Subcomponent 2d. the R-PP has now a section with six points detailing the steps that will emerge from an analysis of local laws and practices to assess potential risks related to tenure security in the context of REDD+ that</p>	<p>Item completed.</p>

<p>insecurity in Belize, and reflect this in the budget of sub-component 2d.</p>	<p>Belize will undertake as part of SESA process, taking in account:</p> <p>“ 1. Instances where the law may not clearly articulate ownership of land tenure.</p> <p>2. Instances where the law does not acknowledges traditional land rights that may be challenged in the future.</p> <p>3. Informal traditional land tenure that has been practiced in Belize.</p> <p>4. Instances where the laws on land tenure may make allowances for reversal/government intervention of land tenure.</p> <p>5. Any other instances of present or potential risk to land tenure insecurity.</p> <p>6. Finally the analysis will make recommendations for strengthening of the laws in regards to land tenure insecurity in the context of REDD+”.</p> <p>It also recalls on an IDB Land Administration Project and other projects that will be linked to the SESA process. The budget on section 2 d was updated with an addition of US\$ 20 thousand to include the Risk Assessment of Land Tenure in Belize, completing the recommendations from the PC successfully.</p>	
<p>4. Include a roadmap for the development of a Reference Level that reflects the main anthropogenic and natural drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.</p>	<p>On Component 3 a Roadmap on a table form was added to explain the development of the reference level for deforestation and forest degradation that reflects how the anthropogenic and natural drivers will be dealt with. The road map shows how the Reference Level for Historic Cover trends and six of the main anthropogenic drivers of deforestation are connected to the type of available data , the methodology to gather the information needed for the reference level and the</p>	<p>Item completed.</p>

	<p>expected overall outcome. The same process is portrayed for the Forest Carbon Stock Trends.</p>	
<p>5. Describe the relationships between sub-component 4a. on MRV and sub-components 2a. and 2b.</p>	<p>Under Component 6 a supplementary section linking MRV to performance of REDD+ Strategy was added. This section indicates that the results of monitoring will inform whether modifications to strategy options are necessary. A new table is presented describing how MRV systems will address the different drivers in order to inform whether the REDD+ strategy options are effective or not. Thus the table links each of the main anthropogenic drivers of deforestation and separately of degradation, with a monitoring activity and in turn with a feedback response to the REDD+ strategy.</p>	<p>Item completed.</p>

**Note:** During the due diligence phase prior to Grant Agreement signature, the World Bank will engage in screening of specific technical aspects and the budget, leading to a final Assessment Note. The World Bank expects that the R-PP will be used as a live document.