

Analysis of the final version of DRC's R-PP

Context

The Democratic Republic of Congo presented its Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee, at its 5th meeting, held in March 2010, in La Lopé, Gabon. At this meeting, the PC adopted Resolution number PC/5/2010/1, where they decided to allocate grant funding for DRC to enable it to move ahead with preparation for readiness. The PC requested DRC to submit a revised R-PP addressing the key issues identified in a summary report to the resolution.

DRC submitted a revised R-PP to the FCPF FMT on July 21. The table below presents the main issues raised in the PC Resolution and the response provided in the revised R-PP. This analysis should allow the FMT to assess whether the issues raised by the PC Resolution have been attended to, which would allow the WB to continue its due diligence process in view of making the REDD Readiness grant available to the country.

Key issues raised by the PC and how they were addressed in the final R-PP version (July 21, 2010).

Issue	Response in the revised R-PP
Clarify how feedback from various stakeholder groups would be gathered and how they would feed into the REDD Strategy design process.	For every possible REDD+ Strategy Option identified, a Thematic Coordination Group (TCG) will be established with the goal of checking the ToR for relevant studies, providing comments and exploring lessons from pilot projects, mobilizing the required expertise and carrying out consultations to build the case for the option. Each TCG will be facilitated by a member of the National REDD Coordination and will bring together relevant experts and stakeholders from public administrations, NGOs and civil society, private sector and other partners. They will be set up in an open and transparent manner, during a workshop to be held later in 2010, gathering relevant Ministries and stakeholders of REDD national process. The list of all TCG and their associated leaders will be formalized by the Ministry of the Environment. The box on page 64 clarifies this work.
While the R-PP proposes the creation of many new institutions at national and provincial levels, the R-PP should better articulate if and how the mandates of existing institutions could be adjusted to take on these new roles.	The R-PP clarifies that most REDD-related tasks will be assured by existing institutions (on page 66 the word "organ" is replaced by "function", to highlight this point). The upcoming analysis on the implementation framework and revenue distribution should identify concrete options to streamline the process and minimize the creation of new institutions. The R-PP notes, however, that in many cases existing institutions will need to be reinforced to take on new roles since new REDD-specific functions will emerge.

<p>Clarify the role of civil society organizations and local communities in the national MRV system. Their capacity need should be included in the capacity building strategy.</p>	<p>The R-PP (pg. 22) states that "(...) civil society will play a role in data monitoring and validation". The REDD Coordination also clarified that Component 4a should be considered in its context: the R-PP details a strategy for a national MRV system able to monitor and report GHGs emissions and removals at the national and sub-national levels. This system should allow DRC to monitor its forest cover and report on it. However, this is not the Monitoring system that DRC will use to implement and monitor its REDD+ policies and measures. Civil society should play a key role in the monitoring of the implementation of the REDD+ policies and measures. The details of the monitoring system of REDD+ policies and measures are yet to be further developed in DRC. The following changes to the R-PP also clarify the participation of civil society in the MRV system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - p84: "As much as possible, work will be carried out in close relation with the local communities, civil society under the coordination of GTCR, different government agencies and institutions and the private sector. The local communities can offer support to the DIAF and DDD with regard to the verification of some data and activities in the field. Civil society under the coordination of GTCR will be involved in training, implementing the SLMS system and verifying certain data and activities in the field. The role of private sector, local communities and indigenous people in field measurements will be clarified between stakeholders (cf. Box page 22)." - p93: "Measurement, associated with producing basic data, will be provided by the State, probably in cooperation with other partners. From the national to the local level, State agents and probable partners will be responsible for collecting information according to different methods (observations, surveys and polls, studies of official records, etc.). To each indicator corresponds a labeled form specifying the methods for gathering data (source, method, responsible, period, perimeter and exact data definition, etc.). Various REDD stakeholders might be mobilized for this process, particularly local communities, indigenous people and the private sector, which are experienced in managing the flow of local and national information to manage their projects or business. The modalities of such partnerships still remain to be discussed and clarified."
<p>The budget should clearly indicate what priority activities will be financed by FCPF & UN-REDD. In addition, the national strategy for mobilizing additional resources for the REDD Readiness process and the fiduciary arrangements for the management of these funds should be clarified.</p>	<p>Annex 5 has been added to the R-PP. It presents a chronogram of activities, detailing what will be carried out, timing and sources of funds. Basically, UN-REDD and FCPF support should finance priority activities, as well as key coordination components to ensure coherence and continuity of the process. UN-REDD support was also targeted to most urgent activities since it is expected to come earlier than that of the FCPF. The activities requesting co-financing at this stage are planned for 2011 or 2012. Thus, the approved support from UN-REDD and FCPF secures the implementation of the readiness plan for the year 2010, most of the year 2011, and secures the overall coherence of the process up to December 2012.</p>

	<p>Concerning the extra financing required to complete the R-P, an action plan to raise funds was prepared and endorsed by the Minister of Environment. A donor roundtable is planned for later in 2010, to sensitize donors on financial needs for the process. Finally, the CBFF (Congo Basin Forest Fund) has given positive signal and shall be requested to complete the co-financing gap by the end of the year 2010.</p>
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