

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: ETHIOPIA

September 2013

1. R-PP Implementation and FCPF Readiness grant

- The R-PP was approved at PC8 of March 25, 2011 in Da Lat, Vietnam through Resolution PC/8/2011/4 with conditions to undertaking adjustments on some of the components
- The R-PP was revised as per Resolution PC/8/2011/4 and was submitted to the FCPF FMT on May 25, 2011.
- The FCPF grant was signed in October 2012.
- DFID and Norway have committed to providing additional funding for the Readiness process in Ethiopia through the WB BioCarbon Fund.
- Identification of activities, costs and implementation arrangements to be financed under an Additional Finance (US\$ 9 million) will be channeled through the BioCarbon Fund*plus*. This additional grant to fully complete the R-PP implementation (other than FCPF grant) is expected to be signed by end of December, 2013.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- A Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) was established in year 2010 by the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) to oversee the development and the realization of Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy
- The MSC is accountable to the Parliament and to the Environment Council (EC) that is chaired by the Prime Minister. It is responsible to review and approve all initiatives (including REDD+) in order to bring about zero net emission economic development of the country
- A multi-sectoral National CRGE Technical Committee (TC) was established at the beginning of 2011 with the main objective of supervising at higher level activities of emission reduction across seven sectors. This body is now also designated as REDD+ Steering Committee of the country
- Under the TC, multi-sectoral REDD+ Technical Working Group (RTWG) exists with main function of reviewing REDD+ policies, programs and projects in order to inform decision at TC and REDD+ Secretariat level
- The REDD+ Secretariat was situated at the Federal Environmental Protection Authority (FEPA) during the R-PP development phase (2009-2011). It was moved to the Natural Resources Management Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) in accordance with the agreement between the GoE and Development Partners at the November 2011 mission for the R-PP assessment
- The REDD+ Secretariat within MoA is now operational, with a National Coordinator employed at full time.
- The federal/national REDD+ Steering Committee (RSC) was re-established and conducted its first meeting on March 29, 2013. The RSC members are composed of concerned government (both at federal and regional levels), non-government or civil society organizations, women and youth representative, mass media, academia and research institutions. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the RSC has been endorsed by the members
- The REDD+ Focal Points have been identified in all regions of the country and at present these focal points are also serving as the CRGE Focal points. The regional REDD+ Focal Points are be members of the REDD+ national Technical Working Group (TWG)
- The national REDD+ TWG member institutions have been identified and the establishment of the TWG was undertaken. Moreover, the MoA/REDD+ Secretariat planning to establish three REDD+ Expert Groups (i.e REDD+ Strategy preparation, MRV / REL establishment, and Safeguards / SESA) at the upcoming Technical Working Group meeting/workshop. Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) has been prepared for the three REDD+ Expert Groups
- Local level REDD+ Readiness Focal Units and Technical Working Groups are to be strengthened (where these exist) or established during the readiness phase.
- REDD+ Secretariat established and operational: Communication specialist, Safeguard specialist, Procurement, Financial management specialist, hired.
- Hiring of Senior Monitoring & Evaluation specialist and Pilot Project Coordinator going on; MRV and Remote Sensing Specialists will also be hired during the coming months.

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- Ministry of Environment Protection and Forestry has been established and the REDD+ Secretariat will be transferred to the new ministry soon.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- 1st National level Consultation and Participation Workshop was held from April 29-30, 2010 where relevant stakeholders were invited and able to discuss among others on global REDD+ initiative for the first time, on who should actively engage on REDD+ initiative (stakeholder analysis) and on the scale and drivers of D&D in Ethiopia
- 2nd National C&P workshop was called on June 17th & 18th, 2010 to discuss specific issues of the R-PP, including: the design and ToR for RSC, RTWG, RTFG, and RRTWG; D&D drivers; and preliminary REDD+ strategy options
- A total 26 sub-national, local and forest dependent community C&P workshops were conducted across 7 regions from July 2010 to February 2011.
- The CRGE development was also another important platform for furthering R-PP discussions. Through this programme, key issues under the R-PP were presented and dialogues were held across all the regions of the country, among sectoral agencies and all concerned NGO groups.
- Several of these national and sub-national discussion forums were covered by national and local media outlets including radio, TV and newspaper. In addition, the REDD R-PP Secretariat contracted a national radio station to run a 20 minute weekly awareness raising programme emphasizing on problem and possible solution of D&D
- Feedbacks collected from all C&P forums were incorporated in the R-PP.
- REDD+ awareness creation conducted in August to over 300 participants from Region and Woredas of Amhara region made at Debretabor.
- Workshop on the FCPF Methodological Framework conducted on September 19th targeted at key stakeholders involved in the Oromia REDD+ Pilot Program.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- Through the formulation process of CRGE Strategy, it became evident that the two main drivers of D&D are agricultural land (crop land) expansion and unsustainable fuel wood consumption.
- Based on these two main D&D drivers, Ethiopia has identified 9 candidate REDD+ strategic options (emission reduction levers)
- A preliminary baseline, BAU and REDD+ based emission quantification have been already established. But, these processes (results) are still crude; need further refinement through action research on the ground.
- A preliminary study on the cost benefit as well as environmental social impacts on the identified strategic options has also been included at this stage.
- At the Readiness phase, those prioritized strategic options will be tested through action research using pilot projects;
- The Government of Ethiopia (i.e. the MoA) selected the Oromia region to undertake a jurisdictional pilot REDD+ program as part of the national REDD+ readiness process to ensure that concrete activities on the ground generate knowledge for the establishment of the REDD+ Strategy and the REDD+ structures in the country. The pilot program is expected to be led by the Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) with the involvement of federal and regional level offices of the MoA and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Forestry.
- The MoA/REDD+ Secretariat in collaboration with OFWE, the Royal Norwegian Embassy and Farm Africa organized a national workshop on “The development of the Oromia State Jurisdictional Emissions Reduction Program (ER-P)” which was held in Hawassa, Ethiopia from May2-3, 2013.
- Preparatory studies for the design of this Pilot Program have been launched (Identification of Drivers of

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Deforestation in the region, Analysis of Institutional and Legal Arrangements for the Program and Establishment of a REL and MRV system for the Program).

- The FCPF with the MoA and other development partners organized an international workshop on “Linking Local REDD+ Projects to National REDD+ Strategies” was held in Hawassa, Ethiopia from April 29-May 1, 2013. The objective of the workshop was to foster a dialogue across policy makers, practitioners, civil society organizations and private sector from 12 countries in Africa and beyond on the design of a national REDD+ strategy and the role of ongoing initiatives targeted at reducing deforestation and forest degradation.
- ToR for a national-level study on Causes of Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Identification of Strategic Options in Ethiopia developed, validated by the REDD+ TWG and launched.
- Technical Note on the pilot REDD+ projects developed to guide the identification of future pilot projects in the country.

5. Implementation Framework

- Review, adjustment and where relevant, formulation of conducive-new policies, legislations and other regulatory measures are to be carried out in order for Ethiopia to be ready for REDD+
- The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Forestry has been established in July 2013, which an important step for creating enabling condition for REDD+ Readiness and program implementation.
- A study on the analysis of the legal and implementation framework for REDD+ at the national level, and in the Oromia region specifically, was advertised and is expected to be launched early in 2014.

6. SESA

- The Ethiopia’s R-PP mainstreamed requirements of SESA into its components/sub-components. It includes the terms of reference for the development of Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- A SESA Expert Group was established within the REDD+ Secretariat in the REDD+ Technical Working Group meeting.
- Second SESA/ ESMF workshop took place in later September. SESA Task Force members identified, roles defined and work plan prepared.
- ToR for a SESA analysis developed, validated by the REDD+ TWG and the selection of the firms to conduct the assignment will be launched in the coming weeks.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- A preliminary assessment of baseline and 20-year projection of emission and potential emission reduction levels were undertaken while preparing the National CRGE Strategy. The result of this assessment will be further investigated in the R-PP implementation stage.
- Both national and sub-national approach will be employed to establish RL/REL
- Woody Biomass Inventory and Strategic Planning Project (WBISPP) data and classification approach is to be adopted again in order to do inventory and quantification.
- A MRV / REL Expert Group was established within the REDD+ Secretariat at the REDD+ TWG meeting.
- REL/MRV workshop took place in late September using a decision support tool for establishing REL/MRV system with the participation of the MRV Task Force Representatives and work plan prepared, based on the existing

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roadmap.

8. MRV

- A national workshop entitled “Developing a Roadmap for an Ethiopian National REDD+MRV Framework” was conducted at the end of October 2012 in Addis Ababa. Based on the workshop materials and discussions the MRV road map draft ToRdocument has been developed.
- The ToR document has been prepared by the MoA and EPA with the financial and technical support obtained from the Norwegian embassy and Wageningen University
- Woody Biomass Inventory and Strategic Planning Project (WBISPP) data and classification approach is to be adopted again in order to do inventory and quantification
- Financial support has been provided by the governments of UK (DFID) and Norway for implementing the REL/MRV and other activities in the R-PP through the WB BioCarbon Fund.
- REL/MRV workshop took place in late September with the participation of the MRV Task Force Representatives and work plan prepared, based on the roadmap.
- Agreement that FAO will provide technical assistance to the establishment of the national-level REL / MRV system, with funds from the BioCF Additional Financing. Agreement between GoE and FAO currently under discussion.

9. Other

- Annual Work plan for FY 2013/14 and Procurement Plan developed and approved.
- Discussion on indicators for the Monitoring and Evaluation system started, to be continued once M&E specialist is hired.