



Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report Template

v. 2020



FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30th June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework (<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15th July** every year.

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities and achievements delivered within your country during the last year?

- Activities - For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
- Achievements - For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalised, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed
- Please be as specific as possible, e.g. name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting

- Finalized and published the National REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan, Cost Benefit Analysis, Benefit sharing mechanism and Fund Mobilization Strategy documents
- Forest Reference Emission Level & Forest Reference Level submitted to UNFCCC and first assessment completed by Technical Assessment Team of UNFCCC
- Spatial decision support system (SDSS) development started
- Plantation Strategy finalized
- Non-wood forest product strategy (Draft) produced
- Developed Forest Engagement Note of Bhutan in collaboration with World Bank
- Local Forest Management Plans (LFMP), Community forestry management plans, watershed management plans developed
- Biomass equations developed

- Scientific volume tables developed for three Forest Management Units
- Forest Information and Resource Management System system of the Department strengthened
- Pilot Land zoning initiated
- Support to Wood based industries
- SESA-ESMF-SIS documents finalized by WMD
- Draft FGRM report submitted for review by WMD
- Draft wetland inventory framework developed
- Draft Forest Management Code of Bhutan developed
- Forest Type mapping initiated
- Satellite Land Monitoring System draft/skeleton ready
- Plantation impact assessment completed
- REDD+ Work plan and planning discussion from 26th to 27th August, 2019 involving 61 participants (13 female and 48 male) from DoFPS.
- Finalization of the Non-Wood Forest Products strategy revision on 28th August, 2019 with 68 participants (7 female and 61 male)
- REDD+ Eastern Region FGRM Consultation workshop from 7th -10th October, 2019 involving 100 participants (16 female and 84 male) from regional and local level.
- REDD+ Central Region FGRM Consultation Workshop from 13th – 16th November, 2019 involving 87 participants (14 female and 73 male) from regional and local level.
- REDD+ Western Region FGRM Consultation workshop from 22nd-25th November, 2019 with 104 participants (18 female and 90 male) from Regional and local level.
- Public Consultation meeting for development of Local Forest Management Plan at Dagana from 17th-19th October, 2019 with total of 117 household members (41 female and 76 male)
- Community Forests and Non-wood forest product development meeting with 249 participants (127 female and 122 male) in Zhemgang
- Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) meeting conducted for Community Forest Management Planning (CFMP) in Zhemgang with 152 participants (90 female and 62 female)
- Awareness program on waste management, climate change, rules and regulations given to the students and teachers of Tsirangtoe and Mendrelgang Central School, Tsirang Dzongkhag with total participants of 994 (530 female and 464 male)
- In house training and demonstration on Soil and Land Management at Tsirang for 631 participants (290 female and 341 male)
- Waste awareness program conducted in Kazhi, Phangyuel and Nyisho Gewogs under Baychu Watershed, Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag with 540 participants (313 female and 227 male)
- Waste Cleaning campaign and awareness conducted in Kazhi, Phangyuel and Nyisho Gewogs under Baychu Watershed, Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag conducted on 9th December, 2019 and 12th February, 2020 involving 408 participants (172 female and 236 male)
- NWFP Group training conducted for Pateri NWFP group under Kabesa Gewog, Punakha Dzongkhag with 46 participants (14 female and 32 male) and for Tongshina NWFP with 35 participants (18 female and 17 male)
- Community forest management planning training for forestry staff from 28th -30th April, 2020 with 45 participants (5 female and 40 male)
- Ecotourism management training conducted in Phobji and Limbukha Gewog of Wangdue TFD with 96 participants (58 female and 38 male)
- Sensitization/awareness on potential and high value forest and trees carried out to the forestry staff and LG under 25 Gewogs (Punakha and Wangdue) and FMUs involving 42 participants (12 female and 30 male)
- Regeneration survey in Themnangbi-Jaibab watershed, Mongar Dzongkhag for openings created due to tree felling with total participants of 50 (5 female and 45 male)
- Development of Local Forest Management plan for Drepong geog, Mongar Dzongkhag with 70 participants (12 female and 58 male)
- Development of Zimrong watershed management plan, Mongar Dzongkhag involving 79 participants (29 female and 50 male)
- Operational Plan developed for 3 FMUS involving 50 participants (2 female and 48 male)
- Development of Scientific local volume table for Rongmanchu FMU and Lingmethang FMU involving 56 participants (6 female and 50 male)

- Forest management and planning awareness and training at Paro involving 34 participants (3 female and 31 male).
- Training conducted for the farmers on CFMG revision plan, Pakshikha, Bongo (Kuenphen Deondup Community Forest), Gedu Forest Division involving 37 participants (15 female and 22 male)
- Training conducted for the farmers on CFMG revision plan, Chasilakha, Bongo (Samdrupcholing Community Forest), Gedu Forest Division 17 participants (10 female and 7 male)
- Forest Fire Management Training, Chapcha Gewog, Gedu with 155 participants (66 female and 89 male)
- Forest Fire Management Training, Bjabchho Gewog, Gedu Division involving 139 participants (54 female and 85 male)
- Local Forest Management Plan Consultation Meeting, Getana, Gedu with 40 participants (5 female and 35 male)
- Forest management and planning awareness and training for 30 participants (2 female and 28 male) at Pemagatshel
- Developed the LFMP and surveyed under Decheling Gewog, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag with 29 participants (2 female and 27 male)
- Conducted training for 12 (10 male and 2 female) staff trained on plan writing, data collection, compilation and on resource inventory. 31 household involved in the consultation meeting, (6 female and 25 male).
- Conducted stakeholder meeting with 21 participants (DcFMU staff, Division staff, NRDCL staff, Gewog staff and few communities). Conducted stakeholder meeting with 19 participants (1 female and 18 male). (Staff involved; DcFMU staff, Division staff, NRDCL staff, Gewog staff and few communities) in Trashigang Dzongkhag.
- Consultation meeting, Gomdar Geog with 50 participants (10 female and 40 male) for development of LFMP at Gomdhar
- Sustainable Management of Forest outside FMU involving 224 participants (126 female and 98 male)
- Sustainable Management of NWFPS through community involvement with 60 participants (12 female and 48 male) at Bumthang
- Conducted awareness on Forest Fire, Waste Management, Climate Change, ETC involving 100 participants (70 female and 30 male) at Bumthang
- Conducted training on forest fire management groups and Dzongkhag level consultation with 214 participants (189 female and 25 male). Developed operational plan, preparation and review of Rodungla, Dawathang, Kharshong and Chendibji FMUS involving 42 participants (4 female and 38 male) In Bumthang TFD.
- Conducted training on Basic GPS and GIS by Ugyen Wangchuck Institute Conservation and Environment Research with 25 participants (2 female and 23 male)
- Conducted Public consultation and awareness meeting with local communities under Chang Gewog with 85 participants (50 female and 35 male) at Thimphu.
- Conducted public consultation and awareness meeting with local communities under Mewang Gewog involving 159 participants (94 female and 65 male) at Thimphu.
- Conducted meeting on operational planning among stakeholders with 10 forest staff and other stakeholders (4 female and 6 male). Conducted Forest Management Unit level committee meeting involving 17 participants (8 female and 9 male) in Thimphu TFD.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

Could not finalize safeguard framework (SESA-ESMF-SIS) and FGRM due to COVID 19 as stakeholder consultation was required. However, the consultations will be done as per the RGoB health guidelines as restrictions have been lifted up to certain extent.

Could not finalize SDSS (Spatial Decision Support System) due to COVID as experts could not travel to Bhutan to finalize and conduct the training including installation of the system. The SDSS will be finalized in the current fiscal year.

3. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver, and achievements anticipated during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

- Safeguard framework (SESA-ESMF-SIS) finalized
- Forest Reference Emission Level and Forest Reference Level modified and assessed
- FGRM finalized
- Spatial Decision Support System finalized and operational
- Non-Wood Forest Product management strategy finalized
- Satellite & Land Monitoring System (SLMS) operational and launched
- National Forest Monitoring System finalized
- Forest Management Code of Bhutan finalized
- Wetland Inventory framework of Bhutan finalized
- National Forest Inventory of Bhutan (Phase 2) initiated
- Plantation impact assessment completed
- Gender assessment for REDD+ Strategy implementation
- Capacity need assessment for REDD+ Strategy implementation
- REDD+ Investment Strategy, including fundraising strategy
- Draft R-Package

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

4. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:

(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

5	Completed	The sub-component has been completed
4	Significant progress	Significant progress
3	Progressing well, further development required	Progressing well, further development required
2	Further development required	Further development required
1	Not yet demonstrating progress	Not yet demonstrating progress
0	N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)	
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation			
Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ Management Arrangements	5 Completed	National REDD+ Management arrangements have been strengthened with field offices of the Department of Forests & Park Services taking up the REDD+ Readiness implementation phase implementation. Various capacity	
	4 Significant progress		X
	3 Progressing well, further development required		
	2 Further development required		

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)			Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		building programs were organized for the stakeholders and institutional arrangement.
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	5	Completed		Several rounds of consultation and awareness workshops were organized. The field offices are now capable of organizing the workshops for consultation, participation and outreach.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation				
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	5	Completed	X	The National REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan have been endorsed and published.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	5	Completed	X	Drivers of Deforestation and forest degradation, assessment of land use and land cover change completed, revised Forest & Nature Conservation Rules & Regulations, review of policy and laws completed. Further requirement is on the Land use zoning and revision of Forest Act of Bhutan completed
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	5	Completed	X	The National REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan along with Strategy Options have been endorsed and published.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	5	Completed		The National REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan have been endorsed and published. However, for implementation of the Strategy, gender action plan, capacity development plan and investment and implementation proposal have been initiated or will be initiated during the next year.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	5	Completed		Safeguard framework finalized by WMD and will be approved soon by the Ministry. Feedback Grievance Redress Mechanism development in progress.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels				

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)			Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	5	Completed	X	Forest Reference Emission Level & Forest Reference Level submitted to UNFCCC and first round of technical assessment completed.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards				
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	5	Completed		National Forest Monitoring System is under development. Satellite Land Monitoring System ready to be launched. Forest Information and Resource Management System strengthened and Spatial Decision Support System process started.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5	Completed		Valuation of ecosystem services completed.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		

SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

5. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

The Strategy Option 4 of the National REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan (NRS) which is Improved Rural Livelihood is all about Enhancing Economic growth of rural communities and contributing to the vision of the NRS which is "A perpetually carbon neutral, climate change resilient and prosperous society".

The Strategy Options will focus on rural communities which depend on agriculture activities, livestock management and forest resources for their livelihoods. Support on making these activities more efficient and productive, and the creation of alternative income will help reduce the pressure on the forest resources. The Strategy Option will be achieved via Policy and Measures (PAMS) such as Non-Wood Forest Products management and enterprise development, income generation through ecosystem services, climate smart agriculture & livestock practices. The focus is on continuing to strengthen the preservation of existing forests and increase the adaptive capacity to climate change impacts, without compromising opportunities for future economic development and prosperity.

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

The Strategy Option 1 of the National REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan is "Strengthening Forest Management Practices". The activities will be carried out in different forest management regimes such as protected areas and biological corridors, forest management units, community forests, watershed areas and local forest management areas focussing on biodiversity conservation and on efficient and sustainable harvesting of forest produces (timber and non-timber) and water resources management. The Policies and Measures such as zoning at the national level will also identify areas of rich biodiversity and will be taken up for conservation.

The activity for the Forest Reference Emission Level & Forest Reference Level includes the conservation of carbon stock, which directly pertains to conservation of Bhutan's Protected Area Network.

SECTION D: FINANCE

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

7. Please detail the amount of all finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process since the date that your R-PP was signed. Figures should only include secured finance (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included:

(Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
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EXAMPLES:

\$3.8 million	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	March/2015	Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$4.8 million	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	February/2018	Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$			Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

8. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process: We have put up Readiness proposal to GCF for a sum of USD 0.550

million for completing some of the REDD+ readiness related activities like improved monitoring of forest management, Agroforestry, springshed management, water conservation and storage measures, etc. The proposal is in the final stage of approval process.

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

9. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes				X	
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes				X	
The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects				X	
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes)				X	

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

Here you could add something on the extension date for the grant the CD has approved saying that it might be difficult to finalize all activities within the new timeframe. Up to you how important you see the timing issue.

10. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree

We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information					X
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements					X
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements					X
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

11. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

The year 2019-2020 has been remarkable year for the REDD+ Readiness implementation in Bhutan with several activities completed. The first REDD+ Readiness Grant (USD3.8 million) was completed on June 30, 2020. The second grant processed as Additional Finance has been extended to December 31, 2021 as a few major activities including the safeguard framework, Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism and SDSS could not be completed due to COVID 19. If the pandemic remains a public health issue for a long time, the implementation of remaining tasks such as safeguards and FGRM may be impacted as extensive consultations with stakeholders and communities are required prior to completion.