



Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report Template

v. 2018



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 delivered within your country during the last year?

- For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
 - 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
- FGRM inception and methodology discussions carried on 7th June, 2019 involving 18 participants (7 female and 11 male)
 - REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan presentation to the Department of Forests from 29th to 1st June, 2019 for final endorsement involving 38 (35 male and 3 female) of the DoFPS
 - REDD+ Safeguard framework review workshop to review the final documents of SESA, ESMF and SIS from 21st to 24th May, 2019 involving 15 representatives (11 male and 4 female) from the Technical Working Group members and other relevant stakeholders
 - REDD+ Safeguard workshop to discuss the ESMF and SIS from 27th to 1st February involving 27 representatives (22 male and 5 female) from the Technical Working Group members and other relevant stakeholders
 - REDD+ Strategy review meeting held in 14th to 17th November 2018 to review the REDD+ Strategy involving 24 representatives (18 male and 6 female) from the Technical Working Group members and other relevant stakeholders
 - Presentation of the FREL/FRL to the RNR-GNHC Committee for endorsement of the FREL/FRL by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests on 15th November, 2018. Number of participants 15 (10 male and 5 female)

- More than 76 (21 females and 64 male) forest officials trained on forest management, GPS and GIS through formal in-country training courses
- Several rounds of in-formal capacity building such as forest resources assessment, soil and land management etc for forestry officials and relevant stakeholders
- Several rounds of awareness programs on forest fire management, waste management, forest rules of regulations carried out across the Country.
- Several rounds of consultation meetings held with farmers on NWFP, Local forest management plan development, CF management.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related achievements in your country during the last year?

- For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalized, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed

- REDD+ Strategy & Action Plan endorsed by the TWG and Department of Forests & Park Services
- Forest Reference Emission Level and Forest Reference Level ready for submission to UNFCCC for 2020 review period
- National Community Forest Management Strategy finalized
- Funding mobilization framework for the REDD+ Strategy finalized
- Cost-Benefit analysis of the REDD+ Strategy finalized
- Benefit sharing mechanism for the REDD+ finalized
- National Forest Monitoring System and MRV under construction
- FGRM work started
- SESA-ESMF-SIS consultancy work completed and reports under review by WMD
- Local Forest Management Plans developed
- Forest fire management groups formed
- Non-wood forest management plans and groups formed

3. 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

4. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver 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

- SESA-ESMF-SIS to be printed
- REDD+ Strategy document to be printed
- Forest Reference Emission Level to be submitted to UNFCCC
- R-Package of to be finalized
- NFMS and MRV to be finalized and launched
- FGRM to be finalized
- Spatial Decision Support System developed and launched
- National Strategy for Non-Wood Forests Products to be launched
- Plantation Strategy to be finalized
- Forest Business Master Plan to be finalized

- Afforestation Business plan developed
- Forest type map of Bhutan developed
- Wetland Inventory framework for carbon assessment in wetlands developed
- Plantation manuals and guidelines developed
- National Plantation Strategy for enhancement of carbon stock developed
- Various consultation and trainings/capacity building to be organized in forest management and REDD+
- Fund mobilization plan for the REDD+ Strategy to be finalized
- Biomass equation developed for more number of species developed

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

5. 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:

| | |
|----------|--|
| Complete | The sub-component has been completed |
| | Significant progress |
| | Progressing well, further development required |
| | Further development required |
| | Not yet demonstrating progress |
| 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 | Complete | REDD+ readiness phase progressing well. Several capacity building workshops organized for the REDD+ Secretariat, Taskforce and TWG members. More capacity building to be carried out for all stakeholders. | |
| | | | X |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | N/A | | |
| Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach | Complete | REDD+ Awareness and consultation now taken to local government level by field offices of the Department of Forests & Park Services and CSOs like Royal Society for Protection of Nature and Tarayana Foundation. Few consultation meetings with other stakeholders such as Educators are in the process. | |
| | | | X |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | N/A | | |
| R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation | | | |
| Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance | Complete | 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. | |
| | | | X |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| Sub-component | Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate) | Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating) | |
|--|--|---|---|
| | N/A | | |
| Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options | Complete | | |
| | X | National REDD+ Strategy endorsed by Technical Working Group Members and by the Department of Forests & Park Services. Fund Mobilization, Cost and Benefit Feasibility Analysis completed. Benefit Sharing document being finalized. | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |
| Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework | Complete | | |
| | X | Various capacity building on FREL, GHG carried out. Various activities completed as part of the REDD+ Strategy development work. Further work on the institutional reforms to be carried out. Various strategies and plans are in advanced stage and are expect to complete soon. | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |
| Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts | Complete | | |
| | X | SESA, ESMF and SIS documents final draft. The documents are currently with REDD+ Secretariat for review for minor comments only. | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |
| R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels | | | |
| Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels | Complete | X | Forest Reference Emission Level and Forest Reference Level competed and ready for submission to UNFCCC |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |
| R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards | | | |
| Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System | Complete | | National Forest Monitoring System is under development. Web portal almost complete and ready to be launched. MRV requires further work. |
| | X | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |
| Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards | Complete | | Valuation of ecosystem services completed and delivered. SIS and ESMF documents delivered. |
| | X | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |

SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

6. 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) |
|-----|--|-------------------------|

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.

7. 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) |
|-----|--|-------------------------|

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 PAMs such as zoning at the national level will also identify areas of rich biodiversity and will be taken up for conservation.

SECTION D: FINANCE

8. 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) |
|---------------|---|------------------------|--|---|
|---------------|---|------------------------|--|---|

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|-------|
| \$ 3.8 million | FCPF Readiness Grant | March/2015 | Public / Private | Grant |
| \$ 4.8 million | FCPF Readiness Grant | February/2018 | Public / Private | Grant |

9. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness 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

10. 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:

11. 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

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

The Bhutan's National REDD+ strategy and Action Plan (NRS) has been finalized and endorsed by the Department. The NRS, which is backed by solid analyses of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, identified some key Policies and Measures that can be implemented to conserve the existing carbon stock and biodiversity of the Country. Huge chunk of forests are located outside Protected Areas and most of the resources are allocated from these areas. Therefore, managing this forest is key for contributing to Bhutan's NDC and sustainable development goals. However, now, the concern is the lack of funding for the implementation of the REDD+ Strategy, which needs to be explored if Bhutan wants to maintain status quo of sustainable development with high forest low deforestation Country.

The closing of FCPF by June 2020 is also a limiting factor as it gives us very limited time for Bhutan to implement the additional funding project in the most efficient manner.