Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

Readiness Fund

Strategic Direction of the FCPF: Status of REDD Country Participants and Possible Inclusion of Additional REDD+ Countries in the FCPF

March 14, 2012

In accordance with Resolution PC/10/2011/1.rev from the PC10 meeting in Berlin, this note is designed to (A) update the PC on the status of REDD Country Participants in the FCPF and their eligibility to access the FCPF readiness grant financing; (B) facilitate discussion as to whether or not to reopen the FCPF Readiness Fund to new REDD Country Participants; and (C) facilitate discussions on possible prioritization of additional Eligible REDD Countries in the FCPF, should a decision be made to reopen the Readiness Fund by PC12.

Expected PC actions: The PC may wish to: (1) formally notify Equatorial Guinea that it would need to reapply to be selected as a REDD Country Participant; (2) take stock of the information available with a view to making a decision whether to reopen the facility at PC12; and (3) consider possible criteria regarding which countries the FCPF could be reopened to.

Introduction

- 1. The Participants Committee at its tenth meeting in Berlin (PC10) engaged in a strategic level discussion on the future direction of the FCPF, in particular the Readiness Fund, and suggested follow-up actions in Resolution PC/10/2011/1.rev (hereafter called the "Berlin Strategic Direction Resolution") on the following two issues:
 - i. the status of REDD Country Participants in the FCPF and their eligibility to access the FCPF grant financing; and
 - ii. the possible inclusion of additional Eligible REDD Countries in the FCPF.
- 2. The aim is for the FMT to prepare options with budget estimates to facilitate discussion by PC12 (in June 2012) on prioritization of the different activities, including the possible selection of additional Eligible REDD Countries in the FCPF.

A. Status of REDD Country Participants in the FCPF and their eligibility to access FCPF grant financing Background

3. The PC at its Berlin meeting took stock of the status of financial resources that are currently committed to all REDD Country Participants regardless of the degree to which they actively participate in the FCPF and their progress towards REDD+ readiness, as presented in FMT Note 2011-10 rev. The PC

noted that a flat rate of up to \$3.6 million per country has, to date, been committed to all REDD Country Participants irrespective of the progress made on readiness.

- 4. Ascertaining whether and to what extent REDD Country Participants are still committed to the FCPF may help free up some of the Readiness Fund proceeds and increase the efficiency in use of the Fund. The PC accordingly agreed to key steps in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of the Berlin Strategic Direction Resolution, which:
 - i. requested the REDD Country Participants that have not signed a Participation Agreement to submit a signed Participation Agreement to the FMT by February 1, 2012. The REDD Country Participants that do not meet this requirement would need to reapply to be selected as a REDD Country Participant, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the FCPF Charter;
 - ii. encouraged REDD Country Participants that have not yet submitted their R-PP to do so in time for formal consideration at or before PC14. For those REDD Country Participants that submit their R-PP and whose R-PP is assessed by the PC at or before PC14, grants of up to \$3.6 million (Formulation and Readiness Preparation Grants) will be allocated. For those REDD Country Participants that are unable to do so, the grants of up to \$3.6 million will only be allocated, provided that sufficient funds are available in the Readiness Fund at the time of the formal consideration and PC endorsement of the R-PP¹; and
 - iii. with the view to assisting the annual budget plan for the Readiness Fund, encouraged the REDD Country Participants that have not yet submitted their R-PP for formal consideration by the PC to confirm by March 31, 2012, their intention to submit an R-PP.

Status as of March 14, 2012

- 5. At the time of the PC meeting in Berlin in October 2011, two REDD Country Participants, Chile and Equatorial Guinea, were yet to sign Participation Agreements. In accordance with the Berlin resolution, the FMT requested both countries to submit their Participation Agreements by February 1, 2012. The signed Participation Agreement for Chile was received by the deadline. Equatorial Guinea has not responded to the request formally. Since it was agreed in the Berlin resolution that the REDD Country Participants that did not meet the requirement of submitting a signed Participation Agreement by February 1, 2012 would need to reapply to be selected as a REDD Country Participant, Equatorial Guinea now needs to reapply. The number of REDD Country Participants therefore currently stands at 36.
- 6. **Possible PC Action:** The PC, through the FMT, may wish to formally notify Equatorial Guinea that it would need to reapply to be selected as a REDD Country Participant, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the FCPF Charter.
- 7. REDD Country Participants that had not submitted their R-PP were requested to inform the time by which their R-PPs are expected to be submitted for formal consideration of the PC. At the end of the PC10 meeting in Berlin 21 R-PPs had been formally assessed by the PC. Since then, two countries (Mozambique, Guatemala) have submitted R-PPs for formal assessment at PC11; five countries (El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Suriname and Thailand) have confirmed their intent to submit their R-PPs for formal assessment by the deadline of PC14 to ensure allocation of Readiness Preparation Grant

¹ With the adoption of Resolution PC/Electronic/2012/1 on "Enhancing Capacity for Dispute Resolution", the standard grant allocation has increased to \$3.8 million.

subject to positive assessment by the PC. Cameroon has confirmed that a first draft would be submitted by March 2012. Confirmation is awaited from seven REDD countries. The deadline for sending this information is March 31, 2012. Table 1 has been updated since Berlin to reflect this information and the number of countries in each category is as follows:

- A. Those that have not signed a REDD Country Participation Agreement and have thus not formally become REDD Country Participants: one (Equatorial Guinea);
- B. Those that have signed a Participation Agreement but have not formally requested the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) formulation grant by submitting the standard request form specifying how the funds would be used: four (namely Bolivia, Chile, Papua New Guinea and Paraguay);
- C. Those that have not yet submitted their R-PP (using either the FCPF's R-PP formulation grant or alternative resources) on an informal basis: six (namely Cameroon, El Salvador, Gabon, Honduras, Thailand and Vanuatu). Of these, Cameroon has indicated its intent to submit a draft R-PP by March 2012, and El Salvador, Honduras and Thailand have confirmed their intent to submit R-PPs for formal assessment by PC14; and
- D. Those that have not yet submitted their R-PP (using either the FCPF's R-PP formulation grant or alternative resources) for formal PC assessment: three (namely Madagascar, Nicaragua and Suriname). Of these, Nicaragua and Suriname have indicated intent to submit R-PPs for formal assessment by PC12 and PC13 respectively.

Note: Changes since PC10 are highlighted in blue. A column indicating information received from countries regarding intent to submit R-PPs for formal consideration has been added.

8. **Possible PC action:** As of March 14, 2012, about \$ 4.4 million² million has been freed up by the fact of Equatorial Guinea not having signed its Participation Agreement by the deadline of February 1, 2012. The PC should also note that confirmation on the timing of submission of R-PPs is awaited from seven countries, potentially freeing up as much as \$30.8 million. Additional information may become available by March 31, 2012 regarding the timing of submission of R-PPs by these seven countries. The FMT will assess the financial resources that have been freed up under the Readiness Fund as a result of lack of confirmation and take this information into consideration when presenting options at PC12 for prioritization of activities. No action is required by the PC at this time.

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² This figure of \$4.4 million is made up only of variable elements of the costs of the Readiness Fund that are easily quantifiable, i.e., the readiness grant of \$3.8 million and the amount payable to Delivery Partners to provide support to each country of \$650,000. Also see footnote 7 which explains the total cost per country.

Table 1: Country Progress under the FCPF (as of March 14, 2012)

	Signed Participation Agreement	Requested R-PP Formulation Grant	Submitted Informal R-PP	Submitted R-PP for PC Assessment	Intent to Submit R-PP for formal consideration by PC
Argentina	✓		✓	✓	
Bolivia	✓	В			?
Cambodia	✓			✓	
Cameroon	✓	✓	С		PC12 ³
CAR	✓		✓	✓	
Chile	✓	В			?
Colombia	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Costa Rica	✓	✓		✓	
DR Congo	✓	✓		✓	
El Salvador	✓	✓	С		PC12
Equatorial Guinea	Α				
Ethiopia	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Gabon	✓	√ ¹	С		?
Ghana	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Guatemala	✓	√2	✓	✓	
Guyana	✓	√ ^{1,2}		✓	
Honduras	✓	√2	С		PC13
Indonesia	✓			✓	
Kenya	✓	✓		✓	
Lao PDR	✓	✓		✓	
Liberia	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Madagascar	✓	✓	✓	D	?
Mexico	✓			✓	
Mozambique	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Nepal	✓	✓		✓	
Nicaragua	✓	✓	✓	D	PC 12
Panama	✓			✓	
PNG	✓	В			?
Paraguay	✓	В			?
Peru	✓		✓	✓	
Republic of Congo	✓	✓		✓	
Suriname	✓		✓	D	PC13
Tanzania	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Thailand	✓	✓	С		PC14
Uganda	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Vanuatu	✓	✓	С		?
Vietnam	✓		✓	✓	
Total	36	23	15	23	5+1

Notes:

¹ Grants signed but not activated and subsequently terminated

² Request pending effectiveness of the Multiple Delivery Partner arrangement

³ Cameroon announced they would have a draft R-PP ready for PC12.

B. Should the FCPF Readiness Fund be reopened?

Status as of PC10

- 9. The PC at its tenth meeting in Berlin considered the expressions of interest in joining the FCPF received from eleven countries, namely Belize, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan and the Republic of the Sudan. Additional requests to join the FCPF have since been received from Philippines and Sri Lanka and Togo.
- 10. Burkina Faso later clarified that it did not intend to join the FCPF though it wished to submit an R-PP for assessment following the standard FCPF process (including TAP and PC reviews).

As noted in paragraph 11 of the Berlin Strategic Direction Resolution, the PC, recognizing that a number of additional Eligible REDD Countries have expressed interest in joining the FCPF, instructed the FMT to i) solicit further information from interested Eligible REDD Countries on their potential level of engagement in the FCPF; ii) propose criteria and process for approving such additional Eligible REDD Countries for possible inclusion into the FCPF; and iii) analyze implications for costs, human resources, and support for REDD+ readiness to the existing REDD Country Participants, no later than PC12 for its consideration.

Information submitted by countries since PC10

- 11. The FMT solicited supplementary information from the interested countries by January 31, 2012. The supplementary information has been received from Belize, Bhutan, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan and the Republic of Sudan. Chad and Guinea have not responded as yet. Three additional countries that were not in the original list of interested countries presented at PC10 in Berlin (the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Togo), have spontaneously submitted expressions of interest together with supplementary information. Sri Lanka has submitted a draft R-PP.³
- 12. Summary information against key criteria of status of forests, state of engagement in REDD+, envisaged Readiness Management Arrangements, sources of funding available and support expected from the FCPF as well as potential Delivery Partner as indicated by candidate countries in their supplemental information, and summarized by the FMT is presented in Annex 1 to this Note.
- 13. The following observations from the supplementary information submitted by candidate countries are highlighted below:
 - Out of 11 countries that have presented the information requested by the FMT or spontaneously (Burkina Faso is not included), all would like to seek participation in the FCPF with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation⁴;
 - ii. One approach would be categorize candidate countries with respect to their forest status as using the classification used by The Nature Conservancy⁵ as follows:

⁴ Participation would include financial and technical support for REDD+ readiness (total financial support is \$3.8 million in two stages: \$200,000 grant to help formulate a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), and \$3.6 million preparation grant to implement the R-PP), and for one country representative to attend FCPF meetings, subject to available resources.

³ The country submissions are available at http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/node/392.

⁵ Source for this classification: *Policy Brief: Reference Emission Levels for REDD*. The Nature Conservancy, June 2009. http://www.theredddesk.org/sites/default/files/resources/pdf/2010/TNC Baselines Policy Brief-3.pdf. As

- a. Low remaining forest low deforestation (LFLD): Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Sudan, Sri Lanka;
- b. Low remaining forest, high deforestation rates (LFHD): Togo; and
- c. High remaining forest, low deforestation rates (HFLD): Belize, Bhutan
- 14. Most countries are moderately to sufficiently advanced in thinking about REDD+ in the national context and have identified key areas where FCPF support would be essential. Areas identified for FCPF support include MRV, Reference Scenario and REDD+ strategy development and increasing role of community engagement in natural resource management.
- 15. Some countries have ongoing collaboration with other Partners in particular UNDP, FAO, GIZ, ITTO in specific areas but overall a lack of technical capacities and financial resources to meet REDD+ needs is highlighted.
- 16. Based on the information provided by the candidate countries, all countries merit consideration for inclusion in the FCPF. It is evident that compared to the first three batches of ER-PINs that were received at the time of inclusion of the first countries into the FCPF in 2008 and 2009, the understanding of REDD+ is more advanced and countries that have recently expressed interest in joining the FCPF have already benefitted from the global knowledge generated so far, and have taken the first steps towards REDD+ readiness preparation in their national context.

Strategic Considerations to guide the reopening of the FCPF Readiness Fund to new countries

- 17. Strategic considerations to guide a decision whether the FCPF should be reopened could include the following:
 - i. Is REDD+ Readiness still relevant, or should the focus move beyond that?
 - ii. Is there, or will there be enough resources in the Readiness Fund?
 - iii. How much would it cost to include new countries?
 - iv. Would adding new countries diminish the quality of support to existing countries?
 - v. Would Delivery Partners be available to support these countries?
 - vi. Would the FMT have the capacity to provide services to an expanded set of countries?
 - vii. Would there be a net gain or net loss of effectiveness or efficiency to the participation of countries in both the FCPF and UN-REDD Programme?
- 18. **Is REDD+ readiness still relevant in the current context?** The FCPF was originally envisaged as a pilot program to prepare countries to become ready for REDD+ mechanisms to take effect in 2013. Whilst CoP17 made progress in recognizing a broad range of financing sources for REDD+, it also clarified

all candidate countries are not covered in this classification, the approach has been extrapolated to classify other countries (Burundi, Pakistan, Jamaica, Republic of Sudan, Togo and Bhutan). It is acknowledged that in some cases the classification expressed by candidate countries in their submission is not necessarily reflected in the TNC analysis referenced here.

that a 'protocol, another legal agreement or an agreed outcome with legal force' will only take effect from 2020. The two main objectives outlined in the FCPF Charter⁶ are as follows:

- i. To assist Eligible REDD+ Countries in their efforts to achieve Emission Reductions from deforestation and/or forest degradation by providing financial and technical assistance in building their capacity to benefit from possible systems of positive incentives for REDD+;
- To pilot a performance-based system for Emission Reductions generated from REDD+ activities.
- 19. Objective (i) specifically relates to the Readiness Fund and objective (ii) to the Carbon Fund. Eligible REDD Countries are, for most purposes, countries located in tropical or subtropical areas. Given that the capacity building (or becoming ready for REDD+) in objective (i) is taking longer than envisaged when the facility was first established in 2008, this objective remains valid even in the context of an agreement effective only from 2020. Indeed, there is a broader and longer-term opportunity for learning from the knowledge disseminated by the FCPF. Thus, whilst the context has changed, the objectives of the FCPF seem to fit well with the changed context.
- 20. **Availability of funding (now and in the future):**The inclusion of new countries would be subject to the availability of resources and would need to be weighed against the concurrent proposals of providing larger grants to the existing REDD Country Participants, resources for setting up dispute resolution mechanisms, increasing support for engaging civil society organizations and Indigenous Peoples in the REDD+ process, and enhancing support on REDD+ readiness through analytical and knowledge management.
- 21. The PC has accepted the following priority order in new budget allocations (putting the potential grant funding for new REDD+ countries in the lower-priority category):
 - i. Higher priority:
 - (a) Standard allocation of \$3.6 million in Readiness grant resources to REDD Country Participants whose R-PP is assessed by the PC by PC14 (per Resolution PC/10/2011/1, paras.2-3);
 - (b) \$5.5 million for the period FY2012-2015 for the enhanced support for engagement of CSOs and Forest-Dependent Indigenous Peoples and Forest Dwellers in REDD+ readiness process, including up to \$1 million for participation of Southern CSOs in FCPF meetings and dialogues with the Indigenous Peoples on FCPF (per Resolution PC/10/2011/1, para.9);
 - (c) Up to \$13.4 million for enhanced capacity for dispute resolution (per Resolution PC/Electronic/2012/1, para.2, i-iii), including:
 - a. strengthening national feedback and grievance redress mechanisms for REDD Country Participants (incremental allocation of up to \$200,000 raising the total grant amount to \$3.8 million per REDD Country Participant);

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- enhancing preparation support, direct engagement, and monitoring by Delivery Partners (raising the notional administrative funds allocation to \$650,000 per REDD Country Participant); and
- c. reinforcing Delivery Partner capacity for dispute resolution (up to \$2 million).

ii. Lower priority:

- (a) Additional grant funding of up to \$5 million to some countries at mid-term review (per Resolution PC/10/2011/1, para.5);
- (b) Resolution PC/10/2011/1, para.6 (analytical work, knowledge management, South-South exchange and linkages between REDD+ and FLEGT); and
- (c) Resolution PC/10/2011/1, para.11 (potential grant funding for new REDD+ countries that may be selected into the FCPF in the future).

(Note that a priority order for items ii (a) through (c) has not been agreed.)

- 22. Table 2 presents the sources and uses of readiness funding including funding required for the additional IP and CSO program as agreed in Berlin, and enhancing capacity for dispute resolution as agreed subsequently. In terms of the priorities outlined in paragraph 21 above, priorities (i) to (iii) inclusive are included in the estimated long-term uses but priorities (iv) to (vi) are not included. The October 2011 figures in Table 2 are from the FMT Note 2011-10 rev on Strategic Direction (PC10) and are provided for comparison to the March 2012 figures.
- 23. Table 2 indicates a forecast reserve of \$21.0 million. However, if additional activities were to be included as detailed in the table (20 countries accessing an additional \$5 million grant each and possible inclusion of 11 new countries in the FCPF) it is forecast that total additional funding of approximately \$142.8 million would be required, out of which up to \$63.8 million for the possible inclusion of 11 new countries (\$5.8 million per country).

Table 2: Summary of Long-Term Sources and Uses of Readiness Funding (in \$ million, planned as of March 14, 2012)

Uses	Marcl	h 2012	Octob	er 2011
Commitments (grants) to REDD Countries		133.0		129.6
Administrative, Operations and Country Support of which:		69.4		65.7
FY09-11 Administrative & Country Support (actual)	15.3		15.3	
FY12 Administrative & Country Support (budget)	7.2		7.2	
FY13-20 Readiness Fund Administration (projected)	3.8		3.8	
FY13-20 Operations and Country Support (projected)	43.1		39.4	
Reserve for accountability mechanisms (Provision)				11.5
Reserve for Delivery Partner capacity for dispute resolution		2.0		
Additional IP and CSO Program (part funded by CF)		4.2		
Total Uses		208.6		206.8
Sources				
Committed Funding		229.6		207.5
Committed Funding <u>plus</u> Pledges		same		231.9
Estimated Reserve				
Reserve: Committed Funding less Total Uses		21.0		0.7
Reserve: Committed Funding plus Pledges less Total Uses		same		25.1
Additional Activities identified for action in Berlin Strategic Resolution but not included in Uses above	Est	timated Bu	dget Requ	ired
Additional funding to countries that demonstrate progress on readiness (up to \$5 million per country), assume 20 countries meet criteria in Berlin Strategic Direction Resolution by FY15 Proposal for Knowledge Management (to be presented at PC12 in		100.0		
June 2012) Reopening the FCPF to New Countries (\$5.8 million per country ⁷), assume 11 additional countries		tbd 63.8		
Total Resources required for additional activities		163.8		HHR
Funding Gap (Total Resources required for additional activities less Reserve)		142.8		

Assumptions:

- 1) Expected grants to 35 REDD Country Participants. All 37 but excluding Tanzania (bilaterally funded) and Equatorial Guinea (PA not signed by February 1, 2012).
- 2) Steady operational budget through FY15, with 20% annual cuts thereafter.

⁷ This figure of \$5.8 million is calculated by simply spreading the total projected costs of the Readiness Fund (\$208.6 million) over 36 countries. It therefore includes both variable and fixed costs, unlike the \$4.4 million figure per country quoted in paragraph 8, which only includes the easily quantifiable variable costs.

24. **Resource implications of inviting new countries:** Three main options for possible support to candidate REDD Country Participants and the resource implications for each are presented in Table 3:

Table 3: Options for Inclusion of New Countries in the FCPF

Option	Resource Implications
1. Candidate countries are invited to	Total estimated cost =\$0 over life of the Readiness Fund.
observe the annual meetings of the Participants Assembly (PA)	No financial support would be made available by the Readiness Fund. Participation costs in FCPF meetings/ workshops would need to be met by the countries from their own resources.
	There are, however, logistical constraints involved in expanding the number of countries, including the constraints of finding larger meeting venues, adequate hotel space, catering, visa and other event support. At a minimum, this would require an increase in FMT administrative resources/support to meetings. It is to be noted none of the candidate countries have expressed interest in joining as observer.
Candidate countries are included as Participants and provided support for R-PP	Total estimated cost for 11 countries = \$6 million over life of the Readiness Fund.
formulation and participation cost of one representative at PA and PC meetings	Financial support would include R-PP formulation grant (\$200,000), with support costs for Delivery Partner and participation costs in FCPF meetings.
3. Candidate countries are included as Participants with full access to readiness preparation grant (\$3.8 million) plus participation in FCPF meetings	Total estimated cost for 11 countries, including Delivery Partner support cost = \$63.8 million over the life of the Readiness Fund (@ \$5.8 million per country based on current cost profile).

- 25. **Implications for the quality of support to existing countries:** The experience to date in FCPF REDD Country Participants shows REDD+ Readiness to be more complex than was anticipated at the time of inclusion of REDD+ in the global climate change agenda. It is also becoming clear that Readiness requires more time than was originally estimated. About 23 of the 37 countries originally selected into the FCPF are moving into Readiness preparation, and will require effective support. The PC may therefore wish to consider how the inclusion of new countries in the FCPF might impact the Readiness support being provided to existing countries to respond to the needs already identified.
- 26. **Availability of Delivery Partners:** The following countries have indicated their possible choice for potential delivery partner for the FCPF in the supplementary information submitted to the FCPF secretariat. This tentative election does not reflect views of Delivery Partner or of the Trustee to the Facility:
 - Bhutan would elect UNDP;
 - ii. Pakistan would elect UNDP or FAO;
 - iii. Côte d'Ivoire, Jamaica, Nigeria and the Philippines would elect the World Bank; and

- iv. Belize, Burundi, the Republic of Sudan, Sri Lanka and Togo have not indicated a choice of a Delivery Partner as yet, though the World Bank has an active portfolio in these countries.
- 27. Of the current possible additional 13 countries (including Chad and Guinea but excluding Burkina Faso), six have indicated that they would select currently approved Delivery Partners.
- 28. This information is strictly based on information available to date and does not reflect any agreement or intention on the part of any Delivery Partners, the FMT or the Trustee. Moreover, the capacity or willingness of Delivery Partners of taking on additional countries has not been ascertained.
- 29. **Facility Management Team capacity:** The reopening of the FCPF obviously has resource implications for the FMT. The FMT has been providing secretarial services and initial implementation support to the countries in the readiness process though the key responsibility of readiness implementation rests with the Bank's regional teams where the World Bank is the Delivery Partner.
- 30. Analysis of the time contributed by the FMT for country advisory services in FY11 for the 21 countries that have submitted their R-PPs for PC assessment and of time spent on provision of secretarial support shows that the FMT staff strength would be required to be increased by approximately two full time staff if all 11 candidate countries were accepted into the FCPF. The costs of these additional staff are included in the cost per country of \$5.8 million reflected in Table 2. Further increases in capacity may also be needed on the side of the Delivery Partner (World Bank, IDB or UNDP).
- 31. Synergies with the UN-REDD Programme: There are currently 42 countries in the UN-REDD Programme that are deriving support at different levels. Given that 7 countries⁸ out of the potential 13 countries that have expressed interest in the FCPF are members of the UN-REDD Programme, providing the opportunity to these countries to join the FCPF would allow countries to tap into competitive advantages of both programs and thus help reach economies of scale in the readiness process at the national level. Including more countries would further foster synergies between the two programs in providing technical assistance in areas of reference scenario, monitoring and safeguards and thus have added value for the REDD+ agenda at the global level. On the other hand, there may also be disadvantages to a systematic participation of countries in both the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF, such as redundancy of assessments, travel costs, etc. The pros and cons of such cross-participation have not been ascertained at this stage.
- 32. In summary, the pros of reopening the FCPF to new countries arguably include the following:
 - i. Support countries in their REDD+ Readiness endeavors pending the creation of a dedicated mechanism or window for REDD+ financing in the UNFCCC;
 - ii. Provide support under a common umbrella and as part of the same partnership;
 - iii. Assist a larger group of countries in their efforts to become ready for REDD+, hereby potentially addressing questions of international leakage; and
 - iv. Promote knowledge exchange amongst countries facing common challenges.
- 33. The cons can be said to include the following:
 - i. More funding would be required;
 - ii. The FMT would need to reinforce its capacity;
 - iii. It is not clear if each country would have a Delivery Partner to support it; and

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⁸ Bhutan, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Sudan and Sri Lanka.

- iv. This could possibly detract from the support to existing REDD Country Participants.
- 34. **Possible PC action:** The PC is not expected to make a decision on whether or how to open the FCPF to new countries at PC11. The PC may wish to take stock of the information presented and provide guidance to FMT on the next steps with a view to making a decision at PC12.

C. If the FCPF Readiness Fund is to be reopened, how should it be?

Country Level Considerations:

- 35. Other than strategic level considerations for reopening of the Readiness Fund, possible criteria that could guide the PC's decision on how to reopen the FCPF (i.e., to which countries, when, and with what level of support) include the following:
 - i. As many candidate countries as possible should be given the opportunity to participate and exchange knowledge in global processes with a view to advancing REDD+ readiness preparation globally. This would also, in due course, allow countries to prepare for financial flows under phases 2 and 3 of REDD+, and address international leakage;
 - ii. Countries with expertise in specific areas relevant for REDD which can be shared with existing FCPF countries such as monitoring, implementation of successful models of benefit sharing, community involvement, governance reforms; etc.;
 - iii. Countries that have taken steps to initiate the REDD+ readiness process should be encouraged (e.g., political support for REDD+, formulation of R-PP initiated, REDD+ focal point identified, initiation of dialogue with stakeholders);
 - iv. Countries that are not receiving support for REDD+ readiness from the UN-REDD Programme or other sources should be given priority;
 - v. Countries whose needs exceed the support they have available could also be considered;
 - vi. The country has already identified the Delivery Partner it would request to support REDD+ readiness and the Delivery Partner accepts;
 - vii. The time at which country requested access to the FCPF could also be a factor (those that applied earlier would be given higher priority); and
 - viii. Other possible criteria, such as the relative forest cover, the rate of deforestation/degradation, the connectivity with other countries already engaged in REDD+ that could foster cross boundary cooperation on conservation of biodiversity hotspots, wildlife corridors, etc.
- 36. These suggested criteria do not necessarily all point to the same countries. Some partly contradict or at least offset each other.
- 37. **Possible PC action:** The PC is invited to consider and amend the criteria, as appropriate, possibly assigning some criteria higher weights than others, and arrive at the list of criteria at the end of PC11. This list could then be used to inform discussions at PC12 and propose a process should a decision be made to reopen the facility. The PC could also give further guidance to the FMT as to the next steps. A possibility would be for the FMT to use the list of criteria adopted at PC11 to tabulate the countries having expressed interest in the FCPF and present this table in time for a decision at PC12.

Annex 1: FMT's summary of Supplemental Information received from Countries that expressed interest in joining the FCPF.

The summary information below does not represent complete information submitted by candidate countries. For complete submissions made by countries go to http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/

Country	Forest cover percentage; rate of deforestation, degradation, key significance of the forests for communities	State of Ownership, political economy / institutional arrangements for REDD+	Relationship of REDD+ to other national development strategies	Proposed/existing arrangements for Stakeholder engagement	Existing financial and technical support for REDD+	Level of Participation in the FCPF requested; Potential Delivery Partner
Belize	-63% forest cover; 26.2% under protected area status; historic rate of deforestation estimated at 10,000 ha per year (0.06%.); agriculture and illegal logging key drivers -330,000 Belizeans live in rural communities and surrounding forested and protected areas	-Propose to set up Technical Expert Group (TEG) on Forests and Climate that will report to the Belize National Climate Change Commission. Commission chaired by the CEO in the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment. -Representation of ministries, industry, NGOs and community forestry groups would be sought	-Important for biodiversity conservation, linked to climate resilience strategy; -Intent to incorporate a performance based REDD+ scheme into national forest conservation program	- multi-level and cross-sectoral consultations, involving forest stakeholders plus other sectors (such as agriculture, economic development, tourism, national emergency response agencies) - National Resource and Environmental Policy System (NREPS) is in place to ensure consultations across government, civil society and community-based organizations.	-Some financial support for R-PP preparation available from GTZ; -In process of preparing R-PIN for submission to the UN-REDD Programme via UNDP Preference for Delivery Partner not indicated	Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation; -Seeking technical support on MRV; creation and implementation of appropriate legal mechanisms
Bhutan	-70.46% under forest; deforestation rates insignificantforests highly significant for biodiversity; forests	-Focal agency for REDD+: Watershed Management Division, Department of Forest & Parks Services	-Bhutan will remain carbon neutral and will continue to follow and be guided by a strong sense of conservation ethics.	-Consultations have been initiated with support of SNV Bhutan -Plan for consultations in the course of development of REDD+ Strategy	-Ongoing discussions with UNDP; - initial support of USD 60,000 for 2012 for setting up	-Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation; -UNDP suggested as

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	net sink of carbon; -looking forward infrastructure development, land-use change and construction industry and fire are key threats; -69% of the population depend heavily on forests for subsistence goods and services	Commission Secretariat which is an advisory body will lead at the policy level. (NEC)	-The Constitution states the country's commitment to maintain 60% of area under forest, conserve and improve the environment and safeguard the country's biodiversity -It is further directed to secure sustainable development while promoting economic and social development (National Forest Policy 2011). -The Forest and Nature Conservation Act of 1995 recognizes the traditional and cultural rights of the local people to forest use and thereby maintains their legitimate access to forest resources.	envisaged	REDD+ Working Group received from UNDP	-World Bank currently not engaged in forestry sector. -FCPF support on MRV and REDD+ strategy development, increasing role of community and private sector in natural resource management

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Burundi	- 200 000 hectares, which represents 7% of the national territory -Richest ecosystems for biodiversity; forest contribute 6% of Gross National product. - average annual rate of deforestation is estimated at 2 %. - key challenges are overexploitation of forests due mainly to the absence of operating standards and lack of techniques of wood processing, overgrazing in forests, Bush fires	-Focal agency for REDD+ would be Ministry of Forestry with support from agriculture, energy, research institutions and NGOs	-Not integrated into existing policies per se. - some aspects are included in certain plans as the Strategic framework for economic growth and fight against poverty (SFFPII) -plan to link to the 3 Rio Conventions	-No experience cited as such -Consultations should be conducted between the managers of the land heritage, policy makers, representatives of the people, the owners Burrows, NGOs working in the sector and the administration of the territory.	-No ongoing talks with other potential partners including the UNREDD Programme -World Bank does not have active portfolio in the sector (being confirmed)	-Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation: or with support for formulation of Readiness Preparation Proposal - Support for strengthening of technical capacity and forest governance and developing national policy for forest, MRV
Cote d'Ivoire	-30% of national territory under forests now; Part of Guinean Shield of W. Africa, 70% cover in 1900; -2 Million ha lost between 1980 and 2000; depletion continues. High deforestation country; Average rate of loss is	Country just out of socio political crisis. Deforestation is a national issue. A REDD+ national interdepartmental technical Coordination (TC REDD+) is operational installed by	REDD could be a catalyst for green economy in the country	Plan to engage and consult with stakeholders at every stage of REDD+ discussions. -Hold a national workshop to validate the REDD+ Strategy before its implementation	 in discussions with UNDP and the World Bank World Bank engaged in natural resources protection -Country Partner in 	-Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation: -World Bank as suggested Delivery Partner

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	110,000 ha per year; Key drivers are agriculture. Mining, uncontrolled exploitation Forests are of high biodiversity value; Local livelihoods linked to natural resources	the Ministry of environment with the other technical Ministries (agriculture, Forest service, energies, infrastructures. -Plan to set up A REDD+ national Committee with multi-stakeholder representation. - REDD+ Regional Committees, with the participation of the local communities, will be set up in all the regions of the country;			UN-REDD Programme but no financial support as yet	
Jamaica	-30% forest cover which is approximately 236,000 hectares; 66% forest lands are privately owned. - Need to increase the current forest cover which is critical for prevention of soil erosion, landslides and flooding in Jamaica	-REDD+ led by the Forestry Department in collaboration with the Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change and the National Climate Change Committee	Goal 4 of the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan, states: Jamaica has a Healthy Natural Environment. REDD+ fits under National Outcomes # 13 + # 14 which deal with "Sustainable Management and Use of Environmental and	-Stakeholders' meetings with the key national players and international partnersSmaller focal group meetings with stakeholders in the various forest areas – these would include LFMC, NGOs, and CBOs to ensure wide participation of all publicsAdditional meetings will be reconvened with the	-No technical or financial support for REDD+ received as yet World Bank supports natural resource management not active in forests per se. - The World Bank is	-Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation (option iv) - Planning Institute of Jamaica, on behalf of the Government has had initial discussions with the World Bank Country Office as the potential Delivery Partner

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	- participatory forest management strategy at the core of management; Local Forest Management Committees (LFMC) established -In 1999 the rate of deforestation in Jamaica for the previous 10 years was approximately .1% per annum equivalent to 360 hectares per year. -Key drivers are agriculture and mining; forest fires and charcoal production.		Natural Resources, plus Hazard Risk reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change". Jamaica is developing its national low-carbon development strategy, which will include REDD+	above groups when the draft document is prepared to get any additional comments and recommendation before presenting to Cabinet.	also collaborating with the IDB under the Pilot Programme For Climate Change (PPCR)	
Nigeria	- Half of the country's population relies on the forest for energy, fodder, construction materials, income, and medicine. -Between the 1960s and 1995, Nigeria's forest cover is estimated to have decreased from 10 million hectares to 3.1	-The National Advisory Council on REDD+ is the Apex Governance body for Nigeria REDD+ Programme. Its roles include: provide policy advice and guidance on all National REDD+ processes, supervise activities of the National Technical REDD+ Committee; maintain oversight role over	- REDD+ is designed to serve as the arrow head of the country's national low-carbon development strategy/plan because of its interrelationship with Agriculture and the role of climate compliant agriculture; water shade protection and	- Series of stakeholder consultations, capacity building and awareness programmes will be conducted at federal, State (CRS), Local Government levels that will involve forest dependent communities, academia, civil society organizations, relevant MDAs, the Legislature, the Media, Women groups, and the	-UNREDD Programme has approved Nigeria's REDD National Programme with a funding allocation of USD 4 million. This fund is to support capacity building and readiness activities at the Federal level and more intense	-Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation (option iv) -World Bank as potential delivery partner -World Bank has prepared country-level forest sector review with a focus on forest law enforcement

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	million. -Forest sector had accounted for about 2% of the Gross Domestic Products (GDP) and 8% of the agricultural value added over the last two decades - Employment for approximately 1.8 to 2 million people	consultancies on National REDD+ issues; - The National Technical REDD+ Committee is under the guidance of FMEV and chaired by UNFCCC-DNA in the new Department of Climate Change - The National REDD+ Secretariat has been established inside the Federal Department of Forestry - a new Department of Climate Change has been established in the Ministry and it includes REDD+	management; - alternative energy sources to reduce pressure of demand for wood based energy; potentiality of private sector investments green economic development	Private sector	demonstration activities at Cross River State which will serve as the REDD Pilot State in Nigeria. -More resources required in other states	and governance in Nigeria -WB supported the workshops on FLEG
Pakistan	-Low forest cover country with 5.01% area under forests; 0.03 ha of forest per capita of population compared to the world average of 1.0 ha -Several forest types represented in the forest	-Ministry of National Disaster Management, Office of Inspector General of Forests as the National Focal Point for REDD, has oversight of Pakistan REDD+ policy and REDD+ Strategy	-Acceptance of forest carbon in the relevant laws is possible with a well thought out plan and FCPF R-PP and its implementation -The National Climate Change Policy (NCCP)	-Consultative meetings and workshops have been held in all the provinces and the federal capital on a few aspects of REDD+, including one on SEPC safeguards were taken up in detail and the	-Pakistan is a member of UN-REDD Programme -National Focal Point for UN-REDD has been designated Other ongoing	-Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation (option iv) -Given ongoing discussions prefer FAO or UNDP as Delivery Partner

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	- traditional dependence of rural communities on natural vegetation According to FAO (2006) during the last two decades Pakistan has lost 25% of its natural forests with an annual rate of forest land use change of 2% - Underlying causes are population growth, rising demand for land conversion, illegal logging, unclear forest land tenure reforms and weak law enforcement -Monitoring and assessment of national forests on regular basis is not conducted by any department, nor there exist any department assigned the function of forest monitoring	preparation process. - has organized a number of consultative meetings, capacity building trainings and workshops on various aspects of REDD - A National Steering Committee, comprising senior representatives of all provinces and international NGOs has been constituted in the Ministry of National Disaster Management that is mandated to review the REDD+ progress -Plan to set up REDD Facilitation Unit RFU to assist the national focal point	is in the final stages of approval. -Work on the development of the low-carbon development strategy is in progress - Pakistan is pursuing the developments in the Green Economy discourse as well preparing for the Rio plus 20 Summit. -REDD forms an important component of the NCCP as a mitigation measure; - the NCCP clearly spells out 'secure financial assistance from World Bank's FCPF and UN- REDD Programme as well as form other international sources to formulate national programme for avoiding deforestation and	comments were conveyed to UN REDD. -The provincial focal points for REDD+ are fully functional and undertaking consultation down to grass root levelsDuring the designing of REDD+ strategy, rigorous and meaningful consultation will be held at all levels and on all aspects of REDD+.	efforts include active mobilization of ICIMOD and accessing GEF resources for SFM and REDD -Preparing proposal to seek funding from UN- REDD Programme	for FCPF; -Importance of REDD as a means to conserve and enhance forest cover, forest area and carbon stocks

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		designated the	forest restoration - draft National Forest Policy also has a similar provision for mainstreaming REDD			Participation with full
The Philippines	- 24.27 %t of the country's total land area is under forest, 0.8 m ha of primary forest remain - indiscriminate logging, inadequate forest protection, incoherent policies, expansion of upland agriculture, fires, pests and diseases, and unplanned land conversion -From 1969 to 1988, the annual average rate of deforestation in the Philippines stood at about 216,000 hectares per annum - Forest cover between 1988 and 2003, has shown that deforestation has been arrested, an	-designated the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as the operational implementor of REDD+. -Plan to set up National Multistakeholder REDD+ Council (NRMC) and Provincial MRC with collaborative mechanisms with regional development councils -The leadership of the Climate Change Commission (the country's highest and sole policy making body	-Executive Order 881 dated April 26, 2010 mandated the Climate Change Commission (CCC) to include in its scope of coordination the programs and action plans relating to REDD-Plus - Through a multi- stakeholder and multi-level process of consultative workshops and writeshops, the Philippines prepared its National REDD- Plus Strategy, also known as PNRPS	-REDD+ Strategy has been already formulated; is being disseminated and further enhanced through initiation of regional information dissemination and capacity-building activities.	-Support available as follows: (1) BMU/GIZ for policy measures and piloting REDD-Plus measures with demonstration site in Southern Leyte, (2) EU for community and livelihood options with demonstration site in Palawan, (3) FFI-Team Energy- EU for the ancestral domain planning and livelihood options as well with demonstration site in General Nakar, (4) SDC for crosscutting policy, capacity building,	Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation (option iv) - FCPF could support MRV, demonstration sites and the process of informing/ integrating/ consolidating the field results to national systems. -Further to the MRV, FCPF could also look into nesting mechanisms from subnational activities to national activitiesFCPF could continue on from the work of UNREDD / GIZ in establishing the national reference level as

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	average annual increase of about 25,000 hectares of natural forests is reported -However forest degradation continues, closed canopy forest converted to open forest	on climate change, with the President of the Republic as Chairperson) is seen as a vital element in the national management arrangements for REDD			governance and research initiatives , (5) UN-REDD for initial readiness process on institutional mechanisms, awareness, safeguards, and MRV system proposal (USD 500,000)	well as sub national (province level) reference levels -World Bank has forestry portfolio in the country
Republic of the Sudan	- Forest cover constitutes about 11% of its total surface area. - Annual deforestation is 542, 000 ha and the annual deforestation rate is estimated to be 2,4% -Of the total population (39.2 million) nearly (70.5%) is rural and considered as forest dependant for livelihood, wood energy and on round timber for buildings -Forestry sector	-The Forests National Corporation (FNC) was designated as the national bodies for REDD+ -Multi-sectoral National Committee to be set up; -State REDD+ Committees, with the participation of the States authorities, CSO and local communities to be set up -REDD+ national technical unit from concerned Ministries is	-Draft I-PRSP focuses on integrating the principles of sustainable development into the country's policies and programs for the sustainable use of environmental resources. REDD+ activities are consistent with the directions in the I-PRSP, which seeks to reduce the desertification,	The REDD+ National Strategy will be prepared in a participatory approach where all stakeholders will be consulted and involved	-Forests National Corporation established a National REDD+ unit to develop the framework for REDD+ strategic plan, such work was done in collaboration with the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) -Support for capacity building workshops and participation in	

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	contribution to the GDP in the range of 3%.	already established	deforestation and deterioration in biodiversity and the proportion of the poor directly affected by degraded lands		UN-REDD policy board meetings by UNDP and UNEP -No financial resources for REDD+	
Sri Lanka (based on information provided in the R- PP)	- Total forest area is 1.89 million ha which constitutes 29.1% of total land area under forests -Dense closed canopy forests have dropped from 24% in 1992 to 22.6% by 1999 -2 million ha of forests are rich in endemic species of flora and fauna -Deforestation expected to grow with infrastructure development as country has emerged from a 30 year conflict. -Key drivers of deforestation are agriculture, infrastructure	- It is proposed that the decision-making authority for the National REDD+ Programme will be the REDD+ Programme Management and Coordinating Committee (RPMCC) with representation of relevant stakeholders. -A comprehensive Capacity Building Action Plan (CBAP) for all stakeholders would be prepared, in order to ensure that the appropriate knowledge, skills and competencies are present, at all levels, to formulate and implement REDD+ strategies will be	-the National REDD+ Policy will be formulated based on the REDD+ strategies to ensure the smooth implementation of REDD+ mechanisms and processes in line with the country's national policies. -Adjustments to existing laws and policies may be necessary to ensure a conducive legal framework	-A multi-stakeholder consultation process will develop national indicators which will allow the REDD+ Programme to be objectively monitored against these standards -The Department of Wildlife and conservation uses the Wildlife Advisory Committee in which government departments, universities and NGOs are represented to help formulate major decisions at policy level. -The absence of a definite coordination mechanism for environmental management is a major problem.	-Currently support from UN-REDD Programme only	-R-PP presented to UN-REDD programme -Information on Delivery Partner for FCPF not known as yet.

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	development, urban expansion, mining and illegal logging and fires	developed -Mechanisms to ensure coordination between the central and provincial governments and between sectors will be strengthened -The competency framework will identify the knowledge and skills that each stakeholder group must attain in order to fulfill their role in a National REDD+ Programme.		-Indigenous peoples have been part of the provincial awareness-raising programmes conducted by the NFP. -Several meetings with stakeholders were held during R-PP formulation process		
Togo	-Forests area is small but forests contribute to nearly 11% of national GDP - Local communities live within and around these forests. -Togo has 83 protected areas which cover a total area of 793,288 ha or 14.2% of the area of Togo. Declining % due to	- REDD + should be considered at a high level of national decision (President, Prime Minister's Office, coordinated by the technical ministries). - REDD + covers a horizontal issue concerning multiple actors and sectors. This position is expected to include and involve all	- REDD + is consistent with several programs and policies. National Investment Programme for Environment and Natural Resources (PNIERN), the National Agricultural Investment Programs and Food Security (PNIASA), and the	-The approach to REDD + Togo will be participatory. There will be full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, especially local communities and NGOs in all activities of REDD. -Measures consistent with the preservation of natural forests and biodiversity will be implemented by ensuring that REDD +	- Technical and financial support available from International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to begin the process -Swiss Cooperation has provided a consultant. This support covers (i)	Togo, would participate in the category iv i.e. as a member in need of financial contribution for the preparation of REDD+ The assistance needed for the preparation of the strategy includes the REDD financial and technical support. - Community

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	forest degradation -The forests are highly degraded as a whole. Due to lack of recent and accurate inventories it is difficult to estimate the actual current rate of forest loss. National average annual deforestation is estimated at 4.5% (FAO, 2007). -Key deforestation drivers are: -domestic energy needs; - traditional practice of agriculture and livestock; - removal of timber; -Wildfires in forests; - Causes related to the implementation of development projects; - Population growth; - Poverty; - Weak legal and institutional framework.	departments and sectors that have actions on the environment in general and forests in particular. -A Technical Coordination Group, Inter-sectoral and multistakeholder approaches to prepare the country for REDD + was created in December 2011 -Transparent and effective forest governance will be established taking into account legislation and national sovereignty.	National Action Plan for the Water Sector and Sanitation (Pansea) are sub programs under REDD. All these programs are transversal and allow a good view of environmental problems in all sectors.	activities do not lend themselves to conversion of natural forests to planted forests but rather indicate that protect and conserve these forests. -These measures will make the services provided by ecosystems will enhance other benefits social and environmental.	Capacity building of forestry staff on the issue REDD +, (ii) the development of R-PIN by a small multi-stakeholder representative group and (iii) the preparation of a REDD strategy and initial validation of R-PIN.	Development Project of High Intensity Labour (PDC-LI) with financial support from the World Bank is being implemented. The forestry component of this project involves the reforestation of 2015 ha in the five administrative regions in Togo. 923.69 ha are already planted in 2011. - Support required for the realization of the national forest inventory to define the reference line.