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

Vietnam presented its Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) at its 8th meeting held in March 2011 in Da Lat, Vietnam. At this meeting, the PC adopted Resolution PC/8/2011/5 and allocated grant funding for Vietnam to enable it to move ahead with preparation for readiness. The PC requested Vietnam to submit a revised R-PP addressing the key issues identified in a Summary Report annexed to the Resolution.

Vietnam submitted a revised R-PP to the FCPF FMT on November 18, 2011. The table below presents the main issues raised in PC Resolution PC/8/2011/5 and the response provided in the revised R-PP. This analysis allows the FCPF FMT Team to assess whether the issues raised by the PC were addressed and the World Bank to continue its due diligence process in view of making the Readiness Preparation grant available to the country. FMT notes that in addition to the issues identified in the PC resolution, many changes were made to improve the R-PP and include updates to reflect the progress that was made since its presentation to the PC in March 2011.

Key issues identified in PC Resolution PC/8/2011/5	Response in the revised R-PP
1. Revise the R-PP to explicitly acknowledge the role of ethnic minorities as important actors and beneficiaries of programs promoting REDD+ in Vietnam.	The role of ethnic minorities as important actors and beneficiaries of REDD+ programs is explicitly referred to in the revised R-PP, notably in the reworked version of the Consultation and Participation Plan in Section 1.b (p. 26). Also, effective participation of ethnic minorities is now reflected in revised sections on institutional arrangements (p. 15-17) and the implementation framework.
2. Include translation of the final R-PP into Vietnamese as part of the outreach and communication strategy for grant implementation.	The R-PP was translated into Vietnamese (p. 23) and made available online in August 2011 (http://www.vietnam- redd.org/Upload/Download/File/Viet_Nam_R- PP_Revised_September2011RMN_VN_final_3247.pdf)
3. State the intention to initiate discussion with neighboring countries on collaboration with regard to controlling cross-border trade in illegal forest products, and identify possible options to advance Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) at the national and regional level to mitigate leakage of REDD+ interventions.	A section detailing the collaboration with neighboring countries on cross-border trade and FLEGT was added to the R-PP (pp. 61-62). The new text describes initiatives that were taken before Vietnam's R-PP submission to the PC (e.g. an existing MoU with Lao PDR) as well as high-level interaction that has taken place since March 2011, notably (i) high-level meetings of Vietnam's MARD and Lao PDR's Ministry Agriculture and Forestry, and (ii) the two countries' Ministries of Commerce and Industry to further advance collaboration. The documented action goes well beyond "stating the intention to initiate discussion" as required by the PC resolution.