Report to Donor

Ref. TF099125 Reporting Period: 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014

Printed On: 05/16/2015 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF099125

# Preparation of DRC's Readiness Plan, Readiness Fund of the FCPF FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000297108 - Laurent Valiergue Approving Manager: 00000086169 - Benoit Bosquet

Summary Information				
TF Status	ACTV			
Recipient Country	Congo, Dem Rep			
Executed By	Recipient			
Managing Unit	8107 - AFTN1 - HIS			
Grant Start Date / End Date	03/26/2011 to 06/30/2017			
Original Grant Amount	3,400,000.00			
Grant Amount	8,600,000.00			
Outstanding Commitments	0.00			
Cumulative Disbursements	3,339,683.03 as of 06/30/2014			
Disbursed 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014	1,161,562.59			
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS			

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Disbursements.

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### **OVERVIEW**

# **Overall Assessments**

#### **Grant Objectives:**

The Project Development Objective is to reinforce DRC's capacities to design a socially and environmentally sound national strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and to develop a national reference scenario of emissions from deforestation and degradation that takes into account national circumstances.

#### Overall progress from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

#### Comment:

There has been significant progress in FY14. Key steps include the following:

DRC submitted its revised mid-term report and request for additional USD 5 million in July 2013, which was approved by the PC meeting on a no-objection basis. The Grant Agreement was signed in January 2014.

CN-REDD has been reorganized and is doing a very good job in coordinating the REDD+ process. The majority of experts is recruited, CN-REDD is functional and active and agreed on its work plan and budget for 2014-16. However, the revision of the decree on institutional arrangements for REDD+ is still pending.

The ER-PIN for Mai-Ndombe was adopted into the FCPF Carbon Fund pipeline and the Letter of Intent to develop the ER-PD has been signed in June 2014. The design phase for the ER program in Mai Ndombe was launched:

- (i) a multi-partner organizational structure is in place
- (ii) the following 6 working groups began their work: communication, consultation and participation; institutional arrangements and benefit sharing; strategic context and conceptualization of activities; financial strategy and risk management; safeguards, information system and monitoring; Reference level and MRV
- (iii) a work plan and budget is being prepared

In terms of communication, coordination and outreach, a collaborative program with the Ministry of Education (EPSP) was launched in order to develop a curriculum that integrates environment and climate change.

Two major events to be organized in September 2014 were prepared. They will take place in Kinshasa for broad stakeholder involvement and cross-sectoral coordination:

- (i) 3rd International REDD+ University in Kinshasa with hundreds of participants. The event will be opened by the Minister of Environment, followed by remarks from other high-level representatives. Different from the two preceding events, this one will promote coordination between ministries and foster the cross-sectoral debate.
- (ii) In addition, the Ministry of Environment will organize a high-level meeting as a follow up to the International REDD+ University, among the public administration across sectors at Secretary-General level, in order to discuss mechanisms of cooperation to integrate REDD+ in sectoral policies as well as an action plan.

The SESA has advanced very much and CN-REDD is in the final stage of integrating the WB comments. The ESMF and its five related frameworks (Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework, Resettlement Policy Framework, Process Framework, Cultural Heritage Framework, Pests and Pesticides Framework) has already been revised based on WB comments and might be finalized shortly.

Furthermore, first strategic REDD+ indicators are being developed as part of the Economic Governance Matrix. There is now also an active dialogue among the actors involved in the land tenure and management reform. The decree on local community forests was signed in August 2014 which is an important achievement.

# Overall progress from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities: Comment:

Project implementation is sometimes suffering from a heavy workload of the fiduciary team which is handling other projects. Retained priorities are not always aligned with the CN-REDD priorities.

# Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

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Expected follow up (if any): Follow up Bank project/loan/credit/grant

#### Comment on follow up:

A joint mission of GENDR and the FMT will take place in October 2014. The focus of the mission will be to advance the readiness process, discuss the design phase of the ER program, discuss methodological aspects of the ER program and coordinate WB-related activities in DRC including FCPF and FIP.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

**Restructuring of Grant:** 

# OUTCOME

#### Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014

The CN-REDD is back on track with a new team of experts. Major elements of the R-Package are about to be finalized (SESA, ESMF and its five related frameworks) very soon. Preparatory works (ToRs) on the Feedback Grievance and Redress Mechanism (FGRM), the registry and the benefit sharing mechanisms have been conducted in FY14. That paves the way towards significant progress in FY15.

### **Grant Outcome Indicators**

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

#### COMPONENTS

# Output and Implementation by Component

Coordination of the REDD+ readiness process and multistakeholder consultations

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: 1.1 CN-REDD functioning and provincial focal points recruited; 1.2 promotion of

multi-stakeholder-consultations

Actual Output: 1.1. CN-REDD reorganized, most experts recruited, recruitment of 5 provincial focal points ongoing; 1.2

broad outreach through International REDD+ University to be organized in September 2014

#### Design of a national REDD+ strategy

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: 2a. Preparation of national REDD+ strategy; 2b. preparation of implementation framework (registry,

FGRM); 2c. SESA

Actual Output: 2a. REDD+ adopted; 2b. ToR finalized and consultants being recruited to design registry and for FGRM;

2c. SESA and ESMF in final stage

#### Preparation of a national reference scenario for REDD+

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Recruitment of MRV-REL leader

Actual Output: Recruitment ongoing

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#### Project management

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Detailed work program for each expert newly hired allowing them to properly understand their mission

and their role towards the R-Package

Actual Output: Work underway

# Comment on planned and actual Output

# Comment on component implementation progress

The components used here are those identified in the Assessment Note for the additional grant in the amount of USD5.2 million for REDD+ readiness preparation support.

## **EXECUTION**

# Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P124072 - DRC-FCPF REDD READINESS

Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Climate ch

Global Focal Area: Climate change
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

# Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: National REDD Coordination, Ministry of Environment, Nature Conserv & Tourism

Contact: Victor KABENGELE wa KADILU

Address: National REDD Coordination Unit, MECNT, Kinshasa

Website:

#### **PROGRAM**

# **Program Specific Questions**

1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f

The reorganized CN-REDD is very active in coordinating REDD+ support through various initiatives, including the FCPF and UN-REDD. Work plans and budgets reflect contributions from different sources. The R-PP contributors are UNDP and UNEP. In particular, the design of the ER program in Mai Ndombe integrates a variety of actors, such as EFI (EU-FLEGT), UNDP, UNEP, the national platform Moabi, FAO and others. The 6 working groups for the ER program are led by different actors, such as the GTCR network, CN-REDD, WWF, WWC, and DIAF/FAO. The ER program is supported by the FIP, OIBT, CBFP, Norway and COMIFAC.

Furthermore, discussions are taking place to maximize synergies between the FCPF grants, the FIP and Norwegian funding channeled through the BioCarbon Fund.

A potential contribution by the Government of Norway, through its International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), to support DRC' REDD+ efforts is pending.

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2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.

Changes have been taken into consideration in Assessment Note for the additional USD5 million.

# 3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.

Capacities to progress on readiness and develop the ER program have increased. Several REDD+ initiatives contribute to develop capacities through training, workshops and other instruments. The reorganized CN-REDD is also doing a good job in coordinating the REDD+ process.

# 4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?

The SESA is in its final stage. CN-REDD currently addresses comments provided by the WB safeguards team. The SESA has been prepared through a series of stakeholder consultations.

#### 5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

The ESFM and its five related frameworks are almost final. The WB safeguards team currently assess whether the comments were considered sufficiently.

#### 6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation and disclosure related to this Grant.

CN-REDD consults regularly with the involved stakeholders, mainly through the national platform GTCR. CN-REDD organised numerous consultations on various REDD+ issues, on average 4-5 meetings per week. This participatory approach increases confidence in the REDD+ process. Capacity development for GTCR is ongoing with the support of UN-REDD. An IEC expert has been recruited in the CN-REDD team and develops a consultation plan for the 5 provinces.

As regards the public administration, there are 16 thematic coordination groups which involve 16 different ministries covering all sectors relevant for REDD+.

The private sector also increasingly participates in workshops and engages in the discussion.

The development of the ER program is a good example with 6 working groups being led by different partners including the government, private sector and civil society.

## DISBURSEMENTS

# Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2011	06/30/2011	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
01/01/2012	06/30/2012	0.00	0.00	796,881.91	396,881.91
07/01/2012	12/31/2012	0.00	0.00	1,270,810.39	473,928.48
01/01/2013	06/30/2013	0.00	0.00	2,178,120.44	907,310.05
07/01/2013	12/31/2013	0.00	0.00	2,829,367.06	651,246.62
01/01/2014	06/30/2014	0.00	0.00	3,339,683.03	510,315.97
07/01/2014	12/31/2014	0.00	0.00	4,448,161.40	1,108,478.37
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	5,141,171.27	693,009.87
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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