

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF010903
Printed On: 05/10/2013

Reporting Period: 07/01/2011 to 06/30/2012
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF010903

GHANA - FCPF READINESS GRANT

FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000207332 - Flavio Chaves
Approving Manager: 00000086248 - Magdolna Lovei

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Ghana
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	8107 - AFTN1
Grant Start Date / Closing Date	12/01/2011 to 05/03/2015
Program Manager	
Original Grant Amount	3,400,000.00
Grant Amount	3,400,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	400,000.00 as of 06/30/2012
Disbursed 07/01/2011 to 06/30/2012	400,000.00
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 support Ghana in preparing itself to engage in an international REDD+ mechanism through the design of a socially and environmentally sound national REDD+ strategy and the development of a reference scenario that takes into account national circumstances.

Overall progress from 07/01/2011 to 06/30/2012 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

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

Overall progress from 07/01/2011 to 06/30/2012 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

There were significant delays in the preparation the terms of reference and bidding documents for launching the project's key activities. Initial work and procurement planning initially foresaw a number of discrete and small consultancy assignments that would create a significant burden, in terms of procurement and contract management, for the Forest Commission Climate Unit. After discussions with the project implementing agency it was agreed review the project's procurement plan to lump those activities to optimize procurement and contract management work.

Therefore the following ToRs were prepared and bidding issued: (i) communication strategy development (individual consultancy); (ii) Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and preparation of an ESMF and stakeholder engagements/outreach strategy; (iii) preparation of REDD+ Strategy using all relevant inputs in coordination with relevant agencies including stakeholder engagement/outreach ,map institutional and legal framework for REDD+ implementation; and (iv) establishment of a Reference Scenario and development of a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for Ghana. These activities will amount USD 1.4 million. The Forest Commission Climate Unit is currently at different phases of selecting the consultants (most of them have received RFPs) for the aforementioned tasks.

In the meantime the Forest Commission Climate Unit has continued to engage stakeholders for developing the national REDD strategy, carrying out several consultation workshops. Additionally, the Forest Commission Climate Unit has issue a call for proposals for REDD+ pilots (not funded by the FCPF), so as to start piloting some promising approaches. The call of proposals resulted in 17 responsive proposals, for which the Forest Commission Climate Unit is seeking funding. The Swiss government is considering sponsoring part of this work and a field mission is planned for February 2013. Currently, there are discussions with the Forest Commission Climate Unit to prepare two ER-PIN, possibly on #trees- on-cocoa-farms program/climate smart cocoa# and the other on # socially inclusive agroforestry systems program# . The Bank team is providing back stopping for the Forest Commission Climate Unit and a mission is planned for April for having technical discussions and assisting the client in eventually finalizing the ER-PIN.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Implementaiton support activities are carried out from the field office in Accra. Meetings with the client happen on a as-needed-basis, usually every two-three weeks.

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

Comment on follow up:

This activity could link to the preparation of a ER-PIN. There are currently two proposals being discussed with the client: one regarding "smart-cocoa" and the other on "agro-forestry". A mission with the CPFCF experts is planned for March to assist the client in preparing the ER-PIN proposal.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

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Restructuring of Grant:

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2011 to 06/30/2012

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS

Output and Implementation by Component

SUPPORT TO THE COORDINATION OF THE REDD READINESS PROCESS:

Status: Under Implementation
Planned Output: Stakeholder dialogue and awareness raising.
Actual Output: see comments on the next section.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE DESIGN OF A NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY:

Status: Procurement On going
Planned Output: REDD+ Strategy Developed.
Actual Output: see comments on the next section.

PREPARATION OF A NATIONAL REFERENCE SCENARIO FOR REDD:

Status: Procurement On going
Planned Output: Reference Scenario prepared.
Actual Output: see comments on the next section.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT INCLUDING MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Status: Under Implementation
Planned Output: Project implemented in a timely and efficient manner.
Actual Output: see comments on the next section.

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

SUPPORT TO THE COORDINATION OF THE REDD READINESS PROCESS: the REDD+ Secretariat has been actively carrying out consultations, raising awareness of stakeholders. Coordination with other REDD+ initiatives such as the Forest Preservation Program (FPP) and the Forest Investment Program (FIP). The Japan financed Forest Preservation Program (FPP) comes to an end in April. The FPP provided equipment and training for forest and carbon stock assessment and carry out detailed surveys in the High Forest Zone of Ghana and the data and skills acquired will be useful for the development of the Reference Scenarios and for the FIP.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE DESIGN OF A NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY: The draft national Climate Change Policy, being developed under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment is still with the cabinet for approval. The cabinet through MEST has asked for further consultation, which shall start once the incoming government is fully established (probably by late March). An

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approved policy is needed for access to the Green Climate Fund and will provide the policy and legal framework on which REDD+ will operate.

PREPARATION OF A NATIONAL REFERENCE SCENARIO FOR REDD: the selection of consultants for carry out this activity is in its final stages. The Request for Proposal has been sent to the Bank for approval and shall be cleared in the coming days.

ESTABLISHING SYSTEMS FOR MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION OF EMISSION REDUCTIONS: the selection of consultants for carry out this activity is in its final stages. The Request for Proposal has been sent to the Bank for approval and shall be cleared in the coming days.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT INCLUDING MONITORING AND EVALUATION: project management is working satisfactorily and fiduciary responsibilities have been carried out in a timely and efficient manner. Disbursements have reached 20.95% and there are no FM or procurement issues.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P124060 - Ghana-FCPF REDD READINESS
Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Climate change
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Forest Commission Climate Change Unit
Contact: Robert Bamfo
Address: Forestry Commission, Achimota, Accra, Ghana
Phone: +233 208237777 Email: bamforobert@yahoo.com
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 others.

Yes the Grant activities are coordinated with other REDD+ initiatives including with Forest Investment Program and Forest Preservation Program (finance by the government of Japan).

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

There were no important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.

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

There was a great progress in procurement for this Grant, and the pace of activities has greatly improved over the past 6 months. A dedicated staff from the Forestry Commission is now assigned to the project.

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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?

Discussions on the SESA are part of the dialogue between the Forest Commission Climate Change Unit and stakeholders. The procurement for the SESA is ongoing. The RFP has been sent for the Bank for no objection and shall be cleared in the coming days.

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

Kindly see the update on the SESA above.

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

The REDD+ process in Ghana is highly participatory and consultations with stakeholders happen regularly. The last one being the Stakeholder Workshop for the FIP which was attended by most of REDD+ stakeholders.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2012	06/30/2012	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
07/01/2012	12/31/2012	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	0.00
01/01/2013	06/30/2013	0.00	0.00	712,184.37	312,184.37
07/01/2013	12/31/2013	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2014	06/30/2014	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2014	12/31/2014	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00