

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF094198
Printed On: 11/05/2013

Reporting Period: 10/22/2010 to 03/31/2013
Report Type: Completion
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF094198

CAMEROON: FCPF READINESS GRANT

FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000275867 - Emeran Serge M. Menang Evouna
Approving Manager: 00000086169 - Benoit Bosquet

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Cameroon
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	8840 - AFTN3
Grant Start Date / Closing Date	10/22/2010 to 04/30/2013
Program Manager	
Original Grant Amount	200,000.00
Grant Amount	200,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	192,684.12 as of 03/31/2013
Disbursed 10/22/2010 to 03/31/2013	192,684.12
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Completion, Disbursements, Procurement Plan, Procurement Actuals.

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

The objective of the Grant is to assist Cameroon develop its Readiness Plan (R-Plan) for FCPF

Overall progress from 10/22/2010 to 03/31/2013 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

During the Participant Committee of the FCPF held in October 2012 in Brazzaville, the Government of Cameroon presented its Readiness Preparation Proposal which was reviewed and approved during under conditions. The revised R-PP version was finally approved by the Participant committee in February 2013 for at total amount of US\$ 28.911 million for the construction of the national strategy and US\$60 million for the establishment of pilot projects in all agro-ecological zones.

Overall progress from 10/22/2010 to 03/31/2013 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

Officially started in July 2008 by the submission of the R-PIN to the FCPF, the R-PP process was delayed in Cameroon due to the procurement process. The competitive recruitment process of the international firm able to assist the Government in the R-PP preparation process failed after more than a year of discussion. The Government finally decided to put in place a national working group.

The working group prepared the first draft R-PP and UICN team was finally recruited on the sole source principle to finalize the document and also to ensure the consultation process with the main stakeholders. The Civil Society Platform was created and played an important role in the process.

The main steps are summarized below:

November 2010: US\$ 200,000 grant for R-PP elaboration;

2011 - 2012: Stakeholder engagement with an intensive and inclusive consultation process around the R-PP process (Thematic workshops sessions, regional and national validation);

June 13, 2012 : Creation of REDD+ National Steering Committee by PM's Arreté ;

June 2012 : Technical Assistance contract between IUCN and MINEPDED alignment of the Working Group draft R-PP to the FCPF standards, facilitation of the national validation process; and to support the strengthening of Civil Society Organizations# /Indigenous Peoples# (IPs) platform;

October 2012: R-PP official presentation to PC13 and conditional approval;

November #December 2012: R-PP revision Process;

January 2013: Re submission of the Revised R-PP to FCPF;

February 26, 2013: Final approval of the R-PP by PC members on NO basis

It is worthy to mention that, despite the delay of the R-PP preparation process, an important number of consultations were carried out at all levels (national, regional and local) and in all the agro-ecological zones. The consultations allowed the participation, to various degrees, of all categories of stakeholders, namely civil society, the central and decentralized administrations, the decentralized territorial communities, the media, the research and higher education institutions, the private sector, elected representatives, etc. More than 3,000 people were informed and consulted during different workshops organized by civil society, by the technical partners for development and by the government. During these workshops, the participation of civil society was very strong (estimated at over 60%). The participation of women is estimated at 25%, that of Indigenous Peoples at 7% and that of the private sector at 1%.

The financial management did not reveal ineligible expenses, but the external audit report revealed some weaknesses that will be taken into consideration during the preparation of \$US 3.6 million grant. The National Coordination REDD+ Unit will be reinforced by a Financial Management Specialist, an Accountant and a Procurement Specialist familiar with the World Bank financial and procurement procedures.

Grant follow-up and structure

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Description and context of Grant:

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

Comment on follow up:

The FCPF will grant US\$ 3.6 million for the preparation of Cameroon Readiness Plan. The FCPF grant is expected to be used during three years; time needs to complete the preparation of the Readiness Plan. The proposed Grant Agreement is expected to be signed by end of September 2013.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

COMPLETION

Overall Assessments and Lessons Learned

Main lessons learned:

National capacity: With regard of the R-PP preparation process in Cameroon, when it is possible, involvement of the National consultants should reduce the preparation process of the working document;

Interministerial coordination: In the land use high competition context, the interministerial coordination needs to be promoted under the leadership of the Prime Minister Services;

Civil society participation: It is important to involve at the earlier stage the civil society organisation in the process. Sufficient financial resource will be necessary to ensure an inclusive participation of all stakeholders;

Donors coordination: At the earlier stage, donors should define a clear coordination strategy, so that duplication in financing activities will be avoid;

Communication: A clear communication strategy is needed at the earlier stage so that some misunderstandings will be avoid. A good communication strategy will reduce an overexpectations from the stakeholders.

Overall outcome (and its Sustainability):

Comment:

The R-PP was approved by the Participant Committee. Even the budget is high and may be not fully funded, the REDD+ national strategy will be able to be prepared and validated by the main stakeholder.

Bank Performance:

Comment:

The Bank provided regular support to the National REDD+ Coordination Unit. Despite the long procurement process which created sometime frustration from the Government side, the World Team has strongly supported the Government during the presentation of the R-PP to the Participant Committee in Brazzaville.

Additional Assessment

Development / strengthening of institutions:

Comment:

The R-PP preparation process allow the creation of the REDD+ steering committee including National REDD+ coordination Unit. The Institutional Arrangement under the R-PP will allow REDD+ substantial progress in the coming years.

Mobilization of other resources:

Comment:

With the approval of the R-PP, several partners, reluctant at the beginning of the process, are now ready to be part of the REDD+ National Strategy process.

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Knowledge exchange:

Comment:

The preparation process of the R-PP was a tremendous opportunity to exchange knowledge. The Cameroon team learnt from Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic processes. These countries also learnt from Cameroon mainly on how to involve civil society organisation in the process.

Client's policy / program implementation:

Comment:

The National REDD+ strategy under preparation, once completed will be implemented.

Efficiency:

Comment:

The R-PP preparation process was long and should be shortened.

Replicability:

Comment:

The process can be replicated in other country like Chad where national consultants can prepared draft working documents with the support of some international organization. This should reduce the procurement process.

Main recommendations to stakeholders:

The succes of the REDD+ process is based on an inclusive participation. The stakeholders need to be constructive; Suffisient resource need to be mobilised to ensure the inclusive participation. A clear communication strategy is needed at the earlier stage.

Main recommendations to Bank Management:

Suffisient resource need to be mobilized to support the process in the countries.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2010	12/31/2010	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2011	06/30/2011	0.00	0.00	55,156.05	55,156.05
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	55,156.05	0.00
01/01/2012	06/30/2012	0.00	0.00	58,380.32	3,224.27
07/01/2012	12/31/2012	0.00	0.00	192,684.12	134,303.80
01/01/2013	06/30/2013	0.00	0.00	192,684.12	0.00

PROCUREMENT PLAN

None

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PROCUREMENT ACTUAL

None