



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

**NATIONAL REDD+ PROCESS AND R-PP IMPLEMENTATION**

**Mid-Term Progress Report for Nigeria and  
Request for Additional Funding from FCPF**



**Submitted to:  
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility**

**By  
Federal Government of Nigeria  
(Ministry of Environment)**

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

BUR	Biennial Update Report
CRS	Cross River State
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FNC	Forest National Corporation
FREL/FRL	Forest Reference Emission Level/ Forest Reference Level
GHG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
GIS	Geographic Information System
ICCC	Inter-Ministerial Council on Climate Change
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MRVWG	MRV Working Group
MTR	Mid-term Review
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NAS	Nasarawa State
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NFSM	National Forest Monitoring System
NRS	National REDD+ Secretariat
NSP	National Stakeholders Platform
NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Product
OND	Ondo State
PSC	Programme Steering Committee
RaBa	Risk and Benefit Analysis
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
REL/RL	Reference Emission Level/ Reference Level
RPR	REDD+ Project Registry
R-PP	REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal
SNC	Second National Communication
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SRS	State REDD+ Secretariat
SSP	State Stakeholders Platform

SWG	Safeguard Working Group
STC	State Technical Committee on REDD+
TAC	Technical Multi-Sector Advisory Committee
TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
TOR	Terms of Reference
TWG	Technical Working Group
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)

## 1. REDD+ READINESS IN NIGERIA - OVERVIEW

### 1.1 Introduction

Nigeria's forests and woodlands, which currently cover about 9.6 million hectares, have been dwindling rapidly over the past decades. The current deforestation rate is estimated at 3.7% - one of the highest in the world. Between 1990 and 2015, Nigeria lost about 35% of its remaining forest resources and over 50% of other wooded land (FAO 2015 Global Forest Resources Assessment), and according to FAO, the remaining forest area in the country will likely disappear by 2020 if the current rate of forest depletion continues unabated<sup>1</sup>. A global initiative designed to support developing countries to minimize their rates of deforestation is the *Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation*, plus conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, known as REDD+.

While the main purpose of REDD+ is to contribute to global climate change mitigation, it also has the potential to deliver additional social and environmental benefits. Thus, in recognition of the imperative to address the rapid rate of deforestation and forest degradation in the country in a sustainable manner and for the socio-economic development of its citizenry, Nigeria considers REDD+ as a viable initiative to enable the country meet its climate change obligations to the global agreements, including the recent commitment in the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 20% - 45%. Effective participation in the REDD+ process is also seen as capable of advancing the course of pursuing a low carbon and climate-resilient development for the attainment of its national sustainable development goals (SDGs), particularly in the forest and land use sectors of the country's economic development.

This mid-term report of Nigeria's REDD+ progress and Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) implementation covers the entire REDD+ process in Nigeria since 2010 and R-PP implementation (REDD+ Readiness Preparedness phase) since February 2015. The report highlights the country's progress in all REDD+ activities and processes towards being ready for REDD+ by February 2018, with current funding levels and a request for additional financing that would enable Nigeria to be ready for the implementation of the REDD+ program at the national and sub-national levels. Emphasis is on the progress made in the implementation of target activities supported by the FCPF in accordance with the funding agreement between Government of Nigeria and the World Bank acting as the Trustee of the FCPF. The report generally reflects the interests of the Government of Nigeria, partners in REDD+ process, REDD+ stakeholders and the general public with regard to the progress of the REDD+ process and projections for achieving Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness within the REDD+ global framework and national relevance.

In compliance with the guiding materials and MTR report template, section 2 of this report gives an overall assessment of the implementation of Nigeria's R-PP and an analysis of the progress achieved in the implementation of activities under the FCPF Grant Agreement is given in section 3. The

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<sup>1</sup> FGoN (2012): *Nigeria's Path to Sustainable Development through Green Economy – Country Report to the Rio+20 Summit*.

country's compliance with the common approach is assessed in section 4, while section 5 provides an update of the budget performance and Financing Plan for REDD+ readiness activities, including fund pledged by and a brief description of activities supported by other implementation partners. A summary of the request for additional funding from the FCPF is given in section 6 of the report.

### **1.1.1 Readiness process**

The implementation of FCPF Grant Agreement which is expected to be completed at the end of February 2018, will enable progress towards the overall objectives of REDD+ readiness in the country. It has the objective to support Nigeria to design a socially and environmentally sound strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The goal of the Programme is to enable Nigeria to contribute to climate change mitigation through improved forest conservation and enhancing sustainable community livelihoods.

During the R-PP preparation, the Department of Forestry, Federal Ministry of Environment served as a REDD+ National Focal Point and also hosted the REDD+ Secretariat with a State Coordinating Office in the Forestry Commission of Cross River State. The REDD+ Secretariat at the Federal level, working in consonance with Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change, oversees the responsibilities and activities of the Safeguard Working Group, MRV Working Group and National Stakeholder Platform for REDD+. These are replicated at the State levels, with State REDD+ Secretariat being hosted in the Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Mining (Nasarawa State) and Ministry of Forestry and Climate Change (Ondo). The work of State REDD+ Secretariat was supported by a REDD+ Technical Working Groups and State Stakeholders Platforms.

### **1.1.2 REDD+ and Linkages with National Development Priorities**

The implementation of the present *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme* is in complete alignment with national efforts to address the challenge of deforestation and degrading forest resources in the country, particularly in light of increasing threat from climate change. In particular, its implementation derives its legitimacy from the National Forestry Policy. The overall objective of the 2006 *National Forestry Policy* is to achieve sustainable forest management, leading to sustainable increases in the economic, social and environmental benefits from forests and trees, for present and future generations, including the poor and vulnerable groups. Specific objectives include: (i) increase, maintain and enhance the country's forest estates through sound forest management practices; (ii) address the underlying causes of deforestation, forest degradation and desertification; (iii) promote and regulate private sector involvement in forestry development, and create a positive investment climate in the sector; (iv) support schemes (including REDD+ mechanism) that facilitate access to carbon markets; and (v) encourage forest dependent people, farmers and local communities to improve their livelihoods through new approaches to forestry. The strategy to implement this Policy includes promoting broad partnerships, decentralization, community participation, and the

active participation of women, youth and vulnerable groups, all of which constitute the main tenets of REDD+.

The REDD+ Readiness process interacts with and utilizes areas of synergy and complementarities with on-going climate change initiatives in the country. According to the country's *Nationally Determined Contribution (2016 – 2030)*, the *Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (2017 – 2022)* and *National Communications Nigeria* plans to pursue a low carbon, high growth, climate resilient development path. This will include transforming its agriculture sector, which continues to be one of the most important areas for development for Nigeria, to reduce its role as the leading driver of deforestation across the country. The country's Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP) for 2016-2020 intends to achieve productivity growth through a 'Climate Smart' approach to ensure GHG efficiency, thus minimizing GHG emissions.

### **1.1.3 Status of Readiness Development**

Nigeria has been implementing the REDD+ Readiness phase under the overall leadership and coordination of the Department of Forestry in the Federal Ministry of Environment at the Federal and State level technical programming in Cross River State. The Programme adopted a two-pronged approach – National and sub-national, and was initially structured in four outcomes, two at the Federal (national) level and two focusing on Cross River State (sub-national), with a total of 14 expected outputs. The implementation of the UN-REDD+ Programme since August 2012 has enabled Nigeria's implementation of its REDD+ Readiness Project, which entails the preparation and implementation of REDD+ strategies with the active involvement of local stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities, particularly with focus on Cross River State.

Overall, the Nigeria REDD+ Programme has recorded some mileage, and the progress is as detailed in section 2. In general, Nigeria's REDD+ readiness process has triggered interest for inter-agency collaboration and policy harmonisation at national and sub-national levels. The process has strengthened the views on community forestry and calls for reforms that will address tenure issues and enhance participation and benefit sharing. The programme is establishing unprecedented partnerships in-country and exploring opportunities for the government to adopt and integrate REDD+ principles and activities in planning and budgeting. Nigeria recognizes existing and emerging opportunities for REDD+ implementation in the country particularly from the World Bank (FCPF), GCF, and the GEF-SGP

### **1.1.4 Implementation targets**

Due to the initial lag in the take-off of the programme implementation due largely to the national and state elections in the first two quarters of 2015, the progress made by the country in the implementation of its REDD+ Readiness Programme has been relatively slow. Despite this, however, the country has refocused its strategy for accelerated rate of implementation and it is expected that before the end of 2017, Nigeria will have made significant progress in elaborating its nationally agreed Strategies and Actions for reducing

deforestation and forest degradation, sustainable forest management, enhancing the role of conservation of biodiversity and, enhancing carbon stocks. These strategies will be packaged into Nigeria's REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan document before the Programme terminates in February 2018.

With adequate additional support, Nigeria will continue to undertake capacity-building activities and enhance stakeholder consultations for REDD+ Readiness implementation, including through effective communication (e.g. awareness raising and consultation with relevant stakeholders), and trainings for human resource development based on a comprehensive needs assessment. It will continue to mainstream REDD+ policies and strategies into broader cross-sectoral plans and programmes, particularly related to national and sub-national development plans and national climate change plans and policies. Nigeria will also be embarking on preparing a Forest Investment Plan (FIP) for potential financing under the Strategic Climate Funds. The FIP will describe national priority areas of investment in Forestry Sector that also address the REDD+ Readiness Strategies and Actions. Support to FIP implementation, if it is mobilized, will provide indispensable direct investments in forestry to support Nigeria's development and REDD+ objectives, especially those that address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation both inside and outside of the forest sector to achieve a triple win of poverty reduction, mitigation, and resilience.

## **1.2 The Mid-Term Review of the REDD+ Process**

This Mid-Term review process assesses the overall progress Nigeria has made towards REDD+ readiness. It also presents progress made against support provided through FCPF. The purpose is to take stock of the readiness process to date, identify challenges and gaps and use lessons learned during implementation to retune the implementation of the remaining readiness phase to ensure timely delivery of outputs and outcomes and attainment of the REDD+ R-PP objectives. It is also to provide the rationale for the request by Nigeria of further support from the FCPF to fully implement the country's R-PP activities. The report covers the entire process since the receipt of the FCPF readiness grant in February 2015 and the beginning of the implementation of Nigeria's readiness activities. The content of this report primarily targets the FCPF in accordance with the funding agreement between the Government of Nigeria and the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF. The Review findings are intended to strengthen and bolster national capacity for accelerated implementation of REDD+ Strategies and action in the country to enhance the completion of Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness preparation phase.

The review is undertaken in compliance with Section 6.3(b) of the FCPF Charter and Resolution PC/7/2010/3, during implementation of a Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, which requires that a REDD+ Country Participant must submit a mid-term progress report to the FCPF Participants' Committee. This report is Nigeria's mid-term progress report to the 10th Participant Assembly (PA) and 24<sup>th</sup> Participants' Committee (PC) of the FCPF in September 2017. The midterm progress report includes:

- i. An overview of the implementation progress of over-all REDD+ process as well as the R-PP.

- ii. An analysis of progress achieved in those activities funded by the FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant, including identification of any delays in the implementation of the activities financed by the Grant and proposed actions to address the causes of the delays.
- iii. An updated financing plan for the overall Readiness preparation activities, including funds pledged by, and a brief description of activities supported by, other development partners.
- iv. A review of the REDD+ Country Participant's compliance with the Common Approach.
- v. A summary statement of request for additional funding to the FCPF.

Using a participatory approach, the Review was undertaken in collaboration with the REDD+ National Secretariat, State Governments of Cross River, Nasarawa and Ondo, government institutions and stakeholders outside governmental institutions, including donor's active in the REDD+ process and civil society. The Review approach, which was guided by the TOR, the FCPF Assessment Framework and the MTR template involved:

- a. Desk-review and analysis of all relevant data (see Annex 1 for the list of documents consulted and reviewed)<sup>2</sup>
- b. Consultations with National and State REDD+ Secretariats, REDD+ Steering Committee and National and State Technical Working Groups, Development partners in REDD+ process, CSOs and other partners active in REDD+, and other stakeholders in form a Multi-Stakeholder Workshop, which was held on May 24 & 25, 2017.
- c. Adoption of the MTR including request for additional financing by the National Steering Committee.
- d. Submission of Nigeria's mid -term Report to the FCPF Participants Committee

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<sup>2</sup> A first draft of the desk review of programme implementation for some components was provided by Mr. Kola Razak of the REDD National Secretariat



**Plate 1. 1. A cross Section of Stakeholders during the Mid Term Review workshop**

## **2. REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE R-PP**

This section provides information on the progress status in the implementation of the R-PP as well as progress towards achieving the four components of the Programme. Starting with a summary overview of the achieved progress for the R-PP, this section provides detailed assessment of each of the R-PP key components, their respective sub-components and related activities. The purpose of the assessment is to identify what remains to be done to bring them to completion. Emphasis is on (i) achievements to date; (ii) analysis of these results, in line with the FCPF assessment framework, including major constraints and gaps that need to be addressed; (iii) other significant readiness work in progress, where appropriate; and (iv) identification of needs for additional funding to the FCPF to implement outstanding activities relevant to that sub-component. The section also highlights the nexus and possible synergies with other national and state REDD-related initiatives that are of relevance to the goals of the R-PP.

Despite some challenges to start the implementation process on time in 2015 due to national and state elections in the country, the readiness process has progressed fairly satisfactorily. Table 2.1 summarizes the progress made in the implementation of the R-PP and the overall readiness process, as agreed to at the Multi-Stakeholder Self-Assessment Workshop that constituted a major consultation process for the MTR.

**Table 2. 1. Self-Assessment of the Overall Progress Status of Nigeria’s R-PP Implementation**

Component	Sub Component	Summary of Scores
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Readiness organization and consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Progressing well, further development required
	1b. Consultation, participation and outreach	
REDD+ Strategy preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Further development required
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	
	2c. Implementation Framework	
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	
Reference Emission Level/Reference Level	3a. FREL/FRL	
Monitoring system for forests and safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring System	
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance and Safeguards	

## 2.1 Component 1: Readiness Organization and Consultation

### 2.1.1 Sub-component 1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements

Significant efforts have been made to develop and put in place institutional structures at national and sub-national (state) levels for the implementation of REDD+ and ensure lateral and vertical inter-sectoral coordination, engagement and capacity-building of all actors and stakeholders, and monitoring of technical and methodological tools in relationship with the development of the REDD+ process at national, regional and local levels, as well as maintain openness, accountability, transparency and fiduciary standards in the implementation of R-PP in the country. The present institutional arrangement for the management of REDD+ in Nigeria is given in Figure 2.1, indicating a well-defined management and coordination arrangement.

The **National Advisory Council** is responsible for providing the overall policy direction and oversight for the programme at both national and sub-national levels, but the Council has not been active during the on-going Readiness phase. The **Programme Steering Committee (PSC)**

at the national level provides technical support and oversight for the implementation the REDD+ Readiness at all levels. The PSC has been active and has made substantial contribution to the overall programme performance through timely approval of annual workplan and budget and annual disbursement forecasts, determination of the strategic direction of the programme and ensure its progress; approval of recommendations brought by the National Technical Committee on project evaluation and proffering of solutions brought to its attention. The PSC has also supportive in effecting corrective action required for better realization of programme outputs and achievement of objectives.

The **National Technical Committee** (NTC) with mandates to strengthen the knowledge and expertise available for project implementation, operational monitoring and dissemination of programme achievements to various stakeholders and concerned communities was constituted in 2015. Nigeria opted for a step-wise approach giving way to pilot demonstration in Cross River State (CRS). Since most of the project activities initially occurred at the CRS level, a State Technical Committee (STC) was very active in the provision of technical direction and in the overall performance of its responsibilities. The Committee's roles were highly instrumental to the successful Readiness implementation in the State. The same state-level structure has been adopted for the two additional States (Nasarawa and Ondo) for the implementation of REDD+ Readiness Programme at the state level and would be replicated in any states that may be added to the programme in future.

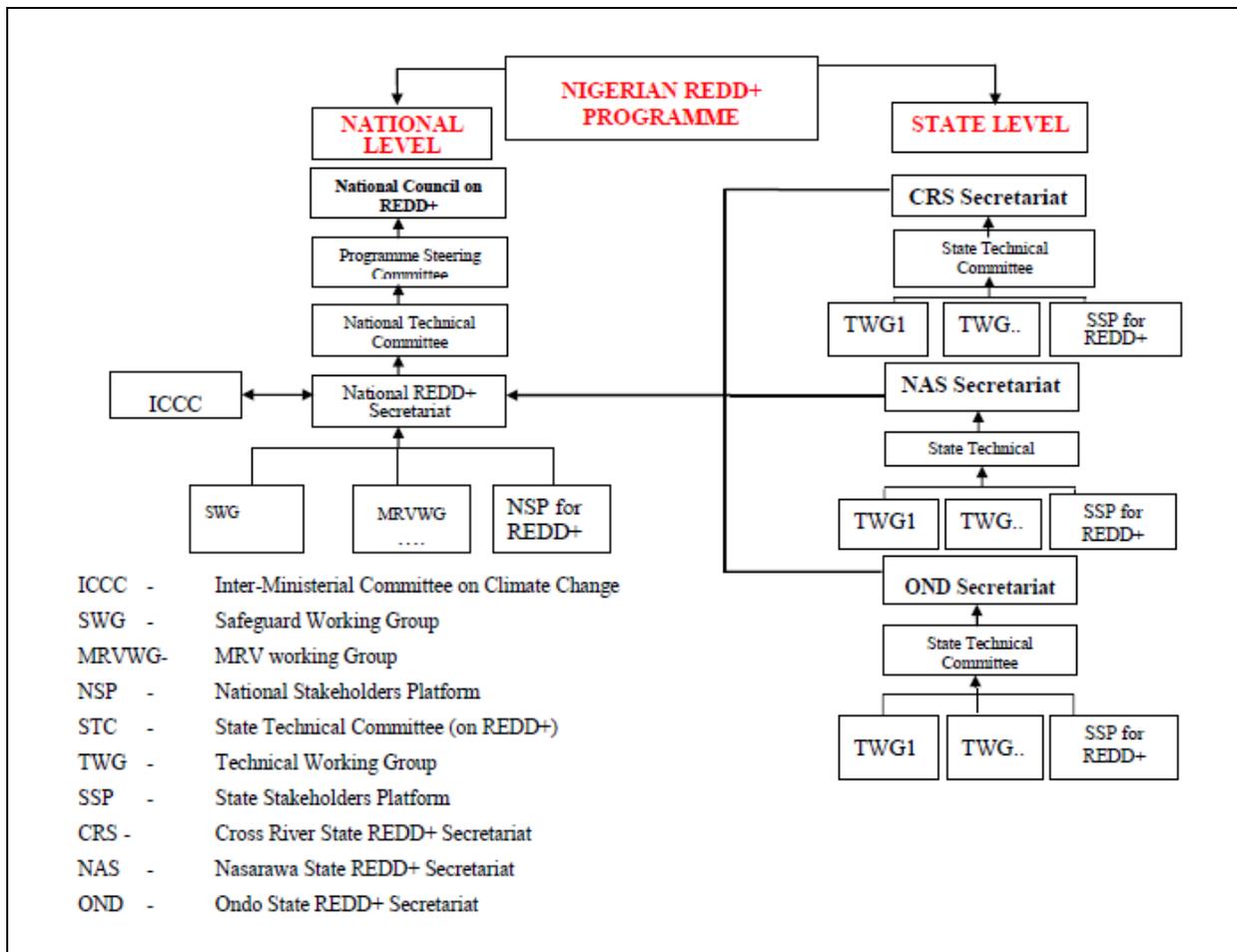


Figure 2. 1. Institutional arrangements for the management of the REDD+

Supporting the NTC are various **Working Groups** (MRV Working Groups, Safeguard Working Group, Stakeholders Forum, etc.), established at National and State levels. They are providing good and effective technical backstopping to the R-PP implementation in the country as they serve as platforms for specialists or experts to provide input into in respective work of the Consultants and technical agencies. Membership to the Taskforces is based on individual technical relevance to the business of the taskforce. Members are drawn from REDD+ stakeholder’s institutions or independent specialists. Members of the Taskforce serve on individual basis.

The **National REDD+ Secretariat** was established at the Department of Forestry, Federal Ministry of Environment to ensure coordination of the REDD+ process at the national level and provides oversight function in the three participating States, through its state counterparts (State Secretariats for Cross River, Nasarawa and Ondo States). The arrangements ensured the coordination of the various working groups and networking with and between relevant ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) at the National and State levels. The National Secretariat facilitated integration of REDD+ issues in National climate

change agenda. In close collaboration with the Department of Climate Change, a new initiative (Nigeria REDD+ and Climate Diplomacy Initiative) was crafted jointly, and FCPF funding was secured. As an attempt to re-strategise implementation, a joint review mission in early May 2015 brought the members of the national REDD+ Secretariat together for a two-day retreat that re-focused the annual work plan and budget (AWPB) on achieving the four Warsaw Framework elements, with a focus on the Cross River State pilot to feed into national-level REDD+ readiness and to “model” key elements for other states (strategy, interim state-level FMS, interim FRL, and initial safeguards for the strategy’s policies and measure(s). Coordination from the national secretariat ensured Nigeria achieved REDD+ Readiness at the end of 2016, and the start-up of complementary FCPF support dove-tailing into the process.

The **National and State REDD+ Platforms** are made up of representatives of sectoral ministries concerned with deforestation and forest degradation; technical partners and NGOs working in the field of environment and forest conservation, academics and researchers as well as civil society to ensure stakeholders’ ownership and promote national commitment to advance the process. The platforms are responsible for coordination and regular consultations at national and state levels, with the support of, and in cooperation with, REDD+ Secretariats. However, the powers and duties of these regional platforms will be updated regularly to enable them to fully play their roles in relation to the implementation of REDD+ Readiness in the country, including improved capacity-building for their members. The involvement of the private sector as one of the key players in the deforestation process is limited and remains a challenge.

Towards effective implementation of community-based REDD+ (CBR), **local entities** that will provide data and information to feed into the process at State and National levels will be established at the community or local level. They will comprise representatives of local governments, NGOs, civil society, academia, the private sector, local communities, and traditional authorities working in the field of environment and forestry or other natural resource management.

The Federal Government of Nigeria has demonstrated its commitment to REDD+ through its participation in international negotiations, by convening technical and policy forums and through the establishment of a number of federal institutions: including the National Advisory Council on REDD+, the National Technical Committee on REDD+, the National REDD+ Secretariat, and the UN-REDD Nigeria Programme Steering Committee. In addition, Cross River State (CRS), which is the pioneer and demonstration state for most REDD+ activities in Nigeria, has established its own REDD+ structures, mostly around its Forestry Commission and a Stakeholder Forum on REDD+. Similar structures are yet to be fully functional in the remaining two participating States.

In addition to the above processes, Nigeria has taken some initiatives to advance the integration of the REDD+ process into national and sector development plans and processes, particularly within the Climate Change and Water and Environment Sectors. The National

REDD+ Secretariat works closely with the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change through the Department of Climate Change. It is also developing strategic linkages with the Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Programme (NEWMAP) to identify mutually beneficial synergies – for example, in afforestation and forest restoration activities for erosion control, community outreach and consultations, and benefit sharing in participating States – that could advance the goal and objectives of REDD+ R-PP implementation in the country. In general, REDD+ is being mainstreamed into key national policy and planning processes, including the Green Economy Strategy of the CRS.

Towards mobilizing additional funding to the UREDD and FCPF grants for REDD+ Readiness in the country, the NRS has supported the Cross River State in obtaining additional funding (US\$131,000 in 2014-2015) from the Governors Climate and Forest Fund (GCFF) to support work to address gaps discovered in the development of the NFMS and FREL in Cross River State. But with the extension to two additional States and the prospect of extending up to six States, more financing opportunities would have to be explored.

Overall, although significant progress has been made to date, there remain a number of challenges to address that require additional funding. In general, additional funding from FCPF will be needed to enhance the performance effectiveness of the current institutional arrangement for the implementation of the REDD+ R-PP in Nigeria. In specific terms, funding will be required for the following, among others:

- continued or extended support to coordination by the NRS and other State and community-based institutional structures;
- development of new criteria for selection of additional states and costing based on experience
- capacity building and training of stakeholders;
- functional management infrastructure in other states to effectively address the complex Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness landscape;
- capacity-enhancement and training for both the National and State Secretariats;
- support or the engagement of consultant to develop technical approaches to mobilize resources for implementation
- institutional strengthening and capacity-building for members of the national and state platforms (namely some ministries that do not yet have adequate knowledge of REDD+ though they have an important role to play) to give them greater sense of ownership of the REDD+ process;
- strengthening inclusion of, and partnership with the private sector; and
- finalising a national REDD+ revenue management mechanism that is effective, fair and transparent.

### **2.1.2 Sub-component 1b. Consultation, Participation and Outreach**

A key participatory aspect of REDD+ R-PP process is consistent consultation, which is to make known the REDD+ mechanism to all stakeholders and also to collect their opinions on various

keys issues related to the implementation of REDD+ for the development of the national REDD+ strategy. Consultation and participation are integral part of the national REDD+ process in Nigeria. Throughout the preparation process, public consultations were carried out at the national, state and community levels. Consistent consultation processes at the federal and state levels with a broad range of all relevant stakeholders, including with local communities and CSOs, have been part of the REDD+ process in Nigeria.

The institutional structures that were established at the national and state levels provide for effective engagement and participation of key stakeholders. A national level multi-stakeholder dialogue for the R-PP was completed in May 2014, following which the FCPF Board approved the R-PP for funding. Federal-level stakeholders also engaged in the Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+, which advanced substantially in 2014. In 2015 and 2016 more public awareness and stakeholder dialogue on REDD+ at federal level increased through trainings and consultations towards developing the action plans for REDD+ readiness and implementation in Nigeria.

The Federal multi-stakeholder REDD+ cluster meetings (to sustain the REDD+ process at federal level) held severally especially after May 2015 programme review. The NRS organised national stakeholder fora, a safeguards workshop, training in interpretation of remotely-sensed imagery and other relevant REDD+ components to create awareness and build capacity for enhanced participation in the REDD+ process. The *Platform* ensures representation of women, youth, indigenous groups, forest-dependent communities including the ones in CRS and other identified marginal or vulnerable groups.

This outcome paved the way for expanding and up-scaling REDD+ across Nigeria, from the federal institutions to other interested states and forest areas. This is in line with the Memorandum on REDD+ by the National Council on Environment, in September 2011, which called on all states in Nigeria to participate in REDD+. Under this outcome, a series of national assessments and scoping missions were undertaken to design the optimal approach to REDD+ in Nigeria, such as determining the most promising States for REDD+, the eligible forest types, the eligible REDD+ activities, the likely financial partners, the likely carbon trading and financing schemes, the methodologies for setting reference levels, and the main elements of a national MRV system. Then, drawing on the capacity built, and on the operational experience, and on a broad consultation process, the programme developed and validated a national framework strategy as the template for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria.

Level of consultation in the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness programme varied between government and non-government stakeholders, thus recognising the diversity of stakeholders. Government provided the overall coordination in the programme; what was required was ensuring institutional linkages among key government agencies. At both state and national levels, this was facilitated by targeted consultations and dialogue, and inclusion in various operational structures e.g. technical committees for the programme. In addition, high level

government officials were targeted for information sharing and advocacy to support the REDD+ process.

The programme made special efforts to ensure the voices of forest dependent communities, and those of vulnerable groups among them were heard. First was the need to engage the communities in ways that they feel part of the programme. For each of the 3 pilot sites, each cluster identified a member to act as liaison between the programme and the cluster of communities. The people were recruited by the programme and supported to perform their roles. This, combined with direct consistent dialogue with communities through their own existing institutions and processes, built trust and acceptance for the programme.

The programme also made conscious efforts at engaging differently with the academia, private sector, the media, and very importantly civil society through their own platforms.

Overall, in addition to the targeted consultations, the programme created a platform for direct interaction among the various stakeholders. The stakeholder forum in CRS (including representatives from all the various stakeholders), provided this platform, and met bi-annually to update on the REDD+ process and take decisions on next steps. This platform was instrumental in developing and validating the Strategy. The same platform existed at the national level for the same purpose.

The Programme consciously enabled a robust process for stakeholder participation. At the steering committee level, while the government continues to provide leadership, membership included representatives from other government agencies, the civil society, and the academia. The technical committee, especially in CRS, is more robust membership from all the stakeholder groups including forest dependent communities, civil society, academia, media, private sector and of course government. Despite the technicality of some REDD+ areas, the programme ensured that representatives from CSOs and forest dependent communities were trained in every area and participated in hands-on data collection. Because of the peculiar nature of the private sector, their participation in the process was comparatively minimal.

The culture of openness, accountability and transparency has been a source of inspiration in the functioning of the existing structures of REDD+ in the country. A national-level stakeholder engagement process has been put in place, as required in REDD+ processes and in climate-change endeavors, to ensure a more open and consultative engagement across ministries, local authorities, civil society forces and community representatives.

A number of trainings and dialogue events for civil society have been supported as well as the engagement of stakeholders in various ongoing studies through the development of various TORs and validation of the studies. A decentralized network of REDD+ practitioners, which was established during 2012, has been supported and provides the basis for stakeholder engagement and a decentralized dimension of REDD+. A stakeholder plan had been developed under the UNREDD NP component and early consultations had been underway in

the two newly selected states of Ondo and Nasarawa. Contacts with target communities, engagement with Paramount Rulers, Clan Heads and community members in three states have been established.

The Government with the support of UN partners is developing a transitional plan to help mobilize partnerships, financial support and investments to transit from readiness to Implementation. As part of this, proposals and concept notes are being developed to engage with key development partners in support of REDD+ implementation.

With the extension of REDD+ R-PP implementation into two additional and possibly to six new states, additional and intensive consultations will be required to take cognizance of some gaps in the current approach. Significant improvement is required in improving the gender mainstreaming into the REDD+ process as well as improving on the level youth engagement in REDD+ activities. Extensive information sharing activities and means for improving access to information, particularly through the implementation of the Communication Strategy that is being developed, would have to be undertaken, particularly when the studies under component 2 are finalized and work on the strategy is advanced to improve public disclosure of REDD+ project-related information. Thus, despite the significant achievements, there are activities that remain to be completed to enhance the degree of consultation for REDD+ process in the country. The communication Strategy was completed under the UNREDD grant support would need to be implemented and reviewed to accommodate peculiarities of the new states and emerging issues in the readiness process (Ondo and Nasarawa) to raise the level of awareness about the REDD+ process among various optimized stakeholders at all levels and in different ecological zones of the country. In this regard, additional funding will be required to:

- develop and sustain effective stakeholder engagement;
- upscale national advocacy to scale up REDD+ in Nigeria including design and production of communication and media products to develop the national REDD+ strategy;
- provide support to address gender issues that are unique to local communities; including increasing liaising capacity at state and community levels;
- support to improved involvement of youth in the REDD+ R-PP. They are currently largely excluded in development processes despite their rights and the stake they hold in the success and sustainability of the outcome;
- improve exchanges among various technical partners working in the field of conservation and natural resource management who would be interested in participating in REDD+ process; and
- expand consultations to other eco-regions, namely the mangrove and Guinean rainforest.



**Plate 2. 1. REDD Team during community consultation and engagement**

## **2.2 Component 2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation**

The implementation of this component, which is one of the most important elements of the readiness process, will be undertaken through a series of consultancies supported by the National REDD+ Secretariat and other relevant implementation institutions at national and state levels (e.g. SSS, NTC and STCs). Its implementation will be undertaken under four sub-components, namely (i) Assessment of land use, land-use change drivers, forest law, policy and governance, which aim is to identify or verify key drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation, as well as activities concerning conservation, sustainable management of forests, and, enhancement of forest carbon stock; (ii) REDD+ Strategy Options, which aim is to develop nationally agreed set of policies and programs for addressing the drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation; (iii) Implementation Framework which aims to set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options; and (iv) Social and Environmental Impacts which aims to ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

Nigeria's National Framework details what needs to be in State strategies. Cross River State followed an approach that produced an *"Issues and Options Report"*<sup>3</sup>, that was validated. Nasarawa's approach is to learn from Cross River's progress by hiring consultancy to assess information requirements. Similar approach may be adopted by Ondo State. As verified during the independent assessment of the REDD+ R-PP, Nigeria is in the early stages of preparing a national REDD+ Strategy but it will benefit from several important building blocks that have been prepared over the course of Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness process. The focus of UNREDD and FCPF funding on Cross River State has resulted in the completion of the November 2016 draft *Cross River State Strategy To Reduce Emissions From Deforestation And Forest Degradation (REDD+)*, which would constitute a good building block for the national REDD+ Strategy.

<sup>3</sup> Matakala, Patrick W., 2016, Issues and Options Report – Towards a REDD+ Strategy for Cross River State, Nigeria.

Overall, this component, is progressing slowly, but has a number of studies and initiatives underway and at different levels of readiness that will accelerate its implementation in 2017, towards the completion of the REDD+ R-PP activities in 2018.

**2.2.1 Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance**

*a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers:*

During the R-PP formulation, preliminary assessment of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as an initial assessment of Nigeria’s land use, forest policies and governance was undertaken. Since the R-PP was developed, the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), an Agency of Nigerian Government, was commissioned in 2014, to conduct spatially-explicit study of Drivers of deforestation or Landuse and Land-Use Change Assessment for CRS in accordance to Approach 2 or 3 of the IPCC Guidelines 2006. The Study resulted in the provision of data for the AFOLU sector, including land cover change or Activity Data (AD) for years 2000, 2007, & 2014 indicating corresponding trend of deforestation; deforestation “hotspots” that require focused attention and monitoring and on a number of deforestation drivers resulting from the explicit analysis of remotely sensed data, The classification scheme adopted for the study also provided stratification for the design of sampling approach for forest carbon assessment and thereby complying with Tier 2 and 3 of the IPCC Guidelines. The study revealed agriculture as the main driver of deforestation in the State.

Similarly, stakeholders at Safeguards technical meetings and the Analytical Study identified and ranked direct or proximate and indirect or underlying drivers of deforestation in CRS. Table 2.2 shows the proximate and underlying causes of deforestation in CRS while Table 2.3 from the *Issues and Options Report* for the State further extrapolates for national framework to prioritise major direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement that would need to be addressed by the programs and policies included in the REDD+ strategy. The two tables indicate that indiscriminate agricultural practices rank first among the direct drivers.

**Table 2. 2. Proximate and Underlying causes of deforestation in Cross River State**

<b>Proximate Drivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agricultural expansion (subsistence and commercial)</li> <li>▪ Fuelwood consumption (firewood and charcoal)</li> <li>▪ Unsustainable timber harvesting</li> <li>▪ Infrastructure development (industry, power lines, roads, dams and settlements)</li> <li>▪ Oil/solid mineral exploration and quarrying</li> <li>▪ Ineffective management of protected areas and community forests</li> </ul>
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<b>Underlying Drivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demographic</li> <li>▪ Economic</li> <li>▪ Technological</li> <li>▪ Policy and institutional</li> <li>▪ Cultural</li> </ul>
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**Table 2. 3. Major drivers of forest-related emissions in Nigeria/CRS (from), Matakala, 2016**

Importance to GHG emissions	Key Driver	Associated Activity for REL/RL
High	Agricultural expansion	Mostly deforestation, some forest degradation
	High demand for fuelwood (charcoal)	Mostly forest degradation, some deforestation
	Infrastructure development	Deforestation
	Oil/solid mineral exploration Mining (and associated settlements)	Deforestation
Medium	Firewood collection	Forest degradation
	Timber harvesting	Forest degradation, some deforestation
	Forest fires	Mostly forest degradation, some deforestation
Potential carbon sequestration	Promoting CSA practices	Enhancement of forest carbon stocks
	Increase in agroforestry systems	Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

The study found out that underlying causes of deforestation are made up of a complex interaction of local and global forces interacting in various ways to drive activities and agents of deforestation in each locality. Table 2.4 shows a schematic relationship between underlying causes and proximate causes of deforestation and forest degradation and associated agents in Nigeria/CRS based on the analytical work undertaken by the REDD+ process in Nigeria/CRS leading to this Issues and options report. The analysis of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in CRS went through a participatory and highly consultative process involving key stakeholders from government, civil society, private sector, academic and research institutions, local communities and media institutions.

**Table 2. 4. Relationship between underlying and proximate causes of deforestation and forest degradation in CRS**

<b>Underlying Causes</b>	<i>Demographic</i>	<i>Economic</i>	<i>Technological</i>	<i>Policy and Institutional</i>	<i>Cultural</i>
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<b>Proximate Causes</b> ↓	Increased human population resulting in increased demand for agricultural land (forest conversion).	Need for food, income and nutritional securities by local communities and major source of rural employment.	Unsustainable agricultural practices and low agricultural productivity resulting in farmers being forced to open up new lands that are more fertile, and in a lot of cases in forested areas.	1) Subsidies that are in favour of non-climate smart agricultural practices. 2) Uncoordinated sector linkages for addressing food security.	1) Slash-and-burn agriculture to compensate for low soil fertility problem. 2) Use of fire to get rid of pests affecting soil organic content levels
<b>Agricultural practices</b>					

<b>Fuelwood (firewood and charcoal)</b>	Increasing human population resulting in increased demand for fuelwood by households (both rural and urban).	Firewood/charcoal production as source of employment and alternative source of income.  Alternative sources of energy to wood biomass fuel relatively more expensive (e.g., kerosene, LPG, etc.).	Unsustainable technology for charcoal production (earth kiln) and utilization (inefficient stoves).	Poor energy policy implementation leading to heavy dependence on charcoal and firewood for household energy requirements.	Perception/belief that food cooked using firewood or charcoal cooks, smells and tastes better than that from other sources of energy.
<b>Timber harvesting</b>	Increased human population resulting in increased demand for timber.	1) Global and local demand for timber resources by industry and households. 2) Source of employment and income. 3) Illegal timber harvesting.	Inefficient timber harvesting and processing technologies by concession holders and illegal harvesters.	Poor forest policy implementation leading to inadequate capacity and resource allocation for effective forest activity monitoring by the government.	Perception/ belief among rural communities that trees are God-given and for free access.
<b>Land use and Infrastructure development</b>	Increased population pressure demanding land for settlements, agriculture, and general infrastructure development.	Foreign direct investments and local investments for development driving deforestation and forest degradation through forest conversion.	Availability of advanced technologies for forest conversion. Lack of access to modern technologies for integrated land use planning.	1) Lack of enforcement of legal instruments promulgating integrated land use planning. 2) Integrated land use provisions not covering customary lands.	Local community beliefs that once land on customary land is granted by local Traditional Authority (TA), it does not have to abide by government land use regulations but rather local by-laws that do not apply integrated land use planning.
<b>Oil/Solid mineral exploration and quarrying</b>	Increased population pressure for expansion of mining activities as sources of	Global demand for oil and solid minerals and key state economic activities for poverty reduction	Oil/mining technologies that are not green	1) Poor economic policy implementation leading to inadequate economic	Local beliefs and attitudes that mineral resources are God-given and

	employment.			diversification and heavy reliance on oil and minerals for national revenue. 2) Poor mining policy implementation that is negligent of environmental consequences.	therefore, open to free access.
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Source: CRS Strategy to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (2016)

*b. Forest Law, Policy and Governance:*

An analytical study conducted by REDD+ with the support of UNDP in 2016 did an assessment of policy, legal and regulatory instruments for REDD+ strategy development and presented relevant Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRS) and plans to REDD+ implementation as follows:

- **Draft Bill for a National Forest Act, 2003:** The bill sets out to provide for the establishment, conservation, sustainable management of the nation’s forest resources and its rich biodiversity in conformity with local, national and international processes and initiatives on global forests and environment. The bill is significantly responsive to the REDD+ five activities. It hinges on the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM) of forest resources in and outside forest reserves. It recognises the rights of local communities to fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources and prescribed the requirement of prior informed consent of communities for access to biological resources outside forest reserves. It further provides for the recognition and protection of local communities’ traditional knowledge, cultural heritage and intellectual property outside forest reserves. The Bill provides for private sector participation in forestry development programmes and the establishment of a National Forestry Trust Fund at the Federal Level. The fund is to facilitate the promotion and financing of forestry development projects and programmes as a sustainable source of funding. The Bill also seeks to promote the participation of women and youths in sustainable forest resources management and utilization. It is, however, silent on equity and fairness in mainstreaming gender issues into SFM which should be adequately reflected in the draft bill before enactment into law.
- **National Forest Policy, 2006:** The National Forest Policy is the overarching framework on forestry development in Nigeria. The overall objective of the policy is to achieve sustainable forest management that would ensure sustainable increases in the economic, social and environmental benefits from forests and trees for the present and future generations including the poor and the vulnerable groups. The policy promotes and supports the decentralization of roles and functions amongst stakeholders (public, private, NGOs, including, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and civil society), towards the attainment of sustainable management of the forest. The policy recognizes the environmental functions of forests in carbon capture and carbon sequestration and the need to employ the international financial mechanisms to enhance the carbon stocks. It promotes helping citizens, especially

the rural communities and forest dependent persons to better adapt to climatic change, and to benefit from emerging carbon markets. The policy instrument contains strategies for carbon trading, benefit sharing, tree ownership and accessing carbon credit within the framework of the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol. The policy in general, is supportive of REDD+ implementation.

- ***Cross River State Forestry Commission Law, 2010:*** The purpose for the Cross River State Forestry Commission Law, 2010 is to make provisions for the establishment of the State Forestry Commission; and for the purposes of providing sustainable management of the forest and wild life resources, preservation and protection of the ecosystem in Cross River State and other matters connected therewith. Most of the provisions on forestry and wildlife resources promote and support REDD+ activities, except the provisions on de-reservation. The law provides for the establishment of two dedicated financial mechanisms for SFM with identified sources of funding, and if operationalized could be sustainable sources for carbon funding, including REDD+ implementation. These are:
  - ✓ Forestry Reserve Fund - for forestry development; and
  - ✓ Forest Trust Fund (FTF) - to fund regeneration in depleted areas and general sustenance of the forest.
- It also makes provision for the establishment of eight (8) departments and other units (including a Carbon Credit Unit and any other unit as shall be deemed necessary from time to time). The Carbon Credit Unit should be operationalized to provide additional impetus to the implementation of the overall climate change agenda. The mandate of the unit should be harmonized with the administration of REDD+ result-based payments in the State. The law also promotes stakeholder’s engagement in the sustainable management of CRS’s forests, the protection, control and management of forest reserves by the Commission in collaboration with key stakeholders from communities, civil society, private sector and Community Based Forest Management Association(s) or other relevant Government Agencies. It encourages afforestation programmes which should ensure a zero-net loss and a net gain of biodiversity with respect to species composition, habitat structure, ecosystem function and people use and cultural values.
- In the case of royalties from community forest areas, the sharing formula is 30:70 in favour of host communities while in forest reserves, it is 50:50 ratio between the host communities and CRS Government. These are the major sources of internally generated revenue for host communities and government (these sources have stopped since the moratorium on timber logging in 2008).
- Two critical tools for sustainable forest management are provided for in the law. These are (a) Forest Sector Strategy, which provides that the “conservation and sustainable management of forest resources and livelihood for the communities in the State shall be based on the forest sector strategy”; and (b) Land and Resource Use Plan and Management Plan. However, these SFM tools have not yet been operationalized or realized.

- The Commission also has powers with the approval of the State Governor to make regulations for the performance of its functions. The powers could be exercised judiciously and transparently and used to facilitate the implementation of REDD+ activities and adherence to the Cancun safeguards and Warsaw Framework Agreement. Overall, the CRSFC Law is highly REDD+ smart.
- ***The Cross River State Policy on Forest Moratorium, 2008:*** In 2008 the CRS government, based on her concern over the high rate of deforestation and commitment to reconciling development and conservation objectives, placed a moratorium on logging in the state; this policy is still in force. It resulted in the cancellation of all logging concessions and ban on logging in all forest types (Forest Reserves, Community Forests and open areas). An Anti-Deforestation Task Force was set up with responsibility for compliance monitoring and enforcement of the moratorium. After about eight years and with the recent disbandment of the first Task Force and another put in place in 2016, it appears that the time is ripe for CRS government to evaluate and review the policy. As a short-term measure, the policy on forest moratorium was REDD+ Smart but several challenges have resulted from the continuation of the policy. For example, illegal logging has proliferated under the moratorium.
- ***Draft CRS Forest Policy, 2011:*** The purpose of the Cross River State Forest Policy, 2011 is to encourage and support an Aggressive ecological restoration of indigenous species and foster the re-direction of development resources. It went through one stakeholder validation workshop but comments from that workshop are yet to be incorporated into the draft document. The draft policy is reasonably REDD+ smart as it addresses issues of deforestation and forest degradation, conservation, biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management. However, there is need to expeditiously approve and implement the policy.
- A Policy Note for REDD+ drafted earlier in 2014. In addition, a number of the studies that were commissioned had related policy briefs prepared or key policy messages to high-level decision makers to support the implementation of REDD+. Notably, a study on the Assessment of Policy, Legal and Regulatory (PLR) Enabling Environment was commissioned, which provides key recommendations on Policy, legal and institutional issues that needs to be addressed to position REDD+ in Nigeria. In addition, the strategy development provided more in-depth information that informed a policy note for top government level officials at the Federal Ministry of Environment. A high-level meeting, planned for 2017, would discuss policy, legal and institutional issues targeting high level government officials in the Federal Executive and Legislative arms of government in Nigeria.

In a similar vein, the two additional States have policies and laws governing the management of their forest resources. The Nasarawa State Forest Regulations 1997 of CAP 44 (as amended 2012) provides for very still penalty various acts that may destroy the State's forest resources. Ondo State recognizes the paramount significance and importance of the forest sector in its agricultural policy. The focus of the forest policy thrust for the sector is conservation practices as a vehicle for

sustainable development by adopting and encouraging private sector/community participation as the driving force for the attainment and sustenance of sustainable development for the sector. The studies conducted for CRS will be replicated and validated for Nasarawa and Ondo States as part of the national effort towards ensuring policy and regulatory consistency and coherence in the forest sector and part of the national REDD+ strategy options, within the national development framework. Thus, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding to:

- develop a Financing Strategy and Investment Plan to complement the National REDD+ Strategy;
- support the development of enabling policy and action plans for REDD+; and
- mainstream REDD+ in national development plans, NDC implementation plan, Nigeria Green Bond, Green Climate Fund, FCPF Carbon Fund, national budget, private sector investment, and other sources of finance.

### **2.2.2 Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options**

Based on an analysis of the orientations of the sectoral policies, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and consultations with the stakeholders, six strategic options for implementing REDD+ were identified in the R-PP. They were (i) government policy, legislative and institutional reform; (ii) forest and land use zoning and planning; (iii) forest tenure security for local communities; (iv) introducing alternative agriculture systems; (v) supporting forest protection, reforestation and forest enrichment; and (vi) reduced fuel-wood local energy options.

An analysis of the REDD+ sectoral strategies and their potential conflicts and synergies in relation to the REDD+ interventions was conducted with the support of UN-REDD only for CRS, which has completed and validated a report on REDD+ Strategy options through a presentation to stakeholders. Overall, the strategic options are still in the process of evaluation and formulation and their definition will require an exhaustive and holistic review of deforestation and forest degradation in the Nigerian context. The remaining work under this sub-component has commenced and a study on strategy options is planned to be conducted later in 2017. This review will be fully optimal only when all the findings of works and studies under the current FCPF funding are finalized, as the consultancy that will prepare the National Strategy will be able to draw significant material from Cross River, and the work underway in Ondo and Nasarawa States, assess the strategy options, prioritize them for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities and undertake analysis of costs and benefits.

To further the REDD+ strategy development and implementation process, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding for this sub-component in form of studies that will feed into the REDD+ Strategy formulation process, particularly as it concerns (i) reviewing existing experiences and lessons on forest restoration and reducing deforestation; (ii) structural and macro-economic challenges and options for protecting and expanding forests in the country; (iii) exploring community based approaches to REDD+ implementation and building the capacities of forest unit and local management structures; and (iv) reinforcing the coordination

of resource management between the different key sectors and the integration of REDD+ to sectoral policies, strategies, and public policy instruments. In this context, the fund will be required to:

- Provide technical support to the development of a Financing Strategy and Investment Plan to complement the National REDD+ Strategy;
- Support for the development of enabling policy and action plans for REDD+;
- Facilitate the mainstreaming of REDD+ in national development plans, NDC implementation plan, Nigeria Green Bond, Green Climate Fund, FCPF Carbon Fund, national budget, private sector investment, and other sources of finance
- Reinforce the coordination of resource management between the different key sectors and the integration of REDD+ to sectoral policies, strategies, and public policy instruments

### **2.2.3 Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework**

This sub-component will enable the inclusion of REDD+ related consideration in the development of various legislation relating to REDD+, namely the reform of the forest policy and legislation. This requires the assessment of institutional and legislative reform needs for REDD+. The expected targets from the design of the implementation framework are two main frameworks namely; (i) National Guidelines and Standards for REDD+ activities and (ii) Framework for implementation of REDD+, benefit sharing mechanisms. Overall, progress has been relatively slow in the implementation of this sub-component. A benefit-sharing study was conducted for the CRS and the fieldwork is underway by a team of consultants for the development of the FGRM.

Nigeria acknowledges that the implementation of REDD+ will generate benefits to all stakeholders involved in REDD+ activities. The country further acknowledges that appropriate benefit sharing mechanisms providing for equitable distribution of benefits is not only essential for the success of REDD+ implementation but also should ensure that stakeholders involved in REDD+ activities are rewarded according to their contributions to reducing deforestation, degradation, conservation and stock enhancement, to make the impact of REDD+ measurable and lasting. All this makes the development of a Framework for the implementation of REDD+ benefit sharing mechanisms and registration of project in the country imperative.

Using the CRS as a pilot state, a benefit-sharing study was conducted. The Risks and Benefits Analysis (RaBa) for the State was developed through a consultation and joint working process led by the Nigeria Safeguard Working Group (SGWG). The analysis focuses on the potential risks and benefits associated with eight existing and planned PAMs relevant to REDD+ in Cross River State, to gain lessons learned for the development of the State's REDD+ strategy, and eventually the country's Strategy, as the analysis will also inform the development of a safeguards approach for Nigeria. Once a draft of the analysis had been developed, a small working group session, including participants from the SGWG, the Cross River State Forestry Commission and the Cross River State REDD+ Secretariat, facilitated with assistance from

UNEP-WCMC, finalised the RaBa for the State and got it validated in June 2016. The analysis and recommendations contained in the RaBa have helped to inform the strategy development process for the State and the development of the country's approach to the safeguards, including feeding directly into the development of safeguards principles and criteria (P&C). By including analysis of possible sources of information and relevant policies, laws and regulations (PLRs), the analysis will be used to contribute to the development of a safeguards information system in the future.

The Nigeria REDD+ Programme has been building capacity and conducting work to develop a country approach to the REDD+ safeguards for several years. For example, a Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) for REDD+ and natural resource management in Nigeria has been conducted, starting in late 2012. Piloted in CRS, PGA committee and research teams were established, made up of national, state, civil society, academia and community representatives. The team undertook research in three REDD+ pilot sites, in Afi-Mbe, Ekuri-Iko, and Mangrove communities; a final PGA report was produced in 2015.

In November 2013, a workshop on safeguards and multiple benefits was held in Calabar, with the aim of progressing work on developing social and environmental safeguards and informing priorities for REDD+ planning in CRS. This workshop was followed by a meeting to establish a Safeguards Taskforce, with participation from both civil society and Federal and State level government. During the implementation of the PGA, work on safeguards was deferred, although an activity to map multiple benefits from forests in Cross River State proceeded through 2014-2015. In June 2015, a follow-up meeting was held in Calabar to reorganise the REDD+ Safeguards Working Group (SGWG) of Nigeria, including revising the group's terms of reference, reviewing a work plan for their activities, and determining their membership, which includes representatives from Federal and State government agencies, academia, civil society, communities and the media. This was followed by another SGWG meeting in September 2015, and the launch of their work leading the development of a Risks and Benefits Analysis to support REDD+ planning.

Nigeria plans to design appropriate benefit sharing arrangements for the National REDD+ Strategy by replicating RaBa studies in Nasarawa and Ondo States and using the results to develop a more realistic national Framework for the implementation of REDD+ benefit sharing mechanisms. This will include identification of a range and categories of benefits and beneficiary's specific to proposed activities and geographic locations, the processes for how benefits will be equitably and efficiently shared, the institutional structures needed and the processes for transparent decision making and implementation. The country will also accelerate the completion of the ongoing process for the development of Nigeria's FGRM for REDD+. While the resources available through the current FCPF support should be adequate for development of the national FGRM, Nigeria will benefit from additional funding to:

- support the extension of the CRS RaBa to other States (Nasarawa and Ondo);
- pilot test the benefit sharing arrangements in CRS;
- build the institutional and financial management capacities of institutions benefitting from or managing carbon incomes at the national, state and local levels; and

- fill gaps related to the adoption of legislation/regulation, guidelines for implementation, as well as the national REDD+ registry and system for monitoring REDD+ activities.

#### **2.2.4 Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts**

During the R-PP formulation, Nigeria prioritized the importance of enhancing social and environmental benefits while minimizing risks and identified a need to develop a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) that addresses World Bank safeguards and a tool for managing any Social and Environmental concerns during the implementation of REDD+ Strategy and options. SESA, as a tool, will be used to integrate social and environmental considerations into the REDD+ policy-making process, leading to sustainable REDD+ policies and programs.

During the REDD+ Readiness phase, the objective of conducting a SESA of REDD+ Strategy options will be to ensure a comprehensive and participatory assessment of likely Environmental and Social issues and integrate environmental and social considerations into Nigeria's REDD+ Strategy in a manner consistent with the country's environmental laws and regulations as well as the World Bank's environmental and social safeguards. Accordingly, SESA will contribute towards the REDD+ Readiness process in Nigeria by assessing how REDD+ Strategy options address environmental and social priorities associated with current patterns of land use and forest management. In addition, SESA will assess inter-sectoral linkages within the land-use planning process and, trade-offs and opportunity costs involved with different land uses. Furthermore, SESA will assess the application of environmental and ecosystems valuation that also includes taking into account intangible factors in the valuation of forests and forest resources.

Gaps identified through these assessments will lead to strengthening the REDD+ Strategy options. An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be developed to address any outstanding potential social and environment issues and the procedures to be followed for managing potential environmental and social impacts of specific REDD options during the implementation of the REDD+ Strategy for Nigeria will be outlined.

The procurement process for the SESA is underway and work is expected to commence by end of third quarter of 2017. Support for a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is provided through the FCPF readiness grant, and the SESA process will work concurrently with the development of the National REDD+ Strategy. The SESA will be conducted through a series of activities and analytical tasks, which will be linked to the relevant steps of the REDD+ Programme preparation and implementation.

In addition to the proposed work under FCPF support, Nigeria has identified a need for broadening this scope of work to integrate development of the Safeguards Information System (SIS) for REDD+ in the country as well as understanding how these safeguards will be "addressed and respected" throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities with SESA. The

Working Group on national safeguards was reorganized in October 2015 to enable different stakeholders to participate and work together to review relevant policies and measures to be developed within the framework of the REDD+ Strategy for the Cross River State region. During this process, selected existing or already planned policy and regulatory instruments relevant to the REDD+ process was assessed, especially regarding potential benefits and risks. In addition, the work on safeguards will also draw from and build on the outcomes of the PGA work as well as the assessment of policy, legal and institutional framework on REDD+. The work on safeguards will also be incorporated into the Issues and Options report and the eventual REDD+ strategy. The SESA that will be carried out by the FCPF is expected to help strengthen advancements for transparency and safeguards in the country.

## **2.3 REDD+ Strategy preparation**

### **2.3.1 Sub-component 3a: FREL/FRL**

Recognising Decision 4/CP.15 which stipulates that developing country Parties in establishing forest reference emission levels and forest reference levels should do so transparently, taking into account historic data, and adjust for national circumstances, and Decision 4/CP.15 as reinforced in decision 12/CP.17, Reference Emission Levels (RELs) development in Nigeria is based on historical data, adjusted for national circumstances. The RELs are being developed in a way so that emissions and removals that are monitored in the future can be compared directly to the emissions and removals in the reference scenario—in other words there will be consistency between the approaches used for the REL and the MRV (Measurement, Reporting and Verification) system.

Nigeria decided that the development of FREL/FRL in the country would follow a stepwise approach with the intention that FREL/FRL will be further developed and refined over time. It must be noted that FREL/FRL uses the same building blocks or pillars like MRV: the difference stems from the fact that historical data is used for FREL/FRL while MRV uses future data collected. UNFCCC insists that FREL/FRL be consistent with MRV, so that actual performance is assessed during monitoring.

### **Scale, Scope and Estimation of historical emissions**

Several consultations were held to discuss what the FREL will consist of including the scale and scope, as well as the estimation of historical emissions. In terms of scale, Nigeria opted for a nested REDD+ programme in which CRS was selected as pilot State. FREL is developed at CRS level as an interim measure, following the analysis of historic and real-time data for AD and EFs. The scope is based on activities, pools and gases included. For activities, only deforestation has been included in the present FREL/FRL. Data on deforestation are scarcely collected and thus makes attempt on deforestation analysis difficult if not impossible. In the pools, the above-ground biomass which constitutes the main component/largest pool is included in the FREL/FRL. Below ground biomass which constitutes at least 20% of aboveground biomass, is also included as a significant pool considering their magnitude and

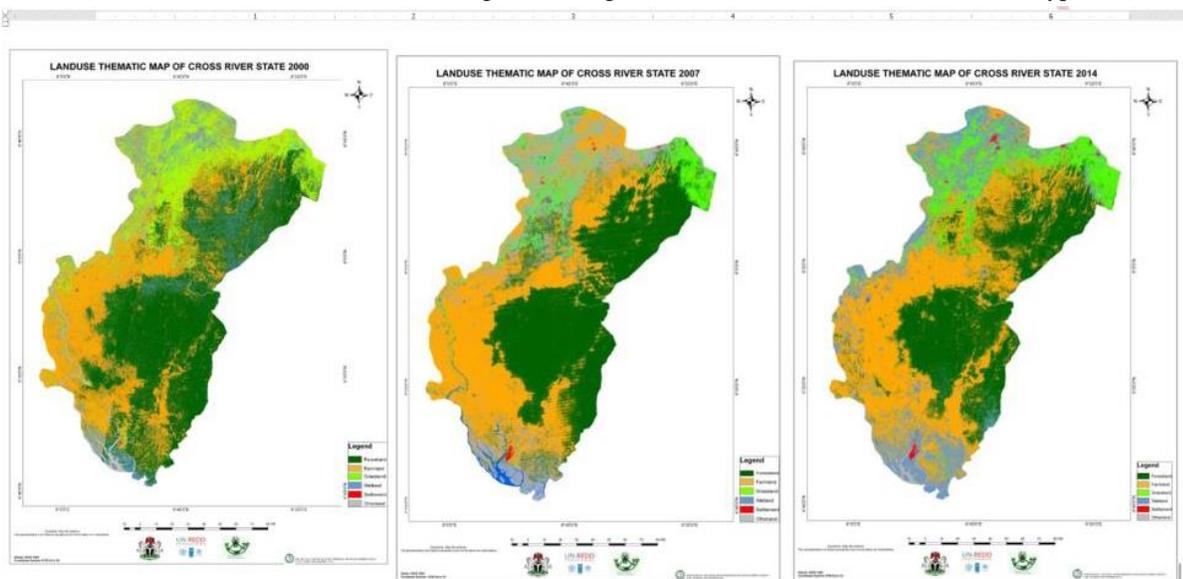
cost-effectiveness to monitor the pools. Finally, for the gasses, only CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are included in the present FREL/FRL. Also, an acceptable national definition of forest is established. The entire FREL process was subjected to a wider stakeholder consultation and review to ensure that it reflects the expectations of all stakeholders, and to also consider technical inputs from this broader group.

Following IPCC (GPG 2003 and Guidelines for National GHG Inventories in AFOLU, 2006), two basic inputs needed are: Activity data (i.e. changes in areal extent of forest land (ha/year)) over 3 epochs (2000, 2007 and 2014) and emission factors (that is, emissions/removals of GHG per unit area: tCO<sub>2</sub>/ha of deforestation) generated from historical and real-time data, were generated. Then the product of AD by EF gave an estimate of the amount of emissions/removals in a given year as a result of the activity in CRS using Approach 2/3 and Tier2/3. Up scaling the process, the TAA with FAO intends to develop an updated forest cover map / forest cover change map for Nigeria without necessarily having to adjust the sub-FREL for national circumstances. Similarly, the potential datasets to be generated for Ondo and Nasarawa states in the TAA, will be adjusted for other states within same eco-zones with the two states.

In the implementation of this sub-component, a Technical Assistance Agreement was signed with FAO, which led to the recruitment of: (i) National Forest Inventory Database & Data Processing Expert; (ii) NFI Expert/Field Supervisor; and (iii) Forestry Officer/Technical Adviser (NFI & FRELs). A spatially explicit study on drivers of deforestation in Cross River State has been finalized, analyzing satellite images for three different periods (2000, 2007 and 2014), also including activity data that was obtained for land use/land cover purposes in the entire State. Furthermore, the ongoing development of the National Forest Carbon Inventory will help providing estimates of emission factors. FAO is embarking on the technical and logistical preparation to conduct the national forest inventory that will lead to a draft national version of the FRELs/FRLs which is expected to be validated in a national workshop. Some of the outputs from these initial analyses for CRS are given in Table 2.5 and Figure 2.2.

**Table 2 1. . Summary results for above ground biomass (AGB), below ground biomass (BGB) and carbon stocks for different forest types for CRS**

\*Forest Land values were calculated as a weighted average of the means from the different forest type estimates



**Figure 2. 2. Land use thematic maps for 2000, 2007 and 2014 epochs developed to generate Activity Data for Cross River State**

Nigeria will benefit more from additional funding support for the following activities:

- Development of sub-national FREL/FRL for potential additional states (including capacity building);
- Support for system strengthening including software need and upgrade;
- Additional forest inventory data collection to increase certainty levels and thus improve the sub-national FREL;
- Specialised training for key technical stakeholders to build capacity in trend emission calculation as well as in FREL construction process; and
- Up-scaling of sub-national FREL to national.

## 2.4 Monitoring system for forests and safeguards

### 2.4.1 Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System

Nigeria’s monitoring system is applying a stepwise approach, both spatially and temporally to enable a full, nationwide MRV system as well as a safeguard information system in Phase III, while also being useful in intermediate stages. What is being done will enable the assessment of the results from REDD+ activities, as required for phase II, and allows Phase III reporting. B

In CRS, a robust forest monitoring system has been established with a functional GIS laboratory and facilities. These facilities have contributed to the capacity building of stakeholders in the application of remote sensing and GIS capabilities to monitor forest

changes, to generate, interpret Activity Data and to perform multiple benefits mapping. The Activity Data as interpreted, validated and disseminated in the state, will allow field validation for the national level, while the state-level Forest Inventory will provide data to the national REDD+ database.

Eighty sample plots have been established in about 62 local communities to estimate carbon stocks and Emission Factors, updated MRV database for CRS, including historic & real-time remote-sensing put in place. Forest Carbon Inventory (FCI) Standard Operation Manual has been prepared, produced and printed. The GHG inventory component of the MRV system has determined forest carbon stock change in CRS and consequently will allow the verification of the national GHG inventory.



**Plate 2.4 a. Gender-inclusive and Participatory MRV Field Measurements**

The specific work already accomplished towards forest monitoring include among others, capacity building, system development, technical studies reports and stakeholder engagement and activation. In addition, Nigeria's NFMS Action Plan with institutional arrangements at the National and CRS levels clearly defined was developed with institutional needs assessment and a roadmap to facilitate enabling legislations and laws for NFMS implementation to ensure sustainability and transparency. The document was also subjected to a wider stakeholder group consultation and review to ensure that relevant interests have been taken into consideration.



**Plate 2.4 b. Multi-stakeholder MRV capacity building session**

Overall some progress has been made in the implementation of this sub-component. Capacities for relevant stakeholders have been enhanced at both federal and national level through a series of technical capacity building workshops, including: (i) a forest monitoring and MRV workshop for 49 stakeholders in 2014; (ii) a National Forest Carbon Inventory training with 25 participants in 2014; (iii) capacity building on image processing and interpretation of satellite imagery of 20 staff; (iv) a forest carbon inventory data analysis training of 26 staff, and (v) a Greenhouse Gas Inventory training of 23 staff from the LULUCF sector. These trainings and workshops, plus the establishment of technical Working Groups, advance efforts for the NFMS to be put in place in the future. Sampling design is based on a 2014 land use map produced with the help of the Nigerian National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), which will be used as the framework to establish a Forest Monitoring System at Cross River State (CRS) by the end of 2016. In addition, the technical Working Group on MRV activities is in the process of acquiring recent satellite data to advance subsequent monitoring activities. Nigeria also participated in the CNA for West Africa and is included in the joint support to West Africa for strengthening regional capacity in West Africa for national forest carbon inventories.

Despite these achievements, the complexity of the NFMS and the lack of capacity, both technically and institutionally, left many gaps to be filled in the implementation of this sub-component. The hardware for the geomatics laboratory and for the management of databases, satellite images, software image processing, database management and fire warning system as well as staff capacity to ensure the implementation effective operation of these systems at central and regional levels remain insufficient. The same goes for measurement, data management, and estimation of GHGs emission/removal. Specific gaps that need to be addressed relate to:

- Harmonisation of historic data and up scaling of NASRDA’s “wall-to-wall” data to cover the entire country based on Nigeria’s forest definition.
- Collation of in-country wood density values based on on-going efforts at some universities to substitute the pan-tropic default values to enable improvement on existing Allometric Equations.
- Institutionalisation of a robust data sharing mechanism among stakeholders’ institutions for a functional NFMS.

- Basic tools for functional monitoring systems are to be acquired to consolidate achievements at CRS and to complement and facilitate actions at federal level as well as to consolidate achievements at CRS.
- Training of stakeholders from national and sub-national in the following areas to further strengthen capacities for demonstration and monitoring:
  - ✓ satellite data interpretation and analysis, accuracy assessment, transition matrix generation, GPS uploading, navigation and handling;
  - ✓ compass reading; forest equipment handling;
  - ✓ plot design and demarcation;
  - ✓ data collection protocol, data processing and analysis to estimate tree biomass, carbon stocks and carbon dioxide equivalent;
  - ✓ capacity for NFMS data verification particularly for data quality control.
- Technical training in ALU software and in technical GHG Inventories Reporting for Nigeria under the various IPCC guidelines.
- Training of community members in mobile devices handling for forest monitoring to bolster community participation in REDD+ issues.

Consequent upon the foregoing, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding for the:

- Development of National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in 3 additional states based on experience;
- Support for technical Team to strengthen NFMS including high resolution imagery to supplement wall-to-wall national forest assessment for Nigeria and development of a robust National Forest Inventory;
- Ongoing capacity building and training in forest cover monitoring of technical stakeholders from national, state community levels;
- Capacities for developing a GHG inventory and reporting for UNFCCC;

#### **2.4.2 Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance and Safeguards**

Nigeria adopted a country approach to REDD+ safeguards. A Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+ and natural resource management in Nigeria conducted through a pilot in Cross River State's three REDD+ pilot sites provided a major baseline for the safeguards work. A National Safeguards Working Group (NSWG) was constituted in late 2013. Between 2015 and 2016, the NSWG led consultations and technical work for the preparation of the key components of Nigeria's country approach to safeguards, following UNFCCC Decisions. The programme developed principles and criteria that interpreted the Cancun safeguards in accordance with CRS's specific circumstances, which were applied to refine the strategic objectives of the CRS REDD+ Strategy during REDD+ implementation through PLRs reforms. Regarding REDD+ safeguard information system, given that most of the start-up REDD+ activities took place in CRS, the state level safeguard information system will therefore provide data to develop a federal REDD+ safeguards information system (SIS). The Safeguard

team has concluded a final draft design framework and roadmap for the development of the Nigeria's REDD+ Safeguard Information System.

Using the framework, Nigeria will build a National REDD+ Information System to give information about how safeguards, as listed in Appendix 1 of the Cancun decision<sup>4</sup>, are being considered along the implementation of all the REDD+ activities in the country. Such safeguards to be considered will include transparent and effective national forest governance structures, respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and forest resource owners, and actions that complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programs and relevant international conventions and agreements.

For effective implementation of this sub-component, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding for:

- Acquisition of data for Multiple Benefits analysis and mapping;
- Capacity building for Multiple benefits analysis;
- Development of Safeguards Information System for Nigeria

### **3. AN ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THOSE ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY THE FCPF READINESS PREPARATION GRANT**

This section outlines the overall progress made in the implementation of the readiness activities supported under the FCPF Grant Agreement. It also provides an analysis of the constraints and delays encountered in the implementation of the activities. In addition, the section proposes actions to address these constraints, and identifies gaps and needs for additional support from the FCPF for the completion of the remaining activities in the R-PP that are intended to achieve the intended overall objective of developing a sound national REDD+ strategy in Nigeria. In compliance with the Guide in the REDD+ Assessment Framework, the progress has been analysed and assessed against the FCPF assessment criteria to ensure that the implementation of the readiness activities under the different components is in line with these assessment criteria. The focus is to help Nigeria to develop a complete Readiness Package by the end of the full implementation of all the required readiness activities. Overall progress is presented in Tables by component with a summary of achievements against agreed milestones and overall assessment of progress. Table 3.1 indicates the original FCPF Readiness Preparedness Grant allocations as per Assessment Note, and which indicates that all the resources for the REDD+ Readiness phase is from the FCPF Grant.

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<sup>4</sup> Annex 1 of the 2011 UNFCCC Cancun Agreement elaborates the guidance and safeguards for policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

**Table 3. 1. FCPF Project Components and Costs (US\$ million) for Nigeria’s REDD+ R-PP**

<b>Activities for the FCPF Funding</b>	<b>R-PP Component</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>FCPF Grant</b>
<b>Component 1: Strengthen National and State Level Readiness Management Arrangements</b>		<b>0.884</b>	<b>0.884</b>
1.1 National Readiness Management Arrangements	1A	0.412	0.412
1.2. State Level Readiness Management Arrangements	1A	0.398	0.398
1.3 Monitoring and Reporting for REDD+ Readiness process	6	0.090	0.090
<b>Component 2: Develop REDD+ Strategies and Conduct SESA</b>		<b>1.200</b>	<b>1.200</b>
2.1. Improve Analytical Work and Develop REDD+ Strategy at National and State Levels	2	0.450	0.450
2.2. Develop SESA and Safeguards Instruments	2	0.750	0.750
<b>Component 3: Develop Reference Emissions Levels</b>	3	<b>0.900</b>	<b>0.900</b>
<b>Component 4: Enhance Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, Consultation and Feedback for REDD+ Readiness Process</b>		<b>0.650</b>	<b>0.650</b>
4.1. Participatory structures and stakeholder engagement	1B	0.100	0.100
4.2. Communication on REDD+	1C	0.100	0.100
4.3. Consultations on REDD+	1C	0.250	0.250
4.4. Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism	1C	0.200	0.200
<b>Contingency</b>		<b>0.166</b>	<b>0.166</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3.800</b>	<b>3.800</b>

The following Tables present summaries of the progress made under each component of the FCPF Grant, gaps and lessons learned during the implementation of activities made possible by funds of the FCPF, as well as opportunities for additional funding that would enable Nigeria to enhance its REDD+ readiness at national and state levels.

### **3.1 Component 1: Strengthen National and State Level Readiness Management Arrangements**

Table 3.2 provides a summary of the progress made in the implementation of the Component 1 activities of the FCPF Grant-supported REDD+ readiness initiative, and shows that significant progress has been made in achieving the targets of the component. .

**Table 3. 2. Analysis of Progress made under Component 1 of the FCPF Grant**

<b>Component 1: Strengthen National and State Level Readiness Management Arrangements</b> <b>Purpose: Enhance capacity for national and state-level coordination and monitoring of the REDD+ process.</b>	
<b>1.1 Sub-component: National Readiness Management Arrangements</b> Purpose: Functional and effective institutional management arrangement at the Federal level	
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>1.1.1 Operation of National REDD+ Secretariat</p> <p>1.1.2 Operation of the National Council, Steering Committee, Technical Committee, REDD+ Technical Working Groups and National Stakeholders' Forum</p>	<p><b>Overall Assessment – Significant progress</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The National REDD+ Secretariat established in the Department of Forestry of the Federal Ministry of Environment and with 7 members of staff drawn from the Ministry, is fully equipped and made functional, and is effectively coordinating REDD+ readiness activities at the national level and providing oversight function in the three participating States (Cross River, Nasarawa and Ondo).</li> <li>▪ The National Council on REDD+ is inactive, but the National Steering Committee, the Technical Committee, and associated Working Groups have been active.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The National Steering Committee was established in 2012, with membership drawn from relevant MDAs and clear roles and responsibilities and is providing critical inputs into technical issues of the REDD+ readiness in the country.</li> <li>✓ The National Technical Committee, which was established in 2015 continues to strengthen the knowledge and provide expertise for project implementation, operational monitoring and dissemination of programme achievements to various stakeholders and concerned communities at all levels.</li> <li>✓ Technical Working groups established for Safeguards/SESA and MRV have been backstopping ongoing studies in their respective activities</li> <li>✓ Multi-stakeholder REDD+ cluster meetings (to sustain the REDD+ process at federal level) held severally through the National Stakeholders' Forum</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Regular workshops and dialogues as well as retreats and specialized trainings at Nigeria's REDD+ University, as well as participation in meetings of the UNFCCC Conferences of Parties for REDD+ targeted activities are being used on a regular basis to build capacity of staff and other focal points</li> <li>▪ The M &amp; E Unit for REDD+ readiness programme is yet to be formally established.</li> <li>▪ A study on the Forest Redress Grievance Mechanism is on-going, with the consultant's inception report in place and consultants in the field. The process is expected to be completed by the end of July 2017.</li> <li>▪ A communication strategy is being finalized for implementation to improve information flow on REDD+.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues/gaps/constraints</b></p> <p>The absence and subsequent inactiveness the National Council on REDD+ will continue to slow the process of properly mainstreaming of REDD+ into national policies, as it indicates limited involvement of critical policy and decision makers, aside the Minister of Environment, who is the focal point for the REDD+ readiness process in Nigeria.</p> <p>The Steering Committee, which approves budgets and work plans, currently meets on need basis rather than twice per year as scheduled in its TOR. This may slow down programme implementation.</p> <p>Job description of the staff in the National Secretariat needs to be clearly defined for proper structural relationships.</p> <p>A proper M &amp; E system needs to be developed to facilitate better documentation and</p> <p>A communication strategist to improve information flow on</p>	

REDD+ readiness needs to join the National Secretariat.	
<p><b>Opportunities for additional funding</b></p> <p>Additional funding is required for continued or extended support to enhance the capacity of the NRS and other national institutional structures for better coordination of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases, including potential new technical areas of REDD+ such as SESA/ESMF, FERL etc. Support is also needed for institutional strengthening and capacity-building for members of the national platforms and other stakeholders to give them greater sense of ownership of the REDD+ process. There is also the need for improved flow of information between NRS and state level institutions for vertical integration of the programme and to enhance transparency and accountability in the RED+ readiness and implementation through the implementation of the Communication Strategy and establishment of a process for “free prior informed consent (FPIC)” in the institutional implementation arrangement</p>	
<p><b>1.2 Sub-component: State Level Readiness Management Arrangements</b></p> <p>Purpose: Functional and effective institutional management arrangement at the State level</p>	
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>1.2.1 Operation of three State REDD+ Secretariats</p> <p>1.2.2 Operation of the State level Technical Committees, REDD+ Technical Working Groups and Stakeholders’ Fora in Cross River, Nasarawa and Ondo.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In addition to the REDD+ Secretariat in Cross River State that was established during UN-REDD Programme, the two new REDD+ Secretariats established in Nasarawa and Ondo States are fully equipped and made functional, and is effectively coordinating REDD+ readiness activities at the state and community levels.</li> <li>▪ The State Technical Committees and associated Working Groups in the three States are relatively active.</li> <li>▪ Aside Cross River State, the functionality of the State Stakeholders’ fora is difficult to determine.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues/gaps/constraints</b></p> <p>Limited capacity of staff in State REDD+ Secretariats.</p> <p>Total dependence of State Secretariats on the NRS, and poor flow of information among state entities</p>	
<p><b>Opportunities for additional funding</b></p> <p>Additional funding is required to enhance the capacity of the state REDD+ institutional structures for better coordination of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases at state and community levels. Support is also needed for institutional strengthening and capacity-building for members of the state platforms and other stakeholders to give them greater sense of ownership of the REDD+ process.</p>	

### 3.2 Component 2: Develop REDD+ Strategies and Conduct SESA

Table 3.3 provides a summary of the progress made in the implementation of the Component 2 activities of the FCPF Grant-supported REDD+ readiness initiative, and shows that little progress has been made in achieving the targets of the component.

**Table 3. 3. Analysis of Progress made under Component 2 of the FCPF Grant**

<p><b>Component 2: Develop REDD+ Strategies and Conduct SESA</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> Carry out analytical work feeding into formulation of a National REDD+ Strategy and State REDD+ Strategies (including on benefit sharing) in two new pilot states and CRS, develop the strategies themselves, to undertake the SESA that will assess the potential environmental and social risks and impacts, both positive and negative, of the proposed REDD+ strategy and produce national level safeguards instruments (ESMF, RPF, and PF), and a state level ESMF for CRS.</p>	
<p><b>2.1 Sub-component: Improve Analytical Work and Develop REDD+ Strategy at National and State Levels</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> In-depth analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, assessment of forest governance and land tenure, as well as benefit sharing to develop strategic options for the formulation and development of National and State REDD+ Strategies.</p>	
<p><b>Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Overall Assessment – Further development required</b></p>
<p>2.1.1 Deepen analytical work to inform National REDD+ Strategy, including on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; assessment of forest governance and land tenure; and benefit sharing; including with specific focus on Ondo and Nasarawa States.</p> <p>2.1.2 Review/analysis of forest acts at the federal level and in Ondo and Nasarawa states view of REDD+.</p> <p>2.1.3 Development of National REDD+ Strategy.</p> <p>2.1.4 Drafting the CRS REDD+ Strategy (based on the analysis and consultations already completed with UN-REDD Programme support).</p> <p>2.1.5 Development of state-level REDD+ Strategy Options in two new states</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CRS REDD+ Strategy drafted and validated, based on the analysis and consultations already completed with the UN-REDD Programme support. It will serve as a model for other states and constitutes a platform for learning and</li> <li>▪ structural planning for REDD+ implementation in other parts of Nigeria</li> <li>▪ The basic building blocks for the national strategy for expanding REDD+ have been developed. Specific progress towards this output included developing the Terms of Reference for the analytical work to inform the national framework strategy, initiating the recruitment process for various consultancies, and identifying the key outputs that are required for a framework national strategy.</li> <li>▪ By December 2016, all the analytical work and key outputs were completed and validated by stakeholders. The analyses and outputs informed the development and validation of a national framework strategy for REDD+ replication across interested Nigerian States.</li> <li>▪ At the time of this MTR, the TOR for the preparation of a REDD+ Strategy for Nigeria’s REDD+ Programme has been prepared and the procurement process for the identification of consultants to carry out the work is at an advanced stage. The development of the country’s REDD+ strategy will be completed before February 2018.</li> <li>▪ The processes for the preparation and development of REDD+ Strategies for Nasarawa and Ondo States are yet to be initiated.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues/gaps/constraints</b></p> <p>The general delay in kick-</p>	

<p>starting the implementation of the FCPF in 2015 as a result of national and state election and the introduction of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) which resulted in delays in transfer of funds, has been compounded by delays in the procurement processes.</p> <p>These are generally responsible for the delays in the implementation of the FCPF-supported REDD+ readiness activities.</p>	
<p><b><u>Opportunities for additional funding</u></b></p> <p>The tasks included in the TORs are complex and ambitious and may require adequate resources and time to be successfully completed, especially as it relates to developing REDD+ Strategies for Nasarawa and Ondo States. The outcome of the study is expected to reveal gaps and needs for further work in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ reviewing existing experiences and lessons on forest restoration and reducing deforestation;</li> <li>▪ structural and macro-economic challenges and options for protecting and expanding forests in the country and specific participating states and others that may be interested in future;</li> <li>▪ exploring community based approaches to REDD+ implementation and building the capacities of forest unit and local management structures; reinforcing the coordination of resource management between the different key sectors and the integration of REDD+ to sectoral policies, strategies, and public policy instruments;</li> <li>▪ establishment of a functional MRV system for tracking deforestation, degradation and changes in carbon stocks against an agreed baseline</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2.2 Develop Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment and Safeguard Instruments</b>  Purpose: Integration of social and environmental concerns into the REDD+ process at national level and ensure that negative impacts are avoided or minimized</p>	
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>2.2.1 Analytical work on SESA at national level with special emphases on Nasarawa and Ondo.</p> <p>2.2.2 Preparation of the national-level ESMF, RPF and PF.</p> <p>2.2.3 Preparation of the state-level ESMF for CRS.</p>	<p><b>Overall Assessment – further development required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The SESA process had been initiated and is under procurement, but had not yet demonstrated progress by the time of this MTR.</li> <li>▪ The SESA contract was expected to begin in July 2017 with delivery by February 2018.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Issues/gaps/constraints</u></b></p>	
<p>There had been administrative</p>	

delays due to concerns of competitiveness of proposals and a preference for joint-venture partnerships (national/international).	
<b>Opportunities for additional funding</b>	
The tasks included in the TORs are complex and ambitious and may require adequate resources and time to be successfully completed. The outcome of the study is expected to reveal gaps and needs for further work in relation to capacity-building, consultations, awareness raising and institutional strengthening to ensure a fully functioning ESMF. In addition, the gender and youth involvement under REDD+ has not been established yet, as such support for a gender and youth analysis is required that will be integrated in the SESA report.	

### 3.3 Component 3: Develop Reference Emission Level

Table 3.4 provides a summary of the progress made in the implementation of the Component 3 activities of the FCPF Grant-supported REDD+ readiness initiative, and shows that little progress has been made in achieving the targets of the component.

**Table 3. 4. Analysis of Progress made under Component 3 of the FCPF Grant**

<b>3 Develop Reference Emission Level</b>	
Purpose: Develop Nigeria’s national REL taking into account the national circumstances and UNFCCC guidance.	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Overall Assessment – Further development required</b>
3.1 Collection of relevant data for REDD+ REL/RLs development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOU signed with the FAO to develop Nigeria’s Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL), based on CRS FREL. The construction of the FREL/FRL was initiated in 2016. Several consultations were held to discuss what the FREL will consist of including the scale and scope, as well as the estimation of historical emissions. In terms of scale, Nigeria opted for a nested REDD+ programme in which CRS was selected as pilot State. FREL is developed at CRS level as an interim measure.</li> <li>▪ Draft Sub-national FREL/FRL defining scale, scope &amp; working national forest definition (0.5ha, 15% cover, 3m), emission base year &amp; carbon stocks summary developed.</li> <li>▪ The draft of the FRELs/FRLs is planned to be validated before the end of 2017.</li> </ul>
<b>Issues/gaps/constraints</b>	
There had been administrative delays in funds release to FAO with the possibility of shift in time of delivery of this activity.	
<b>Opportunities for additional funding</b>	

There may be need to further support the (ii) development of sub-national FREL/FRL for 3 additional states (including capacity building); (ii) system strengthening including software need and upgrade; (iii) field for additional forest inventory data collection to improve the sub-national FREL; and (iv) specialised training for key technical stakeholders to build capacity in trend emission calculation as well as in FREL construction process

### 3.4 Component 4: Enhance Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, Consultation and Feedback for REDD+ Readiness Process

Table 3.5 provides a summary of the progress made in the implementation of the Component 4 activities of the FCPF Grant-supported REDD+ readiness initiative, and shows that little progress has been made in achieving the targets of the component.

**Table 3.5. . Analysis of Progress made under Component 4 of the FCPF Grant**

<b>Component 4: Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness Process</b>	
<b>Purpose:</b> Ensure broad stakeholder engagement in REDD+ process, establish and maintain participatory stakeholder structures at the state-level in two new states, support communication on REDD+, conduct consultations on specific issues related to REDD+ Readiness process, and design and establish a feedback and grievance redress mechanism.	
<b>4.1 Sub-component: Participatory structures and stakeholder engagement</b>	
<b>Purpose:</b> Strengthening of participatory structures to enhance stakeholder engagement in REDD+ and stakeholder feedback in REDD+ readiness, including through the identified key stakeholder groups and stakeholder platforms, with special focus on civil society organizations (CSOs), forest groups, women, research institutes, and the private sector in the two new states.	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Overall Assessment – Further development required</b>
4.1.1 Multi-stakeholder consultations and participation in Nasarawa and Ondo States	
4.1.2 Establish stakeholder platforms in Nasarawa and Ondo States	
<b>Issues/gaps/constraints</b>	
The platform needs to be further strengthened, clearly documented in terms of its rationale, functions, organizational issues.	
Limited resources to effect effecting regular functioning of the platforms.	
Absence of special stakeholder	

groups, such as women and youth groups and specialized CSOs	purpose is to ensure continuous REDD+ consultations and ensure effective participation at the state level. A stakeholder engagement plan, covering both federal and state levels was developed.
<p><b>Opportunities for additional funding</b></p> <p>The stronger, diverse and more consistent the multi-stakeholders are the more they would be able to engage effectively in REDD+ readiness consultation and enhance participation at local levels. To do this effectively, the capacities of the established future platforms will need to be strengthened with additional financial resources to enhance their relevance during the preparation of the REDD+ strategy and its implementation.</p>	
<p><b>4.2 Sub-component: Communication of REDD+</b></p>	
<p><b>Purpose:</b> Raise the awareness of all relevant stakeholders from the State to the village community level about the REDD+ process and the different ways in which they can get involved.</p>	
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>4.2.1 National and new state (Nasarawa and Ondo) level information campaign (posters, leaflets, website, etc.) to raise awareness and understanding of the REDD+ program.</p>	<p><b>Overall Assessment – Further development required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A communication strategy/plan that will identify specific “messages” on REDD+ readiness and implementation for selected specific stakeholder groups has been developed to include development of different user-friendly communication materials such as brochures and information releasing notes, in addition to the website-based materials and will be validated before the end of 2017.</li> <li>▪ Communication strategy/plan will be translated into relevant local languages for effectiveness among rural communities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues/gaps/constraints</b></p> <p>Low level of education of most of the local beneficiaries from the implementation of the REDD+ initiative will require strategic and innovative means of communication to make the messages have desired impact.</p>	
<p><b>Opportunities for additional funding</b></p> <p>The diverse nature of local potential beneficiaries of REDD+ programme implementation requires that communication materials are translated from English to local languages for impact. This will need additional funding of REDD+ readiness and implementation in Nigeria.</p>	
<p><b>4.3 Sub-component: Consultations on REDD+I</b></p>	
<p><b>Purpose:</b> Improve ownership of the REDD+ readiness and programme</p>	
<p><b>4.4 Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism</b></p>	
<p><b>Purpose:</b> To address all grievances at both national and state levels.</p>	
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>4.4.1 Strengthen and support appropriate grievance mechanisms and structures both at national, state, and community levels that can be utilized by REDD+ program stakeholders during implementation</p>	<p><b>Overall Assessment – Further development required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A study on the Forest Redress Grievance Mechanism is on-going, with the consultant’s inception report in place and consultants in the field. The process is expected to be completed by the end of July 2017.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities for additional funding</b></p> <p>Additional funding will be required to pilot test and upscale the FGRM to assess its viability to address potential conflicts that may arise in the implementation of REDD+ programme in the three participating States and others</p>	

that may indicate interest in future.

### 3.5 Challenges and Lessons Learned

In the implementation of the REDD+ readiness programme in Nigeria, some challenges were encountered. Addressing these challenges has facilitated the progress made and noted in this MTR report. It has brought up many lessons that are being taken into account to accelerate the process for the timely formulation of the country's REDD+ Strategy.

#### *Challenges*

- There is limited capacity with the procurement process which often resulted in procurement delays, including delays approval of fund releases. This is being addressed and may not seriously afflict the remaining project implementation.
- Irregular meetings of the Steering Committee could affect the enthusiasm of members and needs to be forestalled in future.
- The challenge of getting the National Council on REDD+ constituted and made functional remains. The Federal Ministry of Environment which hosts the National REDD+ Secretariat should find a means to address this problem.
- The need to carefully manage the expectations of various stakeholders, particularly forest communities in the participating States on what REDD+ can and cannot do is a major challenge. This can be achieved by consistent advocacy and regular information flow that will provide reliable information on what will be delivered as benefits to communities. Cautious approach that will not raise the expectations of forest communities beyond what is realizable should be adopted for managing communication on REDD+ issues. It would be helpful to be conservative and measured in handling issues on what REDD+ can deliver to communities, bearing in mind that the scheme is still evolving and surrounded by uncertainties now. Several capacity building and training workshops should be organised for potential beneficiaries and representatives of the key stakeholders. Emphasis should be the co-benefits of forest management.
- Dealing with the different causes of deforestation in different ecological zones in the country can be technically complex, requiring in-depth analysis of diverse elements.
- Pilot testing REDD+ programme implementation could be problematic if adequate funding is not mobilized and state government properly involved in providing political, technical and financial backstopping and support. National and State REDD+ Secretariats would need to develop and implement good resource mobilization strategies sufficient resources to cover the key activities envisaged under the piloting phase of REDD+ implementation in Nigeria.

- The capacities of state multi-stakeholder REDD+ structures remain weak and need to be strengthened to integrate REDD at community and landscape level and to ensure that there is closer linkage between the REDD+ secretariat and the state REDD+ actors.
- Ensuring that key REDD+ actors, particularly local communities, can comprehend the technicalities of the REL/ RL and the entire MRV system to be developed for Nigeria's REDD+ remains a challenge.
- National capacity for MRV development process to capture forest degradation is weak due largely to lack of accurate data and high-resolution satellite/ aerial imagery from previous studies.
- Lack of a National Land Use Plan presents enormous difficulties in spatial modeling and forest monitoring.
- The role of the private sector remains rather minimal, weak and diffuse.
- There is weak M & E system in the National REDD+ Secretariat for data collation and reporting.

### **Lessons Learned**

As indicated in many progress reports for the implementation of REDD+ R-PP programme, considerable lessons have been learned in the Nigeria REDD+ readiness process. They include:

- The planning process around the start-up of the programme is time consuming. Thus, it is important to allocate time for the setting up of structures and for facilitating recruitment processes for technical staff in the REDD+ Secretariats. In addition, programme planning should take into consideration the substantial time required for stakeholder consultations. The building and strengthening of stakeholder platforms essential for successful REDD+ implementation (e.g. stakeholder forum and networks of communities of practice) can take longer. Furthermore, community based projects like CBR+ strengthened community and NGOs participation particularly in developing the strategy; it is possible that if commenced earlier, CBR+ has the potential to trigger more widespread participation and generate data for early results in the REDD+ readiness process.
- Over-ambitious programme set forth in R-PP likely contributed to a lack of focus on key elements required to achieve readiness. As a result, stakeholder engagement was much more diffuse in clarifying the way forward and analyses did not contribute as cogently as needed to the definition of strategic issues at the commencement of programme implementation.

- There must be clarity on institutional arrangements for REDD+ readiness implementation from the outset. For example, the composition of the REDD+ coordination units and how it functions within the structures of an institution needs to be clearly defined. Also, in a Federal State where a two-pronged approach for REDD+ implementation is employed, clear communication and reporting lines between the Federal and State is an imperative.
- Inter-sectoral coordination that will enable the programme to identify and engage effectively key sectors with key drivers for coordination and mainstreaming of REDD+ in the national development agenda is critical right from the outset.
- At the outset, programme implementation needs to be coupled with capacity building and hands-on/practical support to implement aspects of the REDD+ Programme relating to MRV, FREL/FRL, SIS, and NFMS. This is useful to demystify their seemingly complex/technical methodologies. These technical aspects should combine simple and relevant social development tools to relate the processes and expected outputs and outcomes to the experiences of the people. The process should recognise that REDD+ is about supporting people to respond to climate change issues, and so the process itself must target well to enable people to understand and participate. In addition, there is the need to properly link the proposed activities in the NP to the Warsaw Framework elements. This rather simplifies and helps to organize the technical work to be implemented.
- The country-driven programme approach combined with technical hands-on support from the participating United Nations Agencies became crucial at several points in the programme to sustain the process and keep it relevant to national realities and international standards. The constant exchanges involving skills, experiences, information and lessons helped to model a globally acceptable National programme that is peculiar to Nigeria's experience.
- Similarly, the establishment of a Safeguards and MRV Working Groups, has provided a space for regular interactions, and thereby, enhancing participatory processes around the implementation of the Warsaw Framework elements.
- Inter-agency coordination is important to ensuring consistency and a coordinated support to Government.
- Several joint missions to Nigeria helped in expediting programme implementation.
- Mainstreaming REDD+ into relevant national programmes, policies and legislations will be relevant for the programme implementation in Nigeria.
- A core component of programme implementation is the sequencing of activities to establish backwards and forward linkages. In Nigeria, this took place very late in the programme implementation processes, an occurrence, which should be avoided in future. This is in part due to the late arrival of the Chief Technical Advisor. Also, there is the need to have joint

planning meetings and work plans with clear roadmap on how various work streams will feed into each other.

- Government ownership and leadership in Readiness process with stakeholder participation are critical to delivering a performance based REDD+. There is need for Government leadership in continuously strengthening coordination between UN-REDD and FCPF to maximise the full potential of the two programmes for REDD+ implementation.
- There is need to manage high expectation on the benefits of REDD+ but focus on practical solutions that it brings through integrated and participatory approaches;
- Strategic partnerships must be built at all levels to optimize and aggregate the full potential of opportunities for REDD+.
- With the anticipated flow of REDD+ funds under the emission reduction programme, there is a need to strengthen the financial management capacity of the National REDD+ Secretariat in the Federal Department of Forestry to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Sustainable communication at the project and community levels is paramount to ensure the creation of synergies amongst REDD+ related activities.
- The most effective way to address the issue of different causes of deforestation in the different ecological zones is to develop sub-national REDD+ strategies, as it is being developed for Cross River, Nasarawa and Ondo States that will be linked to the requisite eco-zone.
- Piloting and testing of policies and interventions, as it is being done in Cross River State, is essential for the development of a comprehensive and robust national REDD+ strategy.
- The role of private sector is critical for the effective development and implementation of any national REDD strategy. Therefore, it is necessary to create the enabling environment for private sector participation and investments to guarantee sustainable financing for REDD+ in the country.
- The success of the REDD+ implementation process is dependent on the application of the safeguards principles to address the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups such as local communities, youth and women.

#### 4. ASSESSMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMON APPROACH

The assessment of Compliance with Common approach by Nigeria's REDD+ Process encompasses the following elements:

- Delivery of partner's environment and social safeguards, including SESA/ESMF;
- Stakeholder engagement;
- Disclosure of information; and,
- Grievance and accountability.

In general, Nigeria has been following the common approach guidelines to provide a common platform for risk management and quality assurance, consultations, environmental and social safeguards, and a complaint mechanism that would be acceptable to the variety of entities concerned. The World Bank is the only delivery partner for REDD+ readiness activities funded by FCPF in Nigeria.

Nigeria recognises the importance of social and environmental safeguards in its general development policies, projects and programmes to prevent and mitigate undue harm to its people and environment, while creating benefit-sharing opportunities for its environment and communities. Thus, in developing and implementing its national REDD+ Strategy, Nigeria strives to integrate social and environmental safeguards into all aspects throughout its readiness phase and beyond. A summary of the status of the country's compliance with the common approach is given in Table 4.1.

**Table 4. 1. Assessment of Nigeria's compliance with the common approach**

Components	Status	Overall Assessment
<b>Environmental and Social Safeguards</b>		The establishment of the Safeguards Technical Working Group has enabled some progress to be made under this component. The TORs for the consultant undertaking the SESA and developing the EMFS have been finalized and advertised. Baring further procurement delays, the work is expected to start in July 2017, thereby ensuring completion for input into the country's REDD+ Strategy by February 2018
<b>Stakeholder Engagement</b>		Multi-stakeholders' engagements have been the modes operandi for the REDD+ Readiness process in the country. Wide stakeholder consultations are undertaken through innovative and comprehensive institutional arrangements that have been established under the readiness phase. The Stakeholders Platforms at national and state levels have facilitate the process of ensuring active involvement of many stakeholders in the REDD+ programme..
<b>Disclosure of Information</b>		Some progress has been made by disclosing project-related information, in English, through different channels, such as institutional arrangements (platforms, focal points, fora, etc.), a national REDD+ website ( <a href="http://www.nigeriaredd.org.ng">www.nigeriaredd.org.ng</a> ) exists and is active. At the state level, emphasis is

		on the use of national and state radio stations and TV channels. Efforts are being made to involve the use of social media for communication and such as Facebook and YouTube.
<b>Grievance and Accountability</b>		Work has commenced by outlining the envisaged FGRM which is in line with the FCPF guidelines and policies. An ongoing study is envisaged to identify current arrangements, gaps and areas of improvement needed to have a mechanism that will contribute to reducing potential conflicts that could arise from the implementation of REDD+ Strategy for Nigeria.

#### 4.1 Delivery of partner’s environment and social safeguards, including SESA/ESMF

Risk management and safeguards processes and instruments in the REDD+ readiness process for Nigeria have been designed in accordance with the World Bank’s standards to the extent they are compatible with the UNFCCC guidelines. In its R-PP, Nigeria recognises several social, environmental and institutional issues that are critical to the development of REDD+, and will ensure that the following safeguards are promoted and supported in REDD+ implementation:

- That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
- Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, considering national legislation and sovereignty;
- Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by considering relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, indigenous peoples and local communities, in REDD+ actions;
- That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that REDD+ actions are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;
- Actions to address the risks of reversals; and
- Actions to reduce displacement of emission.

To identify pertinent social and environmental risks, Nigeria is using the SESA. At the time of this MTR, some progress has been made in undertaking the SESA to ensure that Nigeria is in compliance with environmental and social safeguards.

## 4.2 Stakeholder Engagement

During the R-PP formulation period, information sharing and early dialogues about REDD+ and R-PP process was conducted involving various institutions and stakeholders, including REDD Working Groups, focused groups representing “forest-dependent” people; donors and development partners, academia and government policy and decision makers. Information sharing and early dialogue was supported by an R-PP Awareness Strategy. A series of awareness and outreach actions spearheaded by the National Focal Point and the R-PP Secretariat in the Department of Forestry, Federal Ministry of Environment and Cross River Forestry Commission, using variety of tools and approaches including REDD+ Brochure, REDD+ Banner, participation in policy meetings and related workshops and events within and outside Nigeria, sensitization during Stakeholder Consultations, documentary on REDD+ and R-PP in Nigeria and, electronic communication using E-mail. The results of the Consultations were utilized to feed into the R-PP.

During the REDD+ readiness process and under the coordination of the National REDD+ Secretariat, several Federal multi-stakeholder REDD+ cluster meetings (to sustain the REDD+ process at federal level) held, especially after May 2015 programme review. The national secretariat organised national stakeholder fora, a safeguards workshop, training in interpretation of remotely-sensed imagery and other relevant REDD+ components to create awareness and build capacity for enhanced participation in the REDD+ process. In addition, the National and State Coordinators, the CTA, and a member of the State House of Assembly attended workshops to help Nigeria prepare for participation in the COP in Paris in December 2015 through development of Nigeria’s INDC. The public awareness and participation platform thus established helped to mobilise a robust participation in the strategy process and validation in 2016.

A Policy Note for REDD+ drafted earlier in 2014. In addition, a number of the studies that were commissioned had related policy briefs prepared or key policy messages to high-level decision makers to support the implementation of REDD+. Notably, a study on the Assessment of Policy, Legal and Regulatory (PLR) Enabling Environment was commissioned, which provides key recommendations on Policy, legal and institutional issues that needs to be addressed to position REDD+ in Nigeria.

In addition, the strategy development provided more in-depth information that, informed a policy note for top government level officials at the Federal Ministry of Environment. A high-level meeting, held in May 2017, discussed policy, legal and institutional issues targeting high level government officials in the Federal Executive and Legislative arms of government in Nigeria to ensure enhanced mainstreaming of REDD+ activities and processes into national development.

Furthermore, the REDD+ process involves organizing stakeholder exchange meetings, training of journalists, developing guidelines for stakeholder engagement, and engagement of stakeholders at the national level focused on selected opportunities that have clear links to the pilot in Cross River State. A stakeholder engagement plan, covering both federal and state levels, and a communication

plan was developed jointly. The communication plan will identify specific “messages” for selected specific stakeholder groups.

### **4.3 Disclosure of information**

The REDD+ process has maintained the principle of disclosing information in English using a variety of avenues and through different channels, such as institutional arrangements (platforms, focal points, fora, etc.), a national REDD+ website ([www.nigeriaredd.org.ng](http://www.nigeriaredd.org.ng)) exists and is active. At the state level, emphasis is on the use of national and state radio stations and TV channels. Efforts are being made to involve the use of social media for communication and such as Facebook and YouTube. In addition, the REDD+ Secretariat shares important information through the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change, National and State Technical Committees and Multi-Stakeholder Platforms, including CSOs. In addition, Nigeria will use national resources to develop communication materials in local languages of the forest communities to enhance their understanding of the REDD+ process and value. Nigeria will maintain this principle in the remaining period.

### **4.4 Grievance and Accountability**

Nigeria is in the process of elaborating the measures or arrangements for managing grievances and providing feedback to stakeholders during REDD+ Strategy implementation. The undertaking to prepare Nigeria’s Feedback and Grievances Redress Mechanisms started in April 2017, with consultants currently working in the field to engage relevant stakeholders in targeted forest communities. The main objective of this undertaking is to build upon the framework assessment already undertaken by the Government of Nigeria during the formulation phase to develop a feedback and grievance redress mechanism and make it available to REDD+ stakeholders. Through this undertaking, the country will assess existing national institutional capacity for feedback and grievance redress to:

- Identify existing and potential conflict and grievances that could arise during REDD+ readiness, and implementation of REDD+ Strategy/ activities’ implementation.
- Identify mechanisms that can detect, prevent and minimize the escalation of, and resolve conflicts and grievances.
- Strengthen policy, legal and institutional framework for managing grievances and Conflicts that can assist in handling/ addressing stakeholder concerns and issues relevant to REDD+ implementation.
- Strengthen institutional capacity and presence of an active mechanism to receive feedback and handle conflict in a timely manner and at all levels.
- Build Capacity of key stakeholders and personnel on the presence of a clear FGRM for REDD+.
- Establish an easily accessible and well publicized mechanism to receive feedback and handle grievances in an as credible, timely manner.

It is expected that the implementation of the FGRM that will be proposed will:

- Reduce conflict arising from the implementation of REDD+ Strategy for Nigeria; and
- Contribute to attaining sustainable development and reducing poverty by ensuring that benefits accruing from improved management of forest resources flow to communities' dependent on these resources and by taking necessary actions to address deforestation and forest degradation.

## 5. AN UPDATED FINANCING PLAN FOR THE OVERALL READINESS PREPARATION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FUNDS PLEDGED BY, AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY, OTHER DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Table 5.1 provides an updated financial plan for the overall readiness preparation activities according to each R-PP component. The table also includes a request to the PCPF for additional support for each

**Table 5.1. Updated financial plan for the overall readiness preparation activities**

RPP Component	Total needed (A)	Funds pledged (B)	Funds used		Funds available (= B - C)	Financing gaps (= A - B)	Request to FCPF (if any)
			Funds committed (C)	Funds Disbursed			
1a National REDD+ Management Arrangement	2,565,000	815,705.00	591,985.00	589,127.86	223,720.00	1,749,295	1,749,295
1b. Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups	280,000.00	150,000.00	19,055.00	19,055	130,945.00	130,000	130,000
1c. Consultation and Participation Process, advocacy	943,000.00	-	0	0		943,000	943,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>3,788,000.00</b>	<b>965,780.00</b>	<b>611,040.00</b>	<b>608,182.86</b>	<b>354,665.00</b>	<b>2,822,295.00</b>	<b>2,822,295.00</b>
2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	370,000.00	0.00	0	0	0.00	370,000	370,000
2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	375,000.00	375,000.00	0	0	375,000.00	-	-
2c: Implementation Framework	75,000.00	75,000	0	0	75,000.00	-	-
2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	750,000.00	750,000.00	0	0	750,000.00	-	-
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,620,000.00</b>	<b>1,200,000.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,200,000.00</b>	<b>370,000</b>	<b>370,000</b>

3a. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Level	1,912,000.70	1,311,986.70	1,311,986.70	714,880.00	0.00	600,014.00	600,014.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,912,000.70</b>	<b>1,311,986.70</b>	<b>1,311,986.70</b>	<b>714,880.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>600,014.00</b>	<b>600,014.00</b>
4a: National Forest Monitoring System	790,000.00	0	0	0	0	790,000.00	790,000.00
4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	680,000.00	322,295.00	282,584.00	141,292.00	39,711.00	357,705.00	357,705.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,470,000.00</b>	<b>322,295.00</b>	<b>282,584.00</b>	<b>141,292.00</b>	<b>39,711.00</b>	<b>1,147,705.00</b>	<b>1,147,705.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,790,000.70</b>	<b>3,799,986.70</b>	<b>2,205,610.70</b>	<b>1,464,354.86</b>	<b>1,594,376.00</b>	<b>4,940,014.00</b>	<b>4,940,014.00</b>

**Table 5. 1. Funding supports from implementing partners**

Funding partners		Amount provided (USD)	Start date	End date	Brief description of activities
Federal/State Govts		400,000	2009	On-going	Contributions are in kind (Staffing, office space, operational vehicles and utilities)
UNREDD	Readiness	3,800,000	2012	2016	Funds supported readiness activities including Cross River State Strategy, FREL, National Forest Monitoring System, and Safeguards as well as institutional and technical capacity buildings.
	CBR+	800,000	2014	2017	Community-based REDD+ activities including livelihood options and community empowerment in pilot sites.
GCFF		131,000	2014	2016	Funds supported capacity strengthening and preliminary sampling design for carbon accounting in Cross River State.
FCPF		3,800,000	2015	2018	Support REDD+ readiness in Nigeria by expanding activities to 2 new States (Ondo and Nasarawa).
<b>Total</b>		<b>8,931,000</b>			

## 6. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE FCPF

Nigeria is using USD 3.8 million grant that the FCPF provided to launch the REDD+ readiness process, focusing on the key elements, i.e. the development of the strategy through a technical analysis of the drivers of deforestation, an environmental and social assessment of policy options, the development of reference levels (REL) to monitor the deforestation and forest degradation activities and non-carbon indicators such as biodiversity and socio-economic aspects, institutional arrangements for REDD+ management and any complaints. The Readiness Grant has contributed immensely to the achievement of most preparatory activities towards becoming “ready”.

However, despite the substantial progress which Nigeria has made in its REDD+ readiness process, not all key milestones can be met with the funds currently available for the implementation of the R-PP. Financing gaps in areas such as the MRV system, the complete Reference Scenarios, etc. exist, and this has necessitated a call for additional financial resources for the full realization of Nigeria’s readiness objectives. Furthermore, the national interest to expand the REDD+ Readiness process to additional states to address the complex ecological landscape of Nigeria makes continuous capacity building for REDD+ implementation imperative. In this regard, all the components

The key gaps and remaining activities for which additional funding is being sought have been identified during the readiness process, particularly during the multi-stakeholder meeting for the MTR self-assessment exercise, and are described below. It is expected that the additional funds will support readiness activities<sup>18</sup> under the following three R-PP components:

- Component 1. Organize and Consult (1a, 1b & 1c).
- Component 2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation (2a)
- Component 3. Develop of the National Reference Level (3a & 3b).
- Component 4. Monitoring Systems Safeguards (4a & 4b).

The request budget and budget breakdown is summarized in the Table 6.1

**Table 6. 1. Budget for additional funding for Nigeria’s REDD+ Readiness Programme**

R-PP Component	Sub-component	Activities	Timeline/Costs (USD'000)		
			2018	2019	Total
<b>1. Readiness Organization and Consultation</b>	1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements	Continued or extended support to coordination (NRS) / institutional structure	220	200	<b>420</b>
		New criteria for selection of additional states; and costing based on experience	140	-	<b>140</b>
		Capacity building and	190	160	<b>350</b>

		training of stakeholders			
		Expansion to 3 other states [Management Infrastructure	210	180	<b>390</b>
		Capacity-enhancement and training for both the National and State Secretariats	190	175	<b>365</b>
		Support or the engagement of consultant to develop technical approaches to mobilize resources for implementation	-	80	<b>80</b>
	1b. Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups	Strengthen South-South engagement, learning and sharing lessons and best practices	70	60	<b>130</b>
	1c. Consultation and Participation Process, advocacy	Develop and sustain effective stakeholder engagement	168	140	<b>308</b>
		National advocacy to scale up REDD+ in Nigeria including design and production of communication and media products	190	170	<b>360</b>
		Support to address gender issues that are unique to local communities; including increasing liaising capacity at state and community levels	150	130	<b>280</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>1548</b>	<b>1325</b>	<b>2873</b>
<b>2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation</b>	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Technical support to develop a Financing Strategy and Investment Plan to complement the National REDD+ Strategy	-	90	<b>90</b>
		Support for the development of enabling policy and action plans for REDD	100	70	<b>170</b>

		Preparation of RaBa for Nasarawa and Ondo States	30	10	<b>40</b>
		Mainstreaming REDD+ in national development plans, NDC implementation plan, Nigeria Green Bond, Green Climate Fund, FCPF Carbon Fund, national budget, private sector investment, and other sources of finance	-	70	<b>70</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>130</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>370</b>
<b>3. Reference Emissions Level/ Reference Level</b>	3a	Development of sub-national FREL/FRL for 3 additional states (including capacity building)	250	190	<b>440</b>
	3b	Support for system strengthening including software need and upgrade,	80	80	<b>160</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>330</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>4. Design Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards</b>	4a. Monitoring System	Development of National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in 3 additional states based on experience	200	80	<b>280</b>
		Support for technical Team to strengthen NFMS including high resolution imagery to supplement wall-to-wall national forest assessment for Nigeria and development of a robust National Forest Inventory	150	110	<b>260</b>
		Ongoing capacity building and training in forest cover monitoring of technical stakeholders from national, state community levels	100	70	<b>170</b>
		Capacities for developing a GHG inventory and	40	40	<b>80</b>

		reporting for UNFCCC			
	4b. Designing an Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Acquisition of data for Multiple Benefits analysis and mapping,	100	40	<b>140</b>
		Capacity building for Multiple benefits analysis.	70	47	<b>117</b>
		Develop options for safeguard information system including grievance redress mechanism			<b>0</b>
		Development of Safeguards Information System for Nigeria	100	-	<b>100</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>			<b>3856</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1147</b>
<b>Total</b>					<b>4,940.014</b>

## 6.1 Description of Activities:

### Component 1: Organization and Consultation

#### 6.1.1 Strengthen the REDD+ management arrangements, including the establishment of the FGRM

Under the current support from the FCPF, major outputs have been achieved in establishing functioning management arrangements for the national REDD+ process in the country, at both national and state. However, capacity for REDD+ readiness implementation remains weak at the state level. Moreover, considering the many new and technical issues involved in the global REDD+ process, both the national and state institutional arrangements are considered still evolving in terms of their technical and institutional capacities to handle effectively the coordination of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases. The progress achieved during this midterm review requires further work and support to strengthen and enhancing the management arrangements and coordination functions. There is a need to further define and document the roles and responsibilities, intuitional links and coordination. Additional support is also necessary to build enhanced technical and institutional capacities of these arrangements particularly in the new technical areas of REDD+ such as the SESA/ESMF, reference level, M&E, data management, communication and outreach, benefit-sharing, and grievance and redress.

Building on the achievements made and the momentum created to date, the additional funds are required to support the following:

- continued or extended support to coordination by the NRS and other State and community-based institutional structures;
- development of new criteria for selection of additional states and costing based on experience
- capacity building and training of stakeholders;
- functional management infrastructure in three (3) other states to effectively address the complex Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness landscape;
- capacity-enhancement and training for both the National and State Secretariats;
- support or the engagement of consultant to develop technical approaches to mobilize resources for implementation
- institutional strengthening and capacity-building for members of the national and state platforms (namely some ministries that do not yet have adequate knowledge of REDD+ though they have an important role to play) to give them greater sense of ownership of the REDD+ process;
- strengthening inclusion of, and partnership with the private sector; and
- finalizing a national REDD+ revenue management mechanism that is effective, fair and transparent.

In terms of the establishment of the FGRM, more time is required to assess and strengthen the existing arrangements and legal procedures at both the state and federal level, taking into consideration customary arrangements, and implement them in the current three participating states and others that have expressed interest.

#### **6.1.2 Consultation, Participation and Outreach**

With the extension of REDD+ R-PP implementation into two additional and possibly to six new states, additional and intensive consultations will be required to take cognizance of some gaps in the current approach. Significant improvement is required in improving the gender mainstreaming into the REDD+ process as well as improving on the level youth engagement in REDD+ activities. Extensive information sharing activities and means for improving access to information, particularly through the implementation of the Communication Strategy that is being developed, would have to be undertaken, particularly when the studies under component 2 are finalized and work on the strategy is advanced to improve public disclosure of REDD+ project-related information. Thus, despite the significant achievements, there are activities that remain to be completed to enhance the degree of consultation for REDD+ process in the country. The communication strategy needs to be completed and implemented to raise the level of awareness about the REDD+ process among various optimized stakeholders at all levels and in different ecological zones of the country. Given the complex process of developing the REDD+ strategy in an inclusive and participatory manner, further support is required to consolidate, enhance and ensure the effective participation, information-sharing and consultation along the development of REDD+ readiness and implementation phases. Overall, additional funding will be required to:

- develop and sustain effective stakeholder engagement;
- upscale national advocacy to scale up REDD+ in Nigeria including design and production of communication and media products to develop the national REDD+ strategy;
- provide support to address gender issues that are unique to local communities; including increasing liaising capacity at state and community levels;
- support to improved involvement of youth in the REDD+ R-PP. They are currently largely excluded in development processes despite their rights and the stake they hold in the success and sustainability of the outcome;
- improve exchanges among various technical partners working in the field of conservation and natural resource management who would be interested in participating in REDD+ process; and
- expand consultations to other ecoregions, namely the mangrove and Guinean rainforest.

## **Component 2: REDD+ Strategy**

### **6.1.3 Support for the preparation of the REDD+ Strategic options**

Studies on land-use and land tenure; drivers, governance, barriers and how to address them; the study on benefit-sharing, the study on strategic options, and the study on strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA) are required to contribute effectively to the development of REDD+ strategy for Nigeria. All these studies received support for implementation under the FCPF grant agreement. Since the implementation of the REDD+ R-PP project commenced significant progress has been made on these studies, including the establishment of working groups, preparation of TORs, field work and draft reports that were submitted.

An analysis of the REDD+ sectoral strategies and their potential conflicts and synergies in relation to the REDD+ interventions was conducted with the support of UN-REDD only for CRS, which has completed and validated a report on REDD+ Strategy options through a presentation to stakeholders. Overall, the strategic options are still in the process of evaluation and formulation and their definition will require an exhaustive and holistic review of deforestation and forest degradation in the Nigerian context. The remaining work under this sub-component has commenced and a study on strategy options is planned to be conducted later in 2017. This review will be fully optimal only when all the findings of works and studies under the current FCPF funding are finalized, as the consultancy that will prepare the National Strategy will be able to draw significant material from Cross River, and the work underway in Nasarawa and Ondo States, assess the strategy options, prioritize them for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities and undertake analysis of costs and benefits.

To further the REDD+ strategy development and implementation process, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding for this sub-component in form of studies that will feed into the REDD+ Strategy formulation process, particularly to:

- Provide technical support to the development of a Financing Strategy and Investment Plan to complement the National REDD+ Strategy;
- Support for the development of enabling policy and action plans for REDD;
- Ensure the mainstreaming of REDD+ in national development plans, NDC implementation plan, Nigeria Green Bond, Green Climate Fund, FCPF Carbon Fund, national budget, private sector investment, and other sources of finance; and
- Reinforce the coordination of resource management between the different key sectors and the integration of REDD+ to sectoral policies, strategies, and public policy instruments

#### **6.1.4 Development of the REDD+ Implementation Framework**

Nigeria plans to design appropriate benefit sharing arrangements for the National REDD+ Strategy by replicating RaBa studies in Nasarawa and Ondo States and using the results to develop a more realistic national Framework for the implementation of REDD+ benefit sharing mechanisms. This will include identification of a range and categories of benefits and beneficiaries' specific to proposed activities and geographic locations, the processes for how benefits will be equitably and efficiently shared, the institutional structures needed and the processes for transparent decision making and implementation. The country will also accelerate the completion of the ongoing process for the development of Nigeria's FGRM for REDD+. While the resources available through the current FCPF support should be adequate for development of the national FGRM, Nigeria will benefit from additional funding to:

- support the extension of the CRS RaBa to other States (Nasarawa and Ondo);
- pilot test the benefit sharing arrangements in CRS;
- build the institutional and financial management capacities of institutions benefitting from or managing carbon incomes at the national, state and local levels; and
- fill gaps related to the adoption of legislation/regulation, guidelines for implementation, as well as the national REDD+ registry and system for monitoring REDD+ activities.

#### **6.1.5 Social and Environmental Impacts during REDD+ Readiness and Implementation**

The procurement process for the SESA is underway and work is expected to commence by end of third quarter of 2017. Support for a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is provided through the FCPF readiness grant, and the SESA process will work concurrently with the development of the National REDD+ Strategy. The SESA will be conducted through a series of activities and analytical tasks, which will be linked to the relevant steps of the REDD+ Programme preparation and implementation.

In addition to the proposed work under FCPF support, Nigeria has identified a need for broadening this scope of work to integrate development of the Safeguards Information

System (SIS) for REDD+ in the country as well as understanding how these safeguards will be "addressed and respected" throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities with SESA. The Working Group on national safeguards was reorganized in October 2015 to enable different stakeholders to participate and work together to review relevant policies and measures to be developed within the framework of the REDD+ Strategy for the Cross River State region. During this process, selected existing or already planned policy and regulatory instruments relevant to the REDD+ process was assessed, especially regarding potential benefits and risks. In addition, the work on safeguards will also draw from and build on the outcomes of the PGA work as well as the assessment of policy, legal and institutional framework on REDD+. The work on safeguards will also be incorporated into the Issues and Options report and the eventual REDD+ strategy. The SESA that will be carried out by the FCPF is expected to help strengthen advancements for transparency and safeguards in the country.

### **Component 3: Development of a National Reference Level**

In the implementation of this sub-component, a Technical Assistance Agreement was signed with FAO, which led to the recruitment of: (i) a National MRV Consultant completed; (ii) National Forest Inventory Database & Data Processing Expert; (iii) NFI Expert/Field Supervisor; and (iv) Forestry Officer/Technical Adviser (NFI & FRELs). A spatially explicit study on drivers of deforestation in Cross River State has been finalized, analyzing satellite images for three different periods (2000, 2007 and 2014), also including activity data that was obtained for land use/land cover purposes in the entire State. Furthermore, the ongoing development of the National Forest Carbon Inventory will help providing estimates of emission factors. A workshop is planned in 2016 on the establishment of the FRELs/FRLs, building on data collected during the studies and analyses. FAO is embarking on the technical and logistical preparation to conduct the national forest inventory. A draft version of the FRELs/FRLs is planned to be validated before the end of 2017.

The preparation of a FREL/FRL as part of the readiness activities is key for Sudan to move into the second phase and develop its strategic options for emission reductions into implementable REDD+ projects and programmes. Therefore, there is an urgent need for additional support from the FCPF to enable Sudan to establish its reference levels. Nigeria will benefit more from additional funding support for the following activities:

- Development of sub-national FREL/FRL for 3 additional states (including capacity building);
- Support for system strengthening including software need and upgrade;
- Field work was in the pipeline for additional forest inventory data collection to improve the sub-national FREL;
- Specialised training for key technical stakeholders to build capacity in trend emission calculation as well as in FREL construction process; and
- Up-scaling of sub-national FREL to national.

## Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards

### 6.1.6 Strengthening and Enhancing National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

Despite some progress and achievements, the complexity of the NFMS and the lack of capacity, both technically and institutionally, many gaps still remain to be filled in the implementation of this sub-component. The hardware for the geomatics laboratory and for the management of databases, satellite images, software image processing, database management and fire warning system as well as staff capacity to ensure the implementation effective operation of these systems at central and regional levels remain insufficient. The same goes for measurement, data management, and estimation of GHGs emission/removal. Specific gaps that need to be addressed relate to:

- Harmonisation of historic data and up scaling of NASRDA's " wall-to-wall" data to cover the entire country on the basis of forest definition that has been developed for Nigeria.
- Collation of in-country wood density values based on on-going efforts at some universities to substitute the pan-tropic default values to enable improvement on existing Allometric Equations.
- Institutionalisation of a robust data sharing mechanism among stakeholders' institutions for a functional NFMS.
- Basic tools such as GPS, Diameter & Girthing tapes, Clinometers, Compass, Spiegel relascope, Calipers with Gateye, Rangefinder, etc. are to be acquired to complement & facilitate actions at federal level as well as to consolidate achievements at CRS.
- Training of stakeholders from national and sub-national in the following areas to further strengthen capacities for demonstration and monitoring:
  - ✓ satellite data interpretation and analysis, accuracy assessment, transition matrix generation, GPS uploading, navigation and handling;
  - ✓ compass reading; forest equipment handling;
  - ✓ plot design and demarcation;
  - ✓ data collection protocol, data processing and analysis to estimate tree biomass, carbon stocks and carbon dioxide equivalent;
  - ✓ capacity for NFMS data verification particularly for data quality control.
- Technical training in ALU software and in technical GHG Inventories Reporting for Nigeria under the various IPCC guidelines.
- Training of community members in mobile devices handling for forest monitoring to bolster community participation in REDD+ issues.

Considering the above, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding to:

- Development of National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in 3 additional states based on experience;

- Support for technical Team to strengthen NFMS including high resolution imagery to supplement wall-to-wall national forest assessment for Nigeria and development of a robust National Forest Inventory;
- Ongoing capacity building and training in forest cover monitoring of technical stakeholders from national, state community levels;
- Capacities for developing a GHG inventory and reporting for UNFCCC;

#### **6.1.7 Design an Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance and Safeguards**

Using the REDD+ Strategy Framework developed for Cross River State, Nigeria plans to build a National REDD+ Information System to give information about how safeguards, as listed in Annex 1 of the Cancun decision, are being considered along the implementation of all the REDD+ activities in the country. Such safeguards to be considered will include transparent and effective national forest governance structures, respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and forest resource owners, and actions that complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programs and relevant international conventions and agreements.

For effective implementation of this sub-component, Nigeria will need to benefit from additional funding for:

- Acquisition of data for Multiple Benefits analysis and mapping;
- Capacity building for Multiple benefits analysis;
- Development of Safeguards Information System for Nigeria

## ANNEXES

List of documents/ Annexes include:

1. Nigeria REDD R-PP
2. Nigeria REDD+ Programme Document
3. Nigeria FCPF R-PP Assessment Note
4. FCPF Country Progress Report Aug 2015
5. Aug\_2016\_FCPF REDD Country Progress Report
6. 2017 FCPF Dashboard of progress of activities
7. Approved Nigeria's INDC
8. PSC Meeting Minutes 2014
9. PSC meeting minutes 2015
10. UNREDD Nigeria Semi-Annual Report 2015
11. Nigeria UN-REDD Inception Report
12. Nigeria REDD R-PP
13. REDD+ Assessment Study
14. FCPF Country Progress Report Aug 2015
15. Nigeria FCPF Aide Memoire
16. Nigeria CBR Draft Plan
17. UNREDD NP Annual Report 2017
18. Stakeholder Forum Report
19. Report of REDD+ MRV Training Workshops
20. Nigeria Legal and Policy Review within PGA
21. Nigeria Annual Narrative Report NP 2013
22. REDD+ Report for FCPF
23. The National Technical Committee Meeting Report
24. Nigeria REDD Management arrangements