

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: Nepal

February, 2011

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- R-PP assessed by FCPF PC at PC6 (July, 2010)
- WB due diligence mission and preparation of Assessment Note (Sept/Oct, 2010)
- Revised R-PP (addressing issues from PC6 resolution) submitted (Oct 2010)
- Decision Meeting for Assessment Note, Cleared by WB management (Nov 29, 2010);
- \$200K FCPF Formulation Grant mostly disbursed ; though account declared inactive after being idle for 7 months (as of February), complicating grant extension or supplement
- Trimester Progress Report for FY2010 submitted late (due Jun 2010), now requiring satisfactory Audit (scheduled for Jan 2011)
- Procurement Audit by Nepal's Auditor's General Office (ongoing as of Feb, 2011, results pending);
- Signature of amendment of Grant Agreement for supplemental funding (\$3.4m) pending, subject to outcome of Audit (satisfactory rating required)
- WB provided no-objection letter for grant procurement plan prepared by REDD Cell (Jan 2011)
- Identification of potential Chief Technical Advisor to support grant implementation (preparation phase) ongoing, local advertisement initiated, to be hired upon grant agreement signature

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- REDD Multi-sectoral, Multi-stakeholder Coordinating and Monitoring Committee established as the apex body for REDD policy-- chaired by the Minister (Min. of Forests and Soil Conservation), also includes National Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative, Ministry of Land Reform and Management, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Local Development, the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works, and the Ministry of Science and Technology
- REDD Cell in Ministry of Forestry and Soil Conservation operation
- A REDD Working Group (RWG), under Secretary, MoFSC, leadership, is functional. The Group's Members were nominated by the MoFSC. RWG is comprised of members representing government, indigenous peoples groups, community forest user groups, private sector, and development partners. In the next phase, the RWG will expand to include one public-sector representative from each of the key REDD-related sectors, including environment, agriculture, energy, and local development; two representatives from the forestry sector; two representatives from civil society; and one representative from the donor community and an individual expert.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- The preparation of the R-PP has followed a rigorous process of consultation and participation. The stakeholders consulted included both the public and private sectors, NGOs, indigenous communities and civil society organizations that are interested in the forest sector and representing various indigenous communities. The consultations are well documented, including locations, stakeholders, proceedings and feedback. These have contributed to the development of the R-PP. A Consultation and Participation Plan has been developed to continue the consultation effort in the execution of the studies.
- A REDD Stakeholders' Forum will serve as the principal outreach and communication platform and is already

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operational.

- The REDD Cell Communication and Outreach Section is responsible in designing and disseminating REDD information, including REDD-related pilot projects outcomes.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- See RPP for planned activities, implementation of activities not yet initiated, to be co-financed by donor partners

5. Implementation Framework

- See RPP for planned activities, implementation of activities not yet initiated, to be co-financed by donor partners

6. SESA

- SESA process expected to commence in October 2011 (details see RPP)
- Nepal also participates as a pilot country in the development Social and Environmental Standards (SES) through the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA), a national coordinator for SES was appointed and the REDD working group held a first meeting to develop national indicators for SES (Nov 2010).
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7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- See RPP for planned activities, not yet initiated; majority of FCPF grant is programmed for work on reference scenarios and MRV (see remarks on MRV)

8. MRV

- See RPP for details regarding the proposed MRV activities. A Finnish-funded Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) is entering second year of implementation (to be completed by 2014). The FRA performs many technical activities instrumental to the development of a national MRV system, including forest mapping and detailed carbon measurements for selected sites. Full synergies between FRA and REDD MRV systems development difficult to harness due to supplemental grant funds not being available (delayed by outstanding progress report and Government Audit). As a result, hiring Chief Technical Advisor to help structure technical activities, procure qualified consulting services, and coordinate with FRA is delayed.

9. Other

- See RPP