

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Mechanism Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) External Review Template

(interim, December 13, 2012, from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 6)

Guidelines for Reviewers:

- 1) FCPF REDD Country Participant R-PPs will be reviewed and assessed by the FCPF Participants Committee, the FCPF's governing body, taking TAP comments into account. External (Technical Advisory Panel or other) and Bank reviewers may provide recommendations on how a draft R-PP could be enhanced, using this template on a pilot basis until a process is approved by the PC.*
- 2) One set of criteria should be used for review: specific standards each of the current 6 components of an R-PP should be met.*
- 3) Your comments will be merged with other reviewer comments (without individual attribution) into a synthesis document that will be made public, in general, so bear this in mind when commenting.*
- 4) Please provide thoughtful, fair assessment of the draft R-PP, in the form of actionable recommendations for the potential enhancement of the R-PP by the submitting country. A REDD Country Participant would be allowed three submissions of an R-PP to the PC for consideration.*

Objectives of a Readiness Preparation Proposal (condensed directly from Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 3)

The purpose of the R-PP is to build and elaborate on the previous Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) or a country's relevant comparable work, to assist a country in laying out and organizing the steps needed to achieve 'Readiness' to undertake activities to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), in the specific country context. The R-PP provides a framework for a country to set a clear roadmap, budget, and schedule to achieve REDD Readiness. The FCPF does not expect that the activities identified in the R-PP and its Terms of Reference (ToR) would actually occur at the R-PP stage, although countries may decide to begin pilot activities for which they have capacity and stakeholder support. Instead, the R-PP consists of a summary of the current policy and governance context, what study and other preparatory activities would occur under each major R-PP component, how they would be undertaken in the R-PP execution phase, and then a ToR or work plan for each component. The activities would generally be performed in the next, R-PP execution phase, not as part of the R-PP formulation process.

Review of R-PP of: Paraguay

Reviewer: Eduardo Morales

Date of review: June 13, 2014

First TAP Review of Paraguay R-PP (May 1, 2014):

Background:

Paraguay submitted a first draft of the R-PP in April 2014 for consideration at PC 18 (April 2014). A TAP Team consisting of six members reviewed the draft R-PP. Members submitted their drafts that were assembled to establish a synthesized review on April 28, 2014.

The revised R-PP was submitted June 11, 2014, and the following are the general comments regarding this latest submission:

The set of documents submitted by Paraguay have proved very useful and facilitating in order to carry out a in depth revision. Of particular assistance were:

- Paraguay Matriz de revisions 09062014
- Paraguay FCPF RPP rev 09062014 track changes, and
- RPP Paraguay rev 090614

These documents proved to be very useful in this last revision process.

General observations:

After the June 13, 2014 revision the following are the general observations:

1. This last version of the R-PP as the previous ones is written in Spanish, ideas are presented in a comprehensive manner with abundant supporting material, including maps, figures and tables. The way in which the R-PP was presented has responded to the terms of reference set out in the R-PP Template.
2. The proposed SESA is relevant and demonstrate an understanding of the subject matter.
3. This last effort and work done by the Paraguay team has responded properly to the recommendations made in the May 1st, 2014 revision.

Key Recommendations:

In the following pages the result of the revision performed is presented. The revised inclusion and acceptance of the recommendations have resulted in that the Paraguay R-PP has almost met all the standards.

Unfortunately, recommendations set for Component 2d, were not fully addressed, this is shortcoming in the revised R-PP. Recommendations for component 2wd were:

- Indicate how the SESA articulates with the process started already in the UNREDD Program in Paraguay, particularly refer to free prior and informed consent (FPIC), whereas SESA only speaks of consultation and UNREDD consent document
- Explain how the SESA group is related to the structure proposed REDD PLUS Paraguay in this proposal.
- The order of activities and sub activities presented in this section are welcome, to complete the section is recommended to include studies assessing cultural impacts and human rights in addition to the Prior Informed Consent (FPIC).

- Analyze other institutions that have a potential role in the SESA or consultations with other sectors.
- Identify available capacities to implement the SESA or specify if external technical assistance will be needed.
- A more detailed work plan for the SESA process and the ESMF are required

Standards to be Met by R-PP Components

(From April 07, 2014 Submission)

Results

This last revision shows that the all Standards have been met after the incorporation of the recommendations made in the May 1st, revision.

The table below shows the compliance of the different components with the standard.

Standard	TAP Review May 1st	Review June 13
1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements	Largely Met	Met
1b. Information Sharing and Stakeholder Dialogue	Largely Met	Met
1c. Consultation and Participation Process	Largely Met	Met
2a. Land Use, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Largely Met	Met
2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Largely Met	Met
2c. Implementation Framework	Partially Met	Met
2d. Social & Environmental Impacts during Preparation and Implementation	Largely Met	Largely Met
3. Reference Level	Partially Met	Met
4a. Monitoring – Emissions and Removals	Met	Met
4b. Other Multiple Benefits, Impacts and Governance	Largely Met	Met
5. Schedule and Budget	Not Met	Met
6. Program Monitoring & Evaluation Framework	Partially Met	Met

In the following tables we present the assessment of each component:

Component 1. Organize and Consult

Standard 1a: National Readiness Management Arrangements:

The cross-cutting nature of the design and workings of the national readiness management arrangements on REDD, in terms of including relevant stakeholders and key government agencies beyond the forestry department, commitment of other sectors in planning and implementation of REDD readiness. Capacity building activities are included in the work plan for each component where significant external technical expertise has been used in the R-PP development process, and mechanisms for addressing grievances regarding consultation and participation in the REDD-plus process, and for conflict resolution and redress of grievances.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

The component has been shortened and much of the supporting material presented in the Annexes.

It is felt that the leadership, which was recommended, has not been fully met in its design. The leadership description is a complex mixture of different guidelines:

- a. CONAM which will be the Political Committee which should supply the strategic guideline
- b. The National Climate Change Program will supply the technical consultancy to the Technical group in charge of implementing the entire program.
- c. The National Platform, its regional branches and a group of consultants, who will be the dialogue space (using their wording) and data sharing group. This National Platform will act through the "unidad operativa" (operations unit) and the technical group.

This is a very complex arrangement that dilutes the responsibility of the Unidad Operativa REDD and its REDD Head Paraguay. The recommendation called for an integrated leadership under probably the "Unidad Operativa REDD". We are persuaded that a dispersed administration will not make the participating institutions accountable if they fail to actively be involved. Probably an integrated organizational setup, presided by a Ruling Board with representatives from the participating institutions could probably work better for the purposes of REDD Paraguay.

Evaluation:

The revised R-PP document reflects the results and achievements of the UN-REDD National Joint Project. Suggestions have been added in each of the components where these were considered. And, despite the last observation the recommendation has been accepted, so that this Component has been Met.

Conclusion: Met

Standard 1b: Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups:

The R-PP presents evidence of the government having undertaken an exercise to identify key stakeholders for REDD-plus, and commenced a credible national-scale information sharing and awareness raising campaign for key relevant stakeholders. The campaign's major objective is to establish an early dialogue on the REDD-plus concept and R-PP development process that sets the stage for the later consultation process during the implementation of the R-PP work plan. This effort needs to reach out, to the extent feasible at this stage, to networks and representatives of forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers and forest dependent communities, both at national and local level. The R-PP contains evidence that a reasonably broad range of key stakeholders has been identified, voices of vulnerable groups are beginning to be heard, and that a reasonable amount of time and effort has been invested to raise general awareness of the basic concepts and process of REDD-plus including the SESA.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

An effort to incorporate numerical data has been undertaken. A lengthy and found explanation of the purposes of the forestry inventory is presented.

Conclusion: Met

Standard 1c: Consultation and Participation Process

Ownership, transparency, and dissemination of the R-PP by the government and relevant stakeholders, and inclusiveness of effective and informed consultation and participation by relevant stakeholders, will be assessed by whether proposals and/ or documentation on the following are included in the R-PP (i) the consultation and participation process for R-PP development thus far³ (ii) the extent of ownership within government and national stakeholder community; (iii) the Consultation and Participation Plan for the R-PP implementation phase (iv) concerns expressed and recommendations of relevant stakeholders, and a process for their consideration, and/or expressions of their support for the R-PP.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

Dissemination and coordination seem to be the strong aspects in this R-PP. Addition of explanations have reinforced this component.

The Claim Resolution Mechanisms, have been revised, and certainly under the current conditions better guidelines for improved management and decision making by the leading REDD+ institutions may be achieved.

Regarding information sharing, it can be observed that all along the R-PP document specific activities with the

³ Did the R-PP development, in particular the development of the ToR for the strategic environmental and social assessment and the Consultation and Participation Plan, include civil society, including forest dwellers and Indigenous Peoples representation? In this context the representative(s) will be determined in one of the following ways: (i) self-determined representative(s) meeting the following requirements: (a) selected through a participatory, consultative process; (b) having national coverage or networks; (c) previous experience working with the Government and UN system; (d) demonstrated experience serving as a representative, receiving input from, consulting with, and providing feedback to, a wide scope of civil society including Indigenous Peoples organizations; or (ii) Individual(s) recognized as legitimate representative(s) of a national network of civil society and/or Indigenous Peoples organizations (e.g., the GEF Small Grants National Steering Committee or National Forest Program Steering Committee).

campesinos, small farmers, women and youth have been incorporated in order to strengthen their capacity building

Conclusion: Met

Component 2. Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy

Standard 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy, and Governance:

A completed assessment is presented that: identifies major land use trends; assesses direct and indirect deforestation and degradation drivers in the most relevant sectors in the context of REDD-plus; recognizes major land tenure and natural resource rights and relevant governance issues; documents past successes and failures in implementing policies or measures for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; identifies significant gaps, challenges, and opportunities to address REDD; and sets the stage for development of the country's REDD strategy to directly address key land use change drivers.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

Regarding the analysis of deforestation and degradation in the revised R-PP in pages 113 to 121 a complete and in depth revision has been made. A capacity building activity has been added along with its corresponding budget.

Conclusion: Met

Standard 2.b: REDD-plus strategy Options:

The R-PP should include: an alignment of the proposed REDD-plus strategy with the identified drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and with existing national and sectoral strategies, and a summary of the emerging REDD-plus strategy to the extent known presently, and of proposed analytic work (and, optionally, ToR) for assessment of the various REDD-plus strategy options. This summary should state: how the country proposes to address deforestation and degradation drivers in the design of its REDD-plus strategy; a plan of how to estimate cost and benefits of the emerging REDD-plus strategy, including benefits in terms of rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and other developmental aspects; socioeconomic, political and institutional feasibility of the emerging REDD-plus strategy; consideration of environmental and social issues; major potential synergies or inconsistencies of country sector strategies in the forest, agriculture, transport, or other sectors with the envisioned REDD-plus strategy; and a plan of how to assess the risk of domestic leakage of greenhouse benefits. The assessments included in the R-PP eventually should result in an elaboration of a fuller, more complete and adequately vetted REDD-plus strategy over time.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

Recommendations have been considered regarding strategic options and the environmental and forestry governance strengthening. A thorough revision of the proposed actions has been incorporated. It is recognized that national

capacity including the public authority and police is considered in the forestry areas, as it can be seen in page 91 , box 1 last bullet.

Conclusion: Met

Standard 2.c: REDD-plus implementation framework:

Describes activities (and optionally provides ToR in an annex) and a work plan to further elaborate institutional arrangements and issues relevant to REDD-plus in the country setting. Identifies key issues involved in REDD-plus implementation, and explores potential arrangements to address them; offers a work plan that seems likely to allow their full evaluation and adequate incorporation into the eventual Readiness Package. Key issues are likely to include: assessing land ownership and carbon rights for potential REDD-plus strategy activities and lands; addressing key governance concerns related to REDD-plus; and institutional arrangements needed to engage in and track REDD-plus activities and transactions.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

In this new submission the transversalization of indigenous participation has been extensively expanded and work out in such a way that consultation and informed consent are duly considered.

The role of key institutions to promote and implement REDD activities with related groups has been revised and completed. An in-depth revision has been made.

Conclusion: Met

Standard 2.d: Social and Environmental Impacts during Readiness Preparation and REDD-plus Implementation:

The proposal includes a program of work for due diligence in the form of an assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts as part of the SESA process. It also provides a description of safeguard issues that are relevant to the country's readiness preparation efforts. For FCPF countries, a simple work plan is presented for conducting the SESA process, cross referencing other components of the R-PP as appropriate, , and for preparing the ESMF.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

Is true: Institutional arrangements, Actors identification, Consensus Plan, required studies identification, Environmental and social impacts evaluation, socialization of results, all this are considered and presented in a very concise way. But, What about measurements? With what data will this be carried out? How are all these components being measured?

Recommendations:

- Indicate how the SESA articulates with the process started already in the UNREDD Program in Paraguay, particularly refer to free prior and informed consent (FPIC), whereas SESA only speaks of consultation and

UNREDD consent document.

- Explain how the SESA group is related to the structure proposed REDD PLUS Paraguay in this proposal.
- The order of activities and sub activities presented in this section are welcome, to complete the section is recommended to include studies assessing cultural impacts and human rights in addition to the Prior Informed Consent (FPIC).
- Analyze other institutions that have a potential role in the SESA or consultations with other sectors.
- Identify available capacities to implement the SESA or specify if external technical assistance will be needed.
- A more detailed work plan for the SESA process and the ESMF are required.

Conclusion: Largely Met

Component 3. Develop a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level

Standard 3: a National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or a Forest Reference Level

Present work plan for how the reference level for deforestation, forest degradation (if desired), conservation, sustainable management of forest, and enhancement of carbon stocks will be developed. Include early ideas on a process for determining which approach and methods to use (e.g., forest cover change and GHG emissions based on historical trends, and/or projections into the future of historical trend data; combination of inventory and/or remote sensing, and/or GIS or modeling), major data requirements, and current capacity and capacity requirements. Assess linkages to components 2a (assessment of deforestation drivers), 2b (REDD-plus strategy activities), and 4 (monitoring system design).

(FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a stepwise approach may be useful. This component states what early activities are proposed.)

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

Besides an expanded explanation of the way in which the National Communication will be used there is a well developed explanation about present shortages and inefficiencies of the Paraguay forest sector. The recognition of these draw-backs leads to an improved design, and alternatives are identified to overcome the lack of a well established reference level. The proposal is an incremental betterment of the RL. This complies with the recommendation in the way that the quantification of a Reference Level is presented.

The issue of Carbon property has been improved. The conditional form in which in the previous document the carbon property was posed has been amended.

There is a long explanation about the way in which biomass will be used and accounted for energy production.

Conclusion: Met

Component 4. Design Systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards

Standard 4a: National Forest Monitoring System:

The R-PP provides a proposal and workplan for the initial design, on a stepwise basis, of an integrated monitoring system of measurement, reporting and verification of changes in deforestation and/or forest degradation, and forest enhancement activities. The system design should include early ideas on enhancing country capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities) to monitor emissions reductions and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, and to assess the impacts of the REDD-plus strategy in the forest sector.

The R-PP should describe major data requirements, capacity requirements, how transparency of the monitoring system and data will be addressed, early ideas on which methods to use, and how the system would engage participatory approaches to monitoring by forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers. It should also address independent monitoring and review, involving civil society and other stakeholders, and how findings would be fed back to improve REDD-plus implementation. The proposal should present early ideas on how the system could evolve into a mature REDD-plus monitoring system with the full set of capabilities.

(FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a staged approach may be useful. The R-PP states what early activities are proposed.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-Plan meets this standard, and recommendations:

Comments:

No particular comments were made for this component.

Conclusion: Met

Standard 4b: Designing an Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards:

The R-PP provides a proposal for the initial design and a work plan, including early ideas on capability (either within an integrated system, or in coordinated activities), for an integrated monitoring system that includes addressing other multiple benefits, impacts, and governance. Such benefits may include, e.g., rural livelihoods, conservation of biodiversity, key governance factors directly pertinent to REDD-plus implementation in the country.

(The FCPF and UN-REDD recognize that key international policy decisions may affect this component, so a staged approach may be useful. The R-PP states what early activities are proposed.)

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-Plan meets this standard, and recommendations:

The non-carbon benefits from the forest have been better considered in pages 142 to 145 in this version of the Paraguay R-PP. The monitoring of environmental impacts is described in page 143, where the biodiversity considerations have been expanded

Conclusion: Met

Component 5. Schedule and Budget**Standard 5: Completeness of information and resource requirements**

The R-PP proposes a full suite of activities to achieve REDD readiness, and identifies capacity building and financial resources needed to accomplish these activities. A budget and schedule for funding and technical support requested from the FCPF and/or UN-REDD, as well as from other international sources (e.g., bilateral assistance), are summarized by year and by potential donor. The information presented reflects the priorities in the R-PP, and is sufficient to meet the costs associated with REDD-plus readiness activities identified in the R-PP. Any gaps in funding, or sources of funding, are clearly noted.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:

The Total Budget of **US\$ 5,905,000** is consistent with its components. Although this figure is different from that supplied in page 147 in **Componente 5: Cronograma y Presupuesto**, where US\$ 5,890,000 is indicated, which certainly is an erroneous addition. Besides they call for "US\$ 5.890 millones" which clearly is not the budget, it should either be US\$ 5.89 million or US\$ 5,890,000, but with the correct figure.

The budget and schedule tables have been improved and properly filled in. There is consistency between the description of each component and the budget considerations

Conclusion: Met

Component 6. Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Standard 6: The R-PP adequately describes the indicators that will be used to monitor program performance of the Readiness process and R-PP activities, and to identify in a timely manner any shortfalls in performance timing or quality. The R-PP demonstrates that the framework will assist in transparent management of financial and other resources, to meet the activity schedule.

Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:**Comments:**

Qualitative and quantitative indicators have been added as well as the time framework. These corrections improved and completed this component.

Conclusion: Met