



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Independent TAP Expert Assessment of Cameroon's Readiness-Package

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Purpose and modalities of TAP review

“Assess whether due process and approach were followed while performing the self-assessment of REDD+ Readiness”:

- Part A: Review of the self-assessment process of Cameroon’s R-Package
- Part B: Review of the results of the multi-stakeholder R-Package self-assessment
- Part C: Assess what still needs to be done to complete the Readiness Process

→ **TAP Conclusion and Recommendations**



Azobe tree in production forest,
Cameroon ©JBlaser

Part A: Self-Assessment Process

- The Self-Assessment process was conducted according to FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework
- It was initiated with a launching workshop (Douala, April 2018)
- Based on the decisions of the launching workshop, the national self-assessment process and stakeholder consultation workshops were conducted in the five agro-ecological zones, complemented by two workshops designated exclusively to IPs.
- Stakeholder consultations assessed the 34 criteria of the FCPF's REDD+ Readiness Assessment Framework and evaluated progress achieved at national level
- The validation workshop was held in Douala on 18-19 July 2018

Part B: REDD+ Readiness: Results

Cameroon's Results of the Self-assessment process:

According to the analysis of the 275+ representatives of key stakeholder groups (local authorities and communities, civil society, private and public sectors, others) participating in the review process:

- Overall good progress has been made in REDD+ readiness although for most of the criteria of the Methodological guidelines, additional work is needed.
 - **11** out of the 34 criteria were rated **green** meaning significant progress and ownership of the process by stakeholders
 - **19** out of the 34 criteria have been rated **yellow** meaning good progress but further work is required to conclude with the criteria
 - **4** out of the 34 criteria (i.e. C21, C22 and C25) are rated **orange** meaning not yet demonstrating progress, thus considerable efforts are needed to conclude readiness.

Summary of R-Package overall valuation by sub-component based on self-assessment package

Components	Sub Components	Progress Status	TAP Assessment
1. Organization and Consultation	1a. National Readiness Management Arrangement	Yellow	Yellow
	1b. Stakeholder Consultation and Participation	Green	Yellow
2. Prepare the REDD Strategy	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Forest Policy and Governance	Yellow	Yellow
	2b. REDD Strategy Options	Yellow	Yellow
	2c. REDD Implementation Framework	Yellow	Yellow
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Green	Yellow
3. Reference emission level/reference level		Yellow	Yellow
4. Forest monitoring systems and safeguard measures	4a. National forest monitoring system	Yellow	Yellow
	4b. System of information on the multiple advantages, governance and safeguards	Yellow	Yellow

Part B: REDD+ Readiness: Results

Component 1: Readiness, Organization and Consultation (criteria 1-10)

The TAP report assessed in detail the 10 criteria under component 1 and overall endorses the rating, but questioned the “green” rating of C5 (p. 9), C7 and C9 (p- 10-11 TAP-report) as being rather “yellow” and the orange rating in C6 (p 9), being rather “red”.

→ The TAP concludes that... while substantial efforts were made, the participation of all stakeholders and communication should be further improved. The self-assessment report pointed out the insufficient capacity of civil society to take an active part in the national REDD+ process and the lack of a clear approach in respect to the feedback and redress mechanism. A validated communication strategy should be used to ensure effective and efficient information sharing on readiness outcomes to all relevant stakeholders, particularly IPs.

Part B: REDD+ Readiness: Results

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation (Criteria 11-25)

- The TAP endorses the rating of sub-component 2a (C11-C15), sub-component 2b (REDD+ strategy options, C16-C18) and Sub-component 2b (Implementation framework, C19-C22)
 - It questions however the rating of Sub-component 2d (C 23-25, social and environmental impacts) as stated on p. 14-15 of the TAP report
- The TAP notes that for component 2, the self-assessment underlines some remaining critical criteria that need to be addressed in the additional two years of readiness implementation: linking REDD+ to laws and regulations, legal and policy implementation arrangements of REDD+ and designing and putting in place the REDD+ registry for the country. Overall the analytical basis for REDD+ implementation is assessed as sufficient and the REDD+ strategy appropriate overall.



Part B: REDD+ Readiness: Results

Component 3: Forest Reference Emissions Levels/Reference levels (criteria 26-28)

The TAP endorses the YELLOW rating for C 26 (RL methodological basis and C 27 (Use of historical data) but but questions the “Green” rating in C 28 (technical feasibility) being rather “yellow”

→ The TAP observes that ... some methodological approaches will need further refinement or justification. E.g. the TAP notes that the forest definition used has altered prior data on forest extent (obtained by forest inventories) significantly. There are two separate datasets being used for deforestation and for forest degradation. From the information available, it is not immediately clear how these could deliver a set of coherent estimates and how overlaps between the two methods for estimating forest degradation and deforestation areas could be avoided.

Also, modeling emission trends over the period 2015-2035 from an agricultural expansion that has not even yet started is seemingly not to be in accordance with the methodological framework of the FCPF.

Part B: REDD+ Readiness: Results

Component 4: Monitoring system for forests and safeguards (Criteria 29-34)

The TAP questions the “green” rating for C 29 (page 16) and) and C 32 (p 18). It endorses the “yellow” rating for Criteria 30 and 31 (p 17 and agrees with the yellow rating of C 33 and C 34.

→ The TAP recommends to make a direct functional link between the NFMS and elements presented in the section about the reference level. Naturally, the activity data for programme monitoring need to be fully consistent with the activity used for establishing the reference level. But at the moment, it is hard for the TAP to infer this consistency from the text.

Part C: What still needs to be done

Further actions to conclude the readiness process

- The R-Package presents a comprehensive description and outline of “Action steps to be undertaken to conclude proposed activities” (Table 17 of the report)
- The report also contains a timeframe for the activities to be completed in the period between 2019/2020 (although some proposed activities go beyond that proposed timeline).
- The lion share of the proposed work to be done is already financed and work in ongoing

TAP Conclusions and recommendations

- The TAP concludes that the enumerated accomplishments described in Cameroon's Self-Assessment Report and based on the R-Package have been effectively achieved, although that a number important elements remain to be finalized, including through an additional grant for REDD+ readiness completion in 2019/2020
- As well identified in the Self-Assessment, the main issues are:
 - Review participation, information sharing and increase capacity efforts
 - Develop on the feedback and regress mechanism
 - Develop the Safeguards Information System
 - Prepare an implementable REDD+ Registry for Cameroon
 - NFRL/RL considering deforestation and forest degradation;
 - Finalize the National Forest Monitoring System; and
 - Develop the link between FRL and NFMS

TAP presentation on Cameroon's R-package

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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