

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 : Sudan

Reviewer : Nepal (lead), US; and Southern CSO observer

Date of review : 23 June, 2014

Standards to be Met by R-PP Components

(From Program Document FMT 2009-1, Rev. 6:)

Our overall impression on R-PP of Sudan is as follows:

Strengths:

- Detail information on forest management history and forest tenure system;

- Detail Strategic options proposed with recommended intervention;
- Step wise approach with benefit transfer opportunity to establish national REL/FRL and MRV system;
- Emphasis on National Capacity building to establish national REL/FRL and MRV ;

Key Issues:

- Inclusiveness and transparency in REDD governance;
- Data gaps and lapses in constructing a credible REL/FRL;
- Conflict within and across the countries;
- Under budgeting in Consultation and outreach
- To achieve stipulated output in planned time line;

Key Recommendations:

- Make R-PP short and readable by moving supporting information to annex;
- Ensure participation of Tribal community and other relevant stakeholders in appropriate proposed REDD entities;
- Detail study for underlying drivers would be helpful in developing concrete strategic options to address Drivers of D/D in the National REDD strategy;
- Please revisit the budget to justify the expected output in planned Time line;
- Please plan the time line and budget that justify the sequence of work such as REDD strategy follows various analytical studies and it has to be embedded in SESA process to develop ESMF;
- Please clarify whether the financial contribution from Sudan is in kind or it is a financial commitment;

Components	Evaluation
<i>1 a. National Readiness Management arrangements</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>1 b Information Sharing and Stakeholder Dialogue</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>1 c Consultation and Participation Process</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>2 a Land Use, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</i>	<i>Largely met</i>
<i>2 b REDD+ Strategy Options</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>2 c Implementation Framework</i>	<i>met</i>
<i>2 d Social & Environmental Impacts during Preparation and Implementation</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>3 Reference Level</i>	<i>Partially met</i>
<i>4 a Monitoring Emissions and Removals</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>4 b Other Multiple Benefits, Impacts and Governance</i>	<i>Met</i>
<i>5 Schedule and Budget</i>	<i>Met</i>

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:

Our observation is as follows:

- The institutional structure given in Fig 1a.2 indicates that National REDD coordination Office is like a secretariat but does not clearly demonstrates linkage with other entities such as REDD Forum, Thematic Teams etc;
- There are inconsistencies of using acronyms in text and Figures such as SNRSC in Text and NRSC, similarly confusion between Technical Advisory committee and National Technical Advisory committee in Figure 1a.2 and Figure 1a.3 respectively;
- The structure/ composition of REDD Forum and Technical advisory Committee is not clear so further elaboration is desired to demonstrate transparency and inclusiveness in REDD readiness;
- Potential role of CSOs is not clear so should consider to represent in different proposed entities and there should be mechanism in place that ensures feedback process for complains received in decision making process;
- Budget allocation under this component needs to be revisited to make REDD owned by all stakeholders;

Fairly Meets the standard

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:

- FPIC process is still very vague and somewhat confusing here so would be better to describe a bit detail in this sub-section (page 34);
- Roles and participation of stakeholders, particularly local community and tribal nomads is not explained in as much detail as one would like to see in this R-PP;
- Ensure access of information to CBOs and groups that do not necessarily have access to conventional media like local populations and non Arabic speaking groups

Meets the standard

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:

Our Observation:

- Consultation is rolled out for four years but budget allocation is not adequate;
- It is worth to make further clarification to ensure the stakeholder consultation to buy in and own the readiness process;

Meets the standard

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:

Our Observation:

- Different ownership regime of forest resources and how they fit into REDD+ and carbon business could be explained in more detail as it has implication on benefit sharing.
- Range land and its role in REDD could be elaborated more, the nexus is not articulated adequately. What are some of the activities undertaken on rangeland that have implication on forested areas?
- Benefit sharing is mentioned as a key issue and area that needs to be worked on but not much more elaborated. It is not very convincing to include Ivory as Benefits of Sudan Forests as a NWFP;
- Proximate drivers are well documented but underlying drivers are not adequately

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).

<p>identified and analyzed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review and revision of appropriate legislations is highly recommended; <p>Largely meets the Standard</p>
<p>Standard 2.b: REDD-plus strategy Options:</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Further study on underlying drivers will be extremely useful in developing concrete strategic options and interventions to halt current rate of deforestation and degradation; ➤ It is advised to prioritize identified drivers so that strategic options can be better embedded in the SESA process to develop ESMF; ➤ Interesting having the table of forest types including South Sudan. How conflict in this region would impact in forests? Further elaboration on such matters will justify Table II.4; ➤ It seems that recruiting new students to forestry or promoting opportunities in forestry might address inadequate human resources at least as much as revising curricula; <p><i>Meets the standard</i></p>
<p>Standard 2.c: REDD-plus implementation framework:</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Reviewer's assessment of how well R-PP meets this standard, and recommendations:</p> <p>Our observation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Additional information on carbon tenure and other benefits of REDD will improve this component; ➤ Additional elaboration is desired so that role of non state actors in the decision making process can be better understood; ➤ Revisit for budget allocation as indicated by TAP will make realistic budget planning

Meets the standard**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:

- SESA/ESMF well linked to strategy options
- SESA process demands huge consultation so current budget allocation in that context needs to be revisited;

Meets the Standard**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:

- The first part of the reference level section still seems very vague and not very much focused;
- Reference base line using 1987, 1999, 2004 and 2010 anniversary is suggested in R-PP. Considering technological advancement and better quality of recent year SAT images it is advantageous to narrow down reference period and take intermediary anniversary between 2004 and 2010 to establish better historic based REL/FRL;
- Further clarification on stakeholders to be consulted for acquiring information and their roles is advisable;
- Information about approach of acquiring satellite imageries and methodology for

- overall image processing in this section will ease readers to understand better ;
- Further clarification on how the REL/FRL would complement to national GHG inventory and other national climate change reporting system would be advantageous;;

Partially meets the standard

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:

- The "relevant stakeholders" is stated but who they are isn't very well elaborated;
- It is not clear how the MRV structure proposed in page 150 is linked with REDD institutional arrangement illustrated in Figure 1.a.1 and 1a.2.
- It is not clear who is responsible to generate activity and EF data? Where the NFMIS and MRV entity will be hinged?
- How REL/MRV data will be made available to relevant stakeholders is not clear?

Meets the Standard

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 workplan, 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:

- clearly identified other most important non-carbon benefits that include enhancement of livelihoods, income generation & poverty reduction;
- For further feedback please see TAP review

Meets the standard

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:

Our Observation:

- Revisit the time and financial resource input flow in connection to expected output as suggested by TAP reviewer;

Meets the standard

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:

Our Observation:

- This section provides much detail than required at this stage

meets the standard

