

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet
COUNTRY: CENTRAL AFRICA REPUBLIC
October, 2013

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- The R-PP was approved by the FCPF Participant Committee meeting in Berlin on October 2011. The resolution listed a series of recommendations to be addressed and reflected in the revised R-PP prior entering a grant agreement with the Delivery Partner
- A workshop was organized by the National REDD Coordination with the representatives of the CSOs (about 40 attendees) on March 9th, 2012 in Bangui to present the outcomes of the Berlin meeting and the “*feuille de route*” to finalize the R-PP and re-submit to FMT for completeness check. However, the *feuille de route* did not indicate any date for the submission of the revised R-PP.
- The country organized a second workshop in October 2012 to respond to the issues raised by the Berlin PC members.
- On May 23, 2013, the CAR submitted its revised R-PP to be analyzed by the FMT.
- On May 28, 2013 the FMT issued its completeness check report and considered the key issues included in the annex of the resolution PC/10/2011/2 duly and properly addressed.
- Both documents (Revised R-PP and completeness check report) were uploaded on the FCPF website.
- The Government of CAR has made a formal request to work with the UNDP as a Delivery Partner for the Readiness Preparation activities. As long as the review of the R-PP was underway, there was no need to respond to the CAR.
- As the revised R-PP is satisfactory to the FMT, the CAR is waiting for UNDP’s feedback from now on. Since the coup on March 24th, 2013, the situation in CAR is very difficult. That put UNDP’s decision on hold.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- One Presidential decree setting the institutional REDD Arrangements (National REDD Committee and National Coordination REDD) was issued on November 8th, 2011; it is complemented by an Order, dated February 6th, 2012 designating the members of the National Coordination REDD.
- The National REDD Coordination team has been set up based on the Order: it is a multi-sectoral team and the different members seem knowledgeable of the REDD process. (Most of them were involved in the preparation of the R-PP).

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- CSOs members represent the majority of the membership of the National REDD Committee. However, no National REDD Committee meeting has been held yet.
- A workshop was organized on March 9th, 2012 in Bangui with the representatives of the CSOs. The CSOs have expressed a strong interest in participating and contributing to the Readiness Preparation process. The modalities of consultation need however to be improved and a special attention should be focused on this during the implementation of the R-PP.
- The country organized a second workshop in October 2012 to respond to the issues raised by the Berlin PC members. Representatives of civil society attended the workshop which can be considered as a validation workshop dedicated to the revised R-PP.

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4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- The FCPF Participant Committee recommended that Terms of reference for a comprehensive study on drivers and agents of deforestation and forest degradation be prepared prior CAR can enter into a Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement with the Delivery Partner. These ToRs were included in the revised R-PP.

5. Implementation Framework

- The issue Funds Management was largely debated during the R-PP presentation to the FCPF Participant Committee: as a result, the resolution includes a provision that a clear indication should be added in the R-PP that an in-depth participatory analysis of options to manage REDD funds in CAR be conducted during the R-PP implementation.
- The participatory analysis of options to manage REDD+ funds in CAR, including the pros and cons of using the National Environment Fund (FNE) to manage REDD+ funds was conducted during the October 2012 workshop (Refer to Annex 1b-15 - version in French: p.180). The workshop findings specify that the current regulatory framework in CAR (refer to the presidential instruction, dated December 15, 2011, version in French: p.85) bans any option other than the FNE as the vehicle to manage REDD+ funds. The FNE will thus be the financial instrument for the REDD+ funding. In order to ensure multi-shareholder participation in decisions over funds allocation, it is nevertheless proposed to create a "REDD+ Fund Management Committee" comprised of seven members representing the diverse stakeholders in CAR. Its structure and function will be defined during the implementation of the REDD+ readiness process through further consultations (Version in French: p.86).

6. SESA

- Limited progress has been made on that front.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- No activity to report at this stage. Activities to be launched once the second tranche of FCPF financing is available.

8. MRV

- Two training sessions on Satellite images (each of about 10 days) have been organized over the past few months (once with GAF project and another under the partnership AFD-Astrium)

9. Other