

**Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme**  
CROSS RIVER STATE - Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+  
*Appraisal Workshop, Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011*

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**STATEMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE STAKEHOLDERS  
ON NIGERIA'S REDD+ READINESS PROGRAMME**

Today, the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2011, over 100 members of a wide range of stakeholders of Cross River State that are interested in the REDD+ process met in Calabar to discuss the design and submission of *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*. We belong to, and represent many different actors and facets of Cross River State's society, including forest communities, non-governmental & civil society organisations, state's government officials, technical specialists, project managers, media and opinion leaders. We constitute a heterogeneous assembly that is interested in REDD+. Since the UN-REDD Scoping Mission of October 2010 we are in the process of forming a new umbrella platform called Cross River State Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+, which we believe will play a central role in the REDD+ process as it evolves.

Our meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Cross River State, Senator Liyel Imoke, who openly restated his support for a REDD+ process and for our participatory engagement to guide and build it. We acknowledge the presence of a UN-REDD mission and the National REDD+ Coordinator.

We have examined the core elements of the draft programme document, both in public discussions and thematic working groups. First we are pleased to see that efforts for the REDD+ process has advanced in Nigeria. We consider REDD+ as a potential means to better protect our forests and strengthen the livelihoods of the people that depend on them. During the appraisal workshop we focused on the following topics: (a) programme's outcomes and outputs that concern Cross River State; (b) drivers of deforestation; (c) participation, consultation and stakeholder engagement; (d) forest monitoring systems; and (e) governance, social and environmental risks/safeguards.

We have provided a set of ideas and recommendations for the finalisation of the programme document. The main ones are as follows:

- i) forest communities should be properly engaged, receive training, and feel early and tangible actions throughout the programme's implementation;
- ii) there is need for REDD+ to have a broad approach that goes beyond forest conservation to address questions of land management, afforestation & reforestation, ecosystem restoration, sustainable agriculture and community-based livelihoods;
- iii) there is need for capacity building on forest monitoring systems; *and*
- iv) the programme should include provisions to assess issues of land tenure, carbon rights, fair benefit-sharing mechanisms, and community conflict, providing guidance on how to address them in the context of REDD+.

We have also provided several specific suggestions and amendments to refine the document.

Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011

We look forward to the implementation of the REDD+ readiness programme, while highlighting the need to pay attention to issues of consultation, forest governance, community rights, enhancement of sustainable livelihoods, and gender equality.

We are delighted to know that the programme envisions Cross River State to become a centre of excellence for REDD+ in Nigeria, producing best practices and models on REDD+ that can serve other states as they engage in REDD+. We are eager to share our experiences with REDD+ with other states and abroad, as the opportunity emerges.

Taking into consideration the recommendations and remarks mentioned above, we are satisfied with the design of the programme and its operational approach. We support its submission to the UN-REDD Policy Board, hoping the programme will soon be approved and start implementation. We need this programme to expand capacity building, public awareness, training, forest conservation and local initiatives so that REDD+ is well understood and can be adequately built in our State and across Nigeria.

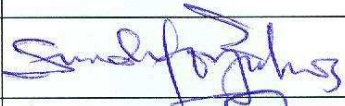
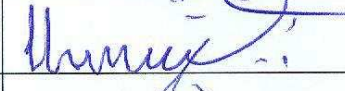
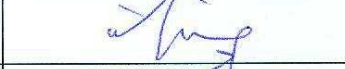






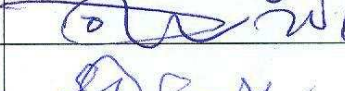



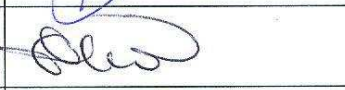

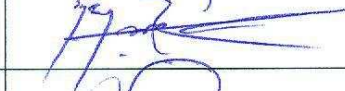
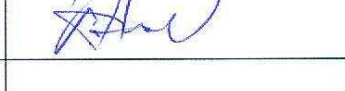


This Statement is read and endorsed at the State Library Complex in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February of 2011, at 6:47 pm.

List of participants & signatories:

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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme








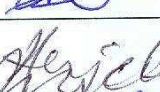







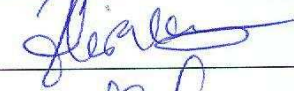



Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011

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| 19. Daniel Adado     | FC-HQ, Cal                      |  |
| 20. Chief John Ikobi | Rainforest Seed Conservator     |  |
| 21. Chief S.A. Olori | Ekuni community                 |  |
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| 24. Christhane Akpan | Ekuni Community                 |  |
| 25. ENO E. OKOR      | BASODE                          |  |
| 26. Tony Kedang      | Life Empowerment Foundation     |  |
| 27. Edwin Usang      | NGO Coalition for Enut. (NGOCE) |  |
| 28. Daniel           | Univer                          |  |
| 29. Bassey Enya      | FC, Cal.                        |  |



Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme




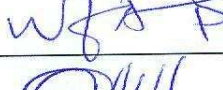


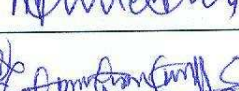
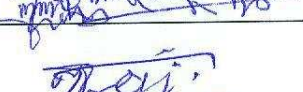
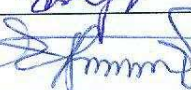
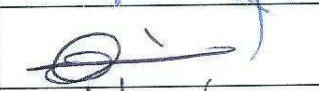



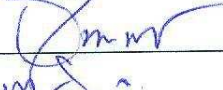

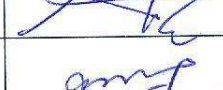



Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011

| NAME                     | ORGANISATION or COMMUNITY         | SIGNATURE   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 30. Ita, Silepang Eyo    | CRS Forestry Commission           |    |
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| 32. Ego Emmanuel         | CRS Forestry Comm.                |    |
| 33. Sonigitu Ekpe        | Min. of Agric/Nat Res.            |    |
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| 36. Ejue Peter Raymond   | National Solidarity Front         |  |
| 37. Felix Ukam           | CEPADA                            |  |
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| 40. Justina Okey         | Gov's office -                    |   |
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| 45. Mrs. Edu B. Ikera    | CRS Forestry Comm.                |  |
| 46. Bridget O. Nkor      | CRS Forestry Commission           |  |
| 47. Florence Kekong      | CRS FORESTAY Comm                 |  |
| 48. Mary Jane Ebor       | CRS Forestry Comm                 |  |



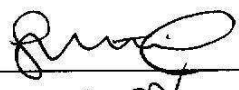
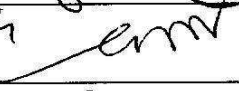


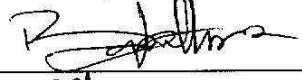
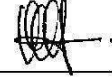







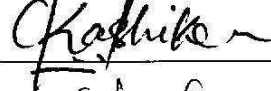
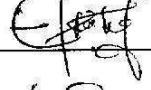




Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011

| NAME                     | ORGANISATION or COMMUNITY                            | SIGNATURE   |
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| 52. Amiekan Jean         | APO  |    |
| 53. Tony Atah            | Concern Universal                                    |   |
| 54. Dr. Francis M. Nwosu | Inst. of Ocean.<br>UNICAL                            |  |
| 55. Mamus Emeh Olu       | Ekuri Initiative<br>Old Ekuri                        |  |
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| 58. EXPANSE EDUNY        |  |  |
| 59. Edim Itakpo          | Forestry Comm.                                       |  |
| 60. Michael Simire       | Independent<br>Newspapers                            |  |
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| 62. Williams O. Ngun     | Centre for Env.<br>Partnership Dev                   |  |
| 63. Joseph Odey          | Coast House  |  |
| 64. MBA U. MBA           | CPUS, Office   |  |
| 65. Odigha Odigha        | CRSFC  |  |
| 66. Chiey Inan U.        | Imag crfc  |  |
| 67. Imakry               | CRSFC  |  |




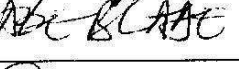




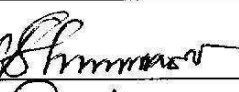
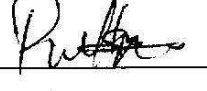

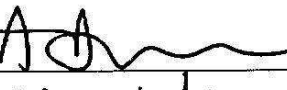
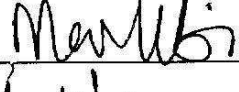
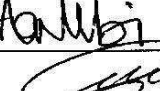
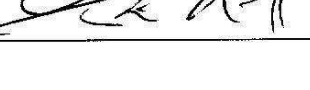
Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011

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|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 68. Sunday Etong         | FOCAP                          |    |
| 69. Donatus Ehin         | Community watch Initiative     |    |
| 70. Peter Bello          | Brakwan light                  |    |
| 71. Ndini Sylvia         | Brancher                       |    |
| 72. DBIO BASSEY          | IKO EKPEREM                    |    |
| 73. Hauwa Umar           | fed dept of forestry           |   |
| 74. Ntyam I. Nbyang      | Forestry Commission            |  |
| 75. Deborah Ogi          | Forestry com                   |  |
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| 81. Akomay Aslikon       | Forestry Commission Calabar    |  |
| 82. Caroline Umagu       | NGOCE                          |  |
| 83. LINUS MBU            | MFAMINMETU                     |  |
| 84. IJEOMA ANIEKAN-ATTAI | ZENITH BANK PLC CALABAR MIMWAY |  |
| 85. Archibong Okon       | Govt. House Press Calabar      |  |
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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

Calabar, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011

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| 89. Arilepo Arilepo     | CRSFC                               |    |
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| 92. Eme Offiong         | NTA                                 |   |
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| 94. Omimi Oden          | SA medical CPs<br>Governor's office |  |
| 95. MOSES KUSOEN        | INTERCONTINENTAL BANK               |  |
| 96. Ruth Asuquo         | Old Ekuri Comm.                     |  |
| 97. Hon. Felix A. Ikino | Old Ekuri Comm.                     |  |
| 98. ANDREW DUNN         | WCS                                 |  |
| 99. Martina W. Ubi      | Min. of Agric, Cal                  |  |
| 100. Eng. Bassey Echemi | Agric Services                      |  |
| 101. Steve Onoh         | Nigeria Chronicle                   |  |
| 102.                    |                                     |   |
| 103.                    |                                     |   |
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