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UN-REDD Programme's Policy Board
and
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's Participants Committee

Joint Meeting Summary

27 March 2012
Asunción, Paraguay



Session 2: Progress in Harmonizing Support for National REDD+ Readiness



Main lessons:

- Importance of creating an institutional framework for effective participation
- Coherence with national development planning
- Develop preliminary studies to help build the bases of REDD+ strategies
- Mobilize resources and policies for the investment phase
- Inter-ministerial coordination between different ministries involved
- Critical to have leadership of a National coordination entity

Challenges:

- Evolution of the UNFCCC negotiation
- Communicating REDD+ at a sub-national and local levels in countries with high cultural diversity
- Count with the necessary financing for readiness as it costs more than anticipated
- Maintain the technical capacity at a national level
- Build the necessary capacities to address safeguards

Opportunities:

- Catalyzing South-South exchange and innovative partnerships
- Set precedents for enhanced multi-stakeholder participation in national development planning
- Creation of innovative partnerships to move REDD+ forward
- Some of the most innovative RPPs have come from countries with fragile states and lay the grounds for the REDD+ concept globally



Session 3a: Enhancing Technical Support to Countries

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Background on Establishment of Country Needs Assessment (CNA):

- UN-REDD PB and FCPF PC requested and approved CNA be conducted to inform future planning
- UN-REDD PB working group coordinated by UN-REDD Secretariat and FCPF FMT oversight on consultancy
- Total estimated budget for the assessment is \$84,000
- CNA to be finalized by end of June 2012 and to be presented at UN-REDD/FCPF workshop on margins of FCPF PC12 in Colombia

CNA Methodology:

- 52 countries to be assessed within UN-REDD and FCPF
- In-depth assessment conducted in six countries: DRC, Tanzania, PNG, Cambodia, Ecuador & Panama
- Two main stages remain: remote survey and in-depth CNA
- Response matrix developed based on the Cancun Agreement and UN-REDD-FCPF R-PP template Version 6
- As part of in-depth assessment surveyed countries will be provided with overview questions on their top priorities and achievements
- Expected results include:
 - needs/'gaps' for support identified and presented by country, region, and globally
 - level of urgency of needs and support; involvement of different stakeholders
 - Modes by which support could be delivered
 - Identification of 'new and emerging needs' as countries go forward
- Support and active participation of partner countries to provide responses, in consultation with and involvement of stakeholders will be crucial



Session 3b: Definition of Readiness: Update on Readiness Package and FCPF/UN-REDD Collaboration

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- Readiness Package is important milestone at transition from Readiness preparation to implementation, and has importance for both REDD countries and donors
- FCPF Participants have discussed R-Package purpose, scope and assessment framework; different and often diverging views remain on some key aspects and further discussion and guidance is needed, especially from REDD countries
- A key question is how Readiness can be assessed given that countries receive support from a variety of sources, incl. UN-REDD, so it provides useful feedback and guidance to REDD countries
- PC/PB members raised questions in relation to (i) the costs of producing the R-Package, (ii) importance of reconciling diverging views, (iii) the scope and inclusion of '+' activities, and (iv) in-country consultation and capacity building

Session 3c: Mapping Exercise

Results :

- The comments from Norway, Germany, United States, and Republic of Congo regarding the importance of coordination between FCPf UN-REDD and FIP were well noted. Emphasis was placed on strengthening coordination between FCPF and UN-REDD at the national level, to allow for a more integrated and streamlining of procedures and approaches that would help simplify things with the governments.
- The need for the FCPF Global Level Advisory Committee to include IPs/CSOs representatives from the UN-REDD and FIP programs was highlighted as a necessary condition for fostering greater cooperation and coordination between the programs.
- There was a call from Norway to ensure the transparency of the FCPF Global Advisory Committee, through the creation of clear guidelines and procedures for participating in the Committee.
- Call from Norway to foster a better understanding of the impacts from the programs being currently implemented.



Session 3c: Enhancing support for engaging CSOs, IPs & other forest-dependant communities in REDD+ Readiness



FCPF, UN-REDD and FIP presented a series of updates demonstrating the extent of collaboration related to stakeholder engagement, both through joint work and a range of complementary activities being undertaken by each initiative.

- **Joint FCPF/UN-REDD Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines** developed to 'Support effective stakeholder engagement for REDD+ readiness with a focus on IPs and other forest dependent communities', and to reduce the burden on countries by consolidating UN-REDD and World Bank guidelines into one. Many countries have been actively using earlier versions of the guidelines, which are now integrated into the R-PP template as a requirement for FCPF, UN-REDD & delivery partners. Available on FCPF & UN-REDD websites.
- **UN-REDD Programmes FPIC Guidelines** to support UN-REDD National Programmes to seek FPIC, as and when appropriate, as determined by NPs in consultation with indigenous rights-holders are being developed through consultative process and technical workshops. Will shortly be finalised.
- **FCPF Regional and Global dialogues with IPs:** Update on the three regional caucuses that have been held (Central and South America, Africa and Asia), and on the regional and global dialogues that will be carried out in coordination with the UN-REDD Programme and other relevant regional or global REDD+ initiatives
- **Results of Mapping Exercise of Global Level Capacity Building Programs for Indigenous & Forest-Dependent Peoples & Southern Civil Society:** In response to PC request, an exercise to identify areas of current cooperation and potential collaboration was undertaken & reported on. FCPF propose an advisory committee to oversee their work on stakeholder engagement. Other initiatives will be invited to participate.
- **Self Selection process of IPs and CSOs:** Processes for self selection of IP and CSO Board Members and Observers presented for FCPF PC and UN-REDD PB.



Session 4a: Linking Community Monitoring to National MRV Development



- Local communities and indigenous peoples can contribute to the development and implementation of national MRV, which is recognized and encouraged in COP decision
 - Practical experience show that with the right training and capacity building they can contribute to the generation of robust and useful information on carbon and relevant socio-economic and environmental variables;
 - Monitoring requires some degree standardization of monitoring protocols to ensure consistency over time and across different geographic regions using simplified and adapted methods
 - Smart phones, GPS, geographic information systems aid the collection, analysis and transparent dissemination of information
- Participation does not need to be limited to local communities and indigenous people, but can include other forest tenure and management systems depending on national circumstances
- Additional costs can be reduced if monitoring for REDD+ can build on existing institutional and management arrangements
 - PC/PB members stressed the importance of scaled-up capacity building and institutional strengthening for sustainability, and the value of data collected on the ground



Session 4b: Addressing Land Tenure in REDD+

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- FAO has facilitated the creation of a comprehensive, voluntary, internationally negotiated guideline for land tenure.
 - The aim is to have it officially endorsed in May as a new international instrument.
 - Developed through dozens of consultations over more than two years.
 - Available on FAO website in English. Translations to follow soon.
- RRI is seeking to create a global tenure facility that would provide funding to governments for implementing tenure reform projects, and increase incentives to do so.
- Nigeria and Nepal have both identified land tenure as a key factor in determining the success of REDD+.
 - Current land tenure laws are out of date
 - In addition to modifying legal instruments, robust stakeholder engagement is critical to addressing land tenure issues.
 - There is no “one-size-fits-all” solution to land tenure issues.



Session 4c: Lessons of PES for REDD+ benefit distribution systems

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Background: The South-South Initiative was presented by Costa Rica, Mexico and Ecuador in Cancun and in Durban, where REDD+ countries were invited to formalize requests for a south-south dissemination on PES lessons for REDD+ and donors were invited to join the challenge by financing this South-south knowledge exchange.

- **Lessons learned** from Costa Rica, Mexico, Ecuador, and Vietnam echoed heard earlier on R-PP preparation and Readiness work: the need for institutional frameworks, transparency, simplicity in design, investment in capacity building, & credible monitoring of social outcomes/impacts

- **Mexico** PES South-South initiative & the trade offs and synergies between Multiple Benefits. Key lessons are: start slow/simple and build as you go, the use of differentiated payments to recognize/reward actions (now has 6 different payments).

- **Ecuador** Socio Bosque Program (payments from \$35-60 annual per hectare basis) the program distributed more than \$14 million since 2008. Key program goals: minimize participation cost of and make payments conditional on ecosystem service delivery, use targeted outreach, prioritize work with poorest groups. M&E tool is under validation, to enable measurement of contribution to wellness of target population.

- **Costa Rica** MRV & Sustainable Finance in PES (going on since 1997) and REDD+, keep scale/scope in mind during design, diversify funding sources to reduce risks, clearly define objectives and baselines, and track leakage to improve efficiency.

- **Vietnam** shared lessons on benefit distribution systems currently in place . They also acknowledge the south-south exchange on PES lessons with Costa Rica , Mexico & Ecuador.

- RoC, Paraguay, Chile, PNG and Japan requested the FCPF to organize special discussions on PES for REDD.



Session 5a: Update on joint paper developed between FCPF, FIP, GEF and UN-REDD secretariats

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- A draft of the joint paper will be available in June 2012.



Session 5b: REDD+ Biodiversity Safeguards

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- Countries and stakeholders can benefit from synergies between CBD and UNFCCC implementation.
- Respecting safeguards and achieving biodiversity and social benefits will be essential for the long-term success of REDD+ .
- Experiences with the national implementation of the CBD can support REDD+ activities, including on safeguards.
- There is no “one-size-fits-all” model for biodiversity safeguards, but CBD recommends the approach of the UN-REDD Programme SEPC, FCPF Common Approach, and REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards.
- Low-cost options for monitoring of biodiversity impacts of REDD+ are available, although further work and capacity building is still needed.
- Inter-sectoral coordination between relevant Ministries is key to success.