



Validation Meeting Minutes- Nigeria National Programme

UN-REDD PROGRAMME SEVENTH
POLICY BOARD MEETING

13-14 October, 2011
Berlin, Germany



Communiqué of the National Validation Workshop on the draft *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*

Abuja, 21st February 2011

A wide array of stakeholders interested in REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation "plus") attended the National Validation Workshop on the draft *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*, held in Abuja on 21st February 2011. Participants comprised members of non-governmental organisations and civil society, forest community leaders, academic experts, researchers, senior officials from various government structures, representatives from a number of states, members of the business community, professionals of the media, members of international development partners, and the UN-REDD mission, among others. Several of them had attended the national REDD+ workshop held during the first UN-REDD mission last October 2010, when the drafting of the REDD+ readiness proposal was initiated.

The National Validation Workshop was presented with, and examined the key elements of the draft proposal, including the two-track approach to REDD+ in Nigeria to be employed by this programme (consisting of a combination of Federal and State actions, with a focus on activities at community level), the deforestation context, the Results Framework, the proposed forest monitoring and MRV system, and the framework for social and environmental safeguards.

The programme's outcomes and outputs as proposed in the draft were endorsed. Several amendments were suggested at activity level, and the drafting team agreed to include them in the final draft to be submitted to the UN-REDD Policy Board.

The following aspects were emphasised as priority issues concerning REDD+ readiness in Nigeria:

- i) broad capacity-building and knowledge sharing are necessary since REDD+ is a new concept;
- ii) active community participation and engagement in programme's activities (e.g. capacity-building and forest monitoring) should be maximised;
- iii) the U.N. rights conventions should inform the REDD+ readiness process;
- iv) gender equality and social inclusion should be mainstreamed;
- v) due clarification and definition of carbon rights and land-tenure matters as they affect REDD+ are required;
- vi) REDD+ activities and benefits should reach communities equitably;
- vii) issues of displacement of deforestation are to be considered;
- viii) detailed work on the definition of forests is needed; and
- ix) private sector engagement and investment in REDD+ should be encouraged.

The assessment of deforestation drivers highlighted agriculture as a major issue and the need to invest in sustainable intensification of agriculture to protect forests and enhance community livelihoods. The plenary highlighted the importance of facilitating the participation of other states in REDD+ readiness in view of their growing interest. It was noted that this would be enabled through outcomes 1 and 2 of the programme. The activities planned for Cross River State will in fact serve as a model for other states with respect to REDD+. In addition, the plenary also indicated the need to strengthen the national policy and legal framework for climate change to ensure that it incorporates REDD+.

The proposed work on safeguards as an integral part of Nigeria's REDD+ system was welcomed and deemed very important to address human rights issues, inequality, exclusion of communities and other potential risks.

Aware that national level stakeholders for REDD+ need to be better organised to accompany and monitor the development of REDD+, the participants agreed to form a National Stakeholders Forum on REDD+ with particular representation from civil society and non-governmental organisations.

Endorsed in Abuja, on the 21st of February of 2011.

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

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

Today, the 18th 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, 18th 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.


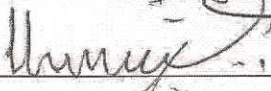
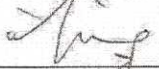

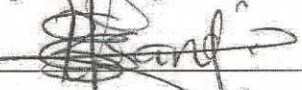
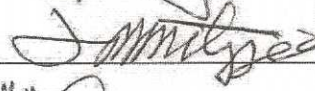
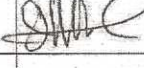


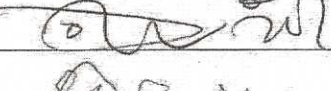


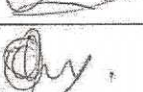
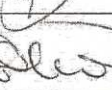

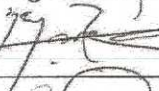
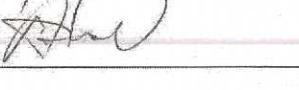


This Statement is read and endorsed at the State Library Complex in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, on the 18th of February of 2011, at 6:47 pm.

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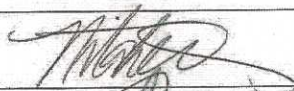


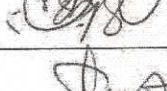

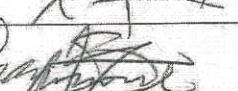
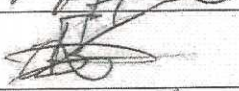
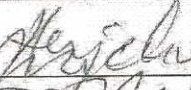


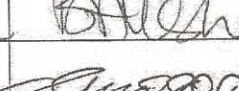

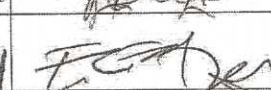
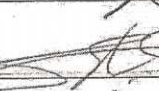

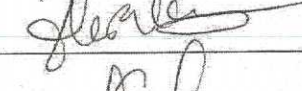
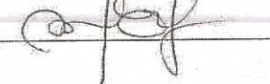


Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

Calabar, 18th February 2011.

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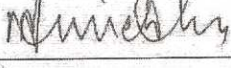
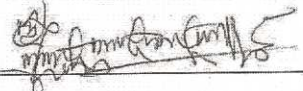

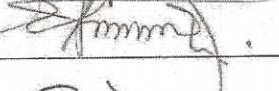



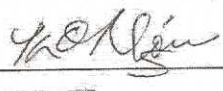
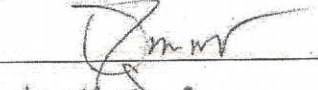
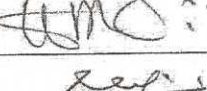
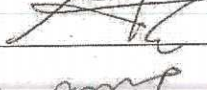


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46. Bridget O. Nkor	CRS Forestry Commission	
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48. Maryjane Ebor	CRS Forestry Comm	

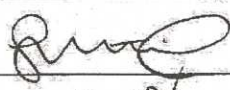
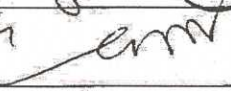

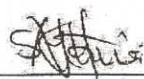







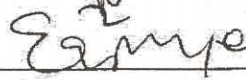

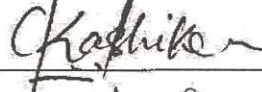
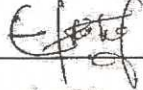

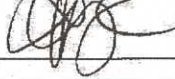

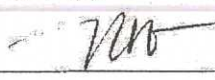
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NAME	ORGANISATION or COMMUNITY	SIGNATURE
49. E Tony Obalen	CRBC	
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66. Chiey Iman U. Imap	CRSFC	
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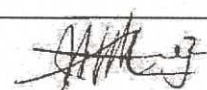


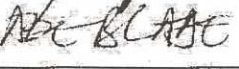
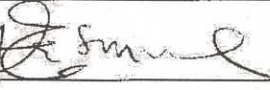



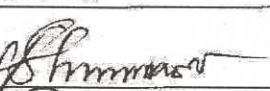
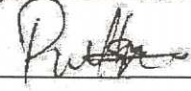

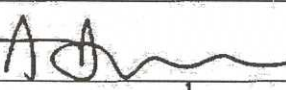
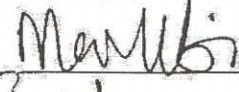
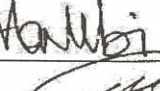
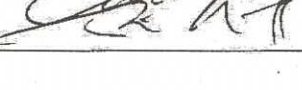
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NAME	ORGANISATION or COMMUNITY	SIGNATURE
68. Sunday Etang	FOCAP	
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74. Ntyam I. Nkyang	Forestry Commission	
75. Deborah. Ogi	Forestry com	
76. Eder Ehin	Forestry Com	
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78. Edem Edem	GREEN CODE	
79. Eunice Apuye	Min. of Justice, CRS	
80. Prof. F. E. Biring	UNICAL	
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82. Caroline Umagu	NGOCE	
83. LINUS MBU	MFAMINTEM	
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92. Eme Offiong	NTA	
93. NAKANDA IYADIM	INFORMATION	
94. Ojimi Oden	SP medical CP's Governors office	
95. MOSES KADREN	INTERCONTINENTAL BANK	
96. Ruth Asuquo	Old Ekuri Comm.	
97. Hon. Felix A. Ikuru	old Ekuri Comm.	
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99. Martina W. Ubi	Min. of Agric, Cal	
100. Eng. Bassey Echemi	Agric Services	
101. Steve Onoh	Nigeria Chronicle	
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