

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: Nepal

September 2011

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- R-PP assessed by FCPF PC at PC6 (July, 2010)
- WB due diligence mission and preparation of Assessment Note (Sep/Oct, 2010)
- Revised R-PP (addressing issues from PC6 resolution) submitted (Oct 2010)
- Decision Meeting for Assessment Note, Cleared by WB management (Nov 29, 2010);
- \$200K FCPF Formulation Grant mostly disbursed ;
- WB provided no-objection letter for grant procurement plan prepared by REDD Cell (Jan 2011)
- Satisfactory Audit received from Nepal's Auditor General Office (early March 2011)
- Supplemental Grant Agreement for \$3.4m signed (March 29, 2011); includes Procurement Plan for grant-financed activities; initiation of REDD preparation phase
- Ongoing recruitment of Technical Advisor(s), Procurement Specialist, Financial Management Specialist (Evaluation completed and request for Bank No Objection sent on September 15, 2011; Bank review to be completed by end September)

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- REDD Multi-sectoral, Multi-stakeholder Coordinating and Monitoring Committee established as the apex body for REDD policy-- chaired by the Minister (Min. of Forests and Soil Conservation), also includes National Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative, Ministry of Land Reform and Management, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Local Development, the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works, and the Ministry of Science and Technology
- REDD Cell in Ministry of Forestry and Soil Conservation operation
- A REDD Working Group (RWG), under Secretary, MoFSC, leadership, is functional. The Group's Members were nominated by the MoFSC. RWG is comprised of members representing government, indigenous peoples groups, community forest user groups, private sector, and development partners. Going forward, the RWG will expand to include one public-sector representative from each of the key REDD-related sectors, including environment, agriculture, energy, and local development; two representatives from the forestry sector; two representatives from civil society; and one representative from the donor community and an individual expert.
- Changes in REDD Cell (Project Management Unit) affect pace of implementation and require more timely and detailed prior consultation with World Bank

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- The preparation of the R-PP has followed a rigorous process of consultation and participation. The stakeholders consulted included both the public and private sectors, NGOs, indigenous communities and civil society organizations that are interested in the forest sector and representing various indigenous communities. The consultations are well documented, including locations, stakeholders, proceedings and feedback. These have contributed to the development of the R-PP. A Consultation and Participation Plan has been developed to continue the consultation effort in the execution of the studies.
- A REDD Stakeholders' Forum will serve as the principal outreach and communication platform and is already

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operational.

- The REDD Cell Communication and Outreach Section is responsible in designing and disseminating REDD information, including REDD-related pilot projects outcomes.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- A draft strategy produced in mid-2010 is currently being revised (as of June 2011)
- Implementation of activities not yet initiated, to be co-financed by donor partners

5. Implementation Framework

- See R-PP for planned activities, implementation of activities not yet initiated, to be co-financed by donor partners

6. SESA

- Nepal participates as a pilot country in the development Social and Environmental Standards (SES) through the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA), a national coordinator for SES was appointed and the REDD working group held a first meeting to develop national indicators for SES (Nov 2010).
- A joint mission took place in August 2011 between the FCPF and CCBA to initiate the SESA process and identify synergies with the development of SES. In the context of the mission both the REDD Working Group and the REDD Stakeholder Forum were briefed and consulted on the SESA and SES process.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- See RPP for planned activities, not yet initiated; majority of FCPF grant is programmed for work on reference scenarios and MRV (see remarks on MRV)
- FCPF and WB currently assist REDD in recruitment of experts and development of terms of reference for the work on reference scenario. Much of the work performed under the Finnish-funded Forest Resource Assessment will be instrumental to develop reference scenarios

8. MRV

- See RPP for details regarding the proposed MRV activities. A Finnish-funded Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) is entering second year of implementation (to be completed by 2014). The FRA performs many technical activities instrumental to the development of a national MRV system, including forest mapping and detailed carbon measurements for selected sites. Full synergies between FRA and REDD MRV systems development have been difficult to harness due to supplemental grant funds not being available. Hiring of a Technical Advisor is expected advance technical activities; procure qualified consulting services, and coordination with FRA.

9. Other

See R-PP