

Thank you co-chairs. The Northern Civil Society Observers would like to commend the FMT and REDD+ countries on the significant progress made to date. It is clear that big strides have been made to accelerate program implementation and action on the ground. Northern CSOs would also like to express appreciation for the openness and inclusiveness of the FCPF thus far, which we view as integral to this process. We would, however, like to raise a few points that could help strengthen efforts going forward.

Northern CSOs applaud the work that has been done to enhance capacity building, and would like to recognize those REDD+ countries that are channeling finance to Indigenous Peoples and CSOs through their readiness grants or Emissions Reductions Programs. To advance this work even further, especially in light of the extension of the Readiness Fund proposal, we have three suggestions:

1. It would be helpful to continue discussing how to a.) Effectively mobilize resources for capacity building regionally and locally, b.) Scale up direct access to finance for Indigenous Peoples and CSOs, and c.) Coordinate initiatives and catalyze synergies, perhaps by convening a capacity building round table or informal contact group.
2. We also recommend that extensive consultation of Indigenous Peoples and CSOs be undertaken during the design of the next phase of the capacity building program.
3. Lastly, we suggest that REDD+ Readiness and ERP capacity continue to be built with transparent, fair, and effective implementation especially regarding safeguards, land/forest tenure rights, gender, MRV and benefit-sharing plans.

We would also like to take this opportunity to highlight a few additional points we hope the FCPF will take into consideration going forward.

- Northern CSOs are glad that so much progress has been made with respect to the verification guidelines and registry. Engaging in processes like CORSIA could present a huge opportunity for REDD+ and establishing a registry and verification guidelines are essential to engaging in this process. We encourage the FCPF to continue having conversations with national/international initiatives on transaction registries to explore compatibility and complementarity with other systems.
- Second, we value the ability to relay questions and concerns to the FCPF, but would appreciate more timely and frequent responses to our queries so that civil society can engage in processes as they are unfolding.

- Lastly, we appreciate the efforts that have been made to ensure transparency between the FCPF and civil society, and recommend the FCPF continue to explore how to be even more transparent, especially around ERPA negotiations. Doing so would ensure that all stakeholders are aware of and able to respond to key information and updates.

Again, congratulations to everyone on the all of the progress made so far, and thank you so much for your attention and consideration.