



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Technical Assessment: Final ER-PD for Ghana

June 19th 2017

Presentation of TAP

- The technical assessment was conducted between 25 April and 9 May 2017 by the following team:
 - Peter Graham – USA/Canada (Team Lead, REDD+ policy and forestry)
 - Fred Stolle – USA (Carbon accounting)
 - Simon Rietbergen – Italy/Netherlands (Safeguards)
 - Elijah Yaw Danso – Ghana (Country expert)

Overall assessment of final ER-PD

		1 st Assessment	2 nd assessment	Indicators not met
II. Level of Ambition	YES	3	3	
	NO	0	0	
	N.A.	0	0	
III. Carbon Accounting	YES	31	33	9.1
	NO	5	1	
	N.A.	9	11	
IV. Safeguards	YES	6	6	
	NO	0	0	
	N.A.	1	1	
V. Sustainable Program Design and Implementation	YES	7	10	
	NO	1	0	
	N.A.	6	4	
VI. ER Program Transactions	YES	5	5	37.3, 37.4
	NO	0	2	
	N.A.	6	4	

II. Level of Ambition

Ind. 1.2 The ER Program is ambitious, uses new or enhanced ER Program Measures to reduce Emissions or enhance removals, is undertaken at a jurisdictional scale and/or takes a programmatic approach (i.e., involves multiple land areas, landowners or managers within one or several jurisdictions), and reflects a variety of interventions from the national REDD+ strategy in a coordinated manner.	YES
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- **YES.** Very ambitious. The rates of deforestation in recent years are significantly different than the historical average, representing a recent increase in the pressures on forests within the Program area.

III. Carbon Accounting

Ind. 9.1 Uncertainty associated with activity data and emission factors is quantified using accepted international standards, for example by providing accuracy, confidence interval, distribution of error, and propagation of error. Where errors in data and methods are considered large as defined in IPCC Guidelines, Monte Carlo methods (numerical simulations) should be used to estimate uncertainty	NO
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- The issue: Where large errors in data and methods were identified, no Monte Carlo exercise has been carried out to estimate uncertainty due to the requirement of “data on probability distributions within source data” (*Section 12, page 168*).
- There is a stated intent to remedy this situation in the future.
- TAP caveats:
 - Interpolation method described did not clearly match Equation 1, page 95
 - Difficulty verifying calculations of uncertainty in new/revised activity data.

IV. Safeguards

Ind 24.1 The ER Program demonstrates [...] how it meets relevant World Bank social and environmental safeguards, and promotes and supports the safeguards included in UNFCCC guidance related to REDD+, by paying particular attention to [<i>the Cancun safeguards</i>]	YES
Ind 25.1 Appropriate monitoring arrangements for safeguards referred to in Criterion 24 are included in the Safeguards Plans	YES
Ind 26.1 An assessment of existing FGRM, including any applicable customary FGRMs, is conducted and is made public. [...]	YES

- **YES**, because good progress has been made and documented, and high likelihood of full completion, including public disclosure, within timeline.
 - **BUT**, deficiencies at time of assessment:
 - i. Not complete = SIS design (identification of SIS indicators);
 - ii. Not complete = design of FGRM specific to the Program area;
 - iii. Unclear = Access to adequate expertise and resources for the operation of the FGRM.
- ERPD indicates that efforts are underway to address these deficiencies

V. Sustainable Program Design and Implementation

<p>C 29 The ER Program provides a description of the benefit-sharing arrangements for the ER Program, including information specified in Indicator 30.1, to the extent known at the time.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Ind 30.1 The Benefit-Sharing Plan is made publicly available prior to ERPA signature, [...]</p>	<p>N.A.</p>
<p>Ind 31.1 The Benefit-Sharing Plan is prepared as part of the consultative, transparent and participatory process for the ER Program, and reflects inputs by relevant stakeholders, [...]</p>	<p>N.A.*</p>

- The issue: A final benefit sharing plan (BSP) for the Program is not yet agreed and in place.
 - **YES**, there is a description of benefit-sharing arrangements **BUT**, the draft BSP presented may not address issues specific to the Program area.
 - Plans are underway to address this deficiency.
 - **Ind 31.1** While this was assessed as N.A., because the final BSP is not completed, the TAP notes that the draft BSP represents a comprehensive body of work that was developed in accordance with **Criteria 31**.

VI. ER Program Transactions

Ind 37.2 A national REDD+ Programs and Projects Data Management System [DMS] or a third party centralized REDD+ Programs and Projects Data Management System needs to provide the attributes of ER Programs, including: [...]	YES
Ind 37.3 The information contained in a national or centralized REDD+ Programs and Projects [DMS] is available to the public via the internet in the national official language of the host country (...).	NO
Ind 37.4 Administrative procedures are defined for the operations of a national or centralized REDD+ Programs and Projects [DMS]; and an audit of the operations is carried out by an independent third party periodically,	NO

- The issue: The Data Management System not operational at time of assessment
- **BUT**, DMS is fully described in the ERPD and scheduled to be operational June 2017 (hence 'YES' for 37.2 and 'NO' for 37.3)
- The ERPD does not specify the role of an independent third party in an audit of the operations of the data management system.

Concluding remarks

- Overall, a high quality ERPD
- Significant and successful effort to respond to first assessment and feedback from CF Participants
- Ghana's NRS organization of the TAP mission in September 2016 was highly efficient, enabling an assessment with a high degree of confidence
- TAP stresses the significance of the effort to reduce current rates of deforestation and degradation to reach RL and then go below to deliver projected ERs
- The public outcry & movement against the environmental damage from uncontrolled & illegal 'small-scale' gold mining (galamsey) may contribute significantly to the success of the GCFRP.

Thank You!

