

**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility**  
**Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC28)**  
**Twelfth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Assembly (PA12)**  
**Punta Cana, the Dominican Republic**  
**November 11-14, 2019**  
**Co-Chairs' Summary**

Dear Participants and Observers,

We are pleased to report that the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Participants Committee (PC) and Participants Assembly (PA) held their twenty-eighth (PC28) and twelfth (PA12) meetings, respectively, from November 11-14, 2019 in Punta Cana, the Dominican Republic.

More than 100 representatives of governments, the private sector, forest-dependent Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and forest dwellers organizations, and international and non-governmental organizations attended.

We also wish to acknowledge several esteemed guests who participated in the meetings: Hon. Angel Francisco Estévez Bourdier, Minister and Hon. Zoila Gonzalez, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Dominican Republic; and Hon. Javier Antonio Guterrez Ramirez, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nicaragua.

All meeting materials are available at <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/meetings> and photos at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fcpf>. Below are the main conclusions of the meeting, which will also be available in French and Spanish.

**Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC28)**

**Update on Verification Guidelines and the GFOI**

The FMT presented an [update](#) on the verification guidelines. The FMT also proposed submitting a [letter](#) of endorsement to the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) leads confirming the important role the GFOI plays in assisting REDD+ countries on MRV issues. The letter will be used to strengthen the GFOI's policy mandate and hence confirm its standing as a Group on Earth Observations (GEO) flagship. The PC reviewed and endorsed the letter.

**Registries**

The FMT presented an [update](#) on phase one of the Central Transaction Registry—the Carbon Assets Trading System (CATS)—a platform solution to register and transfer Emission Reductions (ER) units generated under the Carbon Fund and BioCF Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL) ER Programs.

**Next Meetings**

The twenty-ninth PC (PC29) meeting is tentatively [scheduled](#) for March 31-April 2, 2020, in Washington DC. The FMT will advise on further details as soon as possible.

## **Twelfth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Assembly (PA12)**

### **Progress Report from the FMT and the PC**

The FMT presented a [progress update](#) on Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) and key achievements, which are captured in more detail in the FCPF [Annual Report FY19](#). This update also served as the PC's report to the PA of work done over the past year.

Participants appreciated the impressive progress made by FCPF in FY19 and the continuing transition from readiness toward results-based payments.

Cameroon expressed concerns about the proposed cancellation of their Additional Funding Readiness Grant and will send the FMT a formal request to review the proposed cancellation of the grant.

### **Proposal to extend the FCPF Readiness Fund beyond December 31, 2020**

The FMT presented [options](#) for extending the term of the Readiness Fund beyond 31 December 2020, with an accompanying [FMT Note](#).

Participants present at the PA meeting supported option 2, extending the FCPF Readiness Fund to December 31, 2022. The PA also agreed to extend the Capacity Building Program for Forest-Dependent Indigenous Peoples and Southern Civil Society Organizations (CBP) to the same date, and to allocate an additional \$5 million to the CBP—subject to extension of the Readiness Fund and availability of funding.

Participants shared a range of views on the frequency and modality of PC meetings during the proposed Readiness Fund extension period. The FCPF Charter Section 11.3 clarifies that the Participants Committee shall meet, at least twice a year, or at any other frequency as may be deemed necessary by the Participants Committee.

### **Next Steps**

- Per [Resolution PA/12/2019/1](#), the FMT will do the following:
  - Notify the Readiness Fund Participants that were not present at PA12 of the amendment to the Charter of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility to extend the Readiness Fund to December 31, 2022. These Readiness Fund Participants have up to thirty calendar days after the date of issuance of the notification by the FMT to raise any objection.

- Request the Trustee (i) to seek the Bank’s Board of Executive Directors to expressly agree to the above extension and to the terms of such extension and, thereby, to allow the Bank to continue to serve as Trustee, and (ii) to inform Readiness Fund Participants promptly upon the Bank’s Board of Executive Directors’ corresponding decision.
- The FMT will draft an FMT Note for PC29, laying out options for the frequency and modality of future PC meetings for decision at that PC.

**Remarks by Observers and Delivery Partners**

The following Observers and Delivery Partners were invited to provide remarks: the [Inter-American Development Bank](#), the [United Nations Development Program](#), the [UN-REDD Programme](#), the [Indigenous Peoples Observer](#), the [Southern Civil Society Organizations Observer](#), the [Northern Civil Society Organizations Observer](#), the [International Organizations Observer](#), and the [Private Sector Observer](#).

**Election of New Participants Committee**

The Participants Assembly adopted a [resolution](#) electing the Participants Committee, the Bureau of the PC, and three REDD Country Participants to serve as observers of the Carbon Fund meetings, to serve until the next meeting of the Participants Assembly (expected to be held in September/October 2020).

- The following REDD Country Participants are elected as Members of the PC: Bhutan, Cameroon, Chile, Cote d’Ivoire, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guyana, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Sudan, Uganda, and Vietnam.
- The following Financial Contributors are elected as the Members of the PC: Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Norway, The United Kingdom, The Nature Conservancy, and The United States of America.
- The following PC Members shall serve as the Bureau of the PC: Bhutan, Cameroon, Chile, Dominican Republic, Germany, The Nature Conservancy, The United States of America, and Uganda.
- The following three REDD Country Participants have been selected by the REDD Country members on the PC Bureau to attend the Carbon Fund Meetings as Observers: Chile, Ghana, and Nepal.

## **Knowledge Day**

The FCPF hosted a [knowledge-sharing day](#), consisting of four ninety-minute knowledge sessions, a “knowledge café” featuring over 12 fast-paced 45-minute-long discussions (over two rounds), and a demonstration of the Central Transaction Registry.

### **Knowledge Sessions**

#### **Learning from Experience to Strengthen Benefit Sharing**

Discussants reflected on existing benefit-sharing arrangements in their countries; sharing lessons learned during implementation and how these were used to strengthen FCPF ER Program Benefit-Sharing Plans. The session also examined good practices for benefit-sharing arrangements, particularly in their development and implementation.

#### **Engaging the Private Sector in Forest Landscapes**

Discussants shared examples and lessons learned on ways governments and key stakeholders can better engage with the private sector in forest landscapes to unlock mutually beneficial opportunities, particularly on key commodities such as livestock and cocoa. The session also highlighted work being undertaken by the World Bank and how countries can work with the FMT to create and enable entry points for stakeholders in the private sector.

#### **Strengthening the Social Inclusion and Empowerment of Marginalized Communities in REDD+ Programs**

During two consecutive panels, a diverse array of discussants shared good practices and lessons on mainstreaming Indigenous Peoples, local communities, CSOs, and women into REDD Readiness and ER Programs, while highlighting the key role they can play in community-based forest management, the sustainability of conservation efforts, and natural resource management

#### **Uniting the Blue and Green Carbon Agendas: REDD+ and Mangrove Forests**

Discussants explored how mangrove forests, which sit at the nexus of the Blue and Green Carbon agendas, can offer lessons for synergies, efficiencies and learning between REDD+ and Blue Carbon activities. The session focused on areas such as designing institutional arrangements and safeguard mechanisms, conducting MRV, and addressing land tenure issues.

### **Concluding Remarks**

We are very encouraged by all the progress we have made together over the past year. The signing of three Emission Reductions Payment Agreements (ERPAs)—with the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, and Mozambique—is testament to the extent of that progress. These agreements, which have unlocked up to \$155 million in performance-based payments from verified emission reductions through large-scale jurisdictional landscape programs, are the first of their kind globally.

The FCPF Carbon Fund also accepted seven additional ER programs into its portfolio, bringing the total number to 18 as of November 2019; while the PC endorsed eight additional Readiness Packages.

In addition, we saw the advancement of several important tools on a range of technical topics such as registries, verifications, and benefit-sharing mechanisms; a deepening engagement with the private sector; and the continued success of the Capacity Building Program.

We look forward to the year ahead, where the prospect of signing fifteen additional ERPAs is anticipated in the coming fiscal year. This progress will yield important lessons and experiences for “proving the concept” of REDD+ and catalyzing the realization of REDD+ at scale. We wish you all a successful and productive FY20.

Please do not hesitate to contact the FMT at [fcfsecretariat@worldbank.org](mailto:fcfsecretariat@worldbank.org) if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Pedro Garcia Brito, Dominican Republic (on behalf of REDD Country Participants)

and

Nicolas Duval-Mace, Government of Canada (on behalf of Donor Participants)