

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC29)
Thirteenth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Assembly (PA13)
Virtual Meeting
October 20-22, 2020
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-ninth (PC29) and thirteenth (PA13) meetings, respectively, from October 20-22, 2020 virtually.

More than 80 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. Pierre Hele, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Cameroon; Hon. Javier Gutierrez, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nicaragua; and the Hon. Tanguy Gahouma, Permanent Secretary, National Climate Council, Gabon.

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

Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC29)

Revisions to the frequency and modality of FCPF meetings

The FMT presented a [note](#) on the options to revise the frequency and modality of the FCPF Participants Assembly, Participants Committee and Carbon Fund Meeting. The Charter requires one annual meeting of the PA, at least two PC meetings per year, and at least one Carbon Fund Meeting per year.

It was agreed that (i) the PA and PC meetings will be held once a year back-to-back and that some PC functions may be carried out virtually when necessary and (ii) Knowledge Day will continue in its current form as part of the PC/PA annual meeting. Additional updates will be provided by the FMT if requested.

R-Packages

The PC adopted a [resolution](#) endorsing a Readiness Package from Vanuatu. Participants commended the high quality of the information provided in the R-Packages and the rigor of the self-assessment.

Vanuatu

Participants commended Vanuatu on the strong progress made towards readiness, as demonstrated by their [R-Package](#), and for having demonstrated how readiness initiatives can strengthen countries prone to natural disasters and climate change impacts. They were particularly impressed by the following: the institutional arrangements for REDD+ organized at both national and provincial levels; the emphasis on strong participatory engagement of the CSO platform and local communities; and a National REDD+ Strategy that seeks to build on a wide range of analytical studies and consultations with different stakeholders. Participants encouraged Vanuatu to take the following issues into account as they move forward:

- continue public consultations with diverse stakeholders such as women and youth groups, considering the possibilities of alternative consultation modalities during COVID-19;
- continue developing the National Forest Monitoring System and Safeguard Information System;
- explore potential sources of financing needed to implement the REDD+ Strategy;
- further develop the national Forest Reference Level, considering sub-national forest inventory data;
- strengthen collaboration among national and sub-national agencies, building on improved provincial autonomy; and
- test the Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism to improve its design and functionality.

Mid-Term Progress Reports

The PC appreciates the substantial progress made by the [Central African Republic](#), [Paraguay](#), and [Thailand](#), on their Readiness programs, and encouraged them to keep in mind the limited time remaining prior to Readiness Fund closure as they finalize their Readiness activities.

Reinstatement of Cameroon's Readiness Grant

The PC discussed Cameroon's request to reinstate the Readiness Grant (Additional Funding) for Cameroon. The PC takes note, with appreciation, of Cameroon's renewed commitment to advance REDD+ readiness and encourages the World Bank/FMT to work further with Cameroon to reassess the provision of REDD+ readiness funding to support certain readiness activities that can be implemented and funded before the close of the Readiness Fund in 2022. The World Bank is asked to conduct its due diligence, in particular with regard to the World Bank's Operational Policies and Procedures.

Next Meetings

The thirtieth (PC30) meeting is tentatively [scheduled](#) in September or October, 2021. The FMT will advise on further details as soon as possible.

Thirteenth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Assembly (PA13)

Progress Report from the FMT and the PC

The FMT presented a [progress update](#) on Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020) and key achievements, which are captured in more detail in the FCPF [Annual Report FY20](#). 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 FY20 and the continuing transition from readiness toward results-based payments.

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](#), [UNFCCC](#), 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, until the next meeting of the Participants Assembly (expected to be held in September or October 2021).

- The following REDD Country Participants are elected as Members of the PC: Nepal, Cambodia, Pakistan, Chile, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Paraguay, Uruguay, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Madagascar, Liberia, Nigeria.
- The following Financial Contributors are elected as the Members of the PC: Canada, Germany, Japan, Norway, The Nature Conservancy, United Kingdom, The United States of America.
- The following PC Members shall serve as the Bureau of the PC: Pakistan, Madagascar, Nigeria, Guatemala, Uruguay, Germany, The Nature Conservancy, The United States of America.
- 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: Nepal, Nicaragua, Madagascar.

Concluding Remarks

We are very encouraged by all the progress we have made together over the past year. The signing of additional Emission Reductions Payment Agreements (ERPAs) with Chile and Vietnam—is testament to the extent of that progress. These agreements, which have unlocked up to \$232.5 million in performance-based payments from verified emission reductions through large-scale jurisdictional landscape programs, are the first of their kind globally. In the next few months, we expect as many as 13 more to be signed.

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 focus will shift to assisting countries with meeting the ERPA Conditions of Effectiveness, supporting implementation of programs, and moving into verification and payment for emission reductions. Mozambique has begun conducting its first verification, with a first payment expected between April and June 2021.

Please do not hesitate to contact the FMT at fcpssecretariat@worldbank.org if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Sayeda Khalil, REDD+ coordinator, Sudan (on behalf of REDD Country Participants)

and

Felicity Le Quesne, BEIS International Climate Finance, UK (on behalf of Donor Participants)