



PARTICIPATORY SELF-ASSESSMENT AND SYNTHESIS OF GHANA'S REDD+ READINESS PROCESS (R-PACKAGE)

**National REDD+ Secretariat
Ghana
Accra, Ghana
Monday 26th September, 2016**

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

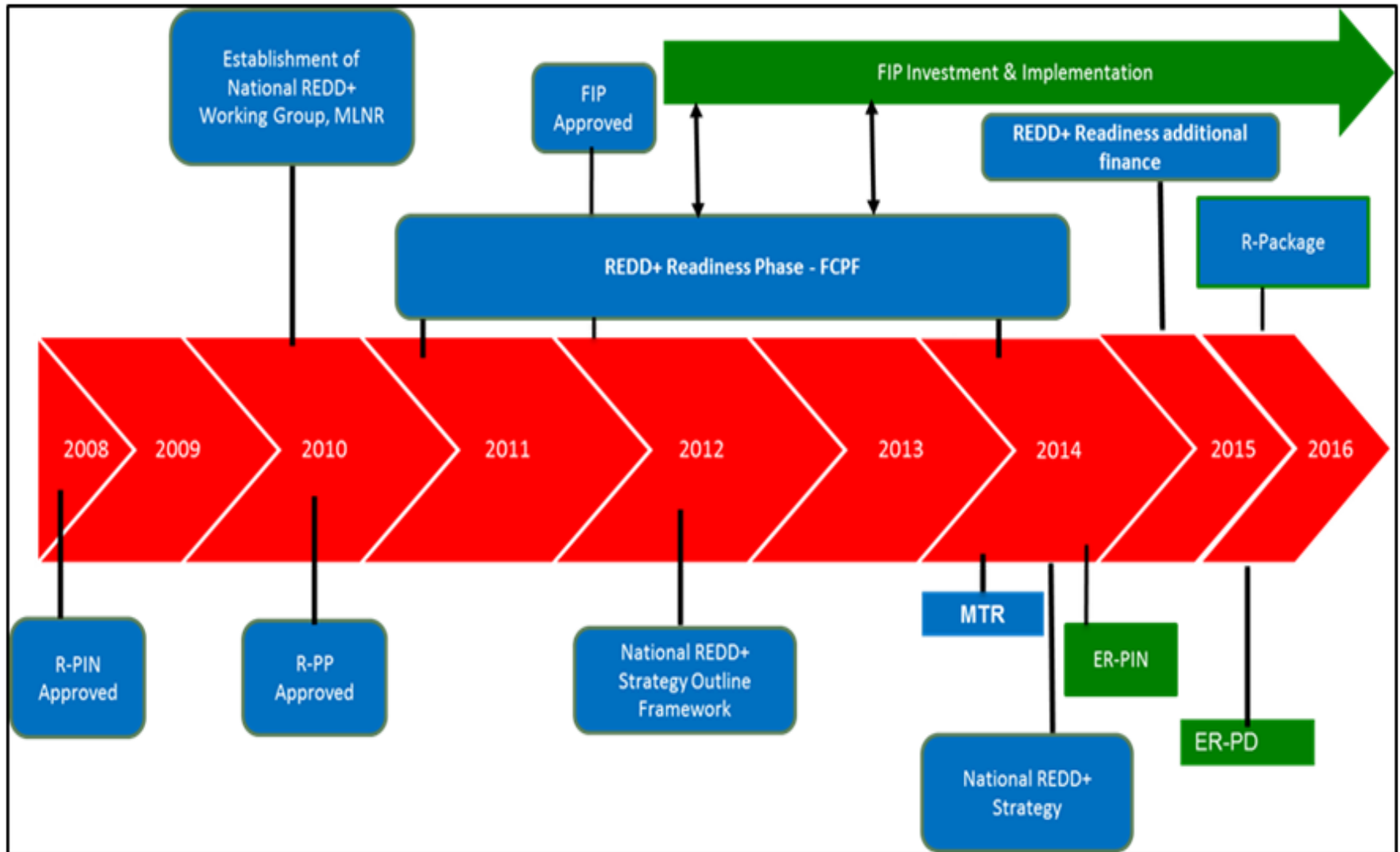
Ghana's REDD+ Journey:

- Key Milestones;
- National Vision for REDD+;
- Support/ Partnerships forged with Key Stakeholder Groups.

- **Approach adopted for Synthesis of Ghana's R-Package;**
- **Scorecard of Ghana's REDD+ Readiness;**
 - Overall assessment;
 - PC comments on Ghana's MTR and actions taken.
- **Summary of progress by readiness component;**
- **Next steps towards consolidation of readiness efforts ;**
- **Conclusion.**

GHANA'S REDD+ JOURNEY (1)

KEY MILESTONES



GHANA'S REDD+ JOURNEY (2)

NATIONAL VISION FOR REDD+

- **REDD+ has evolved in Ghana from an idea to the current stage where:**
 - ❖ Readiness phase is well advanced,
 - ❖ Targeted investments are being undertaken (under FIP),
 - ❖ An ambitious and pragmatic 20 year National REDD+ strategy has been formulated and
 - ❖ A performance-based Ghana Cocoa-Forest REDD+ Programme (GCFRP) developed as a first major step for REDD+ implementation.
- **REDD+ has been firmly incorporated and is well-aligned with all relevant national policies and strategies, including:**
 - ❖ Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda I&II (2010-2017)
 - ❖ 40-year National Development Plan (2018-2057)
 - ❖ National Climate Change Policy
 - ❖ National Forest and Wildlife Policy
 - ❖ Draft Low Emission Development Strategy
 - ❖ Draft Cocoa Sector Strategy
 - ❖ Ghana's NDC (2015-2030)
- The vision for REDD+ in Ghana is to significantly reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation over the next twenty years, whilst at the same time addressing threats that undermine ecosystem services and environmental integrity.

GHANA'S REDD+ JOURNEY (3)





SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM KEY STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

- The National REDD+ Secretariat (NRS) has received tremendous support from key stakeholders which have contributed to strengthening the REDD+ process in Ghana:

STAKEHOLDER/ PARTNER	SUPPORT RECEIVED
The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)	-Major driving force behind Ghana's REDD+ activities; -USD 8.6 million provided to support Ghana's REDD+ process as well as considerable technical support.
Other multilateral development partners/ donors (e.g. Japanese Government, FAO, UNDP etc.)	- Targeted support for key REDD+ activities e.g. Japanese funded FPP, FAO capacity building on REDD+ MRV and UNDP supported outreach activities with High Level actors.
Traditional Authorities/ Local Communities	Key advocates of REDD+ and implementation partners.
NGOs/ CSOs	Community sensitization, advocacy, and development of well-grounded frameworks for REDD+ in Ghana.
Other government agencies	Policy reforms, co-proponents of programs and implementation partners.
Private Sector	Key implementation partners for the GCFRP.

APPROACH FOR SYNTHESIS OF GHANA'S R-PACKAGE

- The assessment was guided by the FCPF Readiness Assessment Framework (RAF);
- The 35 RAF questions were utilised for the self-assessment with adjustment to incorporate synergy between REDD+ and VPA/ FLEGT; and efforts being made towards mainstreaming gender in Ghana's REDD+ process;
- A transparent multi-stakeholder process was adopted for the self-assessment of Ghana's REDD+ readiness;
- Five consultative meetings and a national validation workshop were held;
- The process was facilitated by an independent external consultant with expertise in REDD+ and evaluation.

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-  Significant progress achieved
 -  Progressing well, but further progress required
 -  Further development required
 -  Not yet demonstrating progress
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Stakeholder group	Date of consultation	Objective of meeting
National REDD+ Secretariat	21 st April, 2016	Participatory self-assessment
National REDD+ Working Group	22 nd April, 2016	Participatory self-assessment
National REDD+ Sub Working Groups	25 th April, 2016	Participatory self-assessment
NGOs, CSOs and private sector representatives	26 th April, 2016	Participatory self-assessment
Development Partner representatives	27 th April, 2016	Overall assessment of progress of REDD+ process
Cross-section of stakeholder groups	29 April, 2016	Validation and triangulation of initial findings from consultations

SCORECARD OF GHANA'S REDD+ READINESS (1)

MTR

Component	Sub Component	Summary of scores
Readiness organization and consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yellow
	1b. Consultation, participation and outreach	Green
REDD+ Strategy preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Yellow
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Yellow
	2c. Implementation Framework	Yellow
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yellow
Reference Emission Level/Reference Level	3a. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Yellow
Monitoring system for forests and safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring	Yellow
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Orange



R-PACKAGE

Component	Sub Component	Summary of scores
Readiness organization and consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yellow
	1b. Consultation, participation and outreach	Green
REDD+ Strategy preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Green
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Green
	2c. Implementation Framework	Orange
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Green
Reference Emission Level/Reference Level	3a. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	Green
Monitoring system for forests and safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring	Green
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Yellow

SCORECARD OF GHANA'S REDD+ READINESS (2)

SCORECARD FOR 35 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Assessment Criteria	Assessment Score
1. Accountability and transparency	Green
2. Operating mandate and budget	Yellow
3. Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration	Green
4. Technical supervision capacity	Green
5. Funds management capacity	Green
6. Feedback and grievance redress mechanism	Orange
7. Participation and engagement of key stakeholders	Green
8. Consultation process	Green
9. Information sharing and accessibility of information	Green
10. Implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes	Green
11. Assessment and analysis	Green
12. Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers	Green
13. Links between drivers and REDD+ activities	Green
14. Actions plan to address natural resource rights, land tenure, governance	Yellow
15. Implications for forest law and policy	Green
16. Links between REDD+ and FLEGT	Green
17. Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options	Yellow
18. Feasibility assessment	Green
19. Implications of strategy options on existing sectoral policies	Yellow
20. Adoption and implementation of legislation and regulations	Yellow
21. Guidelines for implementation	Orange
22. Benefit Sharing Mechanisms	Orange
23. National REDD+ information system or registry	Orange
24. Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues	Green
25. REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts	Green
26. Environmental and social management framework	Yellow
27. Demonstration of methodology	Green
28. Use of historical data and adjusted for national circumstances	Green
29. Technical feasibility of the methodological approach/ consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines	Green
30. Documentation of monitoring approach	Green
31. Demonstration of early system implementation	Green
32. Institutional arrangements and capacities	Green
33. Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects and social/ environmental issues	Green
34. Monitoring, reporting and information sharing	Yellow
35. Institutional arrangements and capacities	Yellow

• **Significant Progress – 23 Indicators**

• **Progressing well – 8 indicators**

• **Further development required – 4 indicators**

• **Not yet demonstrating progress - 0**

PC COMMENTS AT MTR STAGE AND ACTIONS TAKEN

COMMENTS	ACTIONS TAKEN
Capacity Strengthening of National REDD+ Secretariat/ decentralized agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The NRS currently has an organizational structure. - Staff have benefitted from a number of capacity building programs. -Extensive outreach and sensitization programmes have been undertaken for agencies at decentralized levels (FC, COCOBOD, MMDAs, as well as traditional authorities and local communities).
Advancing policy discussion on tree tenure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The revised Forest and Wildlife Policy (2012) clearly articulates government's commitment to devolve rights on naturally occurring trees to farmers/ local communities; -Work towards developing a legislation to back this commitment has been initiated by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources.
Document lessons learned from gender mainstreaming processes and managing stakeholder expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ghana's gender mainstreaming roadmap is available on the FCPF website (An action plan to integrate gender into REDD+ developed); -A sub-working group on gender has been set up; -Lessons learned has been reflected in the R-package (gender mainstreaming efforts included in the self-assessment process. -Emphasis placed on Non-monetary benefits of REDD+ during outreach/community engagement programmes.
Revisit Budget Estimate for Additional Funding Phase	Budget was revised to better align with priorities outlined in Ghana's MTR.

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (1)

COMPONENT 1A: NATIONAL REDD+ MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

ACHIEVEMENTS

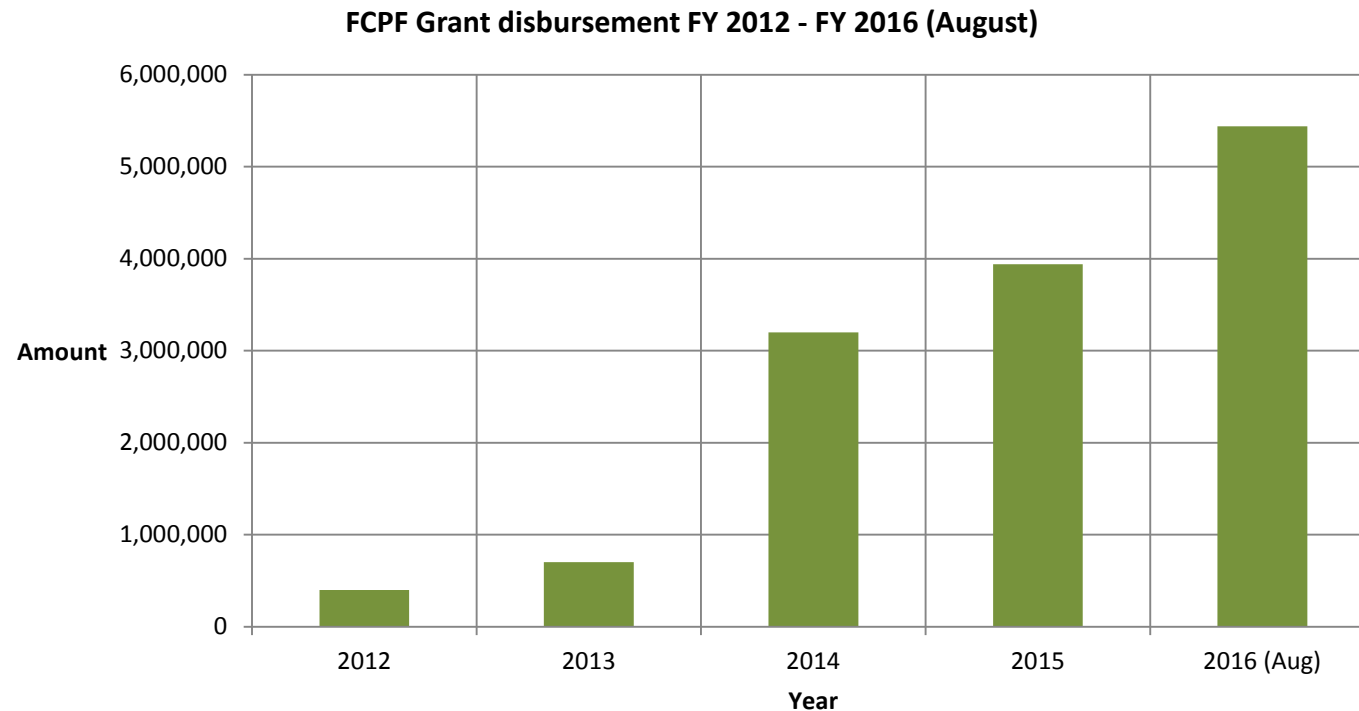
1. National Institutional Architecture and Management Arrangement for REDD+ have been fully set up and are functional;
2. Enhanced cross-sectoral institutional coordination;
3. Effective fiduciary and procurement processes, with strict adherence to World Bank and Ghana government's guidelines; and
4. The design of Ghana's REDD+ FGRM.

CHALLENGES/ GAPS

1. National Fund Management Arrangement for REDD+ is yet to be developed (TOR prepared for engagement of a consultant for this task);
2. Lack of sustainable and predictable funding for NRS – current financial support is largely donor-dependent.
 - Discussions on upgrading the climate change unit are in progress which could result in additional budget support

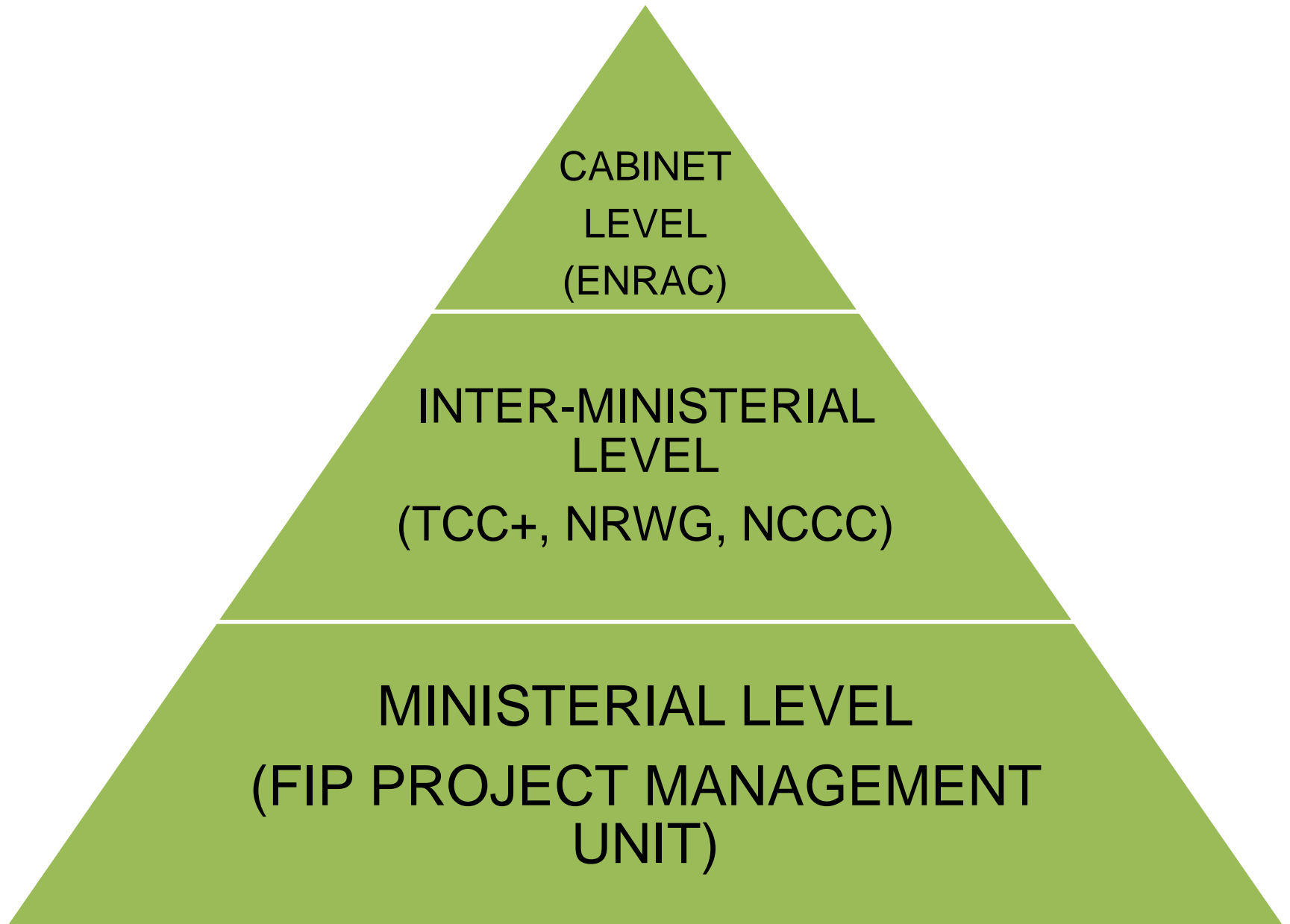
SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (2)

COMPONENT 1A: NATIONAL REDD+ MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS



- **Total disbursement as at August, 2016 is \$5.4m (~ 63% of allocated \$8.6m)**
 - ❖ Ghana disbursed \$3.2m of originally allocated \$3.4m (~ 94% of Original Grant)
 - ❖ \$2.2m of Additional Finance of \$5.2 has been disbursed ((~ 42% of Additional Finance).

COORDINATION OF RELEVANT REDD+ PARTNERS



CABINET
LEVEL
(ENRAC)

INTER-MINISTERIAL
LEVEL
(TCC+, NRWG, NCCC)

MINISTERIAL LEVEL
(FIP PROJECT MANAGEMENT
UNIT)

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (3)

COMPONENT 1B: CONSULTATION, PARTICIPATION AND OUTREACH

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Consultation and Participation Plan included in Ghana's R-PP. Plan was strengthened with the development of a communication strategy (2013).
2. Database of REDD+ actors to enhance information dissemination and for networking amongst REDD+ stakeholders;
3. Extensive sensitization and consultations. Key stakeholder groups (NGOs, CSOs, policy makers, private sector, traditional authorities, local communities) have been engaged through a variety of approaches (roadshows, focus group discussions, forums, community durbars, workshops etc.)



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (4)

COMPONENT 2A: ASSESSMENT OF LAND USE, LAND USE CHANGE DRIVERS, FOREST LAW POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Extensive assessment of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation have been undertaken at various stages of readiness; and during the development of Ghana's ERPD.
2. Progress has been made to address the thorny issue of tree tenure particularly at the policy level;
3. High level buy-in of REDD+ and a robust governance framework to support REDD+ implementation.



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (5)

COMPONENT 2B: REDD+ STRATEGY OPTIONS

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Ghana's National REDD+ Strategy is finalized and well-aligned with all relevant national policies and strategies;
2. REDD+ strategy options have been analyzed and subjected to the SESA process resulting in 3 prioritized options for early implementation (Action Plans to be developed) .

Priority strategy options



Improving Land Use
and Socio-Economic
Development in
Ghana's High Forest
Zone



Addressing wood
harvesting and
unsustainable
agricultural practices
in the Savannah zone



Policy and legislative
reforms to support
REDD+ and a
sustainable forestry
sector

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (6)

COMPONENT 2C: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Existing policy framework supportive of REDD+ implementation (for example, REDD+ features prominently in Ghana's NDC);
2. Design of implementation framework established; FGRM framework completed; Options analysis of benefit sharing mechanism completed;
3. Legislative Instrument for off reserve tree management submitted for consideration of the MLNR.



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (7)

COMPONENT 2D: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. **Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA);**
 - Identified key project activities with possible environmental and social impacts
 - Identifies risks and opportunities to REDD+ strategies
2. **Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF);**
 - Established clear procedures for capacity building, environmental and social assessment and specifies roles and responsibilities
3. Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF).
4. Over 500 community persons were consulted during the development of the safeguard instruments. (Regional workshops also held)
5. **Key safeguards issue which were brought to the fore during the consultations are: tenure, community level engagement, gender and protection of environmental integrity.**

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (8)

CHALLENGES/GAPS/NEXT STEPS TO COMPONENT 2

1. Lack of legislation on carbon rights/ tenure – although significant efforts are being made to address this issue.
2. Management of Expectations difficult, REDD+ seen as solution to long existing land use issues.
3. Lack of certainty of adequate, predictable funding of REDD+ investments.
4. ESMF is yet to be implemented



SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (9)

COMPONENT 4B: INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR MULTIPLE BENEFITS, OTHER IMPACTS, GOVERNANCE AND SAFEGUARDS

Design and Development of web based Safeguards Information System (SIS) to address and respect safeguards.

Work on the design of the SIS is far advanced (through a consultancy).

Country Approach to Safeguards underway.

Design and operationalization of REDD+ Registry to be given out on consultancy.



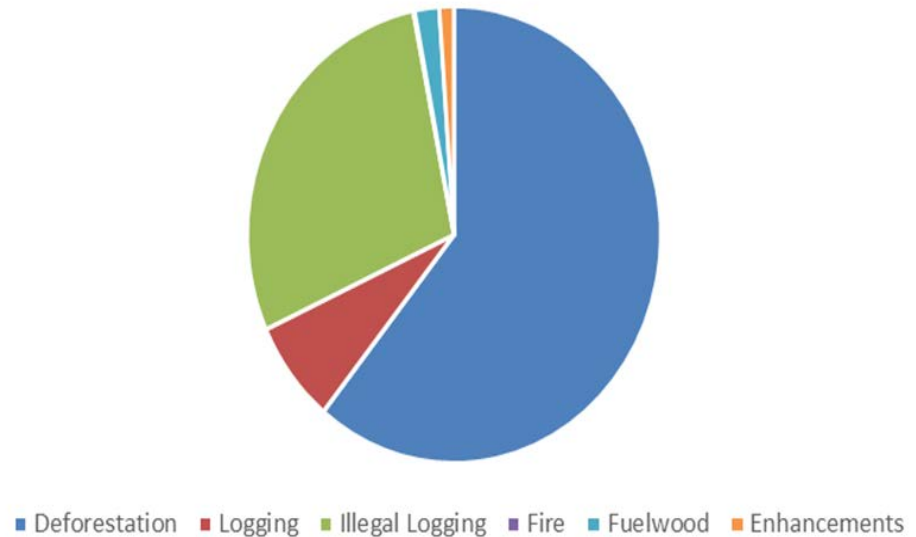
SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (10)

COMPONENT 3: FOREST REFERENCE LEVEL

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Substantially advanced progress towards development of a national FREL – expected to be completed by December, 2016;
2. Sub-national FREL being developed for the Ghana's High Forest Zone;
3. Degradation is significant; Ghana has developed an approach for monitoring emissions from degradation.....(combination of proxy and actual data approach, tested or to be tested) using in-country expertise

Emissions From RL Activities



Activity	Percent of Total
Deforestation	62.4%
Logging	7.4%
Illegal Logging	29.2%
Fire	0.1%
Fuelwood	2.0%
Enhancements (Removals)	-1.1%

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (11)

COMPONENT 4A: NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM

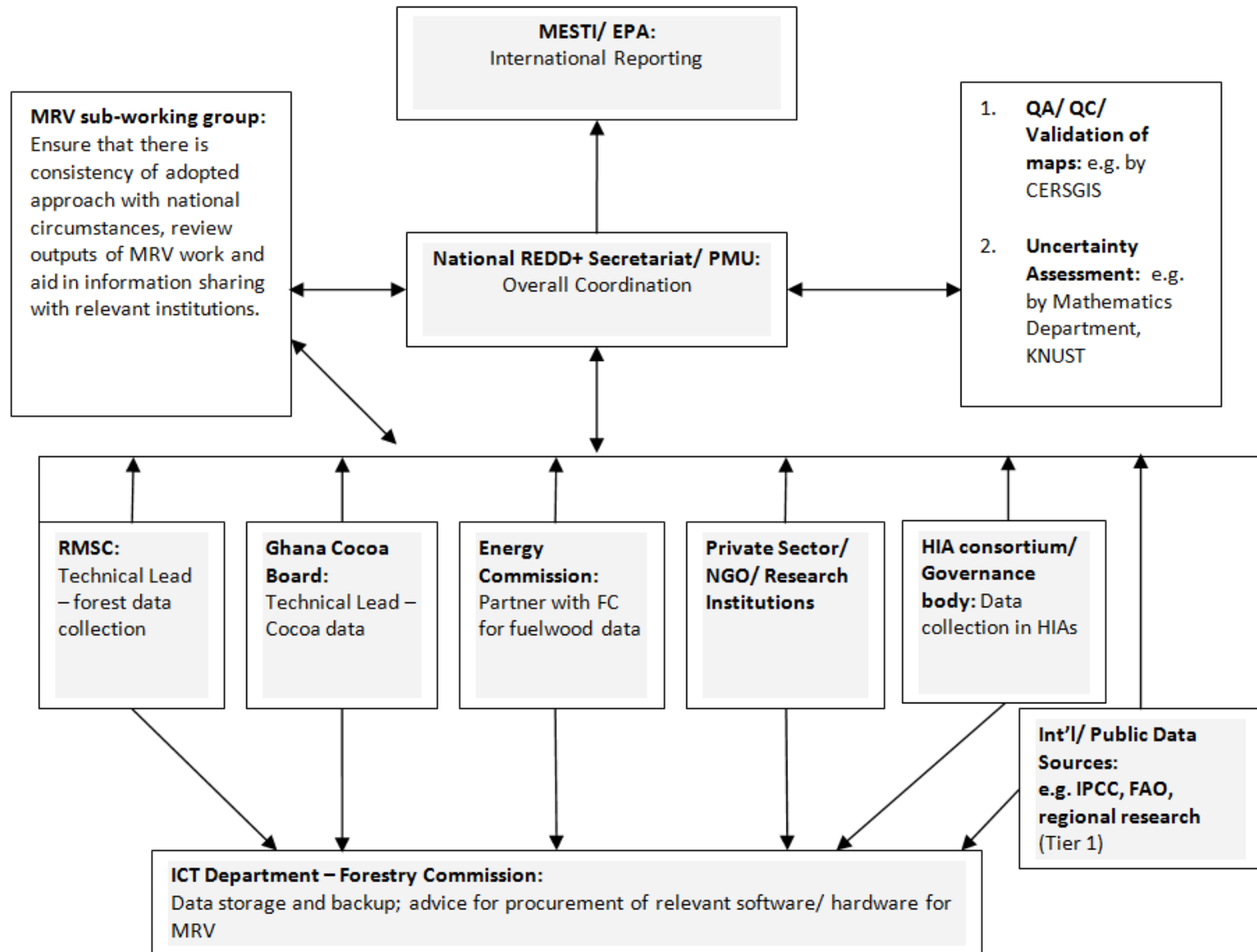
ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Approach for forest monitoring and MRV has been developed;
2. An institutional framework for MRV has been developed;
3. Protocols (SOPs) to guide the collection of relevant data has been developed.
4. In-country capacity for operationalization of system developed

Next Step

1. NFMS to be tested in ER program area

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MRV



NEXT STEPS TOWARDS CONSOLIDATION OF READINESS EFFORTS

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE
1. Development of Ghana's REDD+ Safeguards Information System (SIS)	October, 2016
2. Development of operational modalities for the FGRM	October, 2016
3. Design and set up of a REDD+ Information Database (Registry)	October, 2016
4. Finalization of Ghana's FRL	December, 2016
5. Development of a National Fund Management Arrangement for REDD+	March, 2017
6. Development of clear, holistic and costed action plans for the programmatic interventions outlined in the REDD+ Strategy	June, 2017
7. Operationalization of NFMS	November, 2017

CONCLUSION

- REDD+ activities in Ghana have contributed meaningfully towards:
 - Forging effective stakeholder engagement in the forestry sector;
 - Ensuring that synergies amongst related environmental initiatives are further enhanced; and
 - Promoting deeper recognition amongst policy players of the various non-consumptive benefits of forests
- The participatory self-assessment process for the synthesis of Ghana's R-package clearly confirms the significant progress made in Ghana's REDD+ readiness;
- This notable progress is further evidenced by ongoing work towards the development of the world's first Commodity-based REDD+ Emission Reductions Program (i.e. the Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme (GCFRP));
- Ghana therefore encourages the PC to reflect on the tremendous progress made in the nation's readiness efforts during its consideration of the R-package;
- Endorsement of the R-package will enable Ghana to move into the implementation phase which will present significant opportunities for Ghana to utilise REDD+ as a means towards securing Ghana's forest cover for improved livelihoods, enhanced forest governance and to support global efforts aimed at mitigating climate change.

THANK YOU

Yaw Kwakye, Roselyn Fosuah Adjei and Kwame Agyei