

Supplement to Expression of Interest in Joining the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

December 6, 2011

Guidelines:

1. The information requested in this form is to follow up on your expression of interest in the FCPF and assess your country's interest in relation to the importance of REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries) for the country. The governing body of the FCPF, the Participants Committee (PC), requested the Facility Management Team to solicit additional information from countries having expressed interest in the FCPF, propose criteria and a process for the possible selection of more countries into the FCPF, and analyze the cost implications of such a selection, given that the participation of new countries is subject to available resources (see paragraph 11 of Resolution PC/10/2011/1 available at <http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/sites/forestcarbonpartnership.org/files/Documents/PDF/Oct2011/Final%20PC10%20Resolution%201%20-%20strategic%20direction.pdf>).
2. Please keep the length of your response to 5 pages, as this is not meant to be a national Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP).
3. Please forward the completed form to the FCPF Facility Management Team by email at fcpfsecretariat@worldbank.org no later than January 31, 2012.
4. Additional information about the FCPF is available at <http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/>.

1. General information

Country submitting the form: **Jamaica**

Date submitted: **January 31, 2012**

Name of submitting person and institution: **Barbara Scott, Planning Institute of Jamaica**

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2. Background

2.1 In what capacity would your country participate in the FCPF? Choose one of the five categories of participation below and briefly explain. Participation in the FCPF could be in different capacities, ranging from no support to full support and to be determined by PC subject to available resources, as listed below:

- i. Observer to the FCPF: The intended purpose is to draw upon the experiences of other FCPF REDD Country Participants. No financial support to attend FCPF meetings and/or for REDD+ readiness is provided.
- ii. Participation without financial support for REDD+ Readiness: The financial support in this category is limited to support for participation for one representative from country to attend FCPF meetings, subject to available resources. There is no financial support for REDD+ readiness but the country could potentially be a member of the Participants Committee.
- iii. Participation with support only for formulation of Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP): Participation at this level would entail financial support for R-PP formulation (\$200,000), and for participation of one country representative in FCPF meetings, subject to available resources.
- iv. Participation with full financial support for REDD+ Readiness preparation: As full member of the FCPF, participation would include financial and technical support for REDD+ readiness (total financial support is \$3.6 million in two stages: \$200,000 grant to help formulate a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), and \$3.4 million preparation grant to implement the R-PP), and for one country representative to attend FCPF meetings, subject to available resources.
- v. Other: You may wish to consider another role that best describes your interest in the FCPF, such as contributor of expertise, experience and technology.

Jamaica's preferred option is iv. This option provides the well needed technical support to assist the Government in the formulation of the Preparation Proposal as well as grant resources to implement the proposal. In light of current limited fiscal space this support will ease the financial demands on the national budget to implement well needed forest conservation activities.

2.2 Should your country preference be category (iii) or (iv) above, have you already identified or had discussion with a potential Delivery Partner for channeling FCPF resources and providing REDD+ readiness Services? If so, which one (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Inter-American Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme or World Bank)?

Yes, the Planning Institute of Jamaica, on behalf of the Government has had initial discussions with the World Bank Country Office as the potential Delivery Partner.

2.3 Does the World Bank have an active portfolio on forests and natural resource management in your country? If so, briefly explain.

The World Bank active portfolio in Jamaica does not include forests; but supports natural resource management through one (1) projects, namely: the JSDF CommunityBased Landslide Risk Reduction Project which seeks to reduce the risk to landslide disasters in vulnerable communities by introducing a community based risk reduction strategy (MoSSaiC Methodology), which has proven to be successful in other parts of the Caribbean. The World Bank is also collaborating with the IDB under the Pilot Programme For Climate Change (PPCR)

- 2.4 Have you received, or are you expecting to receive in the near future, technical or financial support for REDD+ from the UN-REDD Programme or any other multilateral or bilateral assistance program for REDD+? If yes, provide the details and also mention for what areas of REDD+ Readiness would you request the FCPF support?

Jamaica has not received any technical or financial support for REDD+

3. REDD+ and National Development

(Please answer each question in ½ page maximum. If accepted into the FCPF, under categories (iii) or (iv) above in 2.1, the country will be expected to provide further information and analysis in the Readiness Preparation Proposal).

- 3.1 How important are forests in your country, including for poverty reduction, the well-being of forest-dependent Indigenous Peoples and other forest dwellers, and biological diversity? Please use quantitative data, if available.

Jamaica currently has 30% forest cover which is approximately 236,000 hectares with approximately 88,230 hectares classified as closed broadleaf forest. Of the 236,000 ha approximately 110,000 ha are managed by the Forestry Department of which 99,000 ha are protected as forest reserves.

Jamaica's very hilly terrain and high rainfall requires that we maintain and increase the current forest cover which is critical for prevention of soil erosion, landslides and flooding in Jamaica.

The forests also provide habitat for the majority of Jamaica's endemic plants, birds, butterflies and reptiles. One example is the Cockpit Country Forest reserve which includes the largest remaining primary forest in Jamaica, and supports a large number of globally threatened species. The Cockpit Country also supplies surface water for over 40% of Jamaicans.

As part of the participatory forest management strategy the Forest Act mandates that the Forestry Department to facilitate the establishment of Local Forest Management Committees (LFMC) – which comprises forest dependent communities who utilise the forests for timber and non-timber forest products and recreational activities. To date there are ten (10) LFMC operating across Jamaica.

- 3.2 What are the current situation and trends in deforestation and forest degradation? What are the main causes of deforestation and forest degradation?

In 1999 the rate of deforestation in Jamaica for the previous 10 years was approximately .1% per annum equivalent to 360 hectares per year. An assessment of forest cover change in Jamaica is being

undertaken by the Forestry Department in 2012 to determine the current rate of deforestation. The main causes of deforestation and forest degradation are bauxite mining, agricultural activities, forest fires, illegal logging, removal of trees for use as yam sticks, posts, poles and for the production of charcoal.

3.3 Does your country currently have a forest monitoring system, including estimates of greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation?

The Forestry Department has an on-going biophysical forest inventory programme, to monitor the state of the forest ecosystem, but we do not monitor greenhouse gas emissions.

3.4 What is the current thinking on what would be needed to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in your country (e.g., potential programs, policies, capacity building, etc.)?

We are currently updating the Forest Policy and amending the Forest Act – these will be completed in 2012. The draft Forest Policy includes related forest and climate change issues including adaptation and mitigation measures which will be implemented. The National Forest Management and Conservation Plan (2001) and the Strategic Forest Management Plan (2010 – 2014) which outlines the five (5) strategic Objectives, including (i) “Increase Community Participation and Public Awareness” and (ii) “Maintain and Restore Forest Cover”. One of the means of restoring forest cover is the National Reforestation Programme. Approximately 200 ha per year on Crown lands/public lands and equivalent of 50 ha on privately owned lands, including agroforestry. Conservation and protection of existing forests through the implementation of an effective enforcement programme and an aggressive public awareness programme. New additional incentives are needed for the private forestry programme to encourage reforestation, forest management and protection of existing forests.

A draft Sustainable Land Management policy was recently developed which will be included in the revised National Land Policy. There is the need to improve/increase the capacity of the Government, private and community stakeholders to enhance these objectives.

3.5 What are the key potential challenges for REDD+ in your country (e.g., lack of financing, lack of technical capacity, governance issues)?

Financing and limited capacity to undertake baseline assessments/studies are two (2) of the main challenges Jamaica will face in developing our REDD+ strategy. Approximately 66% of forest lands in Jamaica are privately owned, there will have to be a comprehensive public awareness programme to build the awareness of the land owners to get them to buy into the sustainable forest management strategy and the national REDD+ strategy.

3.6 How does REDD+ fit in your country’s national low-carbon development strategy/plan, if any, or in the strategy/plan for the forest and other relevant sectors (e.g., agriculture, water, energy, transportation)?

Goal 4 of the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan, states: Jamaica has a Healthy Natural Environment. REDD+ fits under National Outcomes # 13 + # 14 which deal with “Sustainable

Management and Use of Environmental and Natural Resources, plus Hazard Risk reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change". Jamaica is developing its national low-carbon development strategy, which will include REDD+

The Strategic Forest Management Plan 2010-2014 deals with, Community and Private Sector participation in the sustainable management of Jamaica's forest resources; Maintenance and restoration of the forest ecosystems which will ensure protection of the country's biodiversity, and the Development and Implementation of Forest Management Plans – these are all relevant to our proposed REDD+ plus strategy.

3.7 Please briefly describe the envisaged national management arrangements for REDD+, explaining at what level of government REDD+ would be steered.

Jamaica's national REDD+ activities will be led by the Forestry Department in collaboration with the Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change and the National Climate Change Committee.

3.8 Please briefly describe the proposed consultations that would be conducted to design the REDD+ strategy.

- a. Stakeholders' meetings with the key national players and international partners.**
- b. Smaller focal group meetings with stakeholders in the various forest areas – these would include LFMC, NGOs, and CBOs to ensure wide participation of all publics.**
- c. Additional meetings will be reconvened with the above groups when the draft document is prepared to get any additional comments and recommendation before presenting to Cabinet.**