Report to Donor

Ref. TF014956 Reporting Period: 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014

Printed On: 11/11/2014 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF014956

Second Grant Agreement for Uganda Readiness Preparation Proposal FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000109226 - Martin Fodor Approving Manager: 00000086248 - Magdolna Lovei

Summary Information				
TF Status	ACTV			
Recipient Country	Uganda			
Executed By	Recipient			
Managing Unit	8840 - AFTN3 - HIS			
Grant Start Date / End Date	07/10/2013 to 12/31/2016			
Program Manager				
Original Grant Amount	3,634,000.00			
Grant Amount	3,634,000.00			
Outstanding Commitments	0.00			
Cumulative Disbursements	0.00			
Disbursed 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014	0.00			
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS			

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Disbursements.

Report to Donor Page 1 of 6

Report to Donor

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

The Project Development Objective is to design a socially and environmentally viable national strategy for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation as compared to a reference level.

Overall progress from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

With the slow start in implementation, the likelihood of achieving the Grant objectives is assessed as Moderately Satisfactory; it is expected that the PDO will be achieved, with moderate shortcomings.

Overall progress from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities: Comment:

The Grant Agreement for the REDD+ Readiness Grant was signed in June 2013 and became effective in December 2013, following fulfillment of the effectiveness condition on procurement. The grant disbursements have not yet started. Progress in implementation of the project activities has been weak. Preparation of ToRs for key consultancies was yet to start at the end of the reporting period.

The implementation is, essentially, delayed by one year # which means that implementation of all grant activities needs to be compressed into the remaining two years, to be completed by June 30, 2016. This appears feasible, with intensification of implementation efforts on the GoU side.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

The REDD+ Readiness Phase started in March 2010 and involved an analysis and description of the actions necessary to get Uganda ready for REDD+ and completion of Uganda#s REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). The final R-PP was approved at the ninth Participants Committee meeting in Oslo on June 22, 2011. Uganda submitted an updated R-PP in May 2012.

The Grant finances components of the R-PP that have been prioritized by the REDD+ National Steering Committee. The prioritization process took into consideration (i) how critical these activities are to get Uganda REDD+ ready; (ii) the potential to raise financing for other activities from alternative sources; and (iii) their usefulness to the forest sector management regardless of success of REDD+ (the #no-regrets# options) # all this within the limits of available financing. Discussions with counterparts confirm that the selected activities can be implemented independently and do not depend on other potential financial contributions (which would jeopardize their full completion in case the co-financing could not materialize). This support is limited to technical assistance, analytical studies, capacity building, consultations and meetings, and operating costs; the FCPF support does not include the implementation of the site-specific REDD+ programs (pilots / demonstration sites).

Grant activities are organized into five Components:

Component 1: Coordination and Monitoring of REDD+ Readiness Process. The objective of this component is to support national level coordination and monitoring of the REDD+ process.

Component 2: Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process. The objective of this component is to support ensure broad stakeholder engagement and use of stakeholder feedback in shaping the REDD+ readiness.

Component 3: REDD+ Strategy and SESA. The objective of this component is to develop REDD+ strategy informed by strategic environmental and social assessment considerations.

Component 4: REDD+ Implementation Framework. The objective of this component is to support select activities relevant to the design the implementation framework and procedures for REDD+ implementation.

Component 5: National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources. The objective of this component is to

Report to Donor Page 2 of 6

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establishing a reference scenario for emissions from deforestation and/or forest degradation.

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up Bank project/loan/credit/grant

Comment on follow up:

Uganda may be able to apply for additional funding from the FCPF REDD+ Readiness fund, of up to \$5 million, following Mid-Term Review and successful implementation of activities as envisaged under current financing within a reasonable time frame.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014

Grant Outcome Indicators

Grant outcome indicators are listed below.

A national draft REDD+ Strategy and actions for adddressing deforestation and forest degradation and enhancing carbon stock that has been consulted and validated by national stakeholders

Baseline No

Value:

Date: 06/01/2013

Progress to No

Date:

Date: 06/30/2014

Target Value: Yes

Date: 06/30/2016

A preliminary national/sub national forest emissions reference level that is based on updated and quantified information of forest resources and national circumstances

Baseline No

Value:

Date: 06/01/2013

Progress to No

Date:

Date: 06/30/2014

Target Value: Yes

Date: 06/30/2016

Report to Donor Page 3 of 6

Report to Donor

Ref. TF014956 Reporting Period: 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014

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A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment is completed and findings are validated by stakeholders and integrated into the design of REDD+ Strategy

Baseline No

Value:

Date: 06/01/2013

Progress to No

Date:

Date: 06/30/2014

Target Value: Yes

Date: 06/30/2016

COMPONENTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Component 1. Coordination and Monitoring of REDD+ Readiness Process

Status: Procurement On going

Planned Output: Functional REDD+ Secretariat, National Technical Committee (NTC) and 3 Task Forces with capacity for

coordination of REDD+ agenda in Uganda

Actual Output: REDD+ Secretariat operating with GoU staff only, consultants not yet recruited; NTC and Task Forces not

constituted

Component 2. Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process

Status: Planned

Planned Output: Consultations on specific components (e.g. REDD+ Strategy, SESA, FGRM, Benefit Sharing, etc.);

communications materials and tools; participatory structures for stakeholder engagement; FGRM

Actual Output: No outputs yet under Component 2

Component 3. REDD+ Strategy and SESA

Status: Planned

Planned Output: SESA report, including ESMF, and a properly consulted REDD+ Strategy

Actual Output: No outputs yet under Component 3

Component 4. REDD+ Implementation Framework

Status: Planned

Planned Output: Analytical work on benefit sharing options, interim guidelines for pilots; and review and documentation

of existing REDD+ pilots

Actual Output: No outputs yet under Component 4

Report to Donor Page 4 of 6

Report to Donor

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Component 5. National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

Status: Planned

Planned Output: Quantification of historic emissions/removals from deforestation, degradation, and enhancement of

carbon stocks at a national scale; forest cover inventory in sample plots

Actual Output: No outputs yet under Component 5

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P124296 - UG - FCPF REDD READINESS

Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Climate change
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Ministry of Water and Environment (Forestry Services Support Department)

Contact: Margaret Athieno

Address: 10/20 Spring Road, Kampala

Phone: +256772 470 023 Email:

Website: http://www.mwe.go.ug/

PROGRAM

Program Specific Questions

1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f

REDD+ is an integral part of the Climate Change Policy that was approved by the Policy Committee on Environment. This sets out the policy environment for the REDD+ Readiness and fund mobilization activities by the National Focal Point. The REDD+ Secretariat has focused strongly on the mobilization of additional resources for the REDD+ Readiness Process, to fill the gap between the R-PP budget of US\$10.7 million and the FCPF grant of \$3.64 million. The Austria Development Cooperation (ADC) grant of equivalent US\$0.89 million was signed in July 2013. The country joined the UN-REDD Programme, and potential areas for UN-REDD Programme support were identified during the identification mission in June 2014.

2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.

Project is being implemented as originally designed. However, recognizing that the REDD readiness process has evolved considerably with clearer criteria for what a country needs to achieve under each of the readiness pillars. In this context, the workplan on some of the activities has been adapted to ensure consistency with the emerging guidelines (such as the FCPF and UNFCCC). Moving forward, Uganda will need to continue carefully managing expectations of stakeholders with regards to monetary benefits from REDD+.

Report to Donor Page 5 of 6

Report to Donor

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3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.

The Bank team noted that the GoU staff who were intended to form the REDD+ Secretariat were not fully mobilized. This places certain constraints on the ability of the REDD+ Secretariat to move forward with implementation. Besides, the REDD+ Working Group and the REDD+ Task Forces are not fully operational and are not performing their mandate, which means that the momentum gained during the R-PP Formulation Phase cannot be capitalized on. It was agreed during the mission in June 2014 that the following steps will be taken to alleviate these constraints and expedite implementation: (i) fully constituting and operationalizing the three Task Forces for the Readiness Process and organizing their first meeting; (ii) sharing all records coming out of the Task Force and REDD+ WG meetings with the wider stakeholder group and with the World Bank; (iii) fast tracking recruitment of the contracted REDD+ Secretariat staff (Technical Advisor and Communications / Project Officer); (iv) fully mobilizing the GoU staff for the REDD+ Secretariat; and (v) exploring opportunities of attracting additional technical experts to expedite implementation of the grant activities (including through cooperation with the Climate Change Unit of the MoWE) and starting the procurement process for key consultancies without further delay. The mission team, together with the GOU team, also explored options for engaging additional technical support / back up in the absence of the fully constituted REDD+ Secretariat - an interim arrangement for support by the FAO Technical Adivisor was made. Besides, the Bank team and the GoU team hold monthly meetings to assess progress of implementation and address any implementation challenges as they occur.

4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?

The FCPF is using a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to integrate key environmental and social considerations into REDD+ Readiness by combining analytical and participatory approaches. The SESA ToR was included in the Assessment Note for the Grant, yet the procurement process on this assignment has not commenced to date.

5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

Yes. Preparation of the ESMF is combined with the SESA consultancy.

6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation and disclosure related to this Grant.

All trainings, workshops, and community dialogues conducted by the REDD+ secretariat and other stakeholders in the Readiness Phase should be well documented through written records and videos. Regarding the consultations, the work on stakeholder engagement is critical. The C&P should build on the work already done during the R-PP phase, including re-mobilizing the stakeholder platforms involved at the time.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
07/01/2013	12/31/2013	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2014	06/30/2014	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2014	12/31/2014	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Report to Donor Page 6 of 6