Report to Donor

Ref. TF014956 Reporting Period: 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016

Printed On: 12/02/2016 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: 00000239598 - Nigel Ross Hughes Approving Manager: 00000086248 - Magdolna Lovei

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Uganda
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9270 - GEN01
Grant Start Date / End Date	07/10/2013 to 12/31/2017
Original Grant Amount	3,634,000.00
Grant Amount	3,634,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	1,978,094.27 as of 06/30/2016
Disbursed 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016	643,763.27
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

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

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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 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

Overall progress is moderately satisfactory.

The REDD+ Readiness activities are moving steadily towards achieving the stated objectives, with Uganda establishing robust national REDD+ management arrangements, progressing well on establishment of the reference emissions level and conducting a forest inventory, and undertaking preparation of the REDD+ Strategy. Mobilization of consultants for the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) work is ongoing, after two previous rounds of recruitment failed.

Uganda undertook a mid term review of its REDD+ Readiness in January 2016 and presented its Mid Term Review (MTR) to the FCPF Participants' Committee (PC) in May 2016. The MTR report was approved. The MTR identified gaps towards achieving REDD+ Readiness that are not currently financed # these informed the request for additional funding from the FCPF Readiness Fund, in the amount of US\$3.75 million - this request was approved by the 21st meeting of the FCPF PC. These additional resources are to provide: (i) support to the REDD+ readiness management arrangements (under Component 1 of the R-PP) including support for preparatory actions on the ground and gender mainstreaming; (ii) enhancement of the forest reference emissions level (FREL) with a focus on deeper analysis of degradation factors (under Component 3 of the R-PP); and (iii) finetuning, and operation of the Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system (under Component 4 of the R-PP).

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) support to REDD+ Readiness in Uganda is complemented by the support from the Austrian Development Cooperation (2013-2016) and by the UN-REDD National Programme (2015-2017).

Effects of slow progress in the first 1.5 years of grant implementation continue to be felt but the Government of Uganda team is committed in working towards REDD+ Readiness. The National REDD+ Secretariat has also continued to engage stakeholders for developing the national REDD strategy and supporting REDD readiness. Uganda#s expression of interest to participate in the Forest Investment Program was approved, and Uganda is preparing its Forest Investment Program Investment Plan. The National REDD+ Secretariat has demonstrated significant commitment and drive in the course of REDD+ Readiness. It has been effectively engaging various stakeholders and establishing robust structures of REDD+ Readiness.

Overall progress from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 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 Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) work has advanced significantly in the reporting period and the FREL has been developed, pending final confirmations. The forest inventory work has started and is progressing according to schedule. The REDD+ management structures (including the Steering Committee, the Technical Committee, and the Reference Level Taskforce) have been fully operational. The National REDD+ Secretariat is driving the national REDD+ process.

The preparation of the REDD+ Strategy is underway through a consultative process. Procurement for the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment SESA is on-going, after two previous procurement processes failed. The Government of Uganda has signed contracts for other major consulting assignments producing key outputs, including (i) Identification of a Benefit-Sharing Mechanism and (ii) Establishment of a Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism. Besides, four NGOs were engaged to provide support to participatory structures for REDD+. The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for REDD+ Readiness has been produced. The Mid Term Review was conducted. The good progress on work initiated to date to some extent offsets the initial delays in implementation due to slow preparation of the terms of reference and bidding documents for launching the project's core activities and due to a delay of about one year with disbursement of grant funds (due to

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Uganda country portfolio issues that prevented disbursement of advances for activities to the Implementing Agency).

However, recognizing that satisfactory completion of work planned was not possible within the original grant timeframe, the GoU requested for a 12-month extension (to June 30, 2017), which was granted in December 2015. It is expected that this will allow completion of all planned activities within the grant lifetime.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

The current grant of \$3.634 million is expected to close on June 30, 2017. The Preparatory Grant for Ghana's Forest Investment Plan was processed as AF to the REDD+ Readiness grant, which highlights complementarities and synergies of the two programs at the GOU level.

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up project or grant (non-Bank funded)

Comment on follow up:

Building REDD+ readiness positions Uganda well to access climate funds under the Green Climate Fund, Forest Investment Program, etc.

Uganda received a grant for preparation of its Forest Investment Plan from the Strategic Climate Funds (US\$250,000). This opens potential for seeking funding for implementation of Uganda#s REDD+ Strategy from the Strategic Climate Funds, the Green Climate Funds, and other climate change funds or bilateral donors. Also, Uganda received funding from the Pilot Program for Climate Change Resilience for preparation of its Investment Plan and will seek ways of utilizing this financing for adaption activities in the forestry sector, among others.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

Grant was extended by 12 months, to June 30, 2017.

OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Component 1. Coordination and monitoring of REDD+ readiness progress

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Functional REDD+ Secretariat, Nat. Technical Comm., expanded Steering Comm., and Task Forces with

capacity for REDD+ agenda coordination; M&E Framework in place; and a Mid Term Review done.

Actual Output: REDD+ Secretariat operates with GOU staff, FAO tech. advisor and 4 consultants (2 of them with UN

REDD support); CCPC, NTC and REL Task Force functioning; M&E Framework produced; MTR report

approved

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Component 2. Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Participatory structures for REDD+ strengthened; National Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism

(FGRM) for REDD+ strengthened.

Actual Output: Four NGOs engaged for strengthening participatory structures; feedback and grievance redress

mechanism work ongoing.

Component 3. REDD+ Strategy and SESA

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: SESA initiated; REDD+ Strategy work advanced

Actual Output: REDD+ Strategy options prepared and under consultations

Component 4. REDD+ Implementation Framework

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Analytical work on benefit sharing options advanced; interim guidelines for REDD+ pilots drafted; and a

review and documentation of existing REDD+ pilots.

Actual Output: 1st version of interim guidelines approved by the National Steering Committee (to be expanded through

additional work by the REDD+ Secretariat, not yet started); benefit sharing work advanced

Component 5. National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Data sets produced; inventory work initiated; capacity on FREL strengthened; forest definition

developed; equipment for remote sensing processing and field work purchased; prelim. FREL established

Actual Output: All outputs achieved as planned.

Comment on planned and actual Output

The components described here are those identified in the R-PP Assessment Note

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/

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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

Joint supervision missions take place with UN REDD Programme and Austrian Development Cooperation. The preparation of the Forest Investment Plan (under Strategic Climate Funds) is building on the REDD+ readiness efforts and synergies are also being achieved through engagement of the REDD+ Secretariat in the FIP work.

- 2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities. No technical changes
- 3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.

FAO Technical Advisor providing key support. Bank Task Team providing on time quality support, including on procurement and financial management.

- 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? SESA yet to be contracted.
- **5.** Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach? Still to be prepared as above
- 6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

Upstream key stakeholder consultations are taking place and consultations are a key part of the REDD+ Strategy preparation

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	263,250.00	263,250.00
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	1,334,331.00	1,071,081.00
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	1,579,331.00	245,000.00
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	1,978,094.27	398,763.27
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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