

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF015355
Printed On: 11/09/2017

Reporting Period: 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016
Report Type: Progress Report
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF015355

Second Grant Agreement for the Republic of Cameroon Readiness Preparation Proposal-Readiness Fund of the FCPF

FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000512180 - Cyrille Valence Ngouana Kengne
Approving Manager: 00000086169 - Benoit Bosquet

| Summary Information | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| TF Status | ACTV |
| Recipient Country | Cameroon |
| Executed By | Recipient |
| Managing Unit | 9268 - GEN07 |
| Grant Start Date / End Date | 12/23/2013 to 03/31/2017 |
| Original Grant Amount | 3,600,000.00 |
| Grant Amount | 3,600,000.00 |
| Outstanding Commitments | 0.00 |
| Cumulative Disbursements | 1,371,201.23 as of 06/30/2016 |
| Disbursed 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 | 515,865.96 |
| 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 reinforce Cameroon's capacities to design a socially and environmentally sound national strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and to develop a national reference scenario of emissions from deforestation and degradation that takes into account national circumstances.

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

Comment:

The activities scheduled during Grant Report and Monitoring period remain consistent with the Grant development objective and the Readiness Preparation Plan, however the implementation of the key activities was significantly delayed.

Overall progress from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

After the Grant effectiveness in December 23, 2013, the initial grant advanced was transferred to client account in March 2014. The Project activities were officially launched on June 11, 2014. The Mid term review mission was organized in December 2015 and confirmed delay in the implementation of the grant. A six months action plan was agreed with authorities. The action plan was assessed in June 2016 and it was concluded that grant implementation was improved. Despite the progresses noted, the grant disbursement rate was low. Therefore, it was agreed to extend the closing date of the grant to increase the opportunity to attain the Grant Development Objective. The information below are summarizing the grant implementation progress.

The fiduciary unit is operational and is composed of a competent Financial Management Specialist, an accountant and a Procurement Specialist. KFW resources allowed them to hire additional personnel within the Technical Secretariat.

A first draft of REDD+ National Strategy was produced and shared with main stakeholders. To produce this first draft, the National Coordination gathered all existing information and complemented it with field data collection in specific areas. More specifically, the Technical Secretariat undertook an identification of the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the Eastern region landscapes in Cameroon. They also took advantage of the GIZ case study report on drivers of deforestation assessment in the South West region. A second draft of REDD+ national Strategy will be produced once the firm in charge to carry out an in-depth analysis of strategic options and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation is hired.

The FPIC guide produced within REDD+ regional Project framework was disseminated within FCPF resources and training provided to Civil Society Organizations. A desk review of GHG reduction options and REDD+ socio economic opportunities were carried out in the five agro ecological regions.

A diagnostic of natural resources legal and governance framework was carried out including a preliminary benefits sharing mechanism. The SESA consultant was hired and the SESA legal and institutional frame work is currently under analysis by the consultant.

It is worthy to mention that the Government of Cameroon submitted its ER-PIN to Carbon Fund Participants Committee in June. The ER-PIN was approved. The ER Program area covers seven administrative divisions within three administrative regions: Dja et Lobo, Ocean, Vallée du Ntem, Mvila (South region); Nyong et So'o, Nyong et Mfoumou (Centre region) and Haut Nyong (East region). The total surface area of the ER-Program is 93,328km² (9,332,800 ha). It lies within bi-modal and mono-modal agro-ecological zones. The ER Program area includes 9,267,606 ha of forest which accounts for 89% of the area. Total aboveground and belowground biomass in the program area is estimated at 1,725 Mt C/1.725 Gt of biomass, which is approximately 37% of the country's total carbon stocks.

The Technical Secretariat is preparing also a National Investment Framework through FIP and CAFI.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

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

Comment on follow up:

The readiness process could be used to leverage additional investments in forest resources management, however it will be largely dependent on the successful implementation of the grant and the targeted activities. The Carbon Fund Emission Reduction Program under preparation and the National Investment Framework with FIP and CAFI remain the follow up activities that are relevant at this stage and are being pursued.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

Due to the delay in the implementation of the grant activities, an extension of the closing date it envisioned.

OUTCOME

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

Most of the expected outcomes are in contracting processes.

Grant Outcome Indicators

Grant outcome indicators are listed below.

Draft National REDD+ Strategy developed and validated through a consultative and participatory process

Baseline No

Value:

Date: 11/01/2013

Progress to No. A draft strategy has been prepared based on initial analytical inputs

Date:

Date: 06/30/2016

Target Value: Yes

Date: 12/31/2017

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (and ESMF) prepared through a consultative process

Baseline No

Value:

Date: 11/01/2013

Progress to No. The SESA development process has been launched through the procuring of an international firm

Date:

Date: 06/30/2016

Target Value: Yes.

Date: 12/31/2017

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Reference Emission Level developed with up-to-date information

Baseline No
Value:
Date: 11/01/2013

Progress to No. An initial REL is developed but not yet updated with current data.
Date:
Date: 06/30/2016

Target Value: Yes/2017
Date: 12/31/2017

COMPONENTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Component 1-Support to the national readiness management arrangements

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: institutions strengthened at national, regional and departmental levels coordinating REDD+ readiness implementation; GRM operational

Actual Output: CT REDD+ operational, some capacity building undertaken,

Component 2-Support to the design of a national REDD+ strategy

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: A National Draft Strategy (including SESA and implementation framework) prepared and validated by national stakeholders

Actual Output: A first draft of national strategy has been prepared

Informing the national reference scenario for REDD+

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: A preliminary national/sub-national forest emissions reference level established

Actual Output: An initial REL was established, work has been launched to update the REL with current data

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

A financial and administrative specialist, accountant and a procurement specialist have been in place. The financial team (RAF and account) have been responsible for budget execution and financial monitoring; elaborating quarterly reports. The procurement specialist has been responsible for all procurement carried out in the scope of the grant agreement.

Operational costs of the REDD+ technical secretariat

This has mainly constituted the salaries of fiduciary team and support staff. Computer equipment and office equipment,

Operational costs of sub-national structures

Stakeholder consultations related to setting up decentralised REDD+ structures were carried out in three AEZ (Sudano-sahelian, mono-modal and bi-modal)

A2. Support for stakeholder engagement

Two separate contracts were signed with the REDD+ and CC platform and AIWO-CAN on behalf of Indigenous Peoples. The objective was to strengthen their capacities and enhance their participation in the national REDD+ process. The REDD+&CC platform has been decentralised to council level in some regions and a series of workshops have been held to build capacity of

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different CSO and IP groups on specific topics related to the REDD+ process. Both contracts will be terminated in September 2016.

Implementation of the communication strategy

The communication strategy was elaborated with funds from the KfW Basket Fund. The deployment of the communication strategy has seen the elaboration of a media plan, and training of journalists on REDD+ & CC.

The contracting process for In-depth analysis of drivers of DD and In-depth analysis of strategic options is underway.

The SESA process hiring process is also underway.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Project ID / Name: | P124293 - CM -- FCPF REDD READINESS |
| Project Status: | Lending |
| Global Focal Area: | Climate change |
| Product Line: | CN - Carbon Offset |

Implementing agency and contact details

| | | | |
|----------|---|--------|--------------------------|
| Agency: | Ministry of the Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development | | |
| Contact: | Dr. Amadou Wassouni | | |
| Address: | Yaounde, Cameroon | | |
| Phone: | +237 99 75 14 84 | Email: | wassouni.amadou@yahoo.fr |
| Website: | | | |

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

The Technical Secretariat is working closely with other REDD+ related initiatives in Cameroon by preparing annually a consolidated Annual working Plan which is taking into consideration the whole activities that will be implemented regardless of who financed. This approach creates a great partners coordination and more ownership in the way that activities are planned.

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

Due to delays noticed in the grant implementation due mainly to slow procurement in Cameroon, it was agreed during the Mid term review to better use the personnel that are working in the Technical Secretariat to collect information and carry out several key activities while waiting the completion of the consultants hiring process for the key studies. This approach allowed to move from Draft 0 National REDD+ Strategy to Draft 1. The Technical secretariat experts are more involved and dedicated in the follow up of the activities. This approach will continue with more involvement of students in data collection and consultation with stakeholders.

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

The fiduciary capacity of the Technical Secretary was improved due to the hiring by the grant resources of three key fiduciary members (Financial Management, Accountant and Procurement specialist). This created more confidence on resources management.

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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 Consultant hired for SESA has just started his work and will conduct SESA in accordance with the Common approach. Despite the important delay in hiring the consultants in charge to conduct an in-depth analysis of strategic options and Drivers of deforestation, an intensive consultation was organized in several areas of the country.

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

The ESMF is not yet available as the consultant has just started his works. But the ESMF will be prepared in accordance with the Common Approach.

6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

The Consultation with stakeholders took an important place in the whole process. The Technical Secretariat shared the two drafts of the national REDD+ strategy with all stakeholders. An intensive consultation was organized in several areas of the country in accordance with the Consultation plan that was prepared under the KFW funding.

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 | 379,226.80 | 379,226.80 |
| 07/01/2014 | 12/31/2014 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 553,420.46 | 174,193.66 |
| 01/01/2015 | 06/30/2015 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 855,335.27 | 301,914.81 |
| 07/01/2015 | 12/31/2015 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,032,307.30 | 176,972.03 |
| 01/01/2016 | 06/30/2016 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,371,201.23 | 338,893.93 |
| 07/01/2016 | 12/31/2016 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,642,810.18 | 271,608.95 |
| 01/01/2017 | 06/30/2017 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,881,209.94 | 238,399.76 |