Ghana's R-Package

Summary of

Independent TAP-Expert Review on the Self-Assessment Process

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Self-assessment process

1. Self-Assessment process conducted according to the R-Package guidelines

   ▶ The process was based on the assessment criteria and diagnostic questions (35), and the participation of a broad and representative cross-section of stakeholders.

   ▶ The NRS engaged an independent, external consultant to facilitate the assessment.

   ▶ The process concluded with a meeting of the stakeholder groups to validate and triangulate the initial findings from the consultations.

2. Documents available to support self-assessment process

   ▶ Most stakeholders were familiar with background documents due to engagement in various elements of the readiness process, through participation in sub-working groups.

Self-assessment process

3. Challenges during the self-assessment

   ▶ Some questions were too long and complex in structure. Potentially contributed to differences in interpretation between stakeholder groups.

   ▶ Some questions could not be answered until the systems or programme were fully implemented or in operation. For example, the Feedback, Grievance and Redress Mechanism (FGRM) and the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

4. Level of consensus

   ▶ Civil society and private sector assessment (and scoring) of progress is generally more critical than that of the government stakeholders, but overall consensus on readiness appears to be strong.

RESULTS:

Overall progress from Mid-term Report to R-Package assessment

Component	Sub Component	Summary of scores	
		MTR 2014	R-Package 2016
Readiness organization and consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	🟨	🟨
	1b. Consultation, participation and outreach	🟩	🟩
REDD+ Strategy preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	🟨	🟩
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	🟨	🟩
	2c. Implementation Framework	🟨	🟧
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	🟨	🟩
Reference Emission Level/Reference Level	3a. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	🟨	🟩
Monitoring system for forests and safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring	🟨	🟩
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	🟧	🟨

Strengths and Weaknesses of the R-Package

1(a): National REDD+ Management Arrangements {Yellow}

▶ Well developed and functioning as needed.

▶ Completing the overarching policy and legal framework for implementation and securing sustainable and predictable finance for implementation of all aspects of REDD+ would be helpful (if not required) to proceed to implementation.

▶ FGRM proposal expected October 2016, to be tested with ER Programme.

▶ Acknowledged that there needs to be continued effort to mainstream REDD+ in the consciousness and regular business of other government agencies, but key agencies are engaged.

Strengths and Weaknesses of the R-Package

2(c): Implementation Framework *{Orange}*

▶ Good progress has been made *towards* adoption and implementation of legislation or regulation, establishment of a benefit-sharing mechanism, and development of other policy tools

▶ Benefit sharing mechanism is not in place at this time but the plan is to test proposed benefit sharing arrangements in the Cocoa-Forest ERP before finalizing the design of national level benefit sharing arrangements

▶ REDD+ registry and activity monitoring system is not in place but a data management system for the Cocoa-Forest ERP is expected to be completed in September 2016

Strengths and Weaknesses of the R-Package

3(a): Reference Emissions Level / Reference Level {Green}

4(a): National Forest Monitoring System {Green}

- Good progress in the development of elements of the accounting system

- NFMS is not yet operational as its final design will be closely linked to the design of the FRL

- There is insufficient information in the R-Package report for a technical assessment of the FRL; ERPD review will get into these details

- The number of different actors (particularly external consultants) may have contributed to some of the confusion evident in the R-Package document concerning these technical sub-components

Strengths and Weaknesses of the R-Package

4(b): Information System for Multiple Benefits, other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards {Yellow}

- SESA, ESMF, Resettlement Policy Framework completed

- FGRM and BSM options identified and process in place to finalize (at least for piloting in ER Programme)

- A REDD+ Safeguard Information System, as per UNFCCC rules and guidance, was not anticipated at the time of Ghana's R-PP endorsement but a consulting firm has been engaged to design and develop Ghana's SIS.

In conclusion...

▶ The R-Package self-assessment report provides an accurate picture of REDD+ Readiness progress in Ghana

▶ Ghana has made considerable progress since the mid-term report and evaluation

▶ Evidence indicates that NRS has succeeding in enabling an open and participatory process

▶ The report clearly described the need and challenges to developing Ghana's national REDD+ implementation framework

▶ Plans to address outstanding deficiencies appear well conceived and further progress is expected.