

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. In the center, there is a small settlement with several buildings and a dirt road. A river or stream flows through the forest in the lower-left quadrant. The overall scene is a dense, green landscape.

**FCPF Technical Advisory Panel
Synthesis Review Comments and Recommendations**

Burkina Faso RPP

**December 9-11, 2013
FCPF Participants Committee
16th meeting, Geneva, CH
For the Burkina Faso TAP team
G. Ken Creighton
and 5 Reviewers**

Overall Summary: Strengths of the RPP

- The national RPP process and this proposal have benefitted from the preparation work that has gone on in preparing the FIP investment plan.
- The FIP and RPP processes share a common coordination unit and steering committee.
- The development of a baseline and methodology for monitoring of carbon stocks and safeguards is well integrated into a program of capacity building within existing institutions and institutional mandates.
- The consultation process is well designed and provisions for ongoing participation by an appropriately broad constituency of stakeholders is well described and adequately funded.
- Workplans are realistic and the provisions for technical audits of the methodologies and their applications are a notable “plus” feature.

Specific Strengths of the RPP include

The four key areas that will be the focus of the REDD Readiness Strategy and Action Plan (RSAP) are clearly defined and described (**Component 1a**).

- **Land use planning,**
- **Security of land tenure,**
- **Management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems,**
- **A crosscutting emphasis on capacity building within government, private sector, civil society, universities and research institutions and inclusiveness in the processes of planning and consultation**

The analysis of drivers is thorough and well structured to provide a strong basis for setting up a baseline and monitoring system. (**Component 2a**)

Lessons learned from previous projects and interventions, such as the basis and principles of government-community collaboration, are being incorporated into the design of the anticipated RPP interventions. (**Component 2a**)

Recommended areas for improvement that are now addressed:

- **Component 1a: Capacity building within national research institutions should be emphasized. This has now been addressed in specifying the institutions that will be the focus of capacity building and their roles in the implementation process.**
- **Component 1b: The semi-annual meetings of the National Coordination should include representatives of civil society (NGOs) and the private sector as participants and observers. This is now clearly acknowledged in the description of operations of the coordination unit.**
- **Component 1c: The establishment of the consultation bodies at all levels should take special care to ensure inclusion of ethnic minorities, traditional leaders and women. The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Gender should be included in the National REDD Coordination Committee along with the sectoral ministries. These recommendations have been addressed and the procedure for ensuring representation of women and ethnic minorities in the various levels of review committees from commune to regional to national is clearly described.**

Burkina Faso Assessment Summary

Component	April 2012 Submission TAP Rating	June 2012 Submission TAP Rating	July 2013 TAP Submission TAP Rating	November 2013 Final TAP Rating
1a National readiness management arrangements	Standard Partially met	Standard met	Standard met	Standard met
1b Information sharing and early dialog with stakeholders	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met	Standard met
1c Consultation and participation process	Standard Partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
2a Assessment of land use, forest law, policy and governance	Standard largely met	Standard met	Standard met	Standard met
2b REDD+ Strategy options	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met
2c REDD+ implementation framework	Standard partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
2d Social and environmental impacts during readiness preparation	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met	Standard met
3 Develop a national forest reference emissions	Standard partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
4a National forest monitoring system	Standard partially met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
4b Designing an information system for multiple benefits, etc.	Standard not met	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard met
5 Schedule and budget	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met
6 Design a program monitoring and evaluation framework	Standard partially met	Standard largely met	Standard largely met	Standard met

Key Issues

- **While the consultation process has proceeded well with a significant level of effort during the RPP proposal preparation phase, it needs to continue as the REDD+ Strategy preparation phase gets underway. Providing access to the range of stakeholders from sedentary farmers to transhumant herders presents special challenges.**
- **The substantive involvement of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment in the preparation phase and the intention to have Ministry representatives involved at virtually all levels of the consultation process as the program goes forward and to promote outreach through partnering with University staff and students through out the implementation phase are important features of program design.**
- **Human migration and (voluntary) resettlement taking place due to increasing aridity in the northern regions needs to be carefully tracked and the impacts factored in as baselines and monitoring programs are established.**
- **The intention to carry out a "technical audit" of the model use for baseline establishment and tracking of carbon stock changes as described in the proposal should be done at an appropriate time during implementation.**

Concluding Remarks

The Burkinabe preparation team has been consistently open and receptive to reviewers suggestions throughout the design and review process and has shown notable flexibility and real innovation in building a strong implementation plan that:

- Builds on previous work and targets strengthening capacity of existing institutions
- Recognizes the advantages and addresses the need to achieve complementarity between the REDD Strategy and Action Plan and the Forest Investment Program
- Describes a highly credible consultation process that is well designed and makes provisions for ongoing participation by an appropriately broad constituency of stakeholders and allocates adequately funding for its implementation.
- Includes representation of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Gender in the National REDD Coordination Committee and in each of the levels established for the consultation and participation processes and establishes procedures for ensuring representation of women and ethnic minorities in the various levels of review committees from commune to regional to national.