

UNDP Remarks to the FCPF PA7, Sunday 2nd November 2014

Thank you co-chairs and the FMT for giving me the opportunity to make some short remarks to the Participants Assembly.

Since the 6th Participants Assembly in Geneva last year UNDP has continued to make progress as a Delivery Partner. UNDP project documents have been signed for Cambodia, Honduras and Suriname. I am happy to report that all three project documents were signed before the Participants Committee deadline of May 2014.

For Cambodia, start-up of the project has been made easier thanks to the UN-REDD National Programme that has been under implementation since 2011. The FCPF project uses the same governance arrangements – the national REDD+ Taskforce and the Taskforce Secretariat, as well as the Programme Executive Board (which will soon be holding its 9th meeting) and Programme Management Unit. Progress has already been made in many areas relevant to the FCPF project, including elements that correspond to the SESA process. A consultant has recently been recruited to support the development of the national grievance mechanism. Emphasis also has been given to the development of UNDP's stakeholder response mechanism, which will be piloted in Cambodia.

Cambodia's advancement with REDD+ readiness was also demonstrated in the early idea note presented at the 10th Carbon Fund meeting.

Inception phases are moving understandably slower with Honduras and Suriname. A pre-inception mission to Honduras was undertaken in September, which included a capacity building workshop on REDD+, safeguards and SESA. Institutional restructuring and delays in filling all Programme Management Unit positions has affected the timing of the inception workshop. It should also be noted that Honduras will present an updated R-PP to the UN-REDD Policy Board this week. An inter-agency UN-REDD mission was undertaken in October, involving coordination with GIZ and USAID.

A number of technical missions have been undertaken in Suriname. Changes in the national REDD+ focal point have delayed project start-up. The inception workshop is now expected to be undertaken in December.

I am also happy to report progress with Panama and PNG on UNDP's role as Delivery Partner.

As you know, Panama submitted its revised R-PP in September and the FMT completeness check has been completed. UNDP is now discussing the FMT recommendations with ANAM to ensure there is a good basis for developing the UNDP project document and completion of our R-PP Assessment Note.

In PNG, a mission was undertaken in October, which updated the FCPF project document, including budget, work plan and project staff terms of reference. As a consequence, we have been able to progress with the R-PP Assessment Note.

Finally, two notes to conclude: (i) UNDP is still in discussions with Paraguay, whose R-PP was approved at the PC meeting in July; and (ii) UNDP has confirmed it is not in a position to act as a Delivery Partner for the Central African Republic.

Thank you. *(delivered by Tim Clairs, Principal Technical Advisor for REDD+, UNDP)*