

UNDP Statement at PA11, Washington DC, 10 October 2018

It is a pleasure to be here at PA11, celebrating 10 years of the FCPF. I am here with my UNDP colleagues Wahida Shah and Dario Vespertino, who are our new focal points for the FCPF.

We take the opportunity to congratulate the FMT and our World Bank colleagues on the anniversary. UNDP is proud to have accompanied you over the last decade and contributed in a small way to the FCPF's achievements.

UNDP is currently delivering FCPF Readiness grants in seven countries: Cambodia and Papua New Guinea in Asia-Pacific; Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Suriname in Latin America and the Caribbean; and Kenya in Africa.

Total UNDP Delivery: **\$ 38 Million** – to date about half of these funds have been expended.

UNDP also provides support to additional countries through its Climate and Forests Team and Country Offices. For example, in Mexico UNDP is supporting the World Bank implement the top-up grant. We are also happy to facilitate dialogue and knowledge exchange between FCPF countries.

The written statement we will submit to be uploaded to the meeting webpage will include key points for each country, but in the interests of time I would like to highlight 3 countries now:

- Kenya: I am very pleased to finally be able to say that the Readiness grant for Kenya is now under implementation! The project approval was preceded by over a year of detailed consultations with forest dwelling peoples and local communities regarding concerns relating to access and use of forest lands
- PNG: I am particularly impressed with the progress that PNG has made with its readiness. I understand our colleagues from PNG will have an opportunity to present their work on safeguards tomorrow during the Knowledge Day
- Suriname: the Government of Suriname is planning to hold a High Forest Cover, Low Deforestation (HFLD) international conference on Climate Finance Mobilisation next February (12th-15th) in Paramaribo. These HFLD countries have done the best job protecting their forests, while they stand to see the least benefits from REDD+ results-based payments. Intact forests are particularly important in the efforts to meet climate targets. UNDP is keen to work with Suriname, other HFLD countries and jurisdictions, as well as partners, to improve the incentives for intact forests.

Finally, I would just like to also mention some REDD+ Results-Based Payments (RBPs) work UNDP has been undertaking. As you all know, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) has established a pilot program for rewarding REDD+ results recognised through UNFCCC. I am pleased to say the first 2 countries under this pilot program – Brazil and Ecuador – selected UNDP to be their GCF Accredited Entity and we have already submitted proposals for both countries. A review of Ecuador's proposal in-line with the GCF pilot program "scorecard" has been undertaken. This represents a significant milestone in the effort to reward UNFCCC-consistent REDD+ RBPs.

Updates from each country

AFRICA

Kenya

Highlights: Project has begun implementation in June and an inception meeting held.

Strategic considerations: The Project approval was preceded by over a year of detailed consultations with forest dwelling peoples and local communities regarding concerns relating to access and use of forest lands.

ASIA-PACIFIC

Cambodia

Highlights: National REDD+ Strategy and National Protected Area Strategic Management Plan (NPASMP) finalised and endorsed. NFMS designed and technical assessment of FRL completed. Sub-national capacity building for REDD+ implementation in five REDD+ demonstration sites was also completed.

Strategic considerations: To address concerns on the new integrated approach for the implementation of the NRS at both national and sub-national, discussions were held and NRS adopted by key Cambodian government officials during the annual planning meeting in January this year.

Papua New Guinea

Highlights: Endorsement of NRS, FREL submitted in 2017, Palm Oil Platform established, cross-sector and private sector support for REDD+. UNDP leading a GCF investment proposal.

Work on safeguards to be presented at knowledge day on Thursday.

LATIN AMERICA

Honduras

Highlights: Work on national REDD+ Strategy includes deepening of the analysis of the drivers of deforestation and prioritised policies and measures including agroforestry incentives and identification of geographic areas to focus on. SESA/ESMF is being constructed and first summary of information on safeguards expected with finalisation of SIS design in progress. FREL submitted in 2017 and will be updated to include other REDD+ actions, GRM designed. The construction of the forest cover maps in 2018 are being supported with high resolution satellite images.

Panama

Highlights: FREL submission in 2017, consultations on draft Strategy continuing, forest inventory underway, SIS in development. REDD+ Sub Coordinator Carlos Gomez is here at the meeting

Strategic considerations: Indigenous peoples issues are critical and extensive consultation required at all decisions points.

Paraguay

Highlights: National Strategy of Forests for Sustainable Growth (ENBCS) developed, and a FREL presented to UNFCCC. National capacities for the future implementation of the NFMS have been strengthened; as well as the proposed interpretation of the Cancun Safeguards based on national legislation.

Other activities are a process to certify forests in the Chaco region and promotion of green commodities in the eastern region. Recommendations to broaden inputs from other stakeholder groups through a national REDD+ working group were followed up and WG set up.

Suriname

Highlights: Elements of the REDD+ - Strategy, safeguards and MRV are being discussed with stakeholders. Draft National REDD+ Strategy completed and final expected in 2018.