Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Thirtieth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC30)

Fourteenth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Assembly (PA14)

Virtual Meeting

December 14-17, 2021

Co-Chairs' Summary

Dear Participants and Observers,

We are pleased to report that the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Participants Committee (PC) and Participants Assembly (PA) held their thirtieth (PC30) and fourteenth (PA14) meetings, respectively, from December 14-17, 2021 virtually.

More than 70 representatives of governments, the private sector, forest-dependent Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and forest dwellers organizations, and international and non-governmental organizations attended.

We wish to acknowledge an esteemed guest who participated in the meetings, Hon. Javier Gutierrez, Secretary General of the Presidency for Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nicaragua.

We also share our condolences for the five World Wildlife Fund staff working on the Pakistan REDD project who lost their lives in a car accident on December 15, 2021.

All meeting materials are available at https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/meetings. Below are the main conclusions of the meeting, which are also available in French and Spanish.

Thirtieth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Committee (PC30)

R-Packages

The PC adopted resolutions endorsing R-Packages from <u>Pakistan</u> and <u>Togo</u>. Participants commended the high quality of the information provided in the R-Packages and the rigor of the self-assessment. Participants recognized good practices demonstrated through different aspects of readiness implementation in each of the countries, while encouraging them to take issues raised during the meeting into account during further implementation of readiness.

Pakistan

Pakistan was recognized for the strong alignment of the <u>Readiness Package</u> with Pakistan's updated NDC objectives, which include bold landscape restoration and mitigation objectives. The importance of key mitigation and adaptation initiatives, including the Ten Billon Tree Tsunami Program and the Ecosystems Restoration Initiative, were also noted.

Participants encouraged Pakistan to take into account the following issues raised during this meeting as they move forward:

- Define forest degradation and consider whether the assessment of related activities such as fuel wood harvesting could also be used to better understand and assess forest degradation.
- Continue to support addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
- Continue to engage forest dependent communities and disadvantaged groups (especially women) in the forest sector, including with regards to any rights related to forested land, as forest product and ecosystem service and carbon beneficiaries.
- Continue to support livelihoods and value chain development
- Continue the development of the national REDD+ registry;

Togo

Participants commended Togo for the good progress made towards their readiness, as demonstrated by their Repackage, which very much improved since the Mid-Term Review. Stakeholder engagement including outreach and consultation on REDD+ has been strong during the project lifetime. These consultations provided inputs and strengthened key elements of REDD+ readiness, including its action plan and the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) among others. Togo has made tremendous efforts to share information with all REDD+ stakeholders, in a format and language understandable to them. The participants encouraged Togo to take the following issues into account as they move forward:

- Improve the functioning of the National REDD+ Committee (CN-REDD+) which had few meetings during the project lifetime due to scheduling issues;
- Mobilize resources for REDD+ implementation and for long-term funding of REDD+ oversight and management;
- Continue the implementation of legal reforms, i.e. adoption of forest law currently under revision, the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment decree, the Carbon Governance Act (necessary to formalize the Benefit Sharing Mechanism), and the establishment of the National REDD+ Registry;
- Continue the improvement of the Forest Reference Level (FRL) data using a step-wise approach to improve the REDD+ Program, including addition of the excluded activities in previous FRL, woodland categories and carbon pools;
- Institutionalize and operationalize the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and Safeguards Information System (SIS) through continued engagement and participation of all relevant stakeholders;

Mid-Term Progress Reports

The PC appreciates the substantial progress made by Kenya on their Readiness program.

Introduction of the Climate Emissions Reduction Facility (CERF)

The World Bank presented an overview of the CERF (Climate Emissions Reduction Facility), the World Bank new Umbrella Trust Fund for Results-Based Climate Finance that will be launched in 2022.

Funding proposal for MRV activities

The PC approved additional funding of \$1.25 million to support the measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) work, in accordance with the proposal that was presented at the meeting.

Consequences of closing the Readiness Fund

The FMT presented several <u>consequences</u> for the FCPF governance after the termination of the Readiness Fund on December 31, 2022. In particular the roles of REDD Country Participants and Donor Participants and the implications for Observers and knowledge sharing. The PC shared their thoughts and proposals focusing specifically on Observers and knowledge sharing. The PC complimented the value added of the Readiness Fund, and requested the FCPF Secretariat to continue with engagement opportunities for knowledge sharing. Based on the feedback and comments, the FMT will submit a proposal to the CFPs at the February 2022 Carbon Fund meeting for their consideration.

Overview of knowledge resources

The FMT presented an overview of all the knowledge and analytical work on the key FCPF thematic areas.

Next Meetings

The 31st PC and 15th PA meetings are tentatively <u>scheduled</u> in October 2022. The location of the meetings will be determined depending on the COVID-19 situation at the time. These will be the last PC/PA meetings for the Facility. The FMT will provide further information as soon as possible.

Fourteenth Meeting of the FCPF Participants Assembly (PA14)

Progress Report from the FMT and the PC

The FMT presented a <u>progress update</u> on Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021) and key achievements, which are captured in more detail in the <u>FCPF Annual Report FY21</u>. This update also served as the PC's report to the PA of work done over the past year. Participants appreciated the impressive progress made by FCPF in FY21 and the continuing transition from readiness toward results-based payments.

Remarks by Observers and Delivery Partners

The following Observers and Delivery Partners were invited to provide remarks: the <u>Inter-American Development Bank</u>, the <u>United Nations Development Program</u>, the <u>UN-REDD Programme</u>, the <u>Indigenous Peoples Observer</u>, the <u>Southern Civil Society Organizations Observer</u>, the <u>Northern Civil Society Organizations Observer</u>, UNFCCC, the <u>International Organizations Observer</u>, and the <u>Private Sector Observer</u>.

Election of New Participants Committee

The Participants Assembly adopted a <u>resolution</u> electing the Participants Committee (PC), the Bureau of the PC, and three REDD Country Participants to serve as observers of the Carbon Fund meetings, until the end of the Readiness Fund (December 31, 2022).

• The following REDD Country Participants are elected as Members of the PC: Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Uruguay, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Togo, Cameroon, Cambodia, Lao.

- The following Financial Contributors are elected as the Members of the PC: Canada, Germany, Japan, Norway, The Nature Conservancy, United Kingdom, The United States of America.
- The following PC Members shall serve as the Bureau of the PC: Togo, Sudan, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Lao, Germany, The Nature Conservancy, United States of America.
- The following three REDD Country Participants have been selected by the REDD Country members on the PC Bureau to attend the Carbon Fund Meetings as Observers: Lao, Costa Rica, Ghana.

Concluding Remarks

We are very encouraged by all the progress we have made together over the past year. The signing of all 15 Emission Reductions Payment Agreements (ERPAs) under the FCPF Carbon Fund portfolio unlocked over US\$721 million in result-based payments between now and 2025. In July 2021, the FCPF made its first results-based payment of US\$6.4 million to Mozambique for 1.28 million tons of verified emission reductions. This is the first payment of its kind in the world, and a milestone achievement for Mozambique, the FCPF and REDD+.

In addition, we saw the advancement of several readiness programs in Pakistan, Togo and Kenya. We also observed the progression of several important tools on a range of technical topics such as registries, verifications, and Sustainable Agriculture Banking Program (SABP); a deepening engagement with the private sector; and the continued success of the Capacity Building Program.

We look forward to the year ahead, the last year of the Readiness Fund, where we expect to endorse several more R-Packages. The focus of the FCPF will shift to assisting countries with meeting the ERPA Conditions of Effectiveness, supporting implementation of programs, and moving into verification and payment for emission reductions.

Please do not hesitate to contact the FMT at fcpfsectretariat@worldbank.org if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Penengo, Ministry of Environment, Uruguay (on behalf of REDD Country Participants)

and

Hilde Dahl, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, Norway (on behalf of Donor Participants)