

World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF0A5722

Reporting Period: 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2020

Printed On: 6/20/2021

Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF0A5722

Uganda- Additional FCPF Readiness Grant FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000239598 - Nigel Ross Hughes

Approving Manager: 00000066054 - Iain G. Shuker

| Summary Information | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| TF Status | ACTV |
| Recipient Country | Uganda |
| Executed By | Recipient |
| Managing Unit | 9270 - SAFE2 |
| Grant Start Date / End Date | 10/18/2017 to 06/30/2021 |
| Original Grant Amount | 3,750,000.00 |
| Grant Amount | 3,750,000.00 |
| Outstanding Commitments | 0.00 |
| Cumulative Disbursements | 3,285,730.95 as of 06/30/2020 |
| Disbursed 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2020 | 882,597.60 |
| Donor | TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS |

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program (FCPFR), Disbursements.

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OVERVIEW

Overall Assessments

Grant Objectives:

The Project Development Objective is to design a socially and environmentally viable national strategy for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation as compared to a reference level.

Overall progress from 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2020 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

Comment:

Activities were progressing slowly in the reporting period - partly due to delays in procuring required consultant support, partly due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that has resulted in a full countrywide lockdown from March 2020 and until the end of the reporting period. The likelihood of the grant meeting its development objective is assessed as Moderately Satisfactory.

Overall progress from 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2020 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Comment:

Activities in the reporting period focused on commitments Uganda made as part of its submission of the R-Package - including integration of gender roles and participation in the implementation of national REDD+ Strategy and implementation frameworks, raising awareness of the indigenous peoples on REDD+, preparation of two sub-national ER Programs, in the Albertine Rift and the Lake Kyoga Water Management zones. A biennial update report on Uganda's REDD+ FREL was submitted to the UNFCCC in October 2019.

Building on the REDD+ readiness work and preparation of the Forest Investment Program (supported by the Strategic Climate Funds), the Government of Uganda had prepared an IDA-financed landscape operation (Uganda Investing in Forests and Protected Areas Project, P170466, US\$148.2 million). This project was approved by the World Bank Board in April 2020.

Following approval of its R-Package by the FCPF PC in October 2018, the Government of Uganda has taken into consideration PC recommendations as follows:

- Address issues of land tenure, including in relationship to benefit sharing, and continue engaging with other bodies responsible for land resources: Uganda's Benefit Sharing Arrangements (BSA) identifies tenure of land and forests a critical issue underpinning future sharing of carbon benefits and recommends putting in place a legal definition of carbon rights. Implementation of this recommendation will involve engagement with Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development and other stakeholders in resolving the unclear relationship between current forms land tenure and sharing of carbon benefits.
- Clarify carbon rights, considering legal as well as social issues and taking into account Uganda's experiences under the Voluntary Carbon Scheme (VCS) and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM): Uganda is embarking on revising the Forestry Policy (2001) and the recommendation to put in place a legally binding definition of carbon rights will be addressed through this policy reform and thereafter, in the revision of the Forests and Tree Planting Act (2003).
- Strengthening coordination with other sectors and also inclusion of local governments and private sector in REDD+ processes, considering their importance to success of ER Programs: this is taking place as part of stakeholder engagement for preparation

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for the ER Programs.

-- Completing the next steps for developing a functional National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS): NFMS development is progressing well, with the necessary capacities being built within the mandated institutions.

Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Grant activities are organized into five components that correspond to the components and sub-components of Uganda's Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP).

Component 1: Coordination and Monitoring of REDD+ Readiness Process

The objective of this component is to continue supporting national level coordination and monitoring of the REDD+ process. This support builds on structures and process involving the REDD+ Secretariat and national REDD+ coordination, supervision, stakeholder participation, and preparing Readiness Package (R-Package).

Component 2. Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process

The objective of this component is to support broad stakeholder engagement with a particular focus on implementation of the Uganda REDD+ gender strategy, which includes implementation of key actions as identified in the Uganda REDD+ Gender Strategy, foster gender integration in national REDD+ processes, and integrating stakeholder engagement.

Component 3. REDD+ Strategy and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment

The objective of this component is to continue supporting the National REDD+ Strategy process and environmental and social elements of it, and development of the Safeguards Information System for Uganda REDD+ as an integral component of the REDD+ Strategy.

Component 4. REDD+ Implementation Framework

The objective of this component is to support the development of design options for the ER Programs nested in the National REDD+ Strategy.

Component 5. National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

The objective of this component is to refine the National Reference Scenario / FREL by undertaking analysis to better determine forest degradation and establishing and institutionalizing the NFMS as approved by the national REDD+ structures.

Expected follow up (if any): Follow up Bank project/loan/credit/grant

Comment on follow up:

The Government of Uganda has prepared an IDA-funded Forests and Resilient Landscapes Project. Uganda is also undertaking identification and development of two Emission Reductions Programs (in the west and east of the country), through mobilization of actors around the identified Strategy Options in the National REDD+ Strategy (even though Uganda does not have a potential buyer for the emissions reductions).

End Date of Last Site Visit:

An implementation support mission for REDD+ Readiness activities was conducted on May 18-19, 2020. The mission was held remotely, due to COVID-19 related restrictions.

Restructuring of Grant:

In April 2019, the Government of Uganda requested a 6-month extension of the grant - this was granted in May 2019, to June 30, 2020. A second extension, of 12 months, to June 30, 2021, was processed in June 2020. The grant closed on June 30, 2021.

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OUTCOME

Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2020

Activities in the reporting period focused on completing outstanding elements - such as preparing a more concise (and donor friendly) version of the National REDD+ Strategy, revising safeguards frameworks for REDD+ Readiness, and initiating development of ER Programs for two priority landscapes (water management zones) of Uganda. The GOU has contracted a company to support development of ER Programs - however, due to COVID-19 impacts on travel and engagement, the company had pulled out of this assignment right after the end of the reporting period.

The National REDD+ Secretariat (composed of GOU civil servants and housed in the Forestry Sector Support Department of the Ministry of Water and Environment) engaged two national consultants to support REDD+ readiness activities, a Lead Technical Advisor and a Project / Communication Officer; in addition, an international technical advisor to support preparation of the two ER-Programs was engaged. The Government was working with FAO, under the TA agreement - the forest inventory process focused on areas previously not covered including the Albertine (Hoima, Kabarole, Greater Bushenyi) and Northern Uganda (Karamoja). The Land Use Land Cover map (LULC) for 2017 was completed; this has served as a basis for the biennial update report on REDD+ emissions reductions that Uganda submitted to the UNFCCC in October 2019. An initial assessment of forest degradation using the pilot Break detection For Additive Seasonal Trends (BFAST) tool was completed - the BFAST tool has shown some promise in measuring forest degradation but it is not suitable to all forest types. A number of capacity building activities for the GOU were organized on the appropriate methodologies and tools for forest monitoring.

Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

COMPONENTS

Output and Implementation by Component

Component 1. Coordination and Monitoring of REDD+ Readiness Process

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: National REDD+ Secretariat functional; National REDD+ coordination structures (task forces and National Technical Committee for REDD+) supported, International TA for ER Programs hired

Actual Output: As planned.

Component 2. Stakeholder Engagement and Feedback in Readiness Process

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Specific engagement with Indigenous Peoples ongoing; implementation of key activities in REDD+ Gender Strategy (focused on training of indigenous peoples and the National Climate Change Steering Committee)

Actual Output: Both outputs were under implementation, with support from an umbrella organization of indigenous peoples in Uganda

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Component 3. REDD+ Strategy and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Status: | Under Implementation |
| Planned Output: | REDD+ strategy updated; safeguards instruments updated / prepared; SIS developed and producing a first report. |
| Actual Output: | Initial revised drafts of the REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan, SESA, ESMF undergoing stakeholder review and validation. SIS development initiated. |

Component 4. REDD+ Implementation Framework

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Status: | Under Implementation |
| Planned Output: | Design of two ER Programs ongoing (with support from a consulting firm) |
| Actual Output: | Activities towards the design of the two ER Programs ongoing. |

Component 5. National Reference Scenario and Inventory of Forest Resources

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Status: | Under Implementation |
| Planned Output: | FREL update and NFMS institutionalization ongoing. |
| Actual Output: | As planned. NFI activities completed; LULC map for 2017 produced; forest degradation assessment completed. Biennial update submitted to UNFCCC. |

Comment on planned and actual Output

Comment on component implementation progress

Overall, activities were progressing much slower than expected; significant delays have continued after the end of the reporting period as well.

EXECUTION

Bank project related to the grant

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Project ID / Name: | P124296 - UG-FCPF REDD READINESS |
| Project Status: | Lending |
| Global Focal Area: | Climate change |
| Product Line: | IPF - Investment Project Financing |

Implementing agency and contact details

| | | | |
|----------|--|--------|-----------------------|
| Agency: | Ministry of Water and Environment / Forestry Sector Support Department | | |
| Contact: | Margaret Athieno Mwebesa | | |
| Address: | 10/20 Spring Road, Kampala, Uganda | | |
| Phone: | +256772470023 | Email: | margathieno@gmail.com |
| Website: | http://www.redd-uganda.org/ | | |

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PROGRAM

Program Specific Questions

1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f

Uganda's REDD+ Readiness activities in FY20 were supported only by the FCPF Readiness Fund and the Government of Uganda, following completion of the UN-REDD National Programme.

2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.

None.

3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.

The REDD+ Readiness activities contributed significantly to building capacity of key stakeholders through provision of information, stakeholder engagement, etc. Under the TA agreement for the institutionalization of the National Forest Monitoring System, FAO has provided a number of trainings for the National Forestry Authority staff, including on use of BFAST for assessing forest degradation, SEPAL and Google Earth Engine portals. A training module on gender aspects of REDD+ was delivered to members of the REDD+ National Technical Committee and task forces.

4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?

SESA was conducted in accordance with the Common Approach. SESA was prepared in a consultative manner - it is currently being updated. In addition, the ESMF was prepared and is being updated as well. The Government of Uganda is also preparing / updating other safeguards frameworks for its National REDD+ Strategy - the Process Framework, the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework, and the Resettlement Policy Framework.

5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

ESMF was prepared in accordance with the Common Approach. The ESMF sets out the procedures for identifying, assessment, managing and mitigating the potential environmental and social impacts of REDD+ interventions. The ESMF development was informed by extensive national and subnational consultations, including with indigenous and forest-dependent communities.

6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

Uganda's REDD+ readiness process has been highly participatory. An Uganda REDD+ site includes all relevant information, with key documents also published on the Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment website. An appropriate FGRM for national REDD+ was identified with support from the original FCPF REDD+ Readiness grant.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements Summary in USD

| Date From | Date To | Planned Cumulative | Planned Period | Actual Cumulative | Actual Period |
|------------|------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 07/01/2017 | 12/31/2017 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 350,000.00 | 350,000.00 |
| 01/01/2018 | 06/30/2018 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,310,278.00 | 960,278.00 |
| 07/01/2018 | 12/31/2018 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,444,008.90 | 133,730.90 |

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|------------|------------|------|------|--------------|------------|
| 01/01/2019 | 06/30/2019 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,403,133.35 | 959,124.45 |
| 07/01/2019 | 12/31/2019 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,672,992.38 | 269,859.03 |
| 01/01/2020 | 06/30/2020 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3,285,730.95 | 612,738.57 |