

TOGOLESE REPUBLIC
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R-Package

REDD+ Readiness Assessment in Togo

Supported by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)



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Disclaimer

Togo prepared the Readiness Package in French. The English translation is provided by FCPF Facility Management Team for viewers' information.

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List of links (All documents in French unless mentioned otherwise)

Link/numbers	Document title
[1]	Guide to Applying the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Assessment Framework
+ [2fr]	National REDD+ Strategy French version
[2En]	National REDD+ Strategy English version
[3] ; [23]	REDD+ Strategy Options
[4]	Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
[5]	Pest Management Plan (PMP)
[6]	Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)
[7]	Process Framework (PF)
[8] ; [44]	First Forest Reference Level (FRL)
[9]	National Forest Monitoring System
[10] ; [35] ; [56]	Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)
[11] ; [57]	Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM)
[13]	Resolution on the creation of the REDD+ monitoring committee (CP-REDD+)
[14]	Resolution providing guidance on future funding for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy
[15] ; [30]	Stakeholder consultation reports
[16]	Signature of the Paris Agreement by Togo
[17]	Ratification of the Paris Agreement by Togo
[18]	Decree N° 2011-016/PR and INTERMINISTERIAL ORDINANCE N° 018/MERF/MPDAT/MATDCL specifying the composition, organization and functioning of local sustainable development commissions.
[19]	Exchange and training workshop report for mayors and general secretaries of the 117 communes of Togo on the REDD+ process, their roles and responsibilities
[20]	GRM for the REDD+ readiness process
[21]	GRM for the implementation phase
[22]	Summary note on analytical studies carried out as part of the REDD+ process in Togo
[24]	Final version of the national REDD+ strategy
[25]	Contribution of the forestry sector to the national economy
[26]	Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
[27]	Land use and land use change
[28]	Analysis of the forest legal and political framework
[29]	Strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA)
[31]	REDD+ national coordination website
[32]	Strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA) of the national REDD+ strategy in Togo - final report
[33]	Togo's national REDD+ communication strategy
[34]	Togo's updated national REDD+ communication strategy
[36]	"REDD+ Infos" electronic newsletter
[37]	Study on the integration of the forestry sector into other related sectors
[38]	Study on the causes and consequences of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo and identification of appropriate areas of intervention
[39]	Study on the determination of periods for early fires by ecological regions in Togo
[40]	Study on the strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA)
[41]	Study on the causes and consequences of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo and identification of the appropriate areas of intervention
[42fr]	National REDD+ Strategy Action Plan - French version
[42En]	National REDD+ Strategy Action Plan - English version

¹ Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, 2013. Guide for the application of the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Assessment Framework.

[43]	Togo's Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)
[45]	National Forest Monitoring System; Reference Manual
[46]	Landsat Surface Reflectance
[47]	Report of the first national forest inventory carried out in 2015/16
[48]	Methodology for carrying out the national forest inventory in Togo
[49]	National forest inventory instruction manual
[50]	Training workshop in national forest inventory technique in Togo
[51]	Technical report of the training in national forest inventory methodology in Togo
[52]	National forest monitoring systems: Monitoring and measurement, reporting and verification (M&MRV) in the context of REDD+/National Forest Monitoring Systems activities: Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (M&MRV) in the context of REDD+ Activities
² [53]	Integration of remote-sensing and ground-based observations for estimation of emissions and removals of greenhouse gases in forests
[54]	Sepal Platform (in English)
[55]	National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in Togo; Organization and role and responsibility of the institutions involved
[58]	Summary report of the regional consultation and self-assessment workshops
[59]	National summary of consultations with administrative, municipal and local authorities
[60]	National summary of consultations with private sector organizations
[61]	National summary of consultations with media professionals and actors
[62]	National summary of the consultations of the decentralized technical services of the administration
[63]	National summary of consultations with civil society organizations
[64]	Central level consultation and self-assessment report in Lomé
[65] ; [68]	Strengths and weaknesses assessment and analysis results by FCPF criteria
[66]	Assessment and analysis of progress made by stakeholders against FCPF criteria
[67]	Analysis of progress made by stakeholders against FCPF criteria

List of acronyms

AJN	Youth and Nature Association
ANGE	National Agency for Environmental Management
PA	Protected Areas
APPT	Association of Private Producers of Togo
ITA	International Technical Assistance
AVGAP	Village Association for Participatory Management of Protected Areas
AVT	Green Africa Togo
WB	World Bank
CCDD	Municipal Commission for Sustainable Development
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
CF-REDD+	Togo's REDD+ Women Consortium
CILSS	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLDD	Local Sustainable Development Commission
CNDD	National Commission for Sustainable Development
CNI	Initial National Communication on Climate Change
CNODD	National Council of Civil Society Organizations for Sustainable Development
CN-REDD+	National REDD+ Committee

² GFOI (2020) Integration of remote-sensing and ground-based observations for estimation of emissions and removals of greenhouse gases in forests

COSCREMA	Collective of Civil Society Organizations of the Maritime Region
CPDD	Prefectural Committee on Sustainable Development
CRDD	Regional Sustainable Development Committee
CTOP	Togolese Coordination of Agricultural Producers Organizations
CVD	Village Development Committee
DAAF	Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs
DCN	Second National Communication on Climate Change
DE	Environment Department
DEF	Department of Water and Forests
DEP	Department of Studies and Planning
DFC	Department of Fauna and Hunting
DFS	Deutsche Forst Service
DGD	Department General of Customs
DGSCN	General Directorate of Statistics and National Accounting
DGSN	General Directorate of National Statistics
DP	Prefectural Management
DPFT	Forest Policy Statement of Togo
DRF	Department of Forest Resources
DSID	Directorate of Agricultural Statistics, Information and Documentation
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
EA	Environmental Assessment
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FETAPH	Togolese Federation of Disabled People's Associations
FNDF	National Fund for Forestry
NFE	National Fund for the Environment
FNRR	National Umbrella for Regional Networks
FONGTO	Federation of NGOs in Togo
ERDF	ECOWAS Regional Development Fund
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GAD	Agroforestry for Development
SLWM	Sustainable Land and Water Management
GHG	greenhouse gas
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction Effects and Recovery
IPCCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
NWG/SFM	National Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management
HAFL	School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences, Bern, Switzerland
IFN	National Forest Inventory
ITRA	Togolese Agricultural Research Institute
YVE	Youth Volunteers for the Environment
MAEP	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Production and Fisheries
MAR	Ministry of Rural Planning
MASPFA	Ministry for Social Action, the Promotion of Women, and Literacy
MATDCL	Ministry of Territorial Administration, Decentralization and Local Government
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
MEAHV	Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Village Water Supply
MERF	Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources
MPDAT	Ministry for Planning, Development and Spatial Planning
MRV	Monitoring Reporting Verification
MTR	Mid-term review
ODEF	Office for the Development and Exploitation of Forests
ONATEPH	National organization for accessibility, work and employment of people with disabilities in Togo
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NFAP	National Forestry Action Plan
WFP	World Food Program

NAPA	National Adaptation Program of Action for Climate Change
PANSEA	National Action Plan for the Water and Sanitation Sector
PAPE	Parks Agreement Support Programme
PASR	Populations affected by the REDD+ Strategy
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
PFPC	Platform of Private and Community Forest Owners
PGESS	Environmental and Social Safeguard Management Plan
PGICT	Integrated Disaster and Land Management Project
GDP	Gross domestic product
FIP	Forest Investment Program
PNADE	National Program of Decentralized Environmental Management Activities
PNAE	National Environmental Action Plan
PNE	National Environmental Policy
PNGE	National Environmental Management Program
PNIASA	National Program for Agricultural Investment and Food Security
PNIERN	National Investment Program for Environment and Natural Resources
NLUPP	National Land Use Planning Policy
PRCGE	Capacity Building and Environmental Management Program
PRNDGE	National and Decentralized Environmental Management Reinforcement Program
ProREDD	REDD+ Readiness and Forest Rehabilitation Support Program in Togo (GIZ)
TFP	Technical and Financial Partners
RFCT	Togo Community Forest Network
RGPH	General Population and Housing Census
MTR	Mid-term report
R-PP	Readiness Plan Proposal
GS	General Secretariat
SIE-TOGO	Energy Information System of Togo
GIS	Geographic information system
SNAT	National land use plan
SPA	Strategic Priority on Adaptation Fund
SRAT	Regional land use plans
STATFORBOIS	Data base for the management of forest resources
UAVGAP	Union of Village Associations for Participatory Management of Protected Areas
UCN-REDD+	REDD+ National Coordination Unit
UL	University of Lomé
UONGTO	Union of NGOs of Togo
LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry

Summary

The participatory self-assessment carried out in May 2021, with all the stakeholders, made it possible to highlight significant progress since the start of Togo's REDD+ readiness process in 2015. The results of the consultations with the different categories of stakeholders clearly indicate that the REDD+ readiness process has proceeded satisfactorily and that the country is sufficiently ready to begin the second phase of said process. This position is reinforced by the adoption of the national strategy by the government in the Council of Ministers on March 24, 2021, thus demonstrating Togo's political commitment which makes REDD+ the priority of government action.

Out of the 34 criteria of the FCPF evaluation framework, the participants concluded after discussions and validation that:

- Twenty-one (21) criteria have a very satisfactory level of progress, against 3 criteria in 2017 during the mid-term report;
- Ten (10) criteria have a satisfactory level of progress compared to 5 in 2017;
- Three (03) criteria have a level of progress requiring improvement against 17 in 2017;

To date, there is no longer any criterion that has not seen progress, compared to 12 in 2017 which were characterized by a lack of progress.

It emerges from the above that 31 criteria have a level of progress between satisfactory and very satisfactory compared to 8 in 2017 during the mid-term evaluation.

Table 1: Summary of progress vis-à-vis FCPF criteria

3		Substantial progress	
2		Good progress, more effort required	
1		More effort required	
0		Lack of progress	
Components	Goals	Evaluation	
		2017	2021
1. Organization and consultations			
1a. National REDD+ management systems	1) Accountability and transparency	3	3
	2) Operational mandate and budget	2	2
	3) Multisectoral coordination mechanisms and intersectoral collaboration	2	2
	4) Technical supervision capacity	2	3
	5) Fund management capacity	3	3
	6) Information feedback and appeal mechanism	0	2
	7) Participation and engagement of key stakeholders	3	3

1b. Consultation, Participation and Awareness	8) Consultation process	Orange	Green
	9) Dissemination of information and access to information	Yellow	Green
	10) Use and disclosure of consultation results	Red	Green
2. REDD+ Readiness Strategy			
2a. Land Use Assessment, Pilot Land Use Changes, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	11) Evaluation and analysis	Orange	Green
	12) Prioritization of direct and indirect factors/obstacles to forest development	Orange	Green
	13) Links between these favorable/unfavorable elements and REDD+ activities	Red	Green
	14) Action plans to take into account the right to natural resources, land tenure and governance	Orange	Yellow
	15) Impact on forest laws and policies	Orange	Green
2b. REDD+ strategic options	16) Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategic options	Orange	Green
	17) Feasibility assessment	Red	Green
	18) Impact of the strategic options on the sectoral policies in force	Red	Yellow
2c. Implementation Framework	19) Adoption and enforcement of laws and regulations	Red	Yellow
	20) Implementation guidelines	Red	Yellow
	21) Benefit-sharing mechanism	Red	Yellow
	22) National REDD+ register, monitoring of REDD+ activities	Orange	Orange
2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	23) Analysis of issues relating to social and environmental safeguards	Orange	Green
	24) Design of the REDD+ strategy according to the impacts	Red	Green
	25) Environmental and social management framework	Red	Green
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels			

	26) Demonstration of the method	Yellow	Green
	27) Use of historical data and adaptation to the national context	Orange	Green
	28) Technical feasibility of the methodological approach and consistency with the UNFCCC/IPCC guidelines.	Orange	Green
4. Forest monitoring systems and safeguard measures			
4a. National Forest Monitoring System	29) Explanation of the monitoring method	Orange	Green
	30) Demonstration of the first application phases	Orange	Green
	31) Institutional arrangement and capacity	Orange	Yellow
4b. Information system on multiple benefits, governance, safeguards	32) Identification of non-carbon aspects and relevant social and environmental issues	Red	Yellow
	33) Monitoring, reporting and information exchange	Red	Orange
	34) Institutional arrangements and capacities	Orange	Orange

The diagram below illustrates the key milestones in the REDD+ readiness process in Togo. It shows the trajectory and progress made since the validation of the R-PIN in 2013 to date.

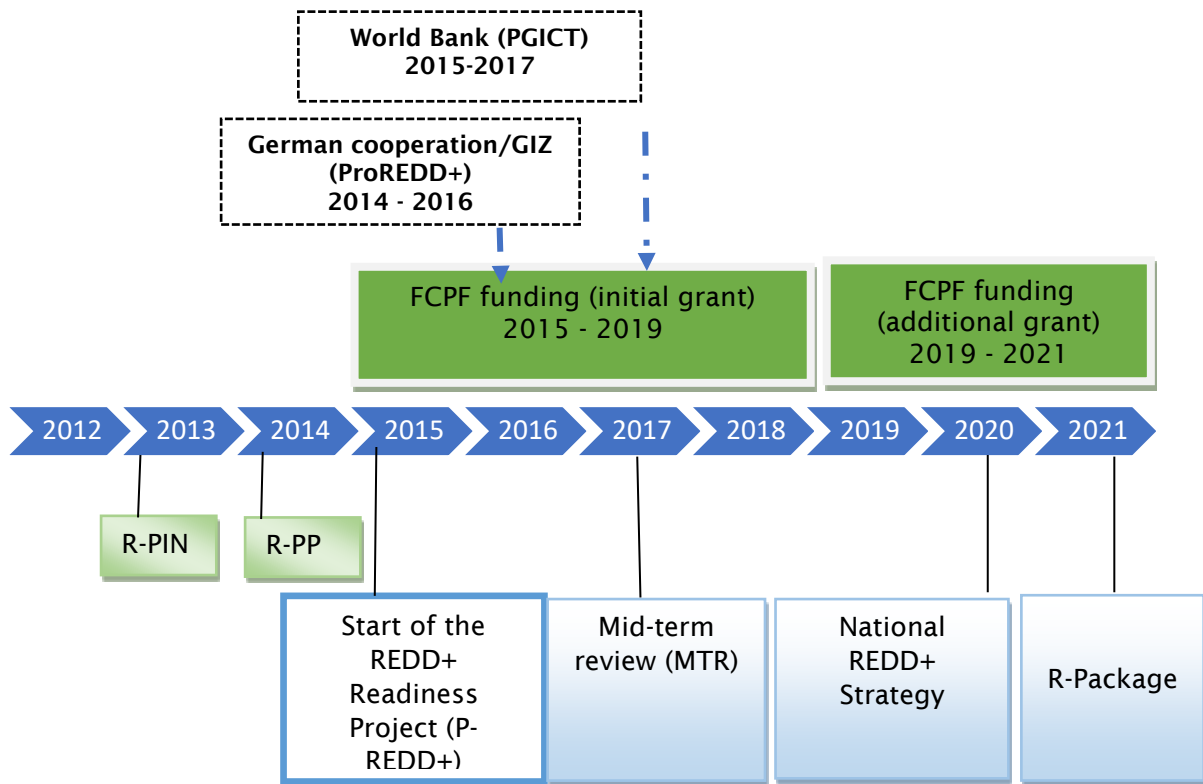


Figure 1: Key steps in the REDD+ readiness process in Togo

1 Introduction

1.1 National context

The proposal for measurements for the REDD+ readiness of Togo (R-PP) was approved by the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF) through resolution PC/14/2013/2 in 2013 and then in UN-REDD program, in 2014, thanks to decision 3.1 of its policy board. The implementation of REDD+ readiness activities began in 2015 through three programs:

- REDD+ Readiness Support Project (P-REDD+), funded by the FCPF (2015-2018 and extended twice until 12.31.2021)
- REDD+ Readiness and Forest Rehabilitation Support Program in Togo ("ProREDD"), funded by the German government and implemented by GIZ (2014-2016 and 2017-2019)
- Integrated Disaster and Land Management Project (PGICT), funded by the World Bank (2012-2016 with extension until June 30, 2017)

The REDD+ readiness process took place in two phases. The first phase corresponds to the REDD+ Readiness Support Project, which ended in October 2019. In 2017, Togo submitted a mid-term review (MTR) with a request for additional funding of \$ 2.9 million intended to support until 2021 the efforts to develop all the frameworks, systems and structures necessary for an effective engagement in the REDD+ mechanism.

To date, Togo's REDD+ readiness is sufficiently advanced for the country to be able to submit its R-Package, i.e., a participatory self-assessment of its REDD+ readiness. It thus fulfills one of the key requirements for participating in the Carbon Fund. The REDD+ National Coordination, which is responsible for the coordination and the REDD+ readiness process in Togo, also coordinates the realization of the R-Package and the assessment of the four thematic components of REDD+ readiness:

- Readiness Organization and Consultation
- REDD+ Strategy preparation
- Establishment of a reference emission level/reference level
- Establishment of a forest and safeguard monitoring system

This R-Package presents the methodology and results of the self-assessment process in accordance with the FCPF guidelines and assessment framework.

1.2 Objectives of the R-package

The R-Package "makes it possible to take stock of the progress made by the country, to take advantage of the achievements, to assess the gaps and to define the actions to be followed to move on to the stage of carrying out activities based on the results."(FCPF, 2013³) [1].

The specific objectives of the R-Package are as follows:

- Assess progress made in REDD+ readiness for each component
- Identify the main strengths and weaknesses of the preparation process
- Analyze the progress made by component
- Identify additional actions likely to remedy the gaps identified by the analysis.

³ Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, 2013. Guide for the application of the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Assessment Framework.

2 Methodology

The methodology used for the realization of the Togo R-Package is based on the recommendations of the FCPF. The participants of the evaluation are the representatives of institutions with a strong implication in the national REDD+ process (the public sector, civil society, the private sector, the traditional chiefdoms and vulnerable groups).

Before conducting the assessment, the reference documents were made available to stakeholders on the website of the national REDD+ coordination in Togo. These are: (i) the National REDD + Strategy [2fr] [2En] and the action plan [3] ; (ii) Environmental and Social Safeguard instruments (ESMF [4], PMP [5], RPF [6], CP [7]); (iii) Forest Reference Level (FRL) [8] ; (iv) National Forest Monitoring System [9] ; (v) carbon governance support tools (the Grievance Redress Mechanism - GRM) [10] and the Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) [11]). These documents were also put on an electronic medium and shared with the actors.

A draft 0 of the R-package was prepared by the National REDD+ Coordination to provide a summary of the status of the REDD+ readiness process to stakeholders participating in the self-assessment process.

The REDD+ readiness assessment in Togo was carried out in a participatory manner based on the criteria and diagnostic questions of the FCPF assessment framework (2013).

All the stakeholders or their representatives evaluated these criteria (chap. 4) according to a 4-degree scale with a color code:

3	Substantial progress
2	Good progress, more effort required
1	More effort required
0	Lack of progress

The analysis of the results of the evaluation has two major components:

1. Representatives of different categories of stakeholders, at regional level, discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the preparation process, including indicating major achievements, as well as areas that need to be improved. (chap. 4).
2. The REDD+ National Coordination, members of sectoral thematic groups, representatives of platforms of civil society organizations and the private sector, analyzed, at the central level in Lomé, the progress made since the mid-term review (M TR) (chap. 4).

On the basis of the assessment and this analysis, measures were proposed in a participatory manner to improve the weak points (chap. 5).

Stakeholders were invited to define in a consensual manner the order of priority of these measures (chap. 5).

3 REDD+ readiness process Results obtained

3.1 Component 1: Support for national REDD+ readiness management mechanisms

3.1.1 Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ management systems

Criterion 1: Accountability and transparency

Diagnostic question: What shows that national REDD+ institutions and management systems operate in an open, accountable and transparent manner?

Statement of the situation:

Accountability:

For stakeholders, “accountability” means that the preparatory bodies fulfill their missions in accordance with their mandate, answer for their actions and assume them within the framework of the steering of the process.

Transparency:

For stakeholders, “transparency” means that the process management bodies involve all stakeholders, account for the management of their activities, share information with stakeholders through appropriate and accessible channels.

Openness:

For the stakeholders, “openness” means that all the constituent bodies of the management system carry out their mission and take decisions in full autonomy, in all impartiality and without allowing themselves to be influenced.

Pledge element	Accountability	Transparency	Openness
Development and implementation of work plans and annual budget (AWPB)	In accordance with the contractual clauses: - national coordination draws up the AWPB, - the steering committee validates it before submission to the Bank for approval.	The AWPB is drawn up with the involvement of the members of the national working group and all the stakeholders. After approval by the Bank, the AWPB is made accessible through several channels.	- The initiation of work plan activities and the budget fall under the prerogatives of the national REDD+ coordination; - Its validation falls within the remit of the steering committee
Development of the national REDD+ strategy and environmental and social safeguard instruments	Production of TORs by the national REDD+ coordination with the support of the national working group, Conduct of the entire process by the national REDD+ coordination, Approval of the national strategy and safeguard instruments by the national REDD+ committee (CN REDD+) by resolution	Consultations and validations of the results of studies, of the national REDD+ strategy, of safeguard instruments with all stakeholders, Sharing of all validated and approved deliverables with stakeholders through the various channels	Conduct and daily management of all activities by the national REDD+ coordination with the support of the national REDD+ working group, Approval of all deliverables by CN-REDD+

	N 004/CN-REDD+ of November 27, 2020		
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The three REDD+ management bodies are all functional. This means that they meet a number of criteria defined by the stakeholders in the assessment as follows:

Institution/Management body	Functionality criteria
National REDD+ Committee (CN-REDD+)	<p>Four out of twelve meetings are held: 2017, 2018, 2020. There is an irregularity due to the non-availability of certain members , but also to the Covid 19 pandemic</p> <p>We note a satisfactory participation</p> <p>Turn-over (number of people replaced by other people) since creation</p> <p>Resources available for holding meetings, a budget is provided in the AWPB for this purpose</p> <p>The committee is a multisectoral body, made up of ministers and professionals from civil society organizations, the private sector, the traditional chieftdom, women's and youth organizations. The CN-REDD+ deliberates on all questions by consensus and produces the minutes and resolutions.</p>
P-REDD+ Steering Committee	<p>Two meetings per year with the participation of an average of 13 out of 15 members; it is a multisectoral body composed of representatives of sectoral ministries, civil society organizations and the private sector</p> <p>Production of meeting minutes that are accessible to stakeholders through the channels,</p> <p>Resources are provided in the AWPB for this purpose</p>
REDD+ national coordination	<p>Weekly meetings, and production of reports,</p> <p>Review and programming meetings and production of half-yearly and annual reports.</p>

The legal framework and institutional mechanism for effective management of the REDD+ process in Togo are fully in place and operational. The legal framework consists of various legislative texts ensuring the independent and transparent functioning (financially and in terms of decision-making) of the REDD+ management bodies in Togo (Table 2). The institutional mechanism is represented on Figure 2 .

Table 2 REDD+ institutions and management bodies

Scale	Legal framework	Institution/management body
National	Decree N° 2016-007/PR (25.01.2016)	National REDD+ Committee (CN-REDD)

	Resolution 001/CNREDD+ (13.03.2017)	REDD+ Steering Committee (CP-REDD+)
	Decree N° 2016-007/PR (25.01.2016)	National REDD+ Working Group (NWG-REDD+)
	Decree N° 2016-007/PR (25.01.2016)	REDD+ National Coordination
	Order N 050/MERF (08.06.2015)	Steering committee of the REDD+ readiness support project in Togo (REDD+ SC)
Regional	Decision N ° 017/SG/MERF	REDD+ focal points: By region: 1 officer from a regional/prefectural environment and forest resources department By region or prefecture: 1 framework for consultation and exchange

The representatives of the various stakeholders within these bodies are appointed according to the procedures specific to their institutions or corporations, with the exception of the National Coordination whose members are recruited through a call for applications. Regular meetings are held with the Project Manager at the World Bank in Togo, who in this context carries out monitoring missions twice a year.

a) On the national level

Decree No. 2016-007/PR of January 25, 2016 [12] established 3 REDD+ management bodies in Togo:

The National REDD+ Committee (CN-REDD): it is made up of thirty-five (35) members, representatives of State institutions (13 Ministries and senior figures), civil society organizations, the private sector, the traditional chiefdom and research institutions. The National REDD+ Committee, a decision-making body, is chaired by the Minister of the Environment and Forest Resources (MERF) who reports to the Prime Minister. He is assisted in his task by a first vice-president, who is the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (MAEDR) and a second vice-president, the Minister in charge of mines and energy. The National REDD+ Committee held a total of four meetings. The first meeting took place on February 23, 2017. At the end of this meeting, the National REDD+ Committee adopted two resolutions: the first resolution [13] concerns the creation of the REDD+ steering committee (REDD+ SC), within the National REDD+ Committee, an advisory body responsible for providing its opinion on any subject before it and the second resolution provides guidance on future funding for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy, including international resources such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) [14]. Also, the CN-REDD+ discussed the mobilization of national resources in accordance with the decree establishing the REDD+ management bodies. The fourth meeting of the national committee was held on November 27, 2020. During this last meeting, members approved the national REDD+ strategy and the implementation action plan, safeguard instruments and carbon governance support tools. The government adopted all of these documents in the Council of Ministers on March 24, 2021.

- **The National REDD+ Working Group (NWG REDD+):** it is a technical body that supports the National REDD+ Committee and the National REDD+ Coordination. It is made up of a multidisciplinary team whose members come from 13 institutions (public administration, civil society organizations, technical and financial partners). In order to enable it to achieve its mission, the NWG REDD+ benefited from capacity building on its roles and responsibilities in the monitoring and evaluation of the REDD+ process.

This capacity building enabled members of the National Working Group to (i) validate the monitoring-evaluation manual prepared by the National Coordination and (ii) participate in the design of monitoring-evaluation tools (results framework, budget and analytical plan).

It should be noted that according to the terms of decree N° 2016-007/PR, these are institutions that are members of the National Working Group. The National REDD+ Coordination involves the members of this group according to their areas of expertise, in the accomplishment of technical tasks such as the development of the terms of reference for studies, the evaluation of the offers of the various consultants or the evaluation of the methodological notes, study reports, development and validation of: (i) the national REDD+ strategy and the action plan, (ii) environmental and social safeguard instruments, (iii) forest reference level (FRL), (iv) National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), (v) national REDD+ strategy implementation report for the year 2020.

- **National REDD+ Coordination**⁴: it is under the supervision of the MERF. It ensures the daily management of the REDD+ process. It is led by a national coordinator and comprises seven (07) units: the program support unit; the administrative and financial unit; the information, education and communication unit; the monitoring and evaluation unit; the “measurement, reporting and verification (MRV)” unit; the legal affairs unit - Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA); and the procurement unit. The National Coordination, in addition to its daily activities, holds weekly meetings to coordinate the various activities. The National Coordination is supported by an International Technical Assistant (ITA) who makes regular missions to Togo.

The implementation of REDD+ activities is conditional on obtaining a no-objection opinion from the World Bank. The documents and reports of the various activities are public [\[15\]](#) and accessible to all stakeholders.

b) At regional and local levels

At the regional level, decision No. 017/ SG/MERF of April 12, 2012, designates the regional directorates for the environment and forest resources as REDD+ focal points, responsible for coordinating and monitoring REDD+ activities. They are relayed to the prefectural level by the prefectural directorates for the environment and forest resources. At the level of each region, an agent is appointed to closely monitor REDD+ activities. At the level of each region and prefecture, a framework for consultation and discussion is set up and brings together all the players concerned. These consultation frameworks meet quarterly.

⁴ Formerly called UCN-REDD+ (National REDD+ Coordination Unit)

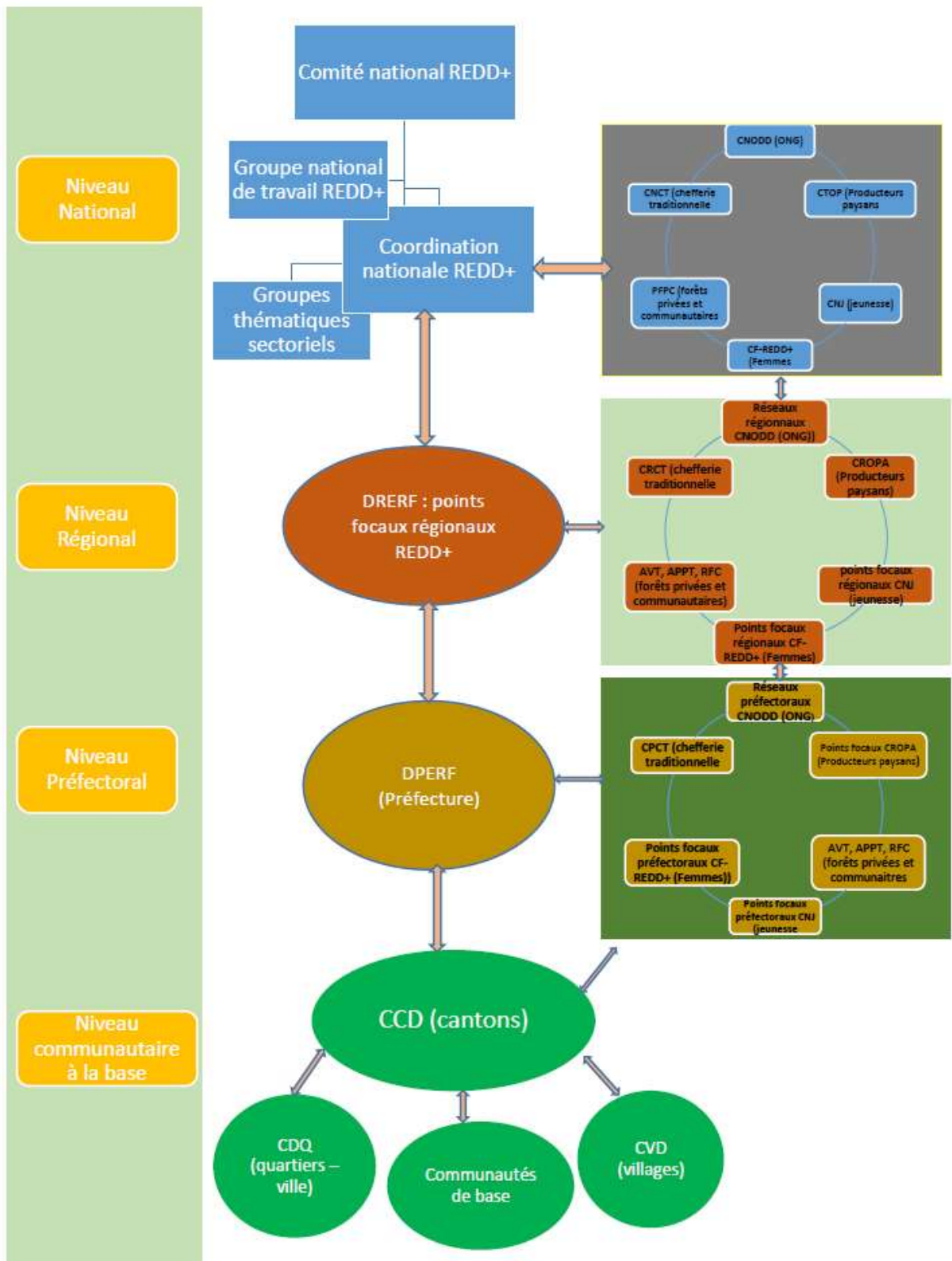


Figure 2 Operational institutional arrangement for REDD+ readiness

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the national REDD+ institutions and management systems have been effectively put in place and operate in a non-directive, accountable and transparent manner, which indicates a political commitment in the REDD+ process at the highest level of the State.			
Justification for the assessment			
The institutional set-up made it possible to carry out the preparation process in a participatory manner with the involvement of various public actors, civil society and the private sector. This institutional set-up led the preparation process transparently. Structuring and/or strengthening the platforms of civil society organizations (CNODD, CF-REDD+, CNJ, FETAPH, ONATEPH) and the private sector (PFPC, RFCT, CTOP), with their status as independent observers of the process, reinforces this system and its transparency. The preparatory work made it possible to test and confirm the relevance of this device and its operating principles. However, its effectiveness could be improved through the full operationalization of the CNDD, regularity and participation in meetings of the national REDD+ committee.			
Next Steps			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen the institutional mechanism at regional and local level for better monitoring of actions, - Improve the frequency of holding meetings of the national REDD committee +. 			

Criterion 2: Operational mandate and budget

Diagnostic question: What indicates that national REDD+ institutions operate under specific, mutually reinforcing mandates with sufficient, predictable and sustainable budgets?

Statement of the situation:

Togo received an amount of US \$ 6.7 million from the FCPF (an initial grant of US \$ 3.8 million in January 2015, and US \$ 2.9 million of additional funds effective in June 2019) to implement the REDD+ readiness plan by the end of 2021. In general, the funds are intended for carrying out activities for the preparation for REDD+ such as thematic studies, consultations at all levels or the strengthening of the capacities of the various organizations set up as part of the REDD+ readiness, the development of the FRL and the establishment of the NFMS. The future financing of REDD+ activities will depend on the continuation of the resource mobilization process. To this end, it is planned to organize a round table with technical and financial partners by the end of 2021.

Budgets are not clearly defined for each management body.

National REDD+ Committee (CN-REDD):

The mandate is defined in Decree No. 2016-007/PR and consists of monitoring and supervising all activities and giving the necessary orientations, ensuring the involvement of the different categories of stakeholders, approving the REDD+ vision and strategic options and all the deliverables produced as part of the process.

In the REDD+ readiness phase, the CN-REDD does not have a defined budget. The costs of meetings since 2016 have been covered by the project budget within the framework of AWPBs. These are mainly expenses linked to the organization of meetings which are directly managed by the Coordination. According to stakeholders, the allocated budget is considered sufficient.

National REDD+ Working Group (NWG-REDD+): the mandate is defined in decree N° 2016-007/PR and consists mainly to support the national REDD+ coordination in the performance of its technical tasks such as the evaluation of the offers of the various consultants or the evaluation of methodological notes and study reports, the development and validation of: (i) the national REDD+ strategy and the action plan, (ii) the environmental and social safeguard instruments, (iii) the forest reference level (FRL), (iv) the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), (v) the annual report on the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy. Like CN-

REDD+, the budget necessary for meetings of GNT-REDD+ members is defined in the AWPBs and directly managed by the national REDD+ coordination. According to stakeholders, the allocated budget is considered sufficient.

The **REDD+ National Coordination** has a clear institutional mandate, with the responsibilities described in criterion 1 of sub-component 1.a above, to coordinate and manage the REDD+ readiness phase. According to stakeholders, the allocated budget is considered sufficient.

REDD+ focal points: the mandate of the five regional focal points is defined in decision N° 017/SG/MERF and in accordance with article 14 of decree N° 2016-007/PR. According to stakeholders, the allocated budget is considered sufficient.

The mandates of the different management bodies are consistent and cover all important aspects of REDD+ readiness.

Budget

Togo has benefited from the support of various technical and financial partners for the REDD+ readiness process. Table 3 below summarizes the funds mobilized.

Table 3: Funding mobilized as part of the REDD + readiness process

Period	Amount allocated in US \$	Funding sources
2015 - 2019	3 800 000	FCPF-World Bank (initial grant)
	1 453 669	German cooperation/ProREDD (GIZ)
	137 000	PGICT-World Bank
	70 000	FCPF/PACJA
	80 000	Togolese State counterpart
2019 - 2021	2 930 000	FCPF-World Bank (additional grant)
	330.000	Togolese State counterpart
TOTAL	8.800.669	

These different sources of funding have made it possible to: (i) carry out studies, awareness-raising, consultations and capacity building of stakeholders; (ii) lead the work of strategic environmental and social assessment, preparation of safeguard instruments and carbon governance support tools; (iii) lead the national forest inventory and FRL development work; (iv) set up the National Forest Monitoring System, prepare the national REDD+ registry and the information system on safeguards and; (v) initiate the institutional and political reforms necessary for Togo's REDD+ readiness.

The national REDD+ coordination had to manage only the funding allocated by the FCPF/World Bank. The financing of German cooperation was managed directly by GIZ and served mainly to carry out the work of the first national forest inventory (IFN1). As for the financing of the World Bank through the PGICT project, the management was done directly by the management unit of the said project. This funding has contributed to studies.

As part of the implementation of the Project to Strengthen the Participation of Civil Society and Local Communities in Forest Protection in Togo financed by the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF) and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), the ED/ADCF NGO group received funding which was used to: (i) raise awareness of communities in targeted regions on climate change, forest protection and the REDD+ process through various channels (mass meetings, radio broadcasts on community radios in local languages); (ii) ensure capacity building for actors from civil society organizations on the issue of climate change, forest protection.

The REDD+ readiness process also benefited from the contribution of the **Support Program for the Fight against Climate Change (PALCC) funded by the European Union and the UN-REDD** through capacity building workshops for different actors involved in the process.

Breakdown of financing mobilized by preparation component (FCPF/World Bank financing)

For the initial financing of the FCPF/World Bank, two readiness components were involved (components 1 and 2). The breakdown and implementation status by component of this grant which ended in 2019 are shown in Table 4. As for the additional funding, it covered the 04 readiness components. Table 5 shows the distribution and execution status of this financing by component on August 31, 2021.

Table 4: Breakdown and implementation status of initial funding

Component	FCPF initial grant from 2015 to 2019		
	Allocated amount (US \$)	Amount disbursed (US \$)	Disbursement rate
Component 1: Support for national readiness management systems	1 700 000	1 602 000	94%
Component 2: Support for the national REDD+ strategy	2 100 000	2 069 000	99%
Component 3: Establishing the baseline	-	-	
Component 4: Design of a monitoring system - MRV	-	-	
Total	3 800 000	3 671 000	97%

Table 5: Breakdown and implementation status of the additional grant by component as of 08/31/2021

Component	FCPF additional grant from 2019 to August 31, 2021		
	Allocated amount (US \$)	Amount disbursed (US \$)	Disbursement rate
Component 1: Support for national readiness management systems	1 618 000	1 264 852	78,17%
Component 2: Support for the national REDD+ strategy	331 000	198 406	59,94%
Component 3: Establishing the baseline	651 000	504 329	77,47%
Component 4: Design of a monitoring system - MRV	330.000	123 157	37,32%
Total	2 930 000	2 090 744	71,36%

The preparatory phase made it possible to mobilize only the necessary funding for the various elements of REDD+ readiness. No funding could be mobilized for the implementation of the proposed pilot projects.

Currently, the main challenge remains the mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy finalized and adopted by the government in the Council of Ministers. The mechanism envisaged for the financing of the REDD+ action plan in Togo combines external financing but also internal resources.

In efforts to mobilize resources for the implementation of the REDD+ action plan: (i) a concept note of a priority program for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy is prepared with the support of the World Bank. Togo is currently looking for an accredited entity to bring this note to the green climate fund; (ii) three other concept notes are prepared, in “SAP format” in collaboration with the national authority of the green climate fund and the PALCC project. Discussions are underway with certain partners in this regard for the mobilization of resources; (iii) Togo plans to organize a round table of donors by December 2021 in order to advocate for the mobilization of the necessary resources to enable the implementation of the REDD+ action plan.

0	1	2	3
The participatory assessment concludes that national REDD+ institutions operate under specific, mutually reinforcing mandates, with sufficient, predictable and sustainable budgets for the readiness period.			
Justification for the assessment			
<p>The mandates of the various bodies are clearly reflected in Decree No. 2016-007/PR and the various ministerial decrees and decisions with a notion of synergy of action at the level of these bodies. These mandates are well articulated with one another with decision-making, technical and operational mandates.</p> <p>The budgets mobilized from Technical and Financial Partners (TFP) and the State made it possible to finance and carry out the preparation process. The financial mobilization of the State is effective and called to be improved.</p> <p>The mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the strategy remains the main challenge. In addition, the financing mechanism of the long-term REDD+ management system (in the absence of mobilization of external resources from the TFPs) must still be specified.</p>			
Next Steps			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue efforts to mobilize resources for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy: organization of the round table with the TFPs, search for accredited entities for the submission of project concept notes (prepared and available) to the climate green background, - Continue discussions to ensure the continuity of REDD+ activities at the end of the project in December 2021. 			

Criterion 3: Multisectoral coordination mechanisms and intersectoral collaboration

Diagnostic question: How do the national REDD+ institutions and management systems verify that activities are coordinated with, integrate into and influence national or sectoral action frameworks (agriculture, environment, natural resource management, development of infrastructure and land use planning, for example)?

Statement of the situation:

The REDD+ National Coordination and the CN-REDD+ are the two management bodies responsible, in accordance with their mandate, to ensure good multisectoral coordination and intersectoral collaboration. They are supported in this task by the NWG REDD+, the P-REDD+ CP, the platforms of civil society organizations and the private sector.

The National REDD+ Coordination: it is responsible for the implementation of operational activities of the REDD+ readiness and also has the task of ensuring the orderliness of information exchanges, as well as the organization of multisectoral meetings on the development of various strategic documents.

The National REDD+ Committee (CN-REDD+): it is the supreme body which ensures intersectoral coordination within the framework of the REDD+ process at a high political level. Indeed, it is made up of several actors from the different sectors involved in the process.

CN-REDD+ refers for consultation to the National Commission for Sustainable Development (CNDD) set up by decree No. 2011-016/PR of January 12, 2011, but still in the process of operationalization. Thus, the CNDD should play the role of a national platform for consultations on REDD+. In this spirit, the CNDD is prepared to consider the essential parameters within the framework of REDD+, namely the representativeness of vulnerable groups (women, young people, small farmers, etc.), the schedule of meetings (quarterly) and other parameters deemed necessary to make consultations effective and transparent. Also, within the framework of the decentralization underway in Togo, the National Commission for Sustainable Development is represented at the local level by the Local Commissions for Sustainable Development (CLDD) in particular the Prefectural Committee on Sustainable Development (CPDD) and the communal commissions for sustainable development (CCDD). National coordination is based on these local commissions, set up and/or strengthened for consultations with grassroots actors.

In addition, Togo has embarked on institutional reforms and integrates REDD+ aspects into its policies and programs. He signed the Paris Agreement [\[16\]](#) on September 19, 2016, ratified in 2017 [\[17\]](#) and undertook reforms:

- The creation of the Togolese agency for rural electrification and renewable energies (AT2ER) to support the development policy of energy services focused on “access to energy for all”. Created by presidential decree on May 11, 2016, one of the five (05) fundamental missions of this agency is the promotion and popularization of renewable energies as an alternative to traditional energies (wood energy, charcoal, use of fossil fuels,) source of GHG emissions. Its main objective is to achieve a rate of 100% in terms of access to electricity according to government directives and to increase the share of renewable energies in the energy mix. In this context, several projects have been completed or are underway and relate, among other things, to: (i) the distribution of solar kits to households (CIZO project); (ii) the construction of solar power plants in several localities of the country (Blitta, Kara, Sokodé, Mango and Dapaong).
- Reforms of the land and state laws as well as of the penal code make it possible to guarantee and promote own investments in the country, in particular in the “forest and land” domain, to address the accelerated degradation of forests and wooded savannas. These adopted codes are currently in force,
- A new agricultural policy, which integrates the sustainable management of natural resources and the national agricultural investment program for food and nutritional security (PNIASAN),
- The urban planning sector has adopted a strategy for green spaces and monuments in the city of Lomé, a national policy for housing and urban development. Urban forestry and road alignment plantations occupy an important place in urban development plans,
- The decree relating to strategic environmental and social assessments, in the process of being adopted, will make it possible to integrate the impact assessment upstream in the framework of the development of policies, plans and programs,
- The forest law currently being revised will make it possible to integrate the REDD+ dimension, the definition of the forest in the sense of REDD+, the inclusion and regulation of national forest inventories (IFN), carbon governance,
- The decree relating to environmental and social impact studies has been revised to integrate social aspects,
- The law on the development and enhancement of the coast sets the rules for the development, protection, conservation and enhancement of the Togolese coast. This law will ultimately allow sustainable and rational management of coastal ecosystems, particularly mangroves,
- The national policy on gender equality and equity, updated in 2019, which takes into account aspects of REDD+ through access to productive resources for women,
- The national strategy for the promotion of agroecology and organic farming allows the dissemination of sustainable production methods,

- The national strategy for gender equity and equality to promote equitable access for women to productive resources,
- Order prohibiting the importation and use of glyphosate in December 2019.

The REDD+ steering committee (CP-REDD+): the planning of REDD+ activities is done with all the actors who are represented within the CP-REDD+.

Civil society: The main stakeholders in the process, in particular the NGOs grouped within the National Council of Civil Society Organizations for Sustainable Development (CNODD), young people grouped within the National Youth Council (CNJ) and women grouped within of the Women REDD+ -Togo Consortium (CF-REDD+ Togo), the organizations of people with disabilities (FETAPH, ONATEPH) have made it possible to strengthen this inter-sectoral coordination and collaboration mechanism. They have indeed ensured the mobilization of grassroots actors, and have carried out information, awareness, demonstration and training activities directly with the technical and financial support of the project for grassroots populations.

The following civil society organizations are represented in the National REDD+ Committee: (i) CNODD: it is represented by three people, at the rate of one person per member umbrella organization (UONGTO, FONGTO and FNRR). One of the representatives of CNODD is the second rapporteur of the said committee; (ii) CF-REDD+ (01 person); (iii) CNJ (01 person); (iv) CNCTT (02 people). All these organizations are also represented on the steering committee of the REDD+ readiness support project (P-REDD+), except the National Council of Traditional Chieftainship of Togo (CNCTT).

Private sector: Like civil society, the private sector has organized and/or strengthened itself to take an active and coordinated part in the REDD+ readiness process. These are mainly producer organizations grouped together within the Togolese Coordination of Agricultural Producers' Organizations (CTOP), organizations of private and community forest owners grouped together within the platform of private and community forest owners (PFPC); operators and economic operators in the wood sector organized into 02 unions (SYTREBACT and SARIEF). These private sector organizations explicitly implemented activities for the benefit of their members and communities with the support of the REDD+ project.

The following private sector organizations are represented within CN-REDD+: CTOP (01 person); PFPC (01 person); SYTREBACT/SARIEF (01 person). These organizations are also represented on the P-REDD+ steering committee by one person each.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the structuring and working methods of national REDD+ management systems make it possible to coordinate with national, regional and prefectural or more general sectoral action frameworks, integrate them and influence them.			
Justification for the assessment			
The REDD+ process is carried out through a participatory, inclusive and iterative approach in a multisectoral, intersectoral and multi-actor scheme. The multisectoral structure of the management bodies of the REDD+ process allows its "sector" members to ensure that the orientations of the process are consistent with those of their sector. The REDD+ process made it possible to initiate several reforms in several sectors related to REDD+. REDD+ has been integrated into the PND.			
Next Steps			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue the establishment and capacity building of CCDDs, - Ensure the full operationalization of the CNDD and strengthen the capacities of members. 			

Criterion 4: Technical supervision capacity

Diagnostic question: How effectively and efficiently do national REDD+ institutions and management systems lead and oversee multisectoral readiness operations, including day-to-day supervision of technical preparations?

Statement of the situation:

The technical supervision capacity is ensured through working sessions at least once a year with the CN-REDD+, twice a year with the CP-REDD+ and regularly, as needed, with the National REDD+ Working Group through the different sectoral thematic groups.

The heads of the various process management bodies were appointed according to their areas of expertise, their technical capacities and their aptitudes to carry out their technical supervision mission. In view of the foregoing, it can be noted that the heads of these bodies have the technical capacities and skills to carry out their technical supervision mission. However, some shortcomings were noted, in particular the irregularity in the holding of meetings in accordance with the provisions of the decree establishing the said bodies.

Case of the National REDD+ Committee

The CN-REDD+ committee is a multisectoral body, made up of ministers and professionals from civil society organizations, the private sector, the traditional chieftdom, women's and youth organizations. This composition facilitates technical supervision and the CN-REDD+ deliberates on all issues by consensus and produces minutes and resolutions.

Over the entire preparation period, only four out of twelve supervision meetings were scheduled. These meetings took place in 2017, 2018 and 2020. There is thus an irregularity which is mainly explained by the unavailability of certain members of the CN-REDD+, in particular the ministers. Indeed, the CN-REDD+ has 35 members including 12 ministers and it is often difficult to set a date corresponding to everyone's availability. This committee is headed by an office of 05 members composed as follows: (i) the minister in charge of the environment is the president; (ii) the minister in charge of agriculture is the 1st vice-president; (iii) the minister in charge of energy is the 2nd vice-president; (iv) the director of forest resources is the 1st rapporteur and; v) a representative of civil society organizations is the 2nd rapporteur. This office in this case the president has no means of pressure on his fellow ministers who are members of the committee. It is even difficult for the bureau to meet given the busy schedule of the 03 ministers.

In view of these difficulties, during its first meeting held on February 23, 2017, the CN-REDD+ set up a REDD+ steering committee through resolution n° 001/CN-REDD+. Each minister should designate his representative and communicate to the REDD+ coordination. Unfortunately, this committee could not be operationalized because several ministers did not appoint their representatives.

Efforts will be continued for the effective establishment and operationalization of this REDD+ steering committee. In addition, reflections will be made to see, if necessary, the possibility of reviewing the institutional anchoring of REDD+.

The REDD+ National Working Group (NWG-REDD+)

The NWG-REDD+ is a technical body that supports the National REDD+ Coordination and the National REDD+ Committee. It is made up of a multidisciplinary team (public administration, civil society organizations, technical and financial partners). To facilitate the achievement of its mission, the NWG-REDD+ benefited from capacity building on its roles and responsibilities in the monitoring and evaluation of the REDD+ process.

These are institutions that are members of the National Working Group (under the terms of Decree No. 2016-007/PR). But in a more practical way, the key sector ministries members of

the NWG-REDD+ have each set up a sector thematic group (composed of 05 to 10 managers) who work closely and continuously with the REDD+ coordination. As for civil society organizations and the private sector, these are the platform managers. The members of these sectoral thematic groups as well as the heads of CSO and private sector platforms are involved in the accomplishment and supervision of technical tasks according to their areas of expertise.

The thematic groups set up in the main ministries concerned (agriculture and livestock, mines and energy, town planning and housing, land planning and development, finance and economy, environment and forest resources, social action and promotion of women) have contributed to analysis of the results of the various studies in connection with the REDD+ strategic options; to the development of the national REDD+ strategy in connection with their respective sectors⁵ ; the development of safeguard instruments, carbon governance support tools, the development of the FRL and the establishment of the NFMS. These groups are currently participating in the development of the national REDD+ registry and the SIS and in discussions on resource mobilization through the development of project concept notes.

REDD+ being a dynamic process, it is important to continue building their capacities, particularly on the new themes that will be identified during the strategy implementation phase. It will also be a question of improving and strengthening the monitoring system at the level of NWG-REDD+/sector thematic groups for better integration of the REDD+ dimension into sector policies and programs.

The steering committee of the REDD+ readiness support project (SC-P-REDD+)

The SC-P-REDD+ is responsible, among other things, for providing general guidance on the implementation of REDD+ readiness activities, facilitating collaboration and synergy between the actors involved in the process, ensuring the collective review of the process. implementation performance of programmed activities, examine the synergies and complementarities developed between stakeholders, ensure the monitoring, control and evaluation of the implementation of the REDD+ process, ensure that REDD+ is taken into account in the policies and strategies.

The members of the SC-P-REDD+ have proven professional experience in their own themes. They also benefited from capacity building on REDD+ to be able to fulfill their mandate. The staff, their skills and the working time allocated indicate the extent to which these bodies are efficient, with regard to the results obtained: the national REDD+ strategy accompanied by an action plan, the safeguard instruments to supervise the implementation of strategy and manage any environmental and social risks; the carbon governance support tools (GRM and BSM), the FRL, the NFMS, the national REDD+ registry and the SIS.

Consultation and participation frameworks

One (01) regional framework has been set up in each of the 5 regions to ensure the coordination and supervision of activities at the regional level. Each framework brings together the decentralized services of the region, civil society actors, women's organizations, young people and people with disabilities. Each regional framework held at least 5 meetings (1 meeting in 2017, two in 2018, and two in 2019).

The composition of the CNDD, CPDD and CCDD (decree N ° 2011-016 / PR [18] and inter-ministerial order N° 018/MERF/MPDAT/MATDCL) and the strengthening of their capacities allow an efficient and decentralized collection of returns. from different social components to higher authorities. Pending the operationalization of the National Commission for Sustainable Development (CNDD), the prefectural Commissions for Sustainable Development (CPDD) have

⁵ An information and exchange workshop on the roles and responsibilities of these sector thematic groups was organized on May 18, 2017, in Lomé

been installed and made operational in 36 prefectures out of 39. In order to allow local platforms to play their roles effectively and make their contributions to the process:

- 36 prefectural training workshops on REDD+ management tools in 2016/2017 for the benefit of CPDD members;
- 36 prefectural workshops for exchanges and sharing on the national REDD+ strategy in 2018;
- 35 prefectural workshops for exchanges and sharing on the potential impacts of REDD+ strategic options in 2018;
- 7 exchange and training workshops for mayors and secretaries general of 117 municipalities in Togo on the REDD+ process, their roles and responsibilities [19].

This capacity building will be continued for members of the CCDD and CNDD.

The following challenges were addressed in the 2017 MTR:

- Ensure the functioning of the various consultation platforms at community, prefectural, regional and national levels through the regular holding of meetings.
- Build the capacities of actors.
- Strengthen the synergy between these consultation platforms (organization of meetings, training workshops, study trips).

In order to address them, the following measures have been taken:

- Regular meetings of the various consultation platforms at local, prefectural and regional levels
- Organization of meetings with consultation platforms;
- Donor, State and platform supervision, monitoring and evaluation missions and the implementation of recommendations.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the national REDD+ institutions and management systems have conducted and supervised multisectoral readiness operations effectively and efficiently.			
Justification for the assessment			
The establishment and coordination of consultation frameworks at the central, regional and local levels allowed adequate technical supervision of the activities of the REDD+ readiness process. It will be necessary to continue and strengthen these different frameworks and ensure their coordination.			
Next Steps			
- Continue to strengthen and coordinate consultation frameworks at all levels - Continue discussions for the establishment and operationalization of the REDD+ steering committee in accordance with resolution n° 001/CN-REDD+ of 23/02/2017			

Criterion 5. Fund management capacity

Diagnostic question: How do the institutions and management systems provide proof of effective, efficient and transparent budget management, in particular their coordination with other operations financed by development partners?

Statement of the situation:

FCPF funding is administered by the National REDD+ Coordination in accordance with World Bank fiduciary guidelines for financial management and procurement and government procedures. The Project has financial and accounting management software (TOM2PPRO) which enables regular budget monitoring of forecasts and achievements in order to avoid any overruns and to plan for budget reallocations during the revisions of the AWPB. It automates financial information, produces and publishes dashboards and reliable financial statements.

Each year, the Project is the subject of an internal and external audit mission carried out respectively by the General Inspectorate of Finance (IGF) and an accounting firm selected following a notice of expression of interest. The final reports resulting from these missions are shared with the stakeholders (the Coordination Unit, MERF) and sent to the World Bank. A report on the implementation of the recommendations made during these various missions is prepared and also shared with the MERF and the General Inspectorate of Finance and then sent to the World Bank. All associated documents are available from the REDD+ National Coordination.

In addition to the National REDD+ Coordination, civil society and private sector platforms have received funding to carry out several grassroots capacity building activities. The management of this financing was carried out in accordance with the financial provisions of the World Bank's procedures and regulations.

In 2017 and 2018, the weakness of the procedure manual resulted in the ineligibility of certain expenses, but the revision of the manual, the acquisition of the TOM2PRO accounting management software and the restructuring of the fiduciary team made it possible to correct this weakness since 2019. .

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that significant efforts have been made to address the shortcomings identified between 2017 and 2018 and significantly improve the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of the administrative and financial management of the project.			
Justification for the assessment			
The shortcomings identified in financial management in 2017 and 2018, due to the weakness of the manual of procedures, have since 2019 been the subject of corrective measures in the structure and functioning of the REDD+ coordination; these make it possible to ensure effective and efficient management of the rest of the process. The rendering of accounts and the periodic audits carried out make it possible to verify the regularity, conformity and sincerity in the management of funds which is carried out according to the procedures of the World Bank and the State.			
Next Steps			
- Continue to implement the recommendations of the various audits with a view to continuously improving financial management			

Criterion 6. Feedback and grievance redress mechanism

Diagnostic questions: What is the evidence that the mechanism works at the national, subnational and local levels, that it is transparent and impartial, that it has a clearly defined mandate, and that it has expertise and satisfactory means?
What indicates that the communities possibly concerned are informed of the mechanism, that they have access to it and that it follows up on the feedback and grievances?

Statement of the situation:

The structuring of the consultation mechanism makes it possible to start from the base and to develop a first national consensus on the REDD+ approach in Togo. In fact, this system starts from the village level to the national level, passing through the cantonal, municipal, prefectural and regional levels. At each level, consultations are carried out through the

following bodies: the Village Development Committee (CVD), the Cantonal Development Committee (CCD), the Communal Commission for Sustainable Development (CCDD), the Prefectural Commission for Sustainable Development (CPDD), the regional consultation platforms set up as part of the process, and the framework at the national level bringing together the sectoral thematic groups, the heads of the platforms of civil society organizations, women, young people, people with disabilities, the traditional chieftdom and the private sector. For the moment, the CNDD is not yet operational because the permanent secretary has not yet been appointed. The same is true for the regional commission for sustainable development (CRDD) because the regional elections have not yet taken place.

The information circuit starts with the different stakeholders who are organized into different platforms. The diagram of the information feedback mechanism is presented in Figure 3 . The procedures for transmitting information between the different platforms and to the populations are as follows: information sessions/meetings, dissemination of reports, physical and electronic mail, social networks (WhatsApp), telephone calls, messaging, gongs and radios. The defined procedure for using information to improve REDD+ is to receive feedback (through the same channels used for information dissemination) to ensure that all actors have the same level of understanding of information; this is done iteratively. Information triangulation is also carried out, which consists of cross-checking several sources of information in order to retain those which are recurrent.

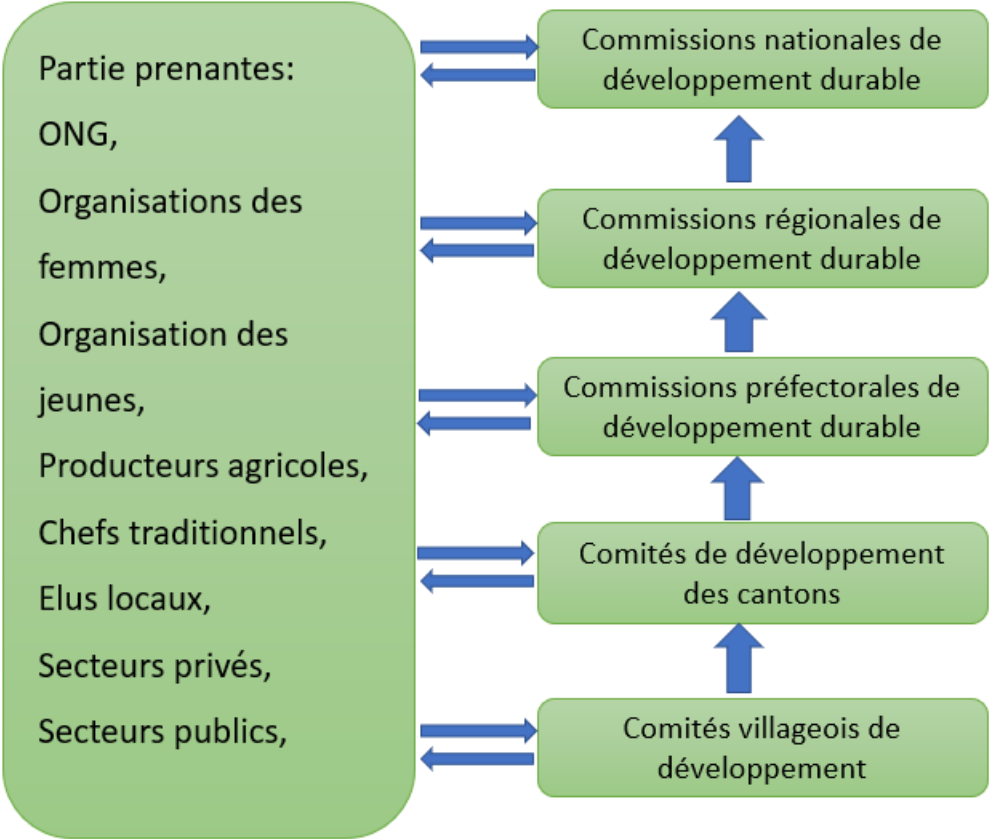


Figure 3: Diagram of the information feedback mechanism

As part of the grievance redress mechanism, the members of the management bodies trained (general secretaries of prefectures, regional directors and prefectural environment) in turn organized discussion and sharing sessions with stakeholders, in particular platforms of civil

society organizations and the private sector. These platforms, as part of their respective activities, share and inform the populations about this mechanism and how to use it.

Operationalization of the GRM

The operationalization of the GRM is developed through the establishment of local GRM instances during the preparation phase and a GRM during the implementation phase.

As part of the REDD+ process with a view to preventing, minimizing and managing complaints and concerns related to the implementation of REDD+ activities, (i) a simplified GRM for the preparation phase, (ii) a GRM for the implementation phase.

Phase GRM of the REDD+ readiness [20]

Following the validation of the final version of the GRM for the readiness phase, the National Coordination organized in October 2019 extension and capacity building workshops for the main actors and institutions of this GRM. These workshops were an opportunity to provide the tools and material for managing complaints: the GRM document (digital version), registers and binders for recording complaints/grievances received and processed and their classification. Following these workshops, these main officials were in turn supported by the National REDD+ Coordination to organize prefectural workshops in each of the 39 prefectures to disseminate the GRM and host programs on local radio stations (38 radio programs and a public gong in the Mò prefecture due to the absence of radios). Since 2020, the REDD+ National Coordination has been carrying out monitoring missions for the implementation of this GRM in order to examine the management procedures by the main persons responsible for the GRM, the nature of the complaints, the difficulties posed by their resolution and the alternative complaint/conflict resolution solutions.

The GRM for the implementation phase [21]

This feedback and grievance redress mechanism (GRM) was developed by the MERF legal texts commission in collaboration with the various actors and partners involved in the REDD+ process.

After the preparation of the national stakeholder consultation report on the basis of regional and prefectural consultations, a national workshop for exchanging and sharing the results of these consultations on the GRM with representatives of platforms and civil society organizations, administrative structures took place in Lomé. Following this workshop, the GRM of the implementation phase was finalized and validated during five regional and national validation workshops.

It defines the following elements: the scope of action of a complaint; validation of a complaint; relevant stakeholders; the level and body for handling complaints; the functioning of the grievance redress bodies; the different stages of complaint management.

The GRM is active at three levels: prefectural, regional and national (Figure 4). Figure 5 presents the complaints management pathway.

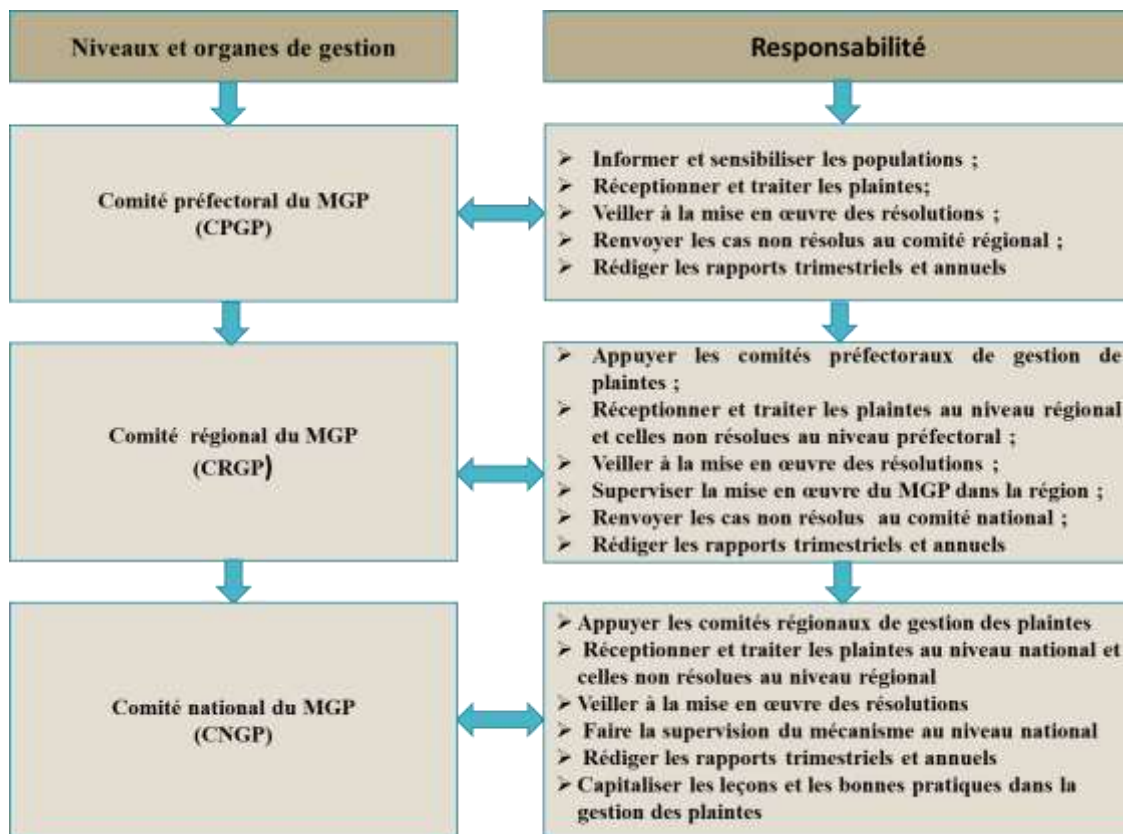


Figure 4: Diagram of the REDD+ grievance redress management mechanism in Togo

Prefectural level

Complaints management at this level is handled by a prefectural grievance redress committee (CPGP) made up of nine (09) members: the Secretary General of the prefecture or his representative, the prefectural director of the environment or his representative, the prefectural director of social action, the director of agriculture, the president of the prefectural council of the traditional chiefdom, a representative of the general secretaries of the prefecture's town halls, a representative of civil society (NGOs and associations), the point prefectural focal point of the REDD+ women's consortium and a representative of agricultural producers' organizations.

Regional level

At this level, the body responsible for handling complaints is the regional complaints management committee (CRGP). This committee comprises nine (09) members: the Secretary General of the prefecture of the capital of the region or his representative, the regional director of the environment or his representative, the regional director of social action or his representative, the regional director of agriculture or his representative, the president of the regional council of traditional chiefs, the regional focal point of the REDD+ women consortium, the coordinator of the regional network of NGOs, a representative of the Regional Coordination of Agricultural Producers' Organizations (CROPA), the secretary general of commune n° 1 of the regional capital.

National level

At the national level, complaints are managed by the National Complaints Management Committee (CNGP) made up of five (05) members: the national REDD+ coordinator, the REDD+ legal and SESA manager, the specialist in REDD+ social development, the national president of

the REDD+ women’s consortium, a representative of the national council of civil society organizations for sustainable development (CNOOD)

The choice of actors from the various complaint management bodies was guided by several criteria, in particular:

- The diversity of REDD+ intervention areas (agriculture, environment, social, energy, land use planning, etc.)
- The diversity of stakeholders in the REDD+ process (public and private sector actors, vulnerable groups, traditional chiefdoms, civil society organizations)
- Experience in dispute resolution
- The availability of stakeholders to participate in the work of grievance redress bodies
- The daily and regal attributions.

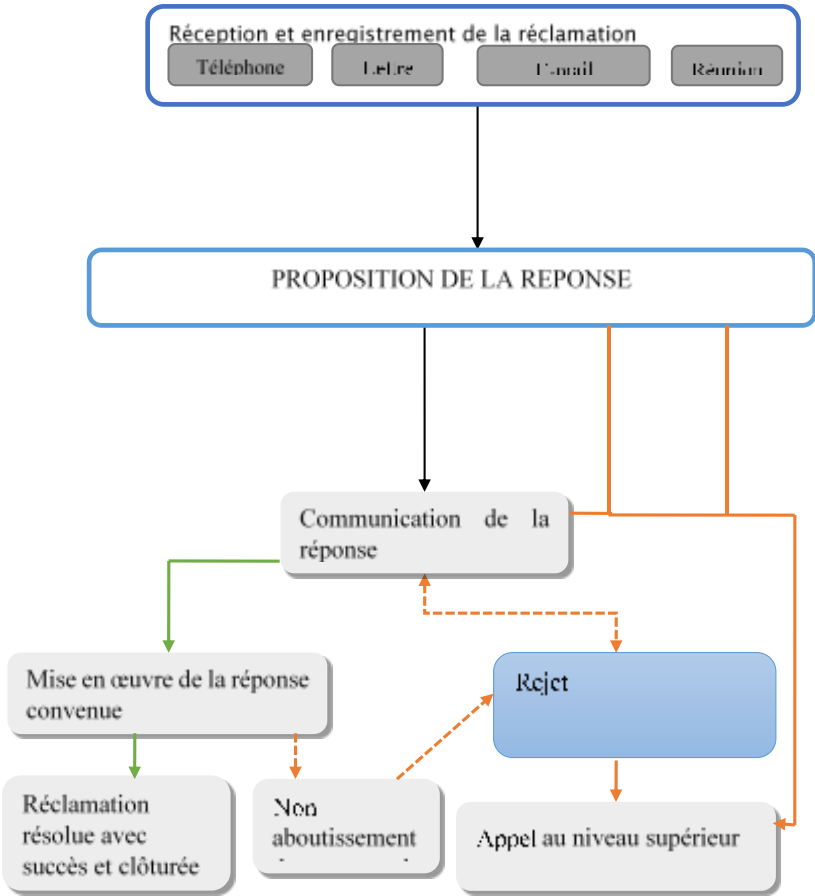


Figure 5: Explanatory diagram of the grievance redress mechanism pathway

The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for the readiness phase has been operational since November 2019. Two supervision missions in the field enabled the coordination: (i) to assess its effective implementation at all levels in the field, (ii) to identify any dysfunctions and possible bottlenecks related to its implementation, (iii) draw lessons and (iv) propose the necessary corrective measures in the management of complaints.

Overall, only one complaint was registered with the Prefectural Directorate for the Environment and Forest Resources of the Prefecture of Mô. This complaint related to the lack of information and the non-involvement of an actor (prefectural focal point woman-REDD+ consortium of Mô) in the preliminary stages of a support activity for vulnerable women financed by the national REDD+ coordination. It is registered at the level of the prefectural complaints management committee and processed in accordance with the

provisions of the GRM with the support of the regional complaints management committee of the central region.

Regarding the GRM for the implementation phase of the national REDD+ strategy, it is developed and validated using an inclusive and participatory approach with the participation of representatives of the stakeholder categories. The finalized version of the document is sent to the bank that approved it. The coordination continues the implementation of the GRM of the preparation phase by documenting and archiving the monitoring of the implementation.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory evaluation concludes that the mechanism proposed for the management of complaints, during the phase of implementation of the strategy, integrates the different local, regional and national levels, that it is coherent, transparent and impartial and built with a clearly defined mandate. The local communities and the vulnerable groups concerned were effectively involved in the design and development of this mechanism.</p>			
<p>The coordination team has the necessary expertise to support the proper functioning of this mechanism; but this expertise must be strengthened at the local level.</p>			
<p>Justification for the assessment</p>			
<p>This mechanism is designed and developed in a participatory and inclusive manner. It is based on the authorities, committees and administrative and customary complaint management mechanisms that already exist at different scales. It is a mechanism accessible to all, in particular to local communities and vulnerable groups. It allows the feedback of information and recourse within the framework of the REDD+ process in order to prevent, minimize and manage complaints or conflicts and concerns related to REDD+. However, it will be necessary to ensure its popularization at the grassroots level, to strengthen the capacities of grassroots actors and to envisage in the medium term the establishment of the management bodies of this mechanism at the communal level.</p>			
<p>Next Steps</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue the popularization and dissemination of the GRM at the grassroots, - Continue to build the capacities of stakeholders on the MPG, - Consider in the medium term the establishment of bodies for the management of complaints at the municipal level . 			

3.1.2 Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Awareness

Criterion 7. Participation and engagement of key stakeholders

Diagnostic questions:

How is the real, continuous and full participation of key stakeholders established through institutional mechanisms (including additional operations aimed at mobilizing marginalized groups such as women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities? dependent on forests)?

What are the participatory mechanisms used so that indigenous populations and local communities dependent on forests can meaningfully participate in the preparation and implementation phases of REDD+?

Statement of the situation:

Togo's R-PP included a consultation and participation plan that defined broad parameters and activities to guide consultation, participation and awareness on REDD+. In 2016, this plan was completed and strengthened by the development of a national REDD+ communication strategy, which defines a global vision on how REDD+ communication should be carried out in Togo.

Awareness-raising

When finalizing the communication strategy, a number of key REDD+ communication constraints were identified. One of the main issues identified concerned the potential negative effects of REDD+ and public skepticism about the ability of the REDD+ mechanism to deliver concrete benefits. To address these concerns, a number of communication channels have been proposed to raise public awareness. These channels are among others: media (radio, television and print media), websites, leaflets/brochures and public events.

The main achievements to date are as follows:

- Use of several TV and radio shows to raise awareness about REDD+ and climate change;
- Since 2016, awareness campaigns on the REDD+ process have been organized by the national REDD+ coordination, targeting the different categories of stakeholders in the five administrative regions of Togo in order to share and discuss: (i) climate change, causes, consequences and solution approaches, (ii) the REDD+ mechanism as one of the solution approaches, (iii) the roles and responsibilities of actors within the framework of the REDD+ process, (iv) the strategy to be implemented for an active and coordinated participation in the process.

A total of 78 stakeholder information and awareness workshops were organized, reaching 2,922 people (2,488 men and 434 women). The details by actor category are as follows:

- Information and awareness-raising of public administration actors: 03 workshops were organized in March 2017 and reached 205 people (200 men and 05 women),
- Information and awareness of members of prefectural sustainable development commissions (CPDD): 36 workshops were organized (01 workshop per prefecture) in June - July 2016 (for 25 CPDD) and March - April 2017 (for 11 CPDD). These 36 workshops made it possible to reach 1332 people (1198 men and 134 women);
- Information and awareness-raising of civil society organizations: 06 workshops organized in May 2016. A total of 217 people (185 men and 32 women) from 131 CSOs and CSO leaders were reached
- Information and awareness-raising of women: 02 workshops were organized in September 2016 and reached 83 women from 83 women's organizations;
- Information and awareness of young people: 02 workshops organized in October 2016; 111 young people were reached (92 boys and 19 girls);
- Information, awareness and training of journalists and media professionals: 06 workshops were organized in June 2016 and reached 161 people (149 men and 12 women);
- Information and awareness-raising of producers: 02 workshops were organized in May 2016 and 123 people (100 men and 23 women) from 30 producer organizations were reached;
- Information and awareness-raising of operators and economic operators in the wood sector: 02 workshops were organized in March 2020 and 85 people including 18 women were reached;
- Information and awareness of private producers: 01 workshop organized in February 2016 and 31 people were reached;
- Information, awareness and training of nurserypersons: 05 workshops were organized in March 2020 and 122 nurserypersons reached (117 men and 05 women)

- Information and awareness of people with disabilities: 05 workshops were organized in December 2017 and reached 143 people (113 men and 30 women).
- Information and awareness-raising of traditional chiefs: 02 workshops organized in September 2016 and 81 traditional leaders were reached including 02 women.
- Information and awareness of local elected officials: 06 workshops were organized in September 2020 and 228 people (114 mayors and 114 town hall secretaries) including 40 women were reached.

As a result of this awareness-raising, the following platforms were set up and/or strengthened as part of the process. It is:

- National Council of Civil Society Organizations for Sustainable Development (CNOOD) which brings together the three umbrella groups of NGOs (UONGTO, FONGTO, FNRR);
- REDD+ -Togo Women Consortium (CF-REDD+ Togo) which brings together women's organizations;
- Platforms of private and community forest owners (PFPC) which bring together three associations APPT, AVT and RFCT;
- Togolese Coordination of Agricultural Producers' Organizations (CTOP) which brings together organizations of agricultural producers;
- National Youth Council (CNJ) which brings together youth organizations;
- National Council of Traditional Chiefs of Togo (CNCTT) which brings together traditional chiefs;
- The umbrella organizations of disabled people (ONATEPH and FETAPH).

Since 2017, the platforms have carried out, directly with the support of the project, several awareness-raising activities aimed at their members and grassroots communities. It should be noted that the activities listed in Table 6 below are those identified by the actors themselves as a need for capacity building, and for which the project will support them to carry out. Along with these activities, all the actors benefited from various support from other structures to carry out other capacity building activities in several areas.

Table 6: Activities carried out by the platforms

Platforms	Activities supported by the project and carried out directly by the platforms	Comments
CNOOD	Raising awareness among rural populations on the importance of trees and the degradation of the plant cover: an awareness guide is developed and available	35 prefectural workshops were organized and 2,141 local leaders were reached. Hosting of 51 radio programs
	Information and awareness campaign for the Togolese populations on the socio-economic and environmental importance and good practices of sustainable forest management: an awareness guide is developed and distributed	100 awareness sessions were organized in 100 localities/villages and reached approximately 7,498 people
	Compilation, easy French transcription and popularization of legislative and regulatory texts related to sustainable forest management in Togo: four synthetic documents in easy French are produced and distributed	07 transcribed texts were compiled into 04 documents and 6000 copies produced and distributed: (i) A document on the framework law on the environment, (ii) A document on the law on the

		forest code of June 19, 2008; (iii) A document bringing together the principles, criteria and verifiable indicators (PCIV) for the sustainable management of plantations and natural forests, (iv) A document bringing together the 04 decrees on community forests in Togo
	Evaluation of investments by civil society organizations (CSOs) in the forestry sector in Togo: activity report available and disseminated	A study report is available
CF-REDD+	Awareness on the use of improved stoves	61 sessions were organized in 61 villages and reached 7,278 people (6,588 women and 690 men)
	Awareness raising on the use of solar ovens and dryers in Togo: a training manual and a leaflet on the use, maintenance, advantages of solar ovens and dryers developed	60 awareness sessions were organized in 60 localities and 4,622 people were reached in June 2018
	Training of female charcoal burners and wood-energy fuel collectors in Togo on improved charcoal manufacturing technologies and alternative IGAs	10 awareness-raising and training sessions are organized in 10 localities and 497 female charcoal burners and collectors of wood-energy fuel have been reached (May to November 2018)
	Awareness of climate change, sustainable management practices of natural resources and facilitate IGA alternatives to wood energy fuels in order to strengthen their capacity for resilience in the face of Covid-19;	1,745 women and 377 men were reached
CTOP	Support to farmers' organizations for the dissemination of agroecological practices and adaptation to climate change within the framework of REDD+ in Togo: a training manual for endogenous trainers on agroecological practices.	360 people including 159 women were trained 520 copies of the popular guide
		5,000 listeners reached through the hosting of 5 radio programs
CNJ	Youth training in agroforestry and green job opportunities: two training manuals one on agroforestry and the second on green job opportunities in Togo	115 young people including 41 women were trained.
FETAPH	Promotion of the participation of people with disabilities in the sustainable management of forests through awareness raising on climate change, the importance of trees and forests: an awareness guide developed	196 specialized teachers (49 women and 149 men) and 645 students (246 girls and 379 boys) from 19 specialized schools were reached
ONATEPH	Capacity building of stakeholders in Togo's REDD+ strategy to take into account the specific needs of people with disabilities and those of other vulnerable groups: training manual	73 actors involved in the REDD+ process were trained

PFPC	Feasibility study for the creation of a cooperative for the financing and sustainable management of forests in the domain of individuals	Study report available and establishment of FIPROFORET, a financial cooperative of private forest owners
AJN	Awareness-raising of young people and women on deforestation, climate change and the need to participate in reforestation to improve forest cover in Togo.	04 sessions were organized and 1,200 young people reached.

These activities have contributed to enriching the readiness process of the national REDD+ strategy, to strengthening the commitment and involvement of actors in the process, and to preparing them for the REDD+ investment phase.

These are also activities that help mobilize funding from other technical and financial partners (catalytic effect). Indeed, thanks to this initiative: (i) CTOP, with the support of French Farmers and International Development (Afdi), obtained funding under the peasant forest mechanism supported by FAO. This project entitled "CTOP intensifies the dissemination of peasant agroecological practices in Togo (IDEAP)" started in 2019 for a period of 5 years. This funding was only possible thanks to the initiative supported in 2018 by the REDD+ project which played a "catalytic role"; (ii) the network of women for the development of savannas (REFED-savannas), one of the member organizations of the REDD+ Togo women's consortium, was able to obtain funding from the GEF to continue and intensify the dissemination of improved carbonization techniques coupled with creation of community forests in the Nayega canton (March 2019-February 2021).

This partnership with civil society and private sector organizations has been beneficial for each party and should be continued and strengthened in the implementation phase of the REDD+ strategy. In this context, it is planned to carry out a study that will focus on strategies for better inclusion of vulnerable groups (women, people with disabilities, young people, etc.) in the REDD+ process in Togo.

Participation

Stakeholder participation takes place mainly through consultation and validation workshops organized at the local, prefectural, regional and national levels through the bodies indicated in Figure 5. These consultations enabled stakeholders to express their opinions and concerns on the various activities below as part of the REDD+ process.

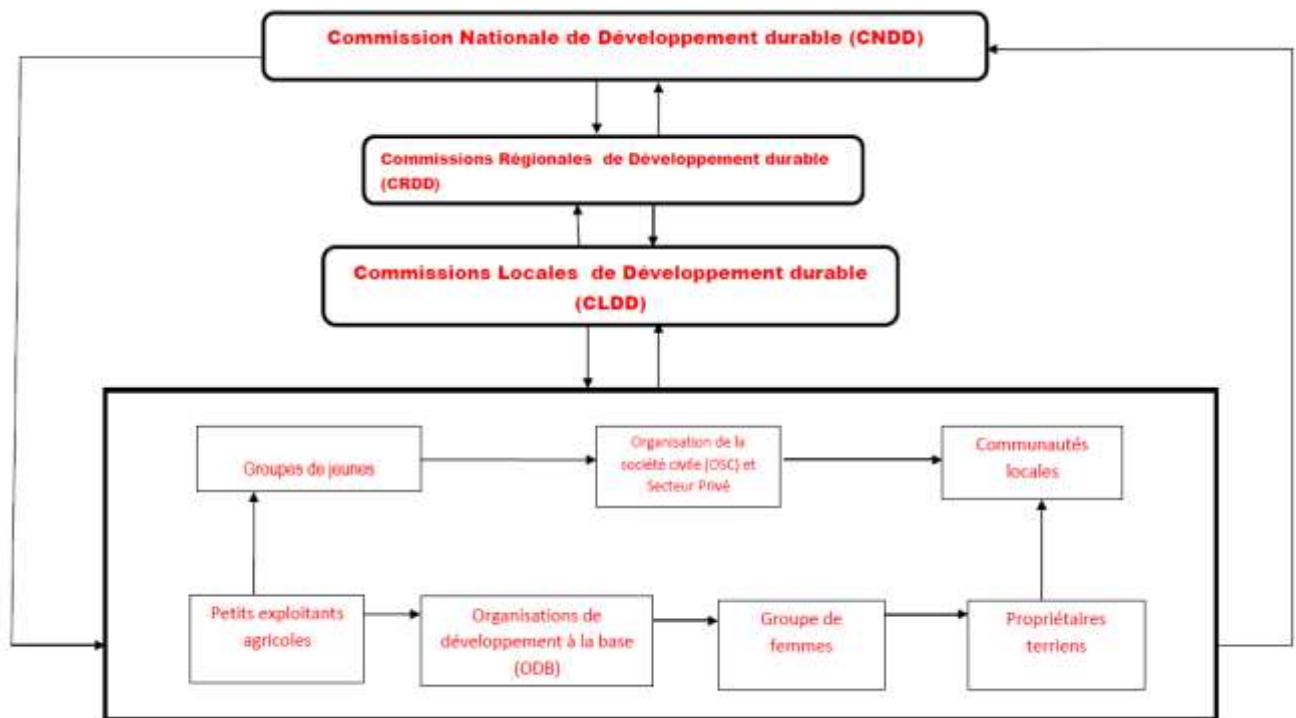


Figure 6 REDD+ consultation framework in Togo (R-PP 2014)

As provided for in the R-PP, consultations are held within the local sustainable development commissions (CLDD) and village development committees (CVD) to gather the opinion of the population on the REDD+ process.

List of concrete elements that attest to the effective participation of the different platforms:

- Participation in carrying out thematic studies and identifying the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation,
- Participation in the development of the national REDD+ strategy and the action plan (definition, selection and prioritization of strategic options);
- Participation in the strategic environmental and social assessment (assessment of potential impacts, development of the required safeguard instruments);
- Participation in the development of the grievance redress mechanism;
- Participation in the development of the benefit sharing mechanism;
- Participation in the development of the Forest Reference Level (FRL);
- Participation in the establishment of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS);
- Participation in the development of the national REDD+ register and the information system on safeguards (under development);
- Participation in carrying out the mid-term review of the REDD+ process;
- Participation in the participatory self-assessment of the process and the development of the R-package

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that a continuous and full participation of the main stakeholders has been established for all the activities of the REDD+ readiness process with particular attention aimed at mobilizing vulnerable groups with appropriate participatory mechanisms. .			
Justification for the assessment			
Stakeholders' support for the REDD+ process is reflected in their strong mobilization, involvement and participation in the various activities. There was a real participation of the actors of the process in the various awareness workshops and campaigns, capacity building and validation at the local, regional and national levels. The inclusion of all actors, from the base to the top, constitutes a factor of engagement for the success of the REDD+ process.			
The implementation of the communication plan drawn up in 2016 made it possible to target actions and adapt them according to the categories of actors and the objectives of the various REDD+ readiness axes.			
The participation and commitment of stakeholders have been strengthened thanks to information and training actions initiated and managed directly by civil society organizations, women, young people, people with disabilities, producers as well as the private sector. and media professionals, with technical and financial support from the project. These initiatives have been integrated into the preparation mechanism.			
Next Steps			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue and intensify the awareness-raising and capacity building of stakeholders in order to maintain the dynamic of participation, - Continue and strengthen the partnership with civil society organizations and the private sector in the REDD+ process in Togo - Carry out a study on strategies for better inclusion of vulnerable groups (women, people with disabilities, young people, etc.) in the REDD+ process in Togo. 			

Criterion 8. Consultation process

Diagnostic questions:

What are the elements that show that consultation process at the national and local level are clear, representative, transparent, and provide access to information in a timely and culturally appropriate manner?

What is the evidence that the country has applied a self-selection process to identify beneficiaries and stakeholders during consultations?

What is the evidence that indigenous peoples' institutions and decision-making processes are used to enrich consultations and strengthen participation?

What is the evidence that the processes are gender responsive and encourage the participation of as many people as possible?

Statement of the situation:

The analytical studies carried out [22] in the REDD+ readiness phase were capitalized on for the preparation of the draft of provisional version 1 of the strategy by the REDD National Coordination. This draft was improved during a retreat, of 05 days, which brought together all the members of thematic groups, the representatives of the platforms of civil society organizations and the private sector, as well as the focal points of the related conventions. with REDD+ to which Togo is a Party.

The version of the strategy resulting from the retreat was submitted to a series of validation workshops at local, regional and national levels bringing together all representatives of state

and non-state actors, as well as those of grassroots communities, including women and disadvantaged groups. These successively consist of 36 prefectural workshops, 5 regional workshops and a national workshop to validate the draft of version 1 of the strategy. These workshops took place from June 18 to July 8, 2018 and brought together a total of 1954 people (1734 men and 220 women).

After validation of the draft, version 1 was produced and presented to members of the National REDD+ Committee in ordinary session in 2018. This version 1 of the national REDD + strategy has been the subject of Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), through 36 prefectural workshops, 6 regional workshops and a national workshop in 2018 which took place from 09 to 18 October 2018 and mobilized a total of 1891 participants (1680 men and 211 women). At the end of these consultations, the results and conclusions in terms of impacts and safeguard measures were integrated to produce draft 2 of the strategy. This draft is accompanied by an action plan [23] with an estimated cost of implementing the strategy (in a separate volume). In this action plan, the strategic options have been prioritized and the selected actions are planned over the period 2020-2029, as well as those responsible for implementation and the results indicators on the basis of which the budgeting of actions was made. .

Draft 2 and the action plan were then the subject of consultations and validations with stakeholders through 5 regional workshops and a national workshop in 2019 (from 03 to 10 October 2019) and mobilized a total of 570 people (498 men and 72 women). Comments and inputs from stakeholders were integrated to produce version 2 of the strategy, which was presented to the national REDD+ committee at its ordinary session in November 2020. Taking into account the CN-REDD+ guidelines resulted in the production of the final version of the national REDD+ strategy [24].

Consultation and participation are an integral part of national and regional REDD+ processes in Togo. With funding from the FCPF, consultations were carried out on the various analytical studies carried out (the contribution of the forest sector to the national economy [25], drivers of deforestation and forest degradation [26], land use and land use change [27], analysis of the legal and political framework related to the forest [28], SESA [29] ...) at different levels in the five regions of Togo. Emphasis was placed on the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the design of REDD+ activities and thus ensure the participation and real support of all stakeholders involved in reducing emissions. The representatives of the stakeholders were chosen by their respective structures on the basis of their own criteria while taking into account the nature of the activity.

A participatory and transparent approach is adopted for all consultations. The consultations were carried out in the form of meetings, focus groups and workshops in order to allow everyone to express themselves. All relevant documents were distributed and explained to the participants. The list of these is systematically appended to the meeting reports.

At the regional platform level, several meetings have taken place, involving detailed discussions and responses to requests for clarification; many recommendations were received on specific consultation topics. These recommendations have been taken into account in the consultation reports [30] which are available and accessible through various channels, in particular the coordination [31] website.

The national REDD+ strategy was developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders across the country. These included technical experts, officials from institutions whose activities are related to REDD+, civil society organizations, traditional leaders and landowners, academics, the private sector and international organizations. . In developing the strategy, emphasis was placed on creating a participatory, inclusive, iterative and gender-sensitive process. Thus, vulnerable groups (women, young people and small farmers, people with disabilities) were represented during consultations and during the preparation and/or validation of key documents (national strategy, environmental and social safeguard

instruments, ... [32]). In the R-PP document, the CNDD was chosen as the national consultation platform. The latter is made up of representatives of different sectors and categories of society and is relayed to the municipal, prefectural and regional levels by CLDDs (CRDD, CPDD, CCDD). In addition, certain specific elements were brought to the consultation of the general public, the affected public and the vulnerable public: management system, causes of deforestation and degradation, traditional knowledge, strategic options, institutional framework and strategic measures REDD+, SESA and safeguard measures, reference scenario, MRV and monitoring-evaluation.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the consultation processes at national and local scales were clear, representative, transparent. Access to appropriate information has been facilitated. Stakeholders self-select their representatives in the process. Traditional and customary bodies were mobilized throughout the preparation process, which is evidenced in the various consultation reports. Gender aspects were explicitly taken into consideration through the systematic mobilization of women's organizations, grouped within the REDD+ Women consortium, in the consultations and the keeping of the lists of participants.			
Justification for the assessment			
The consultation of all stakeholders was effective through workshops, meetings and focus groups at local, regional and national levels. All the deliverables and documents produced as part of the process were discussed and validated with the stakeholders and are published on the website of the national REDD+ coordination.			
Consultation processes adapted to the audiences and to the various preparation activities identified in the R-PP were implemented in an efficient and transparent manner, ensuring representation of the relevant stakeholders.			
Next Steps			
- Continue to strengthen and coordinate consultation and participation platforms			

Criterion 9. Information dissemination and access to information

Diagnostic questions:

How have the national REDD+ institutions and management arrangements ensured the timely, transparent, monitored and comprehensive dissemination and disclosure of information (associated with all preparatory activities, including the development of the REDD+ strategy, reference levels and monitoring systems) in ways that are culturally appropriate?

What indicates that information is accessible to stakeholders (that it is disseminated in a form and language that they understand, for example) and actually received?

What means of communication are used to properly inform stakeholders, especially those who have little or no access to relevant information?

Statement of the situation:

A national REDD+ communication strategy of Togo [33] and updated [34] readiness period with the participation of stakeholders through local consultations and the organization of workshops and meetings at different levels. The overall objective of this communication strategy is to support the readiness and dissemination of **Togo's national REDD+ strategy** as a whole through good information and effective consultation of the actors concerned. This is to allow the various actors to have sufficient information to facilitate their full participation. The choice of key messages, as well as the communication tools and media used, varies according to the targets and objectives of the national REDD+ communication strategy. In this context, 12 sketches on REDD+ were produced in the local language and performed during activities in the regions. In addition, 5 spots and advertising posters are produced and

broadcast in local languages (Ewe, Kabye, Tem, Moba, Ifè). To develop awareness and increase the image of the REDD+ process in Togo, non-media communication supports have been used. been designed and widely disseminated. These are: 1000 leaflets; 200 four-color posters (format 4m*3m) 04 kakemonos; a 12-minute documentary film; three picture boxes translated into five local languages; 2,000 posters; 2,000 stickers (A4 and A5); 1,000 brochures. The National REDD+ Coordination has also concluded partnership contracts with 26 local radio stations and 3 newspapers, including 1 printed and 2 online. 120 event reports were produced by these radio stations and newspapers throughout the country. These radios and newspapers covered all the activities of the coordination, platforms and civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector, throughout the territory. A total of 101 radio broadcasts were produced by all of these radios, in French and in local languages. All issues related to REDD+ (the concept of REDD+, agriculture, vegetation fires, reforestation, pollution, etc.) were addressed in order to allow populations to better understand the link with climate change and to participate in the process. The radios broadcast spots and messages produced by the National REDD+ Coordination in French and in 5 local languages (Moba, Kabiyè, Tem, Ifè, Ewé). In total, 6,045 broadcasts were made by all the radio stations for the 6 languages, or around 1,000 broadcasts per language.

Other activities within the framework of readiness for REDD+ benefited from an information campaign: the national forest inventory (IFN), the GRM [35], the SESA.

Various communication tools have already been developed to disseminate information on the REDD+ process and its progress throughout the territory and at the international level. These include, among others:

- The publication of three (03) issues of the electronic bulletin "REDD+ Infos" and of one issue in paper version, distributed in 500 copies to the parties involved in REDD+ [36]: the objective of which is to maintain a dynamic link with the public and stakeholders. With a quarterly edition, it helps disseminate information on progress and events.
- The REDD+ website (www.reddtogo.tg) which is a support for the promotion of the REDD+ mechanism. This site allows on the one hand access to information and documents at any time and on the other hand the transmission of information on an international scale, the site being accessible to the whole world. Its content is constantly evolving, as the information is up-to-date and varied.
- Other websites: the National REDD+ Coordination disseminates information (for example results of studies, calls for tenders, workshop reports, consultations) on its website and, simultaneously, on the website of the Ministry of the Environment and forest resources [MERF] ;
- Production of articles which are inserted in the FCFP newsletter for international communication.

To facilitate communication and understanding of the REDD+ strategy and action plan, synthetic and illustrated versions were produced and made available to stakeholders in French and English.

In order to also reach populations who have restricted use or access to the internet, other communication tools are used:

- Organization of delocalized radio broadcasts with different formats throughout the country;
- Large awareness session in public places. These sessions are mainly organized by civil society platforms;
- Use of the gong and town criers.

At the national and regional level, civil society organizations support the National REDD+ Coordination on issues related to awareness-raising and mobilization of all stakeholders to

participate in the REDD+ program and also to the dissemination of information. These include, among others:

- Awareness-raising of women through CF-REDD on the effects of climate change, the REDD+ process and fuel economy through demonstration sessions on the use of solar ovens and dryers, improved stoves using awareness guides designed for this purpose;
- Easy transcription into French and popularization of legislative and regulatory texts related to sustainable forest management in Togo by the CNODD;
- Awareness-raising and training of producers on agroecological practices by CTOP using training guides and manuals developed for this circumstance;
- Organization of radio broadcasts to inform the population about climate change, the REDD+ process in local languages.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory assessment concludes that the national REDD+ management institutions have ensured the timely, transparent, tracked and comprehensive dissemination and disclosure of information associated with all preparatory activities, in a manner appropriate to the local cultural contexts.</p> <p>All the information was made available to stakeholders in an appropriate form through the various communication channels used and adapted to the different categories of stakeholders (radio, TV, magazines, website, social networks, organization of information and awareness workshops and meetings)</p>			
<p>Justification for the assessment</p>			
<p>Information and communication within the framework of the REDD+ process are ensured through a strategy and a communication plan which target several channels adapted to the cultural context of the country.</p> <p>Appropriate communication tools and supports are used and make it possible to inform all stakeholders, to encourage their adhesion, their commitment and their active involvement in the REDD+ process. The involvement and commitment of media professionals, through partnership contracts with local radio stations, make it possible to relay information to local communities.</p>			
<p>Next Steps</p>			
<p>Continue to disseminate information on the REDD+ process, in particular the deliverables (GRM, BSM, safeguard instruments, national REDD+ strategy, SIS) using the appropriate communication media and channels.</p>			

Criterion 10. Use and disclosure of consultation results

Diagnostic question: How are the results of the consultations integrated (incorporated, disseminated, disclosed and taken into account) in the management arrangements, in the development of the strategy and in the technical activities associated with the definition of reference levels and monitoring and information systems development?

Statement of the situation:

Diffusion:

The results of the consultations are disclosed through approved consultation reports. They are posted on the National REDD+ Coordination website in the form of a digital file. The results are also taken into account when formulating the national REDD+ strategy.

The results of the consultations are also shared and discussed at different levels of technical discussion, such as thematic group meetings or REDD+ civil society organizations (CSOs) platforms.

The reports of the various consultations are available at the National REDD+ Coordination and provide feedback to the stakeholders who participated in the consultations. Increased efforts have been made to ensure rapid dissemination of reports to all invited parties and to establish communication and feedback mechanisms at the local level in the REDD+ readiness phase, taking into account the logistical challenges in Togo where very few people in rural areas have internet access. These mechanisms mainly consist of printing the reports and distributing them to stakeholders. The latter are invited to transfer their contributions or comments within the National Coordination before or during the validation sessions.

Integration:

The final versions of the documents include the recommendations resulting from the consultations after discussion between the thematic referents and other officials.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the results of the consultations are systematically and adapted in the management systems, in the development of the national REDD+ strategy, the development of safeguard tools and in the technical activities associated with the definition of reference levels and monitoring systems.			
Justification for the assessment			
The concerns of stakeholders are taken into account through consultation reports. These reports, after finalization and validation, are distributed through several channels in accordance with the communication plan, in particular on the project website. The results of the consultations are systematically taken into account in the improvement and finalization of all the deliverables produced (national REDD+ strategy, implementation action plan, safeguard instruments), of all governance support tools. proposed carbon (GRM, BSM), the definition of the level of emissions from forests and the monitoring systems.			
Next Steps			
Pursue and strengthen the mechanism for taking into account the concerns of stakeholders in the context of the activities of the process.			

3.2 Component 2: National REDD+ strategy readiness

3.2.1 Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

Criterion 11. Assessment and analysis
Diagnostic question: Does the synthesis of the work carried out during the formulation and preparation phases of the R-PP present an analysis of recent developments in land use (including traditional) and an assessment of the problems associated with land tenure and registration of title deeds, rights to natural resources, livelihoods (including traditional/customary), forest laws, policies and governance?

Statement of the situation:

In order to broaden the existing knowledge on the factors of deforestation and degradation within the framework of the development of the national REDD+ strategy, several studies were carried out thanks to the financing of the FCPF. These studies are as follows: (i) study on the dynamics of wood energy use in Togo; (ii) study on the integration of the forestry sector into other related sectors [37] ; (iii) analysis of the legal and regulatory framework and preparation of application texts in the context of REDD+ in Togo; (iv) study on land use and future strategic options for land use planning in Togo; (v) study on the causes and consequences of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo and identification of appropriate areas of intervention [38] ; (vi) socio-economic analysis of the contribution of the forestry sector to the economy of Togo; (vii) study on the determination of periods for early fires according to the

ecological regions of Togo [39] ; (viii) study on the creation and sustainable management of forest and agroforestry plantations for individuals; and (ix) historical analysis of forest cover. These studies constitute prerequisites for a spatial analysis of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation (DD) and of the potential to increase carbon stock. In addition to these 09 analytical studies, three other transversal studies were carried out within the framework of the development of the national strategy of Togo: (i) the study on the Strategic Environmental Social Assessment (SESA) [40], which made it possible to integrate safeguard measures into the strategy; (ii) the study on the GRM complaints and appeals mechanism, which defined the outlines of the system to be put in place and finally (iii) the study on carbon governance, which will help to set up a benefit sharing mechanism. In order to have the tools adapted to the Togolese context, a study relating to the definition of the methodology for assessing biomass and carbon stocks in the various compartments was also carried out. The results of the various studies and analyzes were synthesized and taken into account in the development of the national REDD+ strategy.

It should be noted that out of all the studies carried out, the one relating to carbon governance and the analysis of the possibilities of benefit sharing addressed specific questions on land tenure and property titles, rights over natural resources. Indeed, this study made it possible to: (i) clarify aspects of land rights in Togo in connection with carbon rights (ownership of trees and forests); (ii) identify the experiences of benefit sharing in the sectors of activity in Togo; (iii) synthesize the experiences of distribution of REDD+ benefits practiced in the sub-region and at the international level; (iv) identify stakeholders for benefit sharing following the implementation of REDD+ activities and projects in Togo; (v) propose legal options for the implementation of the REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism in Togo; (vi) propose institutional options for the management and distribution of benefits that meet both the expectations of the various stakeholders and the national and international challenges of REDD+ and; (vii) propose a geo-referenced register at national, regional, prefectural, municipal and cantonal levels which will manage information on carbon ownership.

Furthermore, Togo has started to draft its law on agricultural land reform with the aim of (i) resolving land conflicts in rural areas which constitute threats to social peace and peaceful coexistence between rural communities; (ii) secure rural land in order to undertake investments in the forestry sector through the implementation of REDD+ activities and projects; (iii) create attractive conditions for national and foreign private investments promoting land development and forest sector development (iv) create conditions that facilitate the sustainable management of natural resources and the implementation of REDD+ projects ; (v) promote female entrepreneurship in the agroforestry sector in rural areas; (vi) proactively take into account the major current issues related to development (vii) take into account the issue of decentralization, local governance and the GDT and forest landscapes.

0	1	2	3
The participatory assessment concludes that the work carried out under the REDD+ readiness phase presents an analysis of recent land use developments and an assessment of the issues associated with land tenure and registration of title deeds, rights to natural resources, livelihoods, forest laws, policies and governance			
Justification for the assessment			
A diagnosis and analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the forestry sector were carried out through the conduct of 09 thematic studies which covered the sectors of the environment, energy, land use planning, agriculture and economy. These studies provided an understanding of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, the drivers of land use change, and information on the contribution of the forest sector to the national economy. The results of these analytical studies have guided the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy.			

In addition, 03 transversal studies were carried out and made it possible to integrate environmental and social aspects in the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy and the development of tools to support carbon governance.

Next Steps

Continue and finalize the work to prepare the preliminary draft law on agricultural land reform in Togo

Criterion 12. Prioritization of favorable/unfavorable elements, direct and indirect, to the development of forests

Diagnostic questions:

How has the analysis been used to establish the order in which the programs and policies integrated into the REDD+ strategy should address the main drivers, direct and indirect, of forest development?

Has the analysis examined the main obstacles to forest carbon stock enhancement operations that, if applicable, the programs and policies integrated into the REDD+ strategy should proceed?

Statement of the situation:

The R-PP document first briefly identified the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Subsequently, the analytical studies carried out during the REDD+ readiness process, with all the stakeholders, made it possible to deepen, characterize and prioritize these factors. In particular, a qualitative analysis identified the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation [41] (Figure 7) and ranked them in order of importance for each region and at the national level. Thus shifting slash-and-burn agriculture is one of the three main factors in each of Togo's 5 regions. The 02 other drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are: (i) harvesting of forest resources for fuelwood and timber; (ii) vegetation fires and forest fires. Regarding the spatial causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo, the results of studies indicate that: (i) agricultural development is responsible for 52%; (ii) wood harvesting and forest conversion to savannah for the purpose of raising livestock represents 40% and finally; (iii) urban development, 8%.

The main indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation identified are: (i) the lack of control over land use planning, in particular the low level of observation and land use planning and the lack of an integrated and decentralized mechanism for land management focused on the SDGs; (ii) land tenure insecurity; (iii) the low level of integration of the REDD+ dimension in planning and budgeting; (iv) the low degree of ecological and ecosystem awareness of stakeholders; (v) the low level of access to productive resources for women, young people and other vulnerable groups; (vi) weak institutional and research capacity; (vii) the inadequacy of the legal and regulatory framework for the management of natural resources.

Overall, several obstacles limit the improvement and increase of forest carbon stocks in Togo. They are institutional (land tenure), natural (land scarcity), political (poor governance in the forestry sector), demographic (rampant demographic growth), economic (poverty), cultural (customs and practices). traditional).

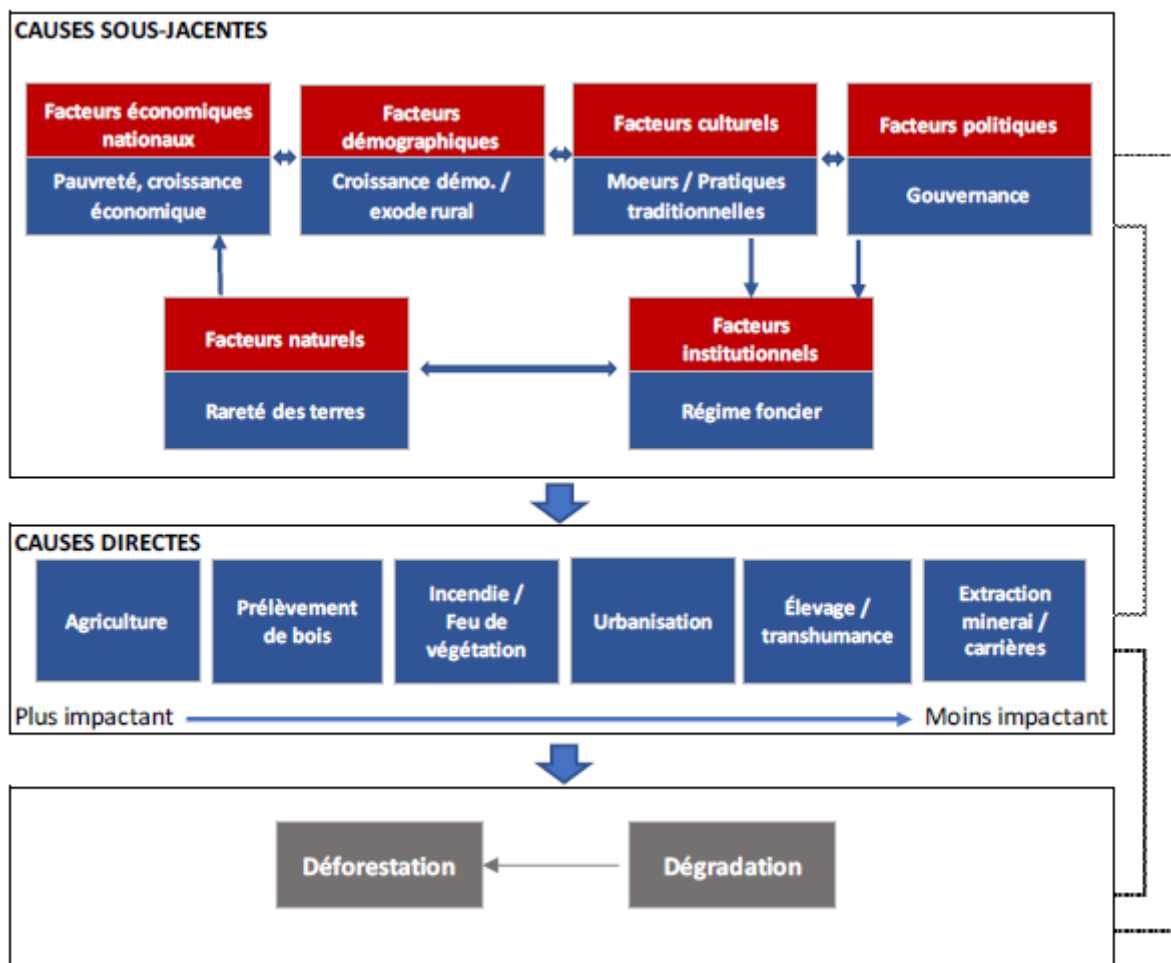


Figure 7 Interactions between the direct and underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo (UNC REDD+ 2017)

During the finalization of the National REDD+ Strategy, each strategic option was assessed in terms of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis). Weaknesses and threats pose a risk to the conservation and enhancement of carbon sinks. Particular attention was therefore paid to these risks when defining the options and measures were proposed to reduce them (e.g., use of awareness-raising to better guarantee the adoption of new practices that are more respectful of the environment). Likewise, the main obstacles to operations to strengthen forest carbon stocks have been identified in the SESA.

Priority/hierarchy of measures/programs/policies:

The order of priorities of the various options of the national REDD+ strategy and their hierarchy has been established. The prioritization of strategic options by axis, capitalized on the related proposals of the thematic groups and the various validation workshops organized, crossed with the following criteria: impacts on reducing the vulnerability of the targets concerned; ability to address the root cause of deforestation and forest degradation; alignment with national development and green economy priorities and the needs of local communities.

Studies conducted so far have shown that most of the factors are related to each other (Figure 7): thus indirect causes underlie direct causes. Priority will therefore be given to upstream factors (e.g., reforming the land tenure system to act on governance issues). The order of implementation of the strategic options and measures will then be based on the following attributes, determined from the SWOT analysis of the various measures contained in the national REDD+ strategy:

- the magnitude of their expected impact on deforestation and degradation. The greater the impact, the higher the priority of the measure.
- the speed of implementation and appearance of effects. The faster a measure is to apply and produces results, the more priority it is.
- the expected ease of remedying the factors of DD.
- the needs for restoring the forest cover in priority and vulnerable areas (cf. National Strategy, p. 80): the greater and more urgent the need, the more priority the area; the more vulnerable the area (unfavorable socioeconomic situation), the more priority it is.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory assessment concludes that the order in which programs and policies are integrated into the national REDD+ strategy took into consideration the main factors, direct and indirect, of deforestation and forest degradation based on the results of the studies, diagnoses and conclusions of an intersectoral and inclusive participatory process of consultations.</p> <p>The main obstacles to operations to strengthen forest carbon stocks were analyzed in the readiness phase of the national REDD+ strategy and the programs and policies proposed take into account these obstacles by combining the requirements related to the preservation and increase of forest cover and those related to socio-economic development.</p>			
Justification for the assessment			
<p>The drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are categorized and prioritized; REDD+ axes and strategic options are defined and prioritized on the basis of shared criteria. This whole process took place in several stages, in an iterative manner and in a participatory intersectoral approach, based on the results of the analytical studies and the conclusions of the consultations with the stakeholders. The prioritized strategic options selected take into account the objectives of REDD+ and socio-economic requirements.</p>			
Next Steps			
Periodically review and update the prioritization of REDD+ measures in light of changes in the situation.			

Criterion 13. Links between these favorable/unfavorable elements and REDD+ activities

Diagnostic question: What evidence demonstrates that systematic links between key drivers, and/or barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement activities (if applicable) and REDD+ activities have been identified?

Statement of the situation:

The REDD+ strategy options and activities were developed iteratively throughout the readiness phase, building on the initial strategic options presented in the R-PP. These options have been refined in an iterative and participatory manner through various studies on the drivers of forest degradation and deforestation, their interrelationships and the socioeconomic sectors concerned. The REDD+ activities proposed are effectively the result of various consultations at all levels. The revisions of strategic options reflect a growing systematization of the relationship between the drivers of deforestation and REDD+ activities, particularly in the agricultural, energy and mining sector. The SWOT analysis of strategic options, although it needs to be deepened, identified the favorable and unfavorable elements for enhancing forest carbon stocks as strengths and opportunities on the one hand and weaknesses and threats on the other. . Policy options that will combat the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation will also seek, to the extent possible, to take advantage of opportunities and strengths and to reduce threats and risks. In addition, in many cases, the proposed activities address several factors or obstacles.

0	1	2	3

The participatory evaluation concludes that systematic links between these favorable/unfavorable elements of forest carbon stock enhancement operations and REDD+ activities have been identified.

Justification for the assessment

REDD+ strategic axes and options are developed in a participatory and iterative manner based on the identified drivers and factors of deforestation and forest degradation. This methodological approach made it possible to establish a direct link between the causes of deforestation and forest degradation, then the axes and options of the national REDD+ strategy.

Next Steps

Refine the SWOT analysis of strategic options to ensure the effectiveness of REDD+ activities. Periodically review and update this analysis to be in line with the evolving situation.

Criterion 14. Action plans to take into account the rights to natural resources, land tenure and governance

Diagnostic question: Do action plans to make progress in the short, medium and long term towards addressing relevant land use, land tenure and titling, rights to natural resources, livelihoods and governance issues in the priority regions associated with particular REDD+ programs outline further steps and identify required resources?

Statement of the situation:

The National Coordination and the National REDD+ Committee ensure the integration of REDD+ in the political, economic and social sectors. The Land Law, for example, has been revised in this regard, at the same time helping to improve the governance of natural resources. The National Development Plan (PND) integrates REDD+ through measures to combat deforestation and sustainable management of natural resources. REDD+ sub-options and activities take into account natural resource rights, land tenure and governance, and implications for forest law and policy. In addition, activities aimed at supporting the establishment of consultation and land planning structures are planned as part of the REDD+ preparatory phase. More specifically, these are the options and actions of axis 4 of the national REDD+ strategy. This axis aims to address and mitigate the indirect and underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo and ensure good governance of the REDD+ process.

Table 7: presents an overview of the measures planned in the areas of access, land security, land use planning and natural resource management, as well as the planned resources⁶ [42fr] [42In].

⁶ Actions provided for in the SN-REDD+ action plan:

Table 7: Action plan for the rights and management of natural resources

NB: resources are evaluated in thousands of CFA francs

Action plan	Land titles	Land tenure	Rights to natural resources	Means of subsistence	Governance								
			Property	Utilization									
	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	
Short term	Support for cost reduction and procedures for obtaining land titles for forests and plantations.	40	Support for the popularization of the land code through information, education and communication (IEC)	250	Support for the preparation of implementing texts for the law on decentralization relating to the decentralized management of natural resources	350			Strengthening the employability of women and young people and their technical and organizational capacities for production and market access, in connection with the sustainable management of natural resources	700	Support for the development of the national land use plan (SNAT)	1600	
					Strengthening of the legal framework of forest domains for individuals and local authorities	100					Support for the development of regional land use planning schemes (SRAT)	2500	
											Support for the development of regional and local planning tools	915	
											Revision of the legal framework regulating	200	

Action plan	Land titles	Land tenure	Rights to natural resources	Means of subsistence	Governance							
			Property	Utilization								
	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources		
											vegetation fires in Togo	
											Strengthening of the legal framework relating to land clearing and use in Togo	100
											Support for strengthening the legal framework relating to protected areas and forest areas	200
Subtotal		40		310		450		0		700		5795
Mid-term	Integration of the monitoring of the national land register in the MRV system of the REDD+ strategy	200	Support for the development, adoption and implementation of texts for application of the land code that improve access to forest land	250	Capacity building of actors on all laws and regulations governing the forestry sector and other sectors related to REDD+	350	Strengthening the participation of women and other vulnerable groups in decision-making spheres and consultation/participation frameworks in natural resource management	300	Support for equitable access for women, youth and other vulnerable groups to productive resources (land, forest resources and other resilience-building factors) and to the various benefits of REDD+	450	Strengthening of sectoral thematic groups for the development/ updating of policies, strategies and programs integrating the REDD+ dimension	150
							Advocates for the					

Action plan	Land titles	Land tenure	Rights to natural resources	Means of subsistence	Governance							
			Property	Utilization								
	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources
							application of legislative and regulatory reforms guaranteeing the rights of women, young people and other vulnerable strata to land ownership and natural resources				legal and institutional frameworks in forestry-related sectors	
			Support for the participatory development and implementation of land tenure security models for community forestry training	300	Strengthening of the technical, organizational and financial capacities of local authorities for the preparation and implementation of various local development plans integrating REDD+	5500	Capacity building for women, young people and other vulnerable groups on good practices in the exploitation and management of forest resources	450			Strengthening law enforcement	130

Action plan	Land titles	Land tenure	Rights to natural resources	Means of subsistence	Governance							
			Property	Utilization								
	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources
	Support for forest land registration	400			Support for the establishment and operationalization of insurance mechanisms to cover the risks of natural, climatic, environmental and man-made disasters on forest formations	6000						
		□							Support to state and non-state actors in formulating investment programs and projects, and in facilitating access to finance in connection with REDD+	700		
Subtotal		900		250		21550		1050		450		780
Long term					Support for integrated local planning initiatives within the framework of the decentralize	50000			Promotion of the entrepreneurship of women, young people and other vulnerable groups through	3000		

Action plan	Land titles	Land tenure	Rights to natural resources	Means of subsistence	Governance							
			Property	Utilization								
	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources	Stage (activities)	Resources
					d management of natural resources				appropriate financing mechanisms			
											Support for the development and operationalization of a monitoring system for land occupation and use	700
											Support for the development of town planning and town planning master plans (SDAU)	1755
											Support for strengthening the consideration of the REDD+ dimension in planning, programming, budgeting and monitoring-evaluation mechanisms in all development sectors	450
Subtotal		0		0		50000		0		3000		2980
TOTAL		940		560		72000		1050		4150		9555

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that policies and measures are defined and budgeted in the national REDD+ strategy implementation action plan to progress in the short, medium and long term in solving problems relating to the use of titles, to land regimes and titles, rights to natural resources, livelihoods and governance in priority regions associated with specific REDD+ programs.			
Justification for the assessment			
These policies and measures are part of axis 4 of the national REDD+ strategy and operationalized in the implementation action plan.			
Next Steps			
- Continue efforts to mobilize resources for the effective implementation of planned policies and measures			

Criterion 15. Impact on forest laws and policies

Diagnostic question: Does the assessment identify implications for forests or other relevant laws and policies in the long term?

Statement of the situation:

The evaluation of the potential impacts of the strategic options shows that the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy will not lead to negative impacts on forest laws and policies. Rather, it will have beneficial effects and will make it possible to: (i) strengthen forest legislation (revision of the forest law in progress to integrate the REDD+ dimension, the development of the SESA decree to regulate strategic social environmental assessments in Togo (underway) approval); planning for the development of an exclusive text to frame governance and carbon rights); (ii) improve forest governance (strengthening of institutions involved in forest resource management, better collaboration between all stakeholders in forest resource management).

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the analysis sheds light on the impact on forest laws and policies in the long term.			
Justification for the assessment			
The SESA does not reveal any negative impact of REDD+ activities on forestry legislation in Togo; they will make it possible to strengthen it, in particular with the adoption of new texts to improve forest governance.			
The analysis of the legal framework for the implementation of REDD+ in Togo identified the shortcomings of the existing legal texts and proposed improvements that could be made.			
Next Steps			
- Continue to develop and finalize the various texts in progress - Continue to implement the recommendations of the study on the analysis of the legal framework			

3.2.2 Sub-component 2b: REDD+ strategic options

Criterion 16. Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategic options

Diagnostic questions:

Have the REDD+ strategic options (prioritized based on a thorough assessment of direct and indirect drivers of deforestation, obstacles to forest development activities and/or other factors, if applicable) been selected through a transparent and participatory process?

Has the emission reduction potential of the interventions been estimated, to the extent possible, and how has it informed the development of the REDD+ strategy?

Statement of the situation:

Consultation work as well as studies carried out in the preparatory phase for REDD+ made it possible to define four strategic axes, each broken down into strategic options (Table 8) to curb the direct and indirect causes of deforestation and forest degradation. These are the most promising solutions according to the opinions of experts in terms, among other things, of potential for reducing GHG emissions that have been retained. However, it was not possible to assess the emission reduction potential of the interventions because the actions retained in the national REDD+ strategy are at the stage of project or program ideas whose different outlines are not known. .

The strategic options were therefore defined and validated in a participatory manner and the people consulted had at their disposal all the information available to give their opinion. The prioritization of strategic options by axis, capitalized on the related proposals of the thematic groups and the various validation workshops organized, crossed with the following criteria: impacts on reducing the vulnerability of the targets concerned; ability to address the root cause of deforestation and forest degradation; alignment with national development and green economy priorities and the needs of local communities.

Table 8: Axes and options of Togo's national REDD+ strategy

Strategic axes	Strategic options
Axis 1: Promotion of efficient agriculture with low impact on the forest	Promotion of sustainable agricultural production methods
	Promotion of agroforestry systems consolidating carbon stocks
	Support for the development of an agricultural growth pole integrating the REDD+ dimension
	Support for the promotion of production and access to the market
	Promotion of effective management of livestock and transhumance
Axis 2: Sustainable forest management and increased forest heritage	Support for sustainable forest management and the development of community management charters and revenue sharing
	Preservation of existing forests and restoration of degraded landscapes
	Protection and conservation of biodiversity and carbon stocks in protected areas
	Establishment and strengthening of the system of prevention and participatory management of vegetation fires

	Incentive for private, community and family reforestation
	Support for increasing carbon stocks in urban and peri-urban areas
	Promotion of the valuation and transformation of forest resources
	Improved livelihoods and sources of income for rural communities engaged in sustainable forest management
	Rehabilitation and reforestation of mining sites and other road infrastructure rights-of-way
Axis 3. Reduced pressure on fuelwood	Sustainable supply and improvement of the efficiency of transformation and combustion of traditional energies
	Development and promotion of modern renewable energies
	Promotion of alternative energies
Axis 4. Support for the implementation of cross-cutting actions to strengthen the REDD+ process	Establishment and operationalization of tools and mechanisms allowing better observation and planning of the territory;
	Promotion of integrated and decentralized management of land use planning based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
	Strengthening land tenure security
	Integration of REDD+ in planning documents and programs
	Information, education, communication and environmental awareness
	Improving access to productive resources for women, youth and other vulnerable groups
	Institutional and research capacity building
Legal reforms	

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the REDD+ strategic options were selected as part of a transparent and participatory process with all stakeholders and that the emission reduction potential of the interventions was used in the prioritization of REDD+ strategic options.			
Justification for the assessment			
The REDD+ strategic options were selected and prioritized through a participatory, inclusive and iterative process that took place in several stages: identification of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation; categorization and prioritization of these causes; identification and prioritization of strategic options (with regard to the causes of DD) through consultation workshops at local, regional and national levels The national strategy has four axes and twenty-five strategic options. These options have been identified and prioritized based on the shared criteria.			
Next Steps			
No next step is planned			

Criterion 17. Feasibility assessment

Diagnostic question: Are REDD+ strategic options assessed and prioritized based on their social, environmental and political feasibility, the risks and opportunities they present, and a cost-benefit analysis?

Statement of the situation:

As previously indicated, the SESA gathered the concerns of stakeholders for each strategic option of version 1 of the National REDD+ Strategy. This made it possible to refine these strategic options during the stakeholder consultation workshops. The SESA has briefly examined the risks and benefits expected from the options.

The evaluation of the effects and impacts of the strategic options on the environment and on humans was carried out during 43 consultation workshops (36 prefectural workshops, 06 regional workshops and 01 national workshop) which mobilized a total of 1891 participants. (1680 men and 211 women) from social organizations, the private sector, young people, women, people with disabilities, the traditional chieftdom and technical services of the public administration.

The summary of the main potential impacts identified by strategic axis is as follows:

- ✓ **For Axis 1 on the promotion of efficient agriculture with low negative impact on forests:** a) **potential negative impacts on the environment:** (i) potential negative effects inherent in the use of fertilizers and pesticides, (ii) use of non-approved products; b) **potential negative impacts on humans:** (i) significant change in traditional lifestyles
- ✓ **For axis 2 relating to the sustainable management of forests and the increase in forest heritage:** a) **potential negative impacts on the environment:** (i) risk of conflicts during management plans; (ii) risk of loss of biodiversity of forest and savannah species; b) **potential negative impacts on humans:** (i) risk of involuntary displacement of populations; (ii) risk of land conflicts and land grabbing, (iii) risk of infection and contamination with STDs/HIV; .
- ✓ **For axis 3 relating to the reduction of pressure on wood energy:** a) **potential negative impacts on the environment:** (i) risk of damage to biodiversity, (ii) problem of battery management at the end life, (iii) risk of failure to control equipment maintenance; b) **potential negative impacts on humans:** (i) risk of inappropriate use of new carbonization techniques, (ii) reduction of cultivable areas, (iii) risk of abandoning food crops in favor of carbonization (iv) risk of population displacement, (v) risk of conflicts after restoration of mining sites.
- ✓ **For Axis 4 for the implementation of transversal actions to strengthen the REDD+ process:** a) **potential negative impacts on the environment:** (i) Poor control of the REDD process ; b) **potential negative impacts on humans** (i) risk of land conflicts during the development and application of development plans, (ii) risk of population displacement, (iii) risk of disturbance of land use social cohesion in the event of non-compliance with defined standards, (iii) risk of loss of forest land and arable land, (iv) fragmentation of individual land, (v) cost of land and forest registration, (vi) risk of resistance to the payment of taxes on land properties, (vii) cumbersome administrative procedure and high cost of securing land, (viii) risk of an increase in the national budget at the level of research institutions, (ix) reluctance of the population to implement legal reforms.

In order to prevent, avoid or mitigate these impacts and potential effects on the environment and on humans and to facilitate the safe implementation of projects and programs contained in the national REDD+ strategy, four (04) environmental and social safeguards (ESMF, PMP, RPF and CP) were developed following a participatory, inclusive and iterative approach, through

broad consultations, with the involvement of all categories of stakeholders (public administration , CSOs, NGOs, women, traditional leaders, private and community forest owners, private sector, people with disabilities, media, CPDDs, CVDs, municipalities) at all levels (at local level (CPDD), regional and national. In order to enable all stakeholders to appropriate these instruments of environmental and social safeguards, capacity building, awareness raising and dissemination workshops were organized at all these levels and these awareness raising actions should continue in the future. strategy implementation phase .

In addition, the institutional frameworks have been the subject of various studies, which will make it possible to establish more precisely the degree of feasibility of each option with regard to the institutional situation.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the feasibility of the strategic options has been analyzed at the social, environmental, political and economic levels; it has contributed to their refinement and prioritization.			
Justification for the assessment			
REDD+ strategic options have been assessed for potential impacts on the environment and humans at local, regional and national levels. The conclusions and results of this evaluation confirmed their feasibility.			
Next Steps			
Conduct a more in-depth examination of the risks and benefits of implementing strategic options through impact studies of related projects and programs.			

Criterion 18. Impact of the strategic options on the sectoral policies in force

Diagnostic questions:

Have major discrepancies between the priority strategic options of REDD+ and policies or programs conducted in other sectors associated with the forestry sector (transport and agriculture for example) been observed?

Have a timetable and procedure been established to address this and integrate REDD+ strategic options with applicable development policies?

Do they support more general development objectives and do they mobilize community support?

Statement of the situation:

The definition of strategic options was made on the basis of a comprehensive and holistic analysis of deforestation and forest degradation in relation to sectoral policies and via exchanges with all sectors or existing structures in the context of REDD+. The strategic options have been defined in consultation with all the sectors concerned which already integrate the dimension of sustainability and REDD+ into their policy (agroforestry at the level of the agricultural sector, the green spaces policy for the urban planning sector, the creation of the Togolese agency for electrification and renewable energies (AT2ER) in the energy sector).

Thus, few major discrepancies were noted between the priority strategic options of REDD+ and policies or programs conducted in other sectors associated with the forestry sector. These discrepancies, relating to the development programs of agricultural growth poles (development of agricultural hubs, promotion of ZAAPs) and management of livestock and transhumance, were analyzed and taken into account in the national strategy. In fact, the following actions are integrated into the REDD+ strategy and action plan: (i) support for the integration of the REDD+ dimension in initiatives for the creation and management of

agricultural growth poles (2020 - 2029 and continuing), (ii) support for the reforestation component of land development, particularly in agricultural parks, agroindustrial units and ZAAPs (2020 - 2029 and continuing), (iii) tracing, revegetation and marking of corridors of transhumance in a participatory and consensual manner (2020 - 2025), (iv) development of resting areas for transhumant animals, installation of watering points, (v) revision of transhumance agreements (2020 - 2025).

As mentioned above, aspects of REDD+ are constantly integrated into political processes (in the broad sense) thanks to the sessions of the National REDD+ Committee, with the support of the National REDD+ Coordination.

A good number of strategic options aim specifically to promote “green” development in order to address certain factors of deforestation and forest degradation at the grassroots level (in particular the options of axes 1 and 3). The participatory definition and validation of strategic options makes it possible to affirm that they benefit from the support of the communities. However, it is planned to strengthen the awareness of the populations concerned before starting the implementation in order to ensure their full support.

The thematic groups set up in the main sectoral ministries ensure that the REDD+ dimension is taken into account in policies at the level of their respective sectors. This mechanism must be strengthened with a view to better integration of strategic options into future development and climate change policies and programs.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory evaluation concludes that there are no major discrepancies between the priority strategic options of REDD+ and the policies or programs conducted in the associated sectors; there will be no negative impact of the strategic options on the sectoral policies in force.</p> <p>The strategic options are articulated in the national development plan of Togo</p>			
<p>Justification for the assessment</p>			
<p>The strategic options have been defined in consultation with all the sectors concerned, which already include the dimension of sustainability and REDD+ in their policies. Aspects of REDD+ are constantly integrated into political processes (in the broad sense) thanks to the sessions of the National REDD+ Committee, with the support of the National REDD+ Coordination and sector thematic groups</p>			
<p>Next Steps</p>			
<p>Improve and strengthen the monitoring system for better integration of the REDD+ dimension into sector policies and programs.</p>			

3.2.3 Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework

Criterion 19. Adoption and enforcement of laws and regulations

Diagnostic questions:

Have laws and/or regulations associated with REDD+ programs and activities been adopted?
 What is the evidence that relevant REDD+ laws and policies are being applied?

Statement of the situation:

Since REDD+ is still in the preparatory phase, the regulations in this area do not yet concern the activities that will be undertaken subsequently.

All stakeholders involved in the REDD+ process are called upon to make adequate efforts to achieve a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The efforts made by each actor must, in principle, be evaluated for a better definition of a “fair and equitable” distribution key to reward their efforts and encourage them more. To do this, the study on carbon governance in the context of REDD+ in Togo made it possible, among other things, to clarify aspects of land law (in particular the clarification of land title, simplification of procedures for obtaining land title, women's right of access to land, strengthening the powers of customary chiefs in access to land), to define the benefits and advantages to be shared, to identify the strategic challenges of sharing future benefits (carbon and not carbon) generated by REDD+ or payment for environmental services (PES) in Togo.

The reform of forestry and land legislation is also one of the novelties linked to REDD+ in Togo. The major results are: (i) the land and property law adopted in 2018, (ii) the decree creating the AT2ER, (iii) the adoption of the law on management, development, development and coastal protection in May 2021, (iv) the decree prohibiting the import and use of glyphosate and all products containing it adopted in December 2019.

In addition to these adopted texts, others are in the process of being revised/adopted or prepared. These are (i) the revision of the forest law, in progress, to integrate the REDD+ dimension, (ii) the development in progress of the SESA decree to regulate the SESA in Togo, (iii) the planned development of an exclusive text to provide a framework for carbon governance.

0	1	2	3
The participatory assessment concludes that laws and/or regulations associated with REDD+ programs and activities have been adopted or are in the process of being adopted in the main related sectors.			
Justification for the assessment			
The REDD+ readiness process has made it possible to initiate reforms in several sectors. Legislative and regulatory measures, in connection with REDD+, have been taken and other relevant legislative and regulatory texts are being prepared, finalized or adopted. The finalization and effective application of these reforms will require sustained efforts.			
Next Steps			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue the development and adoption of texts to strengthen the consideration of the REDD+ dimension in the various sectors of activity - Finalize legislative and regulatory reforms in several sectors 			

Criterion 20. Implementation guidelines

Diagnostic questions:

What are the elements that show that the implementation framework defines carbon rights, benefit-sharing mechanisms, REDD+ financing modalities, official approval procedures (for pilot projects or REDD+ projects for example) and redress mechanisms?

Statement of the situation:

Land tenure, a major source of litigation, has recently been reformed, among other things, to facilitate the implementation of REDD+ investments. The new land code should in particular make it possible to identify potential holders of carbon rights. A benefit-sharing study listed possible benefits and proposed a sharing mechanism appropriate to the national context. The study identified four categories of beneficiaries: the State, local communities, decentralized communities and individuals. It is proposed that most of the benefits go to local communities.

In addition, the country could consider allocating part of the benefits to particularly vulnerable social groups, such as women or young people.

The complaints mechanism is finalized and its design has ensured easy access and, to the extent possible, quick, simple and amicable resolution of disputes.

The Environmental and Social Management Framework Plan (PCGES) is an instrument contained in the ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework). It defines the procedures used to assess REDD+ activities and the roles and responsibilities of each. The planned procedures are as follows:

- Admissibility analysis (based on a registration document provided by the promoter of a REDD+ project);
- Screening: summary and participatory environmental and social assessment;
- Determination of the environmental and social category of the project: A (definite major risk), B (moderate and reversible or major but manageable risk) or C (without significant impact);
- Development of the project safeguard instrument: realization of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA); identification of prevention, mitigation, compensation and improvement measures (= PACB measures); Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) if necessary;
- Assessment of the instrument and issuance of the Certificate of Environmental Conformity (CCE);
- Validation of the Bidding Documents (DAO) and of the site ESMP provided by the promoter, which notably include the PACB measures;
- Monitoring (before, during and after the REDD+ project): verification of the implementation of the PACB measures; verification of the achievement of impacts; proposals for rectification of the project; verification of compliance with standards, regulations and others;
- Public consultations at each stage (screening, impact study, identification of PACB measures, project evaluation, etc.).

A manual for the certification of REDD+ investments (REDD+ projects, REDD+ initiatives) is being prepared and will be finalized by November 2021. This manual will define the principles and criteria for the approval of investments, management approaches, approval stages and registration mode in the context of REDD+.

The future financing of REDD+ remains a challenge and avenues for financing must continue to be explored.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the essential tools of the REDD+ implementation framework have been finalized and that they make it possible to define carbon rights, benefit-sharing mechanisms, REDD+ financing modalities and redress mechanisms. These tools must be supplemented by the official REDD+ investment approval procedures, which are currently being prepared.			
Justification for the assessment			
The essential tools of the implementation framework (BSM, GRM, PCGES) have been finalized and will be completed with the manual for the approval of REDD+ investments (projects, initiatives).			
Next Steps			
- Finalize the certification manual for REDD+ investments in Togo			

- Continue efforts to mobilize future financing for REDD+

Criterion 21. Benefit-sharing plan

Diagnostic question: What indicates that benefit sharing mechanisms are transparent?

Statement of the situation:

The carbon governance and benefit-sharing mechanism under REDD+ in Togo was developed in a participatory and inclusive approach, through broad consultations. This mechanism was developed by exploiting useful data and information which is collected during stakeholder consultations but also through the literature review. These data and information relate to:

- Carbon rights (concepts, international experiences and options for Togo);
- Basic concepts and principles on REDD+ benefit sharing;
- International experiences on the REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism;
- Land tenure and governance of natural resources in Togo.

The REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism in Togo is not yet operational, but the study has made it possible to assess the best options for its design.

Togo has retained the Ministry of Economy and Finance as the institution responsible for the distribution of REDD+ benefits (receipt of payments, management of funds), which will guarantee management according to high standards.

The adoption of an exclusive legal act or instrument for carbon governance is the legal option chosen. This approach will make it possible to include in a specific act all aspects of carbon governance, including the BSM, to guarantee legal transparency and facilitate future amendments if necessary. This is an instrument that could include forestry projects as well as other projects.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that a transparent benefit sharing mechanism is developed in a participatory, inclusive approach.			
Justification for the assessment			
The BSM was designed and developed in a participatory and inclusive approach based on national realities and experiences.			
The legal and institutional options of this mechanism were adopted by the government in the Council of Ministers. It is shared and accessible.			
Next Steps			
- Develop the exclusive legal text to regulate carbon governance in Togo			
- Continue to disseminate the BSM to stakeholders			

Criterion 22. REDD+ national register and REDD+ activity monitoring system

Diagnostic questions:

Is there a national georeferenced information system or an operational register bringing together all the relevant information (location, ownership structure, carbon emissions accounting and financial flows for national and subnational REDD+ programs and projects by example)?

Does it ensure public access to information relating to REDD+?

Statement of the situation:

The national REDD+ registry does not yet exist. A study to design it is in progress. The current state of progress is as follows: (i) stakeholder consultations have been carried out and information is collected, (ii) the framework for developing the project approval procedure is

preconceived, (iii) the scope of the information system on safeguards and multiple benefits and established and the main links are identified and specified, (iv) the scope of the national REDD+ register is established and its institutional anchoring clarified, (v) accommodation possibilities of the national information system (SIS) on REDD+ in Togo are explored

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that there is not yet any geo-referenced information or an operational register bringing together all the relevant information on REDD+.			
Justification for the assessment			
A national REDD+ registry is being developed and will be available by the end of October 2021. The first deliverables are already available (functional and technical specifications, inventory and clarification of the needs for setting up the register).			
Next Steps			
Finalize the establishment of the national REDD+ registry and operationalize it			

3.2.4 Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts

Criterion 23. Analysis of issues relating to social and environmental safeguards

Diagnostic question: What is the evidence that issues relating to social and environmental safeguards applicable to the national context have been fully identified/analyzed through appropriate studies or diagnostics and consultation processes?

Statement of the situation:

One of the main outcomes of this sub-component was the completion of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) report. Extensive consultations in different parts of the country ensured that all relevant safeguards issues were identified through a participatory and inclusive process. A total of 42 consultation workshops were organized at local, regional and national levels under the supervision of the National Environmental Management Agency (ANGE) which ensured that the process took place in accordance with national regulations in the matter. Particular attention was paid to gender aspects during these consultation workshops (choice of participants, constitution of specific working groups).

These consultations made it possible to assess the potential impacts of REDD+ strategic options, to refine them and to propose mitigation and enhancement measures. On the basis of this assessment, four safeguard instruments have been developed (ESMF, PMP, RPF, CP) and will make it possible to supervise the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy and to manage any environmental and social risks.

In accordance with document R-PP [43], stakeholder consultation was carried out at the local (through the prefectural sustainable development commissions (CPDD)), regional and national levels.

At local level

The national REDD+ coordination provided financial support to each of the CPDDs to hold two (02) meetings: (i) an exchange and sharing meeting on the first version of Togo's national REDD+ strategy and (ii) a meeting of " exchanges and analysis of the potential impacts of the strategic options retained in version 1 of the national REDD+ strategy.

Exchange and validation meetings for version 1 of the national REDD + strategy: the 36 CPDDs organized the meeting during which they analyzed and validated in a participatory manner the first version of Togo's national REDD+ strategy. The 36 meetings made it possible to reach

1521 people (i.e. 42 people on average per CPDD) against a forecast of 1440 people (40 people/CPDD). Of the 1,521 people reached, 9.60% are women and 90.40% are men.

At the end of the discussions, the CPDDs generally found that the content of the document takes their concerns into account and really meets their needs; that the strategic options selected are relevant, coherent and in line with the causes of deforestation and forest degradation that they have identified.

Meeting to analyze the potential environmental and social impacts of the strategic options retained in the first version of the national REDD+ strategy: the grassroots communities, through the CPDDs, discussed the positive and negative effects that could generate the REDD+ strategic options proposed in version 1 of the strategy in order to help refine this strategy. Of the 36 CPDDs, 35 organized these meetings. These meetings aimed to analyze the scope of each option and to identify the risks, the potential positive and negative impacts of the REDD+ strategic options on the biophysical and human environment on the one hand and to propose mitigation measures (for the impacts identified as negative) or improvement or amplification measures (for positive impacts) *with regard to* ecological, economic, sociological and cultural considerations on the other hand. Overall, the participants noted, after discussions, that the implementation of the selected strategic options will greatly contribute to improving their living conditions, particularly in terms of food security, health, availability of water resources, access to energy, well-being and living environment, additional income.

However, they raised some concerns and identified some risks that should be taken into account when refining options and finalizing the national REDD+ strategy. These are mainly the risks of: (i) attack and desecration of cultural sites and heritage (cemeteries, divinities, etc.); (ii) land conflicts, conflicts between communities and then between categories of actors (livestock keepers and arable farmers); (iii) pollution of water (rivers, wells and other water points), soil and air due to the excessive and irrational use of pesticides and other inputs; (iv) proliferation of diseases due to pollutants; (v) expropriation and loss of cultivable land; (vi) displacement of populations and (vii) reluctance of populations to change behavior, practices and adopt new technologies. These meetings made it possible to reach 1478 people (141 women and 1337 men) against a forecast of 1440 people.

These meetings at the local level were attended by the following categories of stakeholders: the prefects, the presidents of the special prefecture delegations, the decentralized administrative services at the prefectural level (the prefectural directors of the environment, agriculture and 'livestock, health, social action, grassroots development), representatives of education (primary and secondary), the press), representatives of civil society organizations, cantonal leaders, cantonal development committees (CCD), village development committees (CVD), representatives of women's organizations, youth organizations (CPJ), community radios, organizations of people with disabilities (ONATEPH, FETAPH).

At regional and national level

Six (06) workshops were organized at the regional level. These workshops enabled stakeholders to assess the positive and negative effects that the REDD+ strategic options proposed in version 1 of the strategy could generate and to help refine this strategy.

The consultation workshops at the regional level brought together the following categories of stakeholders: decentralized administrative services at the regional level (among others: environment, agriculture, social action, water, plan, land use planning, social action, TVT and ATOP, culture, radios), regional umbrella organizations of NGOs and CSOs, women's organizations (CF-REDD+), associations of private and community forest owners (PFPC, AVT, APPT, RFCT), operators' unions economic sectors in the wood sector (SYTREBACT and SARIEF), the regional council of traditional leaders, youth organizations (CRJ), organizations of disabled people (ONATEPH and FETAPH), CPDDs, municipalities/special delegations, the private sector, community radios.

The national workshop saw the participation of the same structures and actors

Overall, the participants noted, after analysis, that the implementation of the options and certain actions of the first version of the national REDD+ strategy may involve risks, in particular (i) the loss of production plots, (ii) displacement of populations, (iii) excessive and irrational use of pesticides, (iv) contamination and pollution, (v) loss of biodiversity.

Overall, the analysis shows that the positive impacts of the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy are more important (social, economic, environmental) than the negative impacts.

The SESA was conducted concurrently with the development of the national REDD+ strategy to ensure that the links between the two processes were solid and obvious.

In view of the absence of a specific regulatory text for SESA in Togo, support was provided to the ANGE to draw up a decree which will make it possible to remedy this insufficiency. This decree is in the process of being adopted.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the issues relating to social and environmental safeguards applicable to the national context have been globally identified and analyzed within the framework of consultation processes in an inclusive manner following an iterative approach with the participation of all stakeholders.			
Justification for the assessment			
Environmental and social issues were analyzed through wide consultations which made it possible to assess potential impacts and to propose mitigation measures under the supervision of the ANGE. Safeguard instruments are finalized.			
Next Steps			
- Continue to disseminate safeguard instruments to stakeholders and build the capacities of stakeholders, - Advocate for the adoption of the SESA decree.			

Criterion 24. Design of the REDD+ strategy based on impacts

Diagnostic question: How have the results of the SESA and the social and environmental impacts (positive and negative) identified been used to prioritize and define the REDD+ strategic options?

Statement of the situation:

The SESA was carried out through an iterative process of analysis and consultations, the results of each step were shared with stakeholders through meetings, presentations and interim reports. The SESA made it possible to improve the strategic options and sub-options and the potential activities of the REDD+ Togo program. This improvement took place in two stages, firstly (i) by evaluating the strategic options in terms of the environment in order to formulate recommendations for their improvement, then (ii) by evaluating the positive and negative impacts of options and sub-options in order to define the safeguard measures. The information from the SESA contributed to the prioritization of strategic options. The hierarchy of options was based on a simple and clear matrix which made it possible to cross-reference the environmental and social components likely to be affected by the REDD+ actions, projects or programs, the determination of the direct and indirect effects, the determination of the nature of the effects (positive or negative), the duration of the potential impacts (short, medium and long term) and the intensity (local, regional, national).

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the results of the SESA and the social and environmental impacts (positive and negative) identified were used to prioritize and finalize the REDD+ strategic options.			

Justification for the assessment

The analysis of the potential social and environmental impacts carried out in the SESA focused on the strategic options of the first version of the REDD+ strategy through 36 prefectural workshops, 6 regional workshops and 1 national workshop. This analysis enabled the coordination, with the support of the national working group and heads of platforms of civil society organizations and the private sector, to formulate improved strategic options, policies and measures maximizing positive impacts and minimizing those that are negative (version 2 of the national REDD+ strategy).

Next Steps

No next step is planned.

Criterion 25. Environmental and social management framework

Diagnostic question: What is the evidence that the ESMF is in place and that it manages any environmental and social risks and effects associated with REDD+ activities?

Statement of the situation:

The environmental and social management framework (ESMF) was developed with the aim of allowing the assessment and mitigation of potentially negative effects on the environment and society, as well as the optimization of benefits, carbon and non-carbon, REDD+ projects and activities. This instrument includes the environmental and social management framework plan (PCGES), the environmental management and monitoring plan (PGSE), the capacity building plan (CBP) and the cultural heritage management framework (CGPC).

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that the ESMF is in place and that it will ensure the management of any environmental and social risks and effects associated with REDD+ activities.			
Justification for the assessment			
The SESA made it possible to develop the ESMF to provide a framework for the assessment and mitigation of negative effects on the environment and on humans. It is developed in a participatory and inclusive manner and includes four tools (PCGES, PGSE, CBP and CGPC) which contribute to the management of environmental and social risks and effects linked to REDD+ activities.			
Next Steps			
Continue to disseminate the ESMF and build the capacities of stakeholders in terms of monitoring its implementation.			

3.3 Component 3: Reference emissions level/reference levels

Criterion 26: Demonstration of the method

Diagnostic questions:

Is the preliminary sub-national or national REL or RL presented (in the preparatory dossier) using a clearly documented methodology based, where appropriate, on a step-by-step approach?

Statement of the situation:

Togo submitted in January 2020 its first reference Forest Reference Level (FRL) [44] to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A revised version was

submitted in August 2020 following several rounds of technical assessments by UNFCCC experts in June 2020. The technical evaluation of Togo's FRL by the experts of the UNFCCC showed that it meets its requirements. The clearly documented methodology [45] will evolve and be improved as more precise input data becomes available. It takes into account the requirements of the UNFCCC and the methodological framework of the FCPF.

The information used to define the FRL was estimated using IPCC Tier 3 guidelines and methods; they are therefore transparent, complete, consistent and accurate. The FRL is established transparently, taking into account historical data.

The FRL definition process took place in three stages: (i) Strengthening the technical capacities of national teams, (ii) Development and validation of the methodology and (iii) calculation of greenhouse gas emissions and removals for the production of the FRL.

FRL development methodology

In 2018, a national participatory process was launched to develop the reference level for Togo's forests in light of available data and the capacities of stakeholders. In 2019, the methodology was developed and work was done to determine the 2003-2018 historical averages of emissions from deforestation and carbon removals from reforestation at the national level.

Activities to reduce emissions due to deforestation and enhance carbon stocks were integrated into the construction of the FRL by taking into account three pools: above-ground biomass, below-ground biomass and deadwood. Soil and litter carbon pools may be included in future submissions, following bibliographic research and scientific work that will be carried out in order to better assess these carbon pools and their potential on forest lands. Other activities such as reduction of degradation or sustainable management of the forest were not taken into account in this first version of the FRL.

The only greenhouse gas considered in the construction of the FRL in Togo is carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted by deforestation activities mainly and captured by reforestation. Gas emissions related to wildfire such as CO₂, methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), etc. are not taken into account in the FRL due to lack of data. However, data research is ongoing and will be considered in future FRL submissions. At the current stage of work, activities to reduce emissions from forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stock and sustainable forest management have not been taken into account but will be included in the next FRLs.

An improvement in the methodology, the data collection system as well as research will make it possible to develop a methodology adapted to take into account the estimation of the variation of the carbon stock due to forest degradation, to the conservation of forest carbon stocks and sustainable forest management.

It is planned to harmonize the methodologies of the FRL, greenhouse gas inventories for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports.

Ultimately, a methodology was developed and made it possible to develop the FRL using data from the 2016 national forest inventory, processing and historical analysis of Landsat 1986 and 2019 images.

To improve future FRLs, the following actions will be taken:

- Follow the evolution of wooded lands with a forest cover between 10 and 30% thanks to Sentinel 2 images (more precise spatial resolution than Landsat). The historical analysis of forest degradation remains an open question.
- Use data from the Satellite Land Monitoring Systems (SLMS) which is being set up in Togo (more baseline data on land use change, of better quality).
- Improve the quality of validation data:

- For the year 2015, use the RapidEye images (5m resolution) acquired during the first forest inventory instead of the Landsat images.
- For the year 2003, use archive images from GoogleEarthPro.
- For the year 1985, use available aerial photographs if they can be georeferenced.
- Differentiation of different forest strata (e.g. distinction between plantations and natural secondary forests). The 2015 RapidEye map layering will be used as a reference.
- Better quantify the degradation and increase in carbon stocks in addition to changes in forest cover thanks to IFN-2, which will also allow validation of the biomass mapping method. In addition, research is planned in order to find ways to trace the activities inside the forest (degradation, restoration inside the forest) (probably with Sentinel 1 or Sentinel 2 images).
- Given the difficulties linked to the distinction between forest and non-forest, an approach that makes it possible to account for changes in carbon stocks in the landscape is envisaged, taking into account the RADAR/LiDAR data (GEDI mission from NASA and Biomass from the 'ESA) as soon as they are available for Togo. It is for this reason that the FRL is based on maps ("pixel-count") and not on a sampling approach and that it takes into account only the historical evolution of forests and not wooded lands (the latter are considered non-forest in the FRL).
- Obtain data to estimate soil carbon and non-CO₂ GHG emissions related to fires and integrate them into the next version of the FRL.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that Togo's preliminary FRL is presented using a clearly documented methodology and based on a step-by-step approach.			
Justification for the assessment			
The methodology has been sufficiently documented, proven and accepted nationally and internationally. The FRL was developed in a participatory, transparent approach following capacity building of stakeholders. However, improvements are needed to take into account aspects of degradation, vegetation fires, sustainable forest management and land use stratification. The procedure for developing the FRL is being formalized to serve as a guideline for future FRLs .			
Next Steps			
- continue to build the capacities of actors for updating the FRL, - Initiate research projects in order to have data on aspects of degradation, vegetation fires, sustainable land management, - Acquire and process high resolution images to allow observation of the various changes in land use.			

Criterion 27: Use of historical data and adaptation to the national context

Diagnostic questions:

To what extent does the establishment of the REL/RL take into account historical data, and, if it is adapted to the national situation, what are the reasons and the data which demonstrate that the projected adjustments are credible and defensible?

Are data and documents provided transparently and in sufficient quantity to allow reconstruction or independent verification of the REL/RL?

Statement of the situation:

The FRL was developed for the whole of the Togolese territory from national historical data (Landsat satellite images and National Forest Inventory 2015/16) in compliance with the directives of the UNFCCC and the methodological framework of the FCPF as indicated in the report of technical assessment conducted by experts from the UNFCCC.

Historical data

Decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 8, requires that Forest Reference Emission Levels/Reference Levels (FREL/ FRL) be consistent with anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions linked to forests in the national greenhouse gas inventory. Togo has sought to establish this consistency as required by the IPCC (IPCC, 2006). The RapidEye satellite images were used for the mapping of land use in 2013/2014 as part of the IFN-1 carried out in 2015/2016. Landsat images were used for the analysis of change in forest land cover under the FRL, as these data are available throughout the territory for previous years. These are images with radiometric, geometric and atmospheric corrections made by USGS that show the reflectance at the earth's surface (USGS Landsat produces Level-2) [46]. The data acquired are images with weak cloud cover taken at the end of the dry period (December - February). The spectral bands B, G, R, NIR, SWIR-1 and SWIR-2 with reflectance values in the corresponding electromagnetic spectra, as well as the various spectral indices made available by USGS (EVI, NDVI, NIRI, NDMI, NBR -1, NBR-2, SAVI and MSAVI) were used.

Togo's FRL has not yet experienced any adjustment because for the moment, there are no development plans that would justify a drastic change in the evolution of forest areas in the years to come.

Data used and documentation

The historical reference period for the development of the FRL is 2003-2018 selected on the basis of the availability of historical satellite images over the entire territory. Satellite images between 1986 and 2019 from the USGS archive are taken into account to fully control the dynamics of the changes that have occurred over the reference period. The emission factors were determined on the basis of the first National Forest Inventory carried out in 2015/16 [47]. In 2020, an independent process made it possible to verify the accuracy of the map and to calculate the uncertainties in the activity data. The methodology used to determine the evolution of forest areas and the associated emission factors is documented and available at <https://ogardi.github.io/SNSF-Togo/>.

In terms of historical data used, Togo used Landsat satellite images from 1986 to 2019 from the USGS archive to do the analyzes. It also has the 2013/2014 RapidEye satellite images and ortho-photos from 1975 to 1985 which were interpreted and analyzed for the mapping of land occupation in these periods. A forest inventory database and land use reports are available.

Data collection will continue periodically to update and build up a permanent database. The collection, processing and analysis of data from the second current national forest inventory will end in December 2021.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory evaluation concludes that the establishment of the FRL took into account historical data and is appropriate to the national situation. Data and documents are provided transparently and in sufficient quantity to allow reconstruction or independent verification of the FRL.</p>			
<p>Justification for the assessment</p>			
<p>The design of the FRL was based on national circumstances, available historical data of acceptable and comparable resolution (Landsat images 2003/2018). These data are reliable and verifiable and cover the entire territory. Documentation is available on the website https://ogardi.github.io/SNSF-Togo/ and that of the UNFCCC</p>			
<p>Next Steps</p>			
<p>The evaluation report of the UNFCCC secretariat to be obtained</p>			

Criterion 28: Technical feasibility of the methodological approach and compliance with the UNFCCC guidelines and the IPCC recommendations and guidelines

Diagnostic question: Is the REL/RL (presented in the preparatory file) based on transparent, complete and precise information, compatible with the UNFCCC guidelines and the latest IPCC guidelines, and allowing for the technical assessment the datasets, approaches, methods, models (if applicable) and assumptions used to define the REL/RL?

Statement of the situation:

As demonstrated by the elements set out in criteria 26 and 27, Togo's FRL was established on the basis of the "Guidelines" of the UNFCCC and the guidelines of the IPCC. Indeed, Decision 4/CP.15 encourages developing countries to use the most recent IPCC guidance and guidelines, as adopted or recommended by the Conference of the Parties (PC), to calculate emissions (sources) and removals (sinks) of forest-related GHGs as well as forest carbon stocks and changes in forest area, which is also recommended by Criterion 5 of the FCPF Carbon Fund Methodological Framework. The FRL was developed according to the rules and methods recommended by the IPCC in 2006: the methodology is based on the difference in stocks approach, i.e. an estimate of the net balance of additions and removals from of the evolution of carbon stocks in the reservoirs considered(IPCC/ Eggleston et al. 2006) .

The information presented in Togo's FRL is consistent with the orientations of the UNFCCC, precise and guided by the most recent orientations and directives of the IPCC.

The methodological approach made it possible to calculate carbon stocks at forest land level, the results of which are in the FRL report.

However, it is necessary to improve this method to take into account the carbon stock at the level of wooded lands from a better stratification of land use with high resolution satellite images.

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that Togo's FRL is based on transparent, complete and accurate information, consistent with the UNFCCC guidelines and the latest IPCC guidelines and guidelines. They allow for the technical evaluation of the datasets, approaches, methods, models and assumptions used to define the FRL.			
Justification for the assessment			
The information presented in Togo's FRL is consistent with the orientations of the UNFCCC, precise and guided by the most recent orientations and directives of the IPCC. This information is reliable, verifiable and makes it possible to reconstruct Togo's FRL independently. However, improvements are necessary in order to take into account the carbon stock at the level of wooded land. .			
Next Steps			
- Develop a methodology to take into account the carbon stock in wooded land.			

3.4 Component 4: Forest monitoring system and safeguard measures

3.4.1 Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System

Criterion 29. Explanation of the monitoring method

Diagnostic questions:

Are there explicit reasons or analytical evidence supporting the choice of method used or proposed (combining remote sensing and ground measurements for forest carbon inventory, resolution, system coverage and accuracy, integration? carbon and gas reservoirs) and what improvements will be made to them eventually?

Has the system been technically reviewed and nationally approved? Is it compatible with the national and international directives in force and under development?

Are possible sources of uncertainty identified to the extent possible?

Statement of the situation:

The general objective of sub-component 4.1 is to develop a monitoring, reporting and verification system that allows transparent accounting of CO₂ emissions and removals over time which can be compared to the projected baseline scenario. The result of this component will be a functional system capable of measuring, reporting and regularly verifying the performance of REDD+ activities in Togo. The basis for the development of the NFMS is clear: a terrestrial satellite monitoring system (SLMS) to track changes in land use, forest inventories in combination with remote sensing data to update emission factors, everything using the methodology established for the FRL. The related work is in progress: the establishment of an SLMS, the IFN-2 and the improvement of the methodology (see section FRL) as well as the institutionalization of all this work to ensure continuity. A feasible approach, including the definition of the roles and responsibilities of the institutional arrangements, the operationalization of the NFMS was therefore designed.

The objective of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is to regularly assess the state of Togolese forests and their evolution . Togo follows the phased approach proposed by the UNFCCC for the operationalization of the NFMS.

Method for setting up NFMS in Togo

Togo's NFMS combines data collected in the field with data from satellite images to provide information on the evolution of all forests in the country. Togo's NFMS has taken the following steps and is made up of three main pillars (Figure 8):

- The **National Forest Inventory (NFI)** took place in a participatory process. There were consultations and concertation at the national level to define the forest, the methodology [48] and the instructions on the forest inventory [49]. Thus, Togo organized an NFI to collect detailed information on the state of the forests on 945 permanent sampling plots spread over the entire national territory. The first national forest inventory was organized in 2015/2016 and the second is underway on the same plots. All these activities are carried out by national executives following capacity building [50] [51].
- **Togo's Terrestrial Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS)** took place in several progressive stages of capacity building and data production by the national forest monitoring team. These steps made it possible to provide information on land cover and use from 7,488 sampling plots from satellite images and to have a database. With the help of the SLMS, the information on the IFN can be extrapolated to the whole country. Togo has a 2015 land use map for the period 1975-1985, the forest no forest map of the temporary series from 2003 to 2019;
- The **Forest Reference Level (FRL)** as well as the **Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)** of changes in forest carbon reservoirs in Togo are developed by the national forest monitoring team with the support of the international consultant. The FRL report prepared in 2020 provides information to the national and international community on the rate of greenhouse gases emitted by Togo in the period 2003 to 2018 under the REDD+ mechanism. In this framework, IFN 2016 data is used to determine carbon storage in tree biomass, while SLMS data is used to determine the change in forest area from 2003 to 2018. The combination of these data gives the carbon losses due to deforestation and carbon sequestration from reforestation between 2003 and 2018.

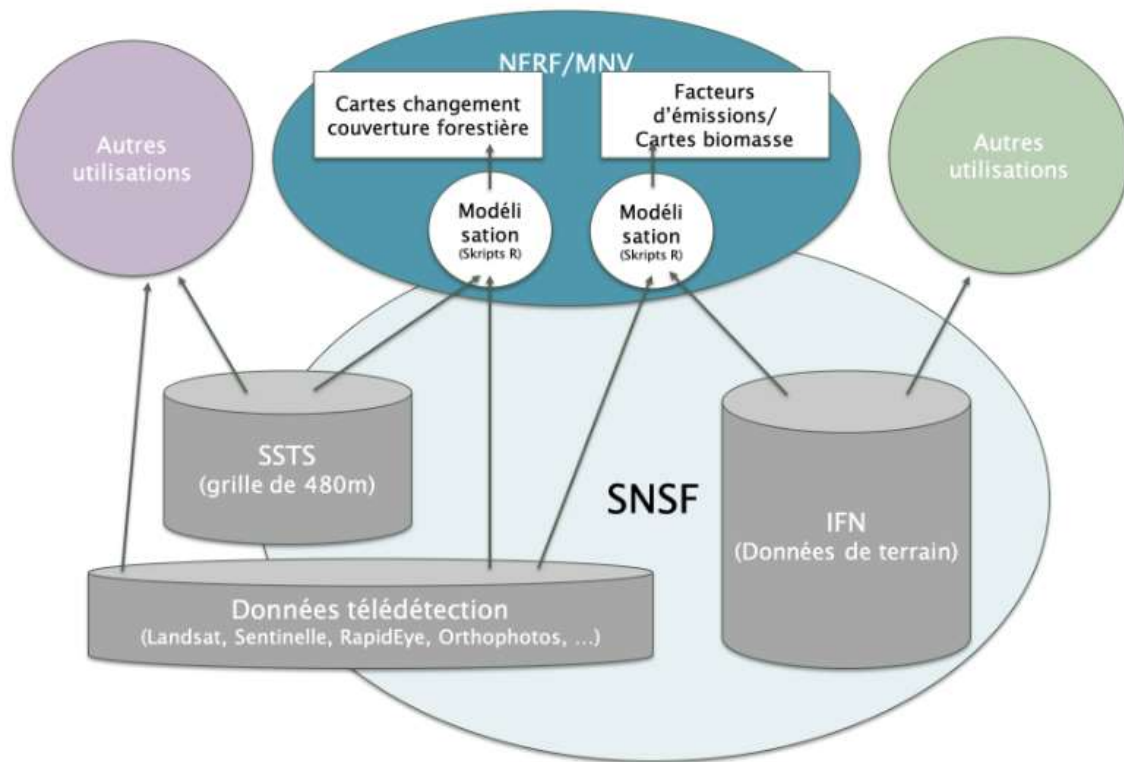


Figure 8: the pillars of the NFMS

This approach follows the technical recommendations of UN-REDD⁷ [52], of the GFOI⁸ [53] and is adapted to the national context in view of the available data. It was designed by the national forest monitoring group and validated in a participatory manner by national stakeholders during various workshops in 2018-2019.

The sources of uncertainty are linked to the following activity data and emission factors:

Sources of uncertainty in activity data

The uncertainties in the activity data come from the uncertainties associated with the classification of land cover at each of the dates studied. According to GOF-C-GOLD 2010, the potential sources of uncertainty would be:

- the quality of satellite data,
- the interoperability of the various sensors,
- image processing,
- cartographic and thematic standards (for example the definition of land categories and the minimum unit of cartography),
- georeferencing (geometric precision),
- the interpretation procedure and post-processing.

Under the first FRL, the uncertainty of changes in the forest area mapped on the basis of satellite images is estimated at $\pm 14\%$ (95% confidence interval) based on independent validation.

⁷ UN-REDD (2013) National Forest Monitoring Systems: Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (M&MRV) in the context of REDD+ Activities

⁸ GFOI (2020) Integration of remote-sensing and ground-based observations for estimation of emissions and removals of greenhouse gases in forests

Sources of uncertainties in emission factors

There are different sources of errors that influence these emission factors

- Measurement errors in IFN readings;
- Errors in the densities of wood used;
- Biomass estimation errors by the allometric equation used;
- Errors in aerial biomass mapping;
- Root-stem reporting errors.

Within the framework of the first FRL, the uncertainty of the emission factors is estimated at $\pm 14.3\%$, taking into account the errors of biomass estimation by allometric equations (incl. Wood density) and the errors in the mapping of above-ground biomass.

Overall the uncertainty (relative error) of the forest reference level is $\pm 21\%$.

The system device is designed and tested during the IFN, in the processing and analysis of satellite images for the SLMS, in the preparation of the FRL report with the application of the manuals and methodological guides developed for this purpose.

It therefore remains to continue working on the NFMS of Togo by implementing it on a website and on national and international servers in order to make it more transparent and sustainable. By the end of December 2021, Togo's SLMS will be deployed on the FAO regional forest monitoring system through the SEPAL tool [54] and on the use of the land cover classification system of FAO (LCCS / LCML).

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that Togo's NFMS was designed on the basis of international guidelines in force in collaboration with the relevant structures for monitoring; it is nationally approved. The monitoring method combines the use of remote sensing and field data. It relied on feasibility due to data availability and national capacities. Any sources of uncertainty have been identified and calculated.			
Justification for the assessment			
Togo's SNSF (French for NFMS) was designed and developed in a participatory approach by the national forest monitoring group which is made up of national data-producing structures whose capacities have been strengthened. This system combines field and remote sensing data to build the FRL.			
Next Steps			
Configuration of the geo-portal and land monitoring plots by satellite of Togo on the FAO site. Experimentation of the FAO regional forest monitoring portal on Togo's SSST.			

Criterion 30. Demonstration of the first application phases

Diagnostic questions:

What indicates that the system is able to monitor activities to which the national REDD+ strategy prioritizes? How does the system spot and assess displacement of emissions (leakage) and, if so, what are the initial results?

How are key stakeholders involved in, or consulted in, the development and early stages of system implementation (including data collection and eventual verification of results)?

What evidence is there that the system compares changes in forest cover and carbon content (and associated GHG emissions) with the baseline estimates used to derive the REL/RL?

Statement of the situation:

Much of the activities for the development of NFMS/MRV have already been undertaken. The monitoring methodology using remote sensing data and forest inventory, as well as the greenhouse gas inventory needed for the “measurement” are the same as those used for the calculation of the FRL. Thus, once finalized, the NFMS/MRV will be able to quantify the emissions avoided thanks to REDD+ activities as well as the increase in carbon sequestered by the various carbon sinks. Its integration into the REDD+ registry will ensure the link between REDD+ activities and carbon emissions and absorptions.

The SNSF method set out in criterion 29 guarantees that the SNSF will be able to quantify the evolution of carbon emissions and sequestrations in relation to the FRL.

First phase of application of the NFMS:

The design of the different elements of the NFMS was developed and tested during the development of the FRL as part of the FCPF project for REDD+ readiness:

- Carbon evaluation of IFN-1 using the allometric function of Chave et al. (2015) which was evaluated for Togo. The second inventory is now in progress.
- Establishment of a land use observation network and interpretation of satellite images by Togolese photo interpreters.
- Use of these data to map changes in land use throughout the territory and to quantify emission factors.

What remains to be done is the operationalization of these activities to ensure the continuity of the NFMS.

Emissions shift assessment (carbon leakage)

Since the monitoring is carried out at the national level, possible leaks within the country do not influence the national emissions. As the drivers of land use change come from within the country itself (mainly responding to domestic demand for agricultural products and timber), a shift in activities and emissions to other countries is unlikely. In addition, the neighboring countries of Togo (Ghana, Benin, Burkina Faso) are also involved in REDD+.

Stakeholder involvement in the system

Stakeholders at all levels contribute to the activities of the system with the development and validation of methodologies, data collection and data quality control. The technical choices on the data, results and methodology were defined through the sessions with:

- the FRL/MRV Working Group
- the national forest monitoring team,
- the ANGE,
- the universities,
- research institutes.

During various workshops, the stakeholders subsequently developed and validated the methodologies (i) for mapping and monitoring change in forest cover and biomass, (ii) forest inventory and (iii) calculating the factors of emissions. Quality assurance and quality control will be carried out through the independent internal evaluation of the Laboratory of Plant Biology and Ecology (LBEV) and the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) of the University of Lomé as well as of the Directorate General of cartography (DGC). The LRF and LBEV university laboratories will evaluate the methods and new data as they are generated.

Currently the population or civil society is not involved in forest monitoring. Once the national system is operational, Togo will try to engage the local populations in the monitoring of resources, especially in the regions of intervention of REDD+ activities.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory evaluation concludes that the NFMS is designed and developed to monitor activities to which the national REDD+ strategy prioritizes. The system is not yet able to identify and assess the displacement of emissions (leakage). Stakeholders participated in the development and early phases of application of the system through consultations. This system makes it possible to compare the evolution of forest cover and carbon content with the reference estimates used for the FRL.</p>			
<p>Justification for the assessment</p> <p>Stakeholders contribute at all levels to the activities of the system, with the choices, development, validation of methodologies, data collection and data quality control. The inventory plots are permanent and identifiable in the field and allow the evolution of the carbon content to be assessed. The training pixels are permanent and make it possible to evaluate the evolution of the forest cover.</p>			
<p>Next Steps</p> <p>Continue and finalize the work of IFN 2, Use the data to update the FRL Continue and complete the system to detect leaks Update land use maps .</p>			

Criterion 31. Institutional arrangements and capacities

Diagnostic questions:

Are the mandates relating to the tasks associated with forest monitoring clearly defined (processing of satellite data, forest inventory, dissemination of information)?

What indicates that transparent mechanisms for public dissemination of forest and emissions data have been introduced and are at least in their early stages of application?

Have the related resource needs been defined and estimated (e.g., capacity, training, hardware, software and budget required)?

Statement of the situation:

The NFMS institutional mechanism is made up of existing institutions in the various government structures (sectoral ministries) involved in the management of the system. The roles and responsibilities of each institution in the NFMS are defined according to its technical skills and its attributions in its sector. [55].

Togo plans to report its REDD+ emissions through a REDD+ technical annex to its second biennial report, being prepared with GEF/UNDP funding, and which will be submitted before December 31, 2021.

Institutional arrangement of the NFMS

The roles and responsibilities of the Togo NFMS are already defined (Figure 9).

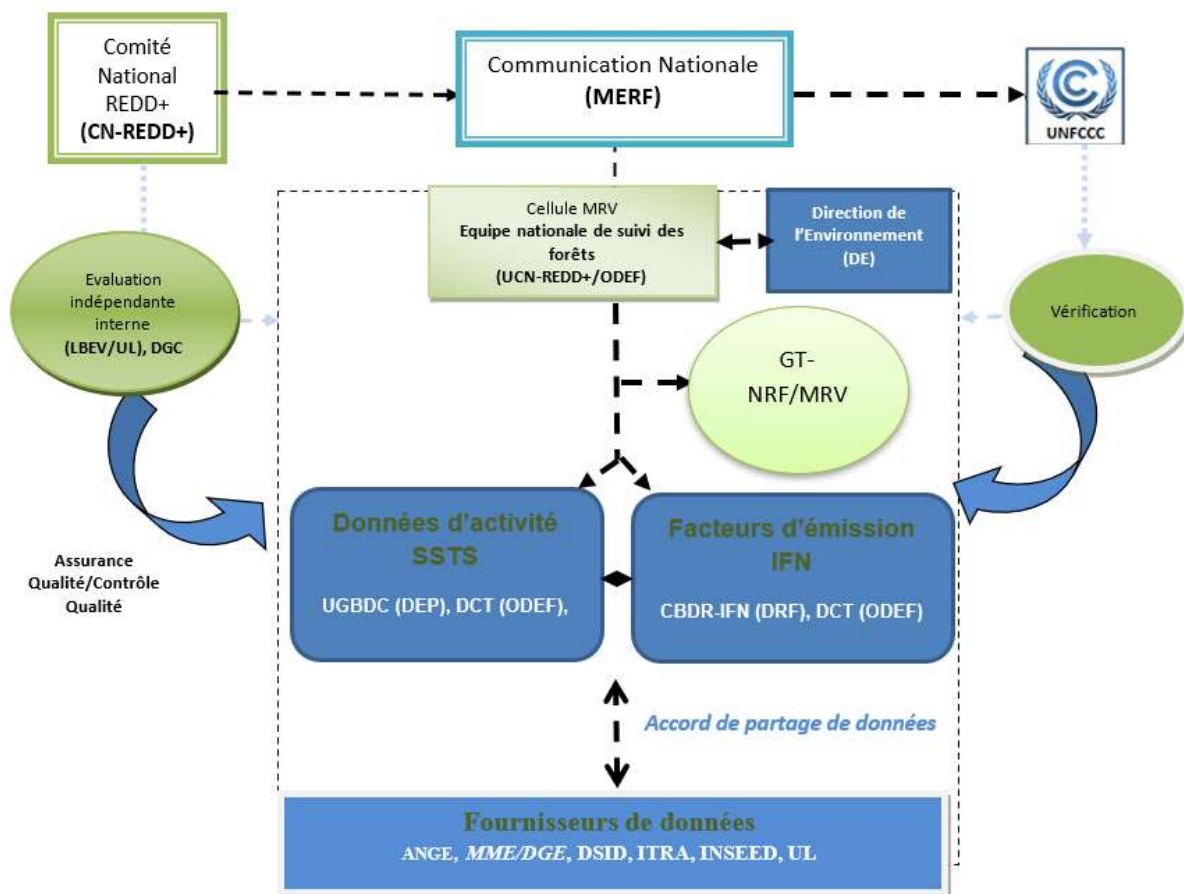


Figure 9 Institutional arrangement of the NFMS

Coordination

- The Ministry of the Environment and Forest Resources (MERF) through the Department of the Environment (DE) is responsible for reporting (National Communication and Biennial Reports) to the UNFCCC.
- The MRV Unit of the National REDD+ Coordination located at the ODEF is responsible for the coordination of all the institutions and organizations involved in supplying the SNSF system. This cell is the key entity responsible for facilitating and supporting communications on Togo's FRL.
- The FRL/MRV Working Group and the national forest monitoring team are responsible for the work and technical decisions and choices on the data, results and methodology adopted for the FRL/MRV. The backbone of the MRV cell, they are made up of executives from the institutions involved in the NFMS.
- The Department of the Environment (DE) is responsible for greenhouse gas inventories (I-GES) for all sectors and ensures the consistency of I-GES data for the agriculture, forestry and other land use sectors (AFOLU) with the reports that will be submitted to the UNFCCC. The DE will ensure consistency between the methodology used in the framework of the FRL and that of obtaining GES data from the AFOLU sector.

Activity data

- The Cartographic Database Management Unit (UGBDC) of the Department of Studies and Planning (DEP), responsible for the management of the mapping of forest areas in

Togo as well as the Cartography and Remote Sensing Division (DCT) of the ODEF, responsible for mapping classified forests and state plantations, will produce activity data using the SLMS.

- The National Environmental Management Agency (ANGE) is responsible for providing data on vegetation fires.

Emission factors

- The forest resources database management unit and the results of the national forest inventory (CBDR-IFN) of the Forest Resources Department (DRF) and the Cartography and Remote Sensing Division (DCT) of the ODEF are responsible for produce emission factors through national forest inventories and plantation inventories.

Additional data

- The Directorate General of Energy of the Ministry of Mines and Energy DGE/MME will provide data on wood energy consumption.
- The Directorate of Agricultural Statistics, Informatics and Documentation (DCID) and the Togolese Institute for Agronomic Research (ITRA) will produce data on agriculture (sown areas and livestock).
- Research data from universities in Togo will feed into the MRV mechanism as well as the FRL.
- The National Institute of Statistics and Economic and Demographic Studies (INSEED) will provide additional information on demography and others.

Quality control/internal validation

Quality assurance and quality control will be carried out through the independent internal evaluation of the Laboratory of Plant Biology and Ecology (LBEV) and the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) of the University of Lomé as well as the General Directorate of Cartography. (DGC). The LRF and LBEV university laboratories will evaluate the methods and new data as they are generated.

An action plan to finalize the development and operationalization of the NFMS/MRV system has yet to be drawn up.

0	1	2	3
<p>The participatory evaluation concludes that the mandates relating to the tasks associated with forest monitoring are clearly defined (processing of satellite data, forest inventory, dissemination of information). Transparent mechanisms for the public dissemination of forest and emissions data are not yet in place. The related resource requirements for the operation of the NFMS are partially defined.</p>			
<p>Justification for the assessment An institutional framework is in place and functional. The mandates of the various structures have been defined according to their missions and the data at their disposal. These mandates are contained in a document currently being formalized. The capacity building of the institutions involved has been strengthened. In order to make the NFMS operational, this strengthening must be continued and intensified, in particular the mobilization of financial resources and in order to make the system operational.</p>			
<p>Next Steps - Continue to build the capacities of institutions involved in the NFMS, - design and operationalize a geo-portal to ensure the dissemination of data relating to forest monitoring to the general public at the end of December 2021</p>			

3.4.2 Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards

Criterion 32. Identification of non-carbon aspects and relevant social and environmental issues

Diagnostic questions:

How were the non-carbon aspects and relevant social and environmental issues of REDD+ readiness identified?

Have any recommendations for capacity building been made in this regard?

Statement of the situation:

Several studies carried out as part of the REDD+ readiness phase in Togo have identified potential impacts on aspects other than carbon, in particular on social and environmental dimensions.

- The SESA made it possible to identify, thanks to the consultation of all the stakeholders and on the basis of various preliminary studies already mentioned, the main expected social and environmental impacts of the implementation of the strategic options of REDD+ in Togo.
- A study on “carbon governance and analysis of the possibilities of benefit sharing” made it possible to highlight the advantages other than carbon linked to REDD+ and specific to the situation of Togo. This participatory study highlighted the importance of benefit sharing in Togo as effective incentive measures for individuals, communities, organizations and businesses but also to consolidate the legitimacy of REDD+ at the national (and international) level. .

Recommendations in terms of capacity building were collected by the national REDD+ coordination, for example improving the analysis of the impacts of strategic options and concrete improvement and mitigation measures. Capacity building on the consideration of environmental and social safeguards at all stages of REDD+ activities is also necessary.

The non-carbon aspects as well as the relevant social and environmental issues of REDD+ readiness were identified in a participatory manner through consultation sessions and workshops with the various actors involved in the REDD+ process. These sessions and workshops are organized at national, regional and local levels and ultimately made it possible to prepare the various environmental and social safeguard instruments. Thus, the following instruments have been identified and prepared as a relevant response to the social and environmental issues of REDD readiness:

- The ESMF and the PMP have been prepared to provide a response to potential environmental impacts;
- The RPF and the CP are required to allow social aspects to be taken into account
- The GRM [56] is designed to help avoid, mitigate or minimize complaints between stakeholders that could hinder the implementation of REDD+ projects or initiatives;
- The BSM [57] is designed as a coherent, reliable and transparent mechanism to frame the sharing of REDD+ benefits in Togo. Thus, the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) was chosen as an institutional option to receive and manage carbon funds. As for the legal option, it was decided to develop and implement an exclusive legal act to regulate carbon governance.

Ultimately, the stakeholders are unanimous in recognizing that several environmental and social actions unrelated to carbon have been carried out. However, they believe that it is important to accelerate the development and operationalization of the national information system on environmental and social safeguards in order to ensure its traceability.

0	1	2	3
The participatory assessment concludes that the non-carbon aspects and the relevant social and environmental issues of REDD+ readiness are identified through the SESA and the required safeguard instruments are developed. Capacity building recommendations are made in this regard.			
Justification for the assessment			
The SESA made it possible to identify the environmental and social impacts in the implementation of REDD+ activities, and to propose mitigation and improvement measures. A benefit sharing mechanism is developed and integrates non-carbon benefits.			
Next Steps			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue the dissemination of the BSM, the safeguard instruments - Continue to build the capacities of actors on the BSM and environmental and social safeguard measures, - Finalize and operationalize the SIS 			

Criterion 33. Monitoring, reporting and information exchange

Diagnostic questions:

What indicates that a transparent mechanism for the regular dissemination of data relating to non-carbon aspects and safeguards has been presented and that it has at least entered its first phases of application?

How is the following information disseminated: quantitative or qualitative variables of primary importance reflecting improved rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem service delivery, key governance factors directly relevant to REDD+ readiness, and the application of safeguards, taking due account of the specific monitoring provisions contained in the ESMF?

Statement of the situation:

A **Multiple Benefits and Safeguards Information System (SIS)** is being developed in a participatory approach with the support of a consultant. This system will make it possible to establish socio-economic monitoring indicators and to develop criteria linked to the benefits provided to vulnerable groups (women, young people, disabled people) and to the capacity building of actors.

The current state of progress in the design of the SIS, which is carried out concomitantly with the national REDD+ register, is as follows: (i) stakeholder consultations have been carried out and information is being collected, (ii) the framework for development of the project approval procedure is preconceived, (iii) the scope of the information system on safeguards and multiple benefits has been determined delimited and the main links are identified and specified, (iv) the scope of the national REDD+ register has been determined and its institutional anchoring clarified, (v) the possibilities of local hosting of the national information system (SIS) on REDD+ in Togo are explored

0	1	2	3
The participatory evaluation concludes that an information system on safeguards is being put in place to ensure the regular dissemination of data relating to non-carbon aspects and safeguards.			
Justification for the assessment			
An SIS is being put in place and will be finalized by October 2021. The first deliverables are already available (functional and technical specifications, inventory and clarification of the needs for setting up the register).			
Next Steps			
- Finalize and operationalize the SIS			

Criterion 34. Institutional arrangements and capacities

Diagnostic question: Are the mandates for tasks related to non-carbon aspects and safeguards clearly defined?

Statement of the situation:

A person responsible for legal affairs and strategic environmental and social assessments (RAJ-EESS) as well as a Social Development Specialist (SDS) were recruited within the REDD+ coordination as part of REDD+ readiness process in Togo. The mission of these officials is to ensure, among other things, the integration of the REDD+ dimension into national texts.

0	1	2	3
The participatory assessment concludes that the mandates for tasks relating to non-carbon aspects and safeguards are not clearly defined.			
Justification for the assessment			
The SIS is under development, and the constituents for tasks related to non-carbon aspects and safeguards will be defined at a later stage. However, there are units at the national REDD+ coordination level that take charge of these aspects.			
Next Steps			
Finalize the establishment of the SIS in order to clarify the mandates and tasks of the structures responsible for its management Strengthen the capacities of the structures and actors involved			

5 R-PACKAGE SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULT

5.1 PARTICIPATORY R-PACKAGE SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The process was led by the national REDD+ coordination in a participatory, inclusive and transparent approach with all stakeholders. In this context, with the support of ITA, it has developed a version 0 of the R-package based on information from reports and documents produced by the country since its commitment to REDD+ in 2015, the achievements recorded at the level of each REDD+ pillar (national strategy and action plan, information systems on safeguards, forest reference level, National Forest Monitoring System) and the methodological approach used to obtain the various deliverables.

This version 0 of the R-package served as a basis for consultations at regional and national levels with the categories of stakeholders. In total, 06 regional consultation and self-assessment workshops and 01 workshop were organized at the central level in Lomé.

- Regional consultation and self-assessment workshops [58]

In each of the regions, the workshop took place in 02 days. The categories of stakeholders who participated in the R-package self-assessment consultations in each of the regions come from the prefectures, the communes, the regional council of traditional leaders, the decentralized technical services of the administration, the organizations of the civil society (NGOs, organizations of women, youth, people with disabilities), the private sector (producer organizations, nursery networks and forest communities, private producers) and media professionals.

The first day was devoted to discussions and exchanges with 03 categories of stakeholders: i) administrative, municipal and local authorities [59] ; ii) private sector actors [60] and; iii) media professionals [61] . As for the second day, it was devoted to discussions and exchanges with 02 categories of stakeholders: i) the actors of the decentralized technical services of the administration [62] and; ii) actors from civil society organizations [63] .

The regional workshops enabled each category of stakeholders; i) identify and analyze for each of the sub-components of the REDD+ process the strengths and weaknesses; and ii) to propose actions to be taken to improve the weak points and/or consolidate the strong points.

The 06 regional workshops mobilized a total of 570 participants (472 men and 98 women) against a forecast of 592 people, i.e., a participation rate of 96.28%. The average participation rate for women is 17.19%.

The details of the participation by region are recorded in the table below:

Table 9: Number of participants in the self-assessment workshops

Region	Dates and places	Number of participants				Rate of participation (%)
		Planned	Executed			
			Men	Women	Total	
Savannahs	May 4 and 5, 2021 at the Dapaong city hotel	100	86	12	98	98%
Kara	May 6 and 7, 2021 at the Etoile hotel in Kozah	106	87	19	106	100%
Central	May 10 and 11 at the central hotel in Sokodé	97	78	16	94	96,91%
Plateaux - East	May 14, 2021, at the diocese of Atakpamé	98	83	12	95	96,94%
Plateaux - West	May 17 and 18, 2021 at the hotel August 30 in Kpalimé	84	59	20	79	94,05%
Maritime	May 20 and 21, 2021 at the Melis Opéra hotel in Tsévié	107	79	19	98	91,59%
TOTAL		592	472	98	570	96,28%

Of the 570 participants: (i) 28, 60% are administrative, communal and traditional authorities (163 people); (ii) 24.03% are from civil society organizations (137 people), (iii) 23.16% are from the decentralized technical services of the administration (132 people); (iv) 19.12% of the actors are from the private sector (109 people) and (v) 5.09% are media professionals (29 people).

- Consultation workshop at the central level in Lomé [64]

At the central level in Lomé, the work of the workshop took place on May 26 and 27, 2021. This consultation and self-assessment workshop brought together 74 people (56 men and 18 women). These are: i) members of thematic groups from key sector ministries involved in the process; ii) heads of civil society organizations platforms (CNODD); iii) heads of private sector organizations platforms (PFPC, RFCT); iv) platform managers of women's organizations (CF-REDD+); v) officials of the national umbrella of producer organizations (CTOP); vi) heads of umbrella organizations of disabled people (FETAPH, ONATEPH); vii) representatives of research institutions including the University of Lomé; viii) members of the national REDD+ coordination and; ix) responsible for other development projects underway within the ministry in charge of the environment.

Of the 74 participants: (i) 43.24% are from key sector ministries involved in the process (32 people); (ii) 32.43% are from the platforms of civil society organizations including organizations of women, youth and people with disabilities (24 people); (iii) 8.11% of the platforms of private sector organizations including the national umbrella of producer organizations (6 people) and; (iv) 16.22% of other structures (national REDD+ coordination, other projects, 12 people).

During this workshop, participants identified and analyzed, for each of the criteria of the FCPF's REDD+ readiness assessment framework, strengths and weaknesses [65]. They then

proposed activities to be carried out to improve the weak points and/or to consolidate the strong points and then defined the next steps. Finally, on the basis of the 34 criteria of the FCPF evaluation framework, they analyzed the progress made since the mid-term review in 2017 [66].

Taking into account the 06 regional workshops and the workshop at the central level in Lomé, the total number of people reached during the self-assessment workshops is 644 (570 participants for the 06 regional workshops and 74 participants for the Lomé workshop). Of the 644 participants, there were 528 men (81.99% of participants) and 116 women (18.01% of participants).

The breakdown by category of actor is as follows: (i) 25.47% come from the technical services of the public administration (164 participants); (ii) 25.31% are administrative, municipal and local authorities (163 people); (iii) 25% are from civil society organizations (161 participants); (iv) 17.86% are from private sector organizations (115 participants); (v) 4.5% are media professionals (29 participants) and; (vi) 1.86% of REDD+ coordination and other projects (12 participants).

It should be noted that since the start of the readiness process to date, a total of 8,688 people have been reached by mass awareness-raising, trainings and consultations. Of the 8,688 participants, there were 7,410 men (or 85% of the total) and 1,278 women (or 15% of the total).

- Development of version 1 of the R-Package

After stakeholder consultations on version 0 of the R-package, version 1 was produced using the results and conclusions of the 06 regional workshops and the Lomé workshop.

- Validation of version 1 of the R-Package and production of the final version

Version 1 of the R-Package was submitted to the national REDD+ committee which examined and approved it through resolution N° 005/CN-REDD+ of August 09, 2021. Then, the final version was produced taking into account comments and guidance from CN-REDD+ members.

- Transmission of the final version of the R-Package to the World Bank, August 09, 2021.

The following table summarizes the stages of the Togo R-Package self-assessment process.

Table 10: summary of the stages of the self-assessment process of the Togo R-Package.

Steps	Activities	Period
Preparations	Discussions and framing on the development of the R-package	January - March 2021
	Compilation of key documents	
	Exploitation of the documentation and production of version 0 of the R-package	
Consultations	Sharing version 0 with stakeholders	April - May 2021
	Stakeholder consultations	
	Drafting version 1 of the R-Package	June 2021
Validation	Approval by CNREDD+	August 2021
	Transmission of the final version to the WB	August 2021

5.2 PARTICIPATORY SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS OF R-PACKAGE

The results of the participatory self-assessment are presented in this section according to the FCPF evaluation framework and its 34 criteria [67]. [68] .

It emerges from consultations with stakeholders that Togo has made significant progress in its REDD+ readiness process at the levels of all 04 components. However, efforts remain to be made, in particular to: i) complete the establishment and operationalization of the national REDD+ registry and the Safeguards Information System (SIS); ii) finalize and operationalize the National Forest Monitoring System.

5.2.1 Summary of evaluation by component and sub-component

Component 1: Support to national management systems for REDD+ readiness

Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ management systems

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress: 03 criteria out of 6 have a very satisfactory level of progress and 03 out of 6 have a satisfactory level of progress.

National REDD+ management systems are in place, operationalized and effective. However, the capacity building of consultation frameworks will continue and special attention must be paid to the full operationalization of the National Commission for Sustainable Development (CNDD). In addition, the dissemination of the GRM will be continued among stakeholders.

Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Awareness

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress with 3 criteria out of 4 having a very satisfactory level of progress and 01 criterion out of 4 having a satisfactory level of progress.

The consultation, participation and engagement of stakeholders are carried out in an efficient and transparent manner with specific methods adapted according to the axes of REDD+ readiness. The results of the consultations are systematically used for REDD+ readiness. This stakeholder involvement was strengthened by the development of partnerships with CSO platforms which directly initiated and piloted capacity building activities for their members and local communities.

A strategy and a communication plan, developed and implemented as part of the process, have made it possible to effectively carry out information, awareness-raising and training actions, using the tools and channels adapted to the target groups.

Nevertheless, it is important to continue and intensify awareness-raising to consolidate the gains and reach more localities in order to maintain the momentum.

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy preparation

Sub-component 2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress with 4 criteria out of 5 having a very satisfactory level of progress and 01 criterion out of 5, a satisfactory level of progress

A diagnosis and analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the forestry sector were carried out through the conduct of thematic and transversal studies which covered the sectors of environment, energy, land use planning, agriculture. and the economy. These studies, carried out in a participatory, inclusive and iterative approach through the consultation of stakeholders, made it possible to understand the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, the factors of land use change and to have information on the contribution of the forestry sector to the national economy. The results of these studies have guided the national REDD+ readiness strategy.

Sub-component 2b. REDD+ strategic options

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress with 2 criteria out of 3 having a very satisfactory level of progress and 01 with a satisfactory level of progress.

The participatory, intersectoral, inclusive and iterative assessment and analysis approach that has been adopted has made it possible to develop an effective national REDD+ strategy that is accepted by all. The strategic options are prioritized on the basis of shared criteria and their environmental, social, political and economic feasibility has been analyzed and confirmed through the SESA. The implementation of REDD+ activities will strengthen forest legislation.

Subcomponent 2c. Implementation Framework

This sub-component has a good level of progress with 3 criteria out of 4 having a satisfactory level of progress and 01 criterion whose efforts are required
Several tools to serve as guidelines for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy are developed in a participatory and inclusive approach.

Two complaints management mechanisms (GRM) have been developed: (i) a simplified operational GRM for the readiness phase, which deals with complaints in connection with the readiness phase; (ii) a GRM for the implementation phase of the national REDD+ strategy, which has as its scope the activities that will be carried out during this phase.

A benefit-sharing mechanism to oversee the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy in Togo and ensure the redistribution of the benefits that will result from REDD+ activities. The environmental and social management framework plan (PCGES) is developed to serve as a tool for monitoring the implementation of REDD+ activities. However, it is necessary to continue the dissemination and sharing of the MPG and BSM for a better appropriation of these tools by the actors. Likewise, the REDD+ investment certification manual under preparation must be finalized. Finally, the mobilization of resources for the future financing of activities remains the major challenge to be taken up.

Sub-component 2d. Social and Environmental Impacts

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress with 3 out of 3 criteria having a very satisfactory level of progress

The SESA was carried out in an inclusive manner following an iterative approach with the participation of all stakeholders. It made it possible to establish a baseline situation before REDD+, to deepen the analysis of the potential impacts of REDD+ strategic options on the environment and on humans, then to propose mitigation and enhancement measures. Four environmental and social safeguard instruments (ESMF, PMP, RPF and CP) have been developed to oversee the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy and to manage any environmental and social risks. However, it will be necessary to continue disseminating these instruments to stakeholders, in particular grassroots communities.

In order to regulate the SESA in Togo, a decree has been drawn up in this regard and is in the process of being approved.

Component 3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress with 2 criteria out of 3 having a very satisfactory level of progress and 1 with a satisfactory level of progress.

The FRL was developed in a participatory and transparent approach with stakeholders and then validated at national and international levels. The information presented in the FRL is

consistent with the guidance of the UNFCCC, precise and guided by the most recent guidance and guidelines of the IPCC. This information is reliable, verifiable and makes it possible to reconstruct Togo's FRL independently. The procedure for developing the FRL is being formalized to serve as a guideline for future FRLs.

However, improvements are necessary to take into account the carbon stock in wooded land; aspects of degradation, wildland fires, sustainable forest management and land use stratification.

Component 4. Forest monitoring systems and safeguard measures

Sub-component 4a. *National Forest Monitoring System*

This sub-component has a particularly good level of progress with 2 criteria out of 3 having a very satisfactory level of progress and 1 with a satisfactory level of progress

Togo's SNSF was designed and developed using a participatory approach and will allow monitoring of REDD+ activities. This system combines field and remote sensing data to build the FRL.

The challenge at this level remains the finalization of the establishment of the NFMS and its operationalization.

Sub-component 4b. *Information system on multiple benefits, governance, safeguards*

This sub-component requires more effort, for this the 3 criteria out of 3 have a level where efforts are required

The environmental and social impacts linked to the implementation of REDD+ activities are identified; as well as mitigation and enhancement measures
A benefit sharing mechanism is developed and integrates non-carbon benefits.

The SIS is under development and should be finalized by the end of 2021. The units responsible for monitoring non-carbon aspects are operational within the national REDD+ coordination. However, the terms of reference for tasks relating to non-carbon aspects and safeguards will be defined at a later stage.

5.2.2 Synthesis of the four components

Out of the 34 criteria of the FCPF evaluation framework, the participants concluded after discussions and validation that:

- Twenty-one (21) criteria have a very satisfactory level of progress, against 3 criteria in 2017 during the mid-term report;
- Ten (10) criteria have a satisfactory level of progress compared to 5 in 2017;
- Three (03) criteria have a level of progress requiring improvement against 14 in 2017;

To date, there is no longer any criterion that is not showing any progress, compared to 12 in 2017 which were characterized by an absence of progress.

It emerges from the above that 31 criteria have a level of progress between satisfactory and very satisfactory compared to 8 in 2017 during the mid-term evaluation.

Table 11: *Summary of Progress Against the FCPF Criteria*

Components	Goals	Evaluation	
		2017	2021
1. Organization and consultations			
1a. National REDD+ management systems	1) Accountability and transparency	Green	Green
	2) Operational mandate and budget	Yellow	Yellow
	3) Multisectoral coordination mechanisms and intersectoral collaboration	Yellow	Yellow
	4) Technical supervision capacity	Yellow	Green
	5) Fund management capacity	Green	Green
	6) Information feedback and appeal mechanism	Red	Yellow
1b. Consultation, Participation and Awareness	7) Participation and engagement of key stakeholders	Green	Green
	8) Consultation process	Orange	Green
	9) Dissemination of information and access to information	Yellow	Green
	10) Use and disclosure of consultation results	Red	Green
2. REDD+ Readiness Strategy			
2a. Land Use Assessment, Pilot Land Use Changes, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	11) Evaluation and analysis	Orange	Green
	12) Prioritization of direct and indirect factors/obstacles to forest development	Orange	Green
	13) Links between these favorable/unfavorable elements and REDD+ activities	Red	Green
	14) Action plans to take into account the right to natural resources, land tenure and governance	Orange	Yellow
	15) Implications for forest laws and policies	Orange	Green
2b. REDD+ strategic options	16) Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategic options	Orange	Green
	17) Feasibility assessment	Red	Green
	18) Implications of the strategic options for existing sectoral policies	Red	Yellow

Components	Goals	Evaluation	
		2017	2021
2c. Implementation Framework	19) Adoption and enforcement of laws and regulations	Red	Yellow
	20) Implementation guidelines	Red	Yellow
	21) Benefit-sharing mechanism	Red	Yellow
	22) National REDD+ register, monitoring of REDD+ activities	Orange	Orange
2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	23) Analysis of issues relating to social and environmental safeguards	Orange	Green
	24) Design of the REDD+ strategy according to the impacts	Red	Green
	25) Environmental and social management framework	Red	Green
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels			
	26) Demonstration of the method	Yellow	Green
	27) Use of historical data and adaptation to the national context	Orange	Green
	28) Technical feasibility of the methodological approach and consistency with the UNFCCC/IPCC guidelines.	Orange	Green
4. Forest monitoring systems and safeguard measures			
4a. National Forest Monitoring System	29) Explanation of the monitoring method	Orange	Green
	30) Demonstration of the first application phases	Orange	Green
	31) Institutional arrangement and capacity	Orange	Yellow
4b. Information system on multiple benefits, governance, safeguards	32) Identification of non-carbon aspects and relevant social and environmental issues	Red	Yellow
	33) Monitoring, reporting and information exchange	Red	Orange
	34) Institutional arrangements and capacities	Orange	Orange

5.2.3 Opinions and comments of stakeholders during consultations

The stakeholders in the self-assessment consultations gave their opinions and made comments on the following aspects: (i) the institutional set-up and management bodies of the readiness process; (ii) awareness-raising, participation and consultation of stakeholders; (iii) development of the national strategy and REDD+ action plan; (iv) strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA) and safeguard instruments readiness; (v) the implementation framework, in particular the complaints management mechanism and the benefit-sharing mechanism. A summary of the opinions and comments by category of stakeholder is shown in Table 6 below.

Table 12: Opinions and comments from stakeholders on the institutional mechanism and on the process management bodies

	Category of actors consulted	Appreciations, comments and suggestions from the actors
1	Administrative, municipal and local authorities	<p>The management bodies of the REDD+ readiness process are effectively set up by Decree No. 2016-007/PR of January 25, 2016; these bodies are operational and work in a transparent and efficient manner in accordance with the attributions fixed to them by the decree. They worked in a responsible and transparent manner (dissemination of documents, activity reports and minutes through different communication channels) towards the various stakeholders. They hold meetings and these meetings are materialized by working reports and minutes: this indicates a political commitment in the REDD+ process at the highest level of the State.</p> <p>However, the authorities noted that the National Commission for Sustainable Development (CNDD) is not operational due to the fact that the permanent secretary has not yet been appointed, they recommend that this commission be operationalized and that the CCDDs be put into operation. place in all municipalities.</p>
2	Actors of decentralized technical services	<p>The REDD+ readiness and implementation mechanism is in place and is functioning satisfactorily and effectively.</p> <p>Providing funding through pilot projects or through the implementation of the national strategy will make it possible to strengthen and make these structures more sustainable.</p>
3	Actors of civil society organizations	<p>National REDD+ management systems are effectively put in place with a clearly defined mandate. The bodies set up have operated transparently and in accordance with their mandate. Overall, the level of progress of sub-component 1a is satisfactory.</p> <p>However, the Commissions Communales de Développement Durable (CCDD) have not yet been set up in all the municipalities. They suggest accelerating the process of setting up and operationalizing the CCDDs in the 117 communes of Togo.</p>
4	Private sector actors	<p>The REDD+ readiness process has put in place a mechanism that is operating <i>very satisfactorily</i>. Indeed, an interministerial and multisectoral mechanism, solid acceptable coherent iterative and functional with a well-defined mandate is put in place to lead the process. This system is made up of decision-making, coordination and preparation supervision bodies at the national level, whose actions are relayed by sub-bodies at the regional and prefectural level. The latter collaborate with the various platforms of organized groups of actors and ensure their technical supervision. These different platforms of organized groups are more in contact with the local populations at the base that they support in the process.</p>
5	Media professionals	<p>The bodies and platforms created are functional and support the REDD+ process in accordance with their mandates.</p>

Table 13: Opinions and comments of stakeholders on stakeholder awareness, participation and consultation

	Category of actors consulted	Appreciations, comments and suggestions from the actors
1	Administrative, municipal and local authorities	<p>Regarding awareness-raising, information and awareness-raising workshops on the process, objectives, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in REDD+ were sufficiently organized for the benefit of all stakeholders; these meetings enabled all stakeholders to understand the REDD+ process, their role and responsibility, to engage and become actively involved in the process in a coordinated and concerted manner.</p> <p>Participation took place through consultation and validation workshops organized at local, prefectural, regional and national levels. These consultations enabled stakeholders to express their views and concerns on the various activities carried out as part of the process. Stakeholders were strongly engaged in the process and several platforms of civil society organizations (CNODD, CF-REDD+, FETAPH, ONATEPH, CNJ, CNCTT) and the private sector (CTOP, PFPC, RFCT) directly carried out activities. information and capacity building for the benefit of their members and local communities) with the technical and financial support of the project.</p> <p>As for the consultation of stakeholders, it was carried out in a participatory and inclusive manner through workshops organized for this purpose at local, prefectural, regional and national levels which enabled stakeholders to express their opinions/concerns and grievances. which have been taken into account in the conduct of the entire readiness process. Several other channels were used for information and consultation of the parties: local radios, print media, social networks, gongs, posters, theater, leaflets, website, depending on the accessibility of the stakeholders. The various results of the consultations were shared and published from the reports on the REDD+ website. The consultation reports taking into account the concerns of the stakeholders were disclosed to them and annexed to the consultation documents.</p> <p>However, we suggest continuing and strengthening awareness-raising and information actions at the grassroots level.</p>
2	Actors of decentralized technical services	<p>The consultations were carried out in a participatory, inclusive and transparent manner and the stakeholders were actively engaged in the REDD+ readiness process in Togo.</p> <p>However, awareness-raising actions must continue to reach more actors, especially at the local level.</p>

3	Actors of civil society organizations	<p>The development and operationalization of the communication strategy through the use of various communication channels to facilitate awareness and dissemination of information.</p> <p>Stakeholders actively participated in the REDD+ readiness process through their consultations, this participation is facilitated and relayed by the platforms that coordinate awareness-raising and mobilization actions in the field.</p> <p>Civil society actors believe that sub-component 1b has reached a generally very satisfactory level of progress. Nevertheless, it is important to continue awareness-raising in order to consolidate the gains and reach out more to localities that are not yet.</p>
4	Private sector actors	<p>The consultation, participation and awareness-raising of stakeholders during the preparation phase for the REDD+ process was <i>satisfactory</i>.</p> <p>Stakeholders were sufficiently reached on the REDD+ process during the preparation phase through information and training workshops. This is what sparked their enthusiasm and support through massive and active participation at all levels and at every step of the process.</p> <p>Through this participation, the opinions of stakeholders were collected and taken into account in the development of the national REDD+ strategy, the conduct of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), the development of the complaints management mechanism and recourse (GRM), and the benefit sharing mechanism (BSM), during consultation and feedback workshops.</p> <p>However, it was noticed a low participation of the population at the base due to the insufficient awareness-raising on the process at their level. For this, private sector actors in the regions of Togo suggest that awareness-raising on the REDD+ process continues and that it be more intensified among this segment of the population.</p>
5	Media professionals	<p>The awareness-raising brought information to the stakeholders, which enabled them to become aware and to engage resolutely in the REDD+ process.</p>

Table 14: Opinions and comments of stakeholders on the process of developing the national REDD+ strategy and its action plan

	Category of actors consulted	Appreciations, comments and suggestions from the actors
1	Administrative, municipal and local authorities	<p>The conduct of nine (09) analytical/thematic studies and three cross-sectional studies made it possible to obtain, among other things, information on the factors/causes of forest degradation and to see what the contribution of the forest sector to the national economy is. The results of these studies, validated in a participatory and inclusive manner, were used to develop successive versions of the national REDD+ strategy and its action plan.</p> <p>The 04 axes and 25 strategic options retained in the national strategy have been defined, prioritized and prioritized in a participatory and inclusive manner with all categories of stakeholders through consultation workshops at local, regional and national levels.</p> <p>REDD+ strategic options have been the subject of a strategic environmental and social assessment at local, regional and national level. The conclusions and results of this evaluation made it possible to refine the strategic options of version n° 1 and produce version n° 2. The participatory assessment with stakeholders confirms that the REDD+ strategic options are defined and prioritized in a participatory and inclusive manner with all stakeholders through consultations.</p> <p>The strategic options, defined in consultation with all the sectors concerned, already integrate the dimension of sustainability and REDD+ into their policy (agroforestry at the level of the agricultural sector, the green spaces policy for the urban planning sector, creation of the AT2R for the energy sector).</p> <p>All the versions have been validated by all the stakeholders through the prefectural and regional workshops and that the dissemination of the national strategy and the REDD+ action plan has been sufficiently done to stakeholders through several channels: audio documentaries -visuals, written and online press reports, radio, television, radio broadcasts, awareness tours in living art (short theaters, storytelling, recorded and rebroadcast) on REDD+. These media and artistic activities have contributed to an awareness of the population on the need to promote the protection of the environment and to fight against the degradation and the preparation of the grievance redress mechanism.</p>
2	Actors of decentralized technical services	<p>The formulation of the national REDD+ strategy was made on the basis of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation identified through analytical studies which covered all sectors. The strategic options have been prioritized consensually and these strategic options are taken into account in various sectoral policies.</p> <p>In terms of the implementation framework, all the tools have been formulated except the national REDD+ register, the process of which is underway.</p>
3	Actors of civil society organizations	<p>As a prelude to the development of the national REDD+ strategy, diagnostic studies were carried out to understand the factors of deforestation and forest degradation. The results of these studies made it possible to develop the national REDD+ strategy in a participatory, inclusive and iterative process through the various consultation and validation workshops. The strategic options were analyzed and refined during the consultations and the SESA process. This process identified the risks and expected</p>

		<p>benefits of the options to establish the degree of feasibility of each strategic option and propose mitigation measures.</p> <p>Civil society actors note with satisfaction that component 2a has reached a very satisfactory level of progress. They noted that the major challenge that must be taken up in relation to this sub-component is the mobilization of resources to implement the national REDD+ strategy.</p>
4	Private sector actors	<p>Private sector actors are <u>very satisfied</u> with the methodological approach adopted to develop the national REDD+ strategy. This methodological approach resulted in a solid national strategy, coherent and accepted by all because it was drawn up with the participation of all the actors and the taking into account of their opinions.</p> <p>The development of the national REDD+ strategy was based on diagnostic studies which were carried out <u>very satisfactorily</u> because these studies involved all stakeholders at all levels. These are nine (09) thematic studies which made it possible to identify the various factors of deforestation and forest degradation; to classify them and group them into direct and indirect causes under four (04) major axes in the national REDD+ strategy (three (03) axes devoted to direct causes and one axis to indirect or underlying causes called transverse axis).</p> <p>Based on the causes identified, solutions have been proposed in the form of major actions to be carried out under each strategic axis, in order to reduce or eliminate these causes. Private sector actors are <u>very satisfied</u> with the twenty-five (25) strategic options retained in the national REDD+ strategy. This satisfaction is due to the fact that these options, which are the main actions to be taken to reduce the causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Togo, have been identified by the actors who have taken into account the particularities of their respective environment.</p> <p>In fact, the four axes identified at the end of the diagnostic studies have been ranked in order of priority; as well as the strategic options at the level of each axis, taking into account the priority actions to be carried out. Through the evaluation of the potential positive and negative impacts that could come from the implementation of the identified actions, the best strategic options (in total 25) were selected in a participatory manner with the actors.</p>
5	Media professionals	<p>The national REDD+ strategy was developed through a participatory, inclusive, iterative approach adopted by the government, thus demonstrating the commitment and political will of the country's highest authorities.</p> <p>Its implementation will help protect the environment and fight against degradation and deforestation of forest ecosystems in Togo.</p>

Table 15: Opinion of stakeholders' comments on the work of strategic environmental and social assessment and the preparation of *safeguard instruments*

	Category of actors consulted	Appreciations, comments and suggestions from the actors
1	Administrative, municipal and local authorities	<p>The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) was carried out in an inclusive manner following an iterative approach with the participation of all stakeholders: the stakeholders assessed the potential positive and negative impacts of the strategic options of the version. 1 of the national REDD+ strategy through prefectural, regional and national workshops. The results of this evaluation made it possible to improve version 1 in order to prepare version 2 (reformulation or deletion of certain options previously retained in version 1 of the national REDD+ strategy). This version 2 was then validated through wide consultations and then the final version was developed. The SESA made it possible to assess the feasibility of the strategic options selected from an environmental, social and economic standpoint.</p> <p>The SESA will allow the secure implementation of the national REDD+ strategy. The administrative, municipal and local authorities in the regions have observed that a framework has been put in place to support and supervise the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy. This framework is reflected in the development of environmental and social safeguard instruments, which will have to be further disseminated to stakeholders.</p>
2	Actors of decentralized technical services	<p>As regards the conduct of safeguards and the production of these tools and the framework for their implementation for the proper conduct of the national REDD+ strategy, sufficient efforts have been made, however, capacity building actions must continue for better ownership. .</p>
3	Actors of civil society organizations	<p>The SESA made it possible to establish the baseline situation before REDD+, to deepen the analysis of potential negative impacts, to propose mitigation measures, to develop and integrate safeguard instruments (ESMF, PMP , RPF, CP) in the national REDD+ strategy.</p> <p>Civil society actors believe that the level of progress of sub-component 2d is very satisfactory and that the safeguard instruments prepared will make it possible to supervise the implementation of the REDD+ strategy and manage any risks. These tools must be widely disseminated to stakeholders.</p> <p>In addition, they note that Togo does not yet have a legal framework that regulates SESA. To this end, they propose that a plea be made for the adoption and operationalization of the SESA decree currently being drawn up.</p>
4	Private sector actors	<p>Private sector actors are <i>very satisfied</i> with the way in which the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) has been conducted and also with the results it has produced.</p>

		<p>The strategic options retained in the national REDD+ strategy are the results of the participatory assessment (through stakeholder consultation workshops) of the potential negative and positive impacts of the options identified by the stakeholders as actions to be taken to reduce the causes of deforestation and forest degradation. The SESA thus made it possible to refine the strategic options. In order to provide for better management of any environmental and social risks associated with REDD+ activities, the SESA process has made it possible to develop environmental and social safeguard instruments: these are the CGES, PGP, CPR and CP.</p> <p>The instruments of environmental and social safeguards are not sufficiently disclosed to all stakeholders, which means that grassroots populations are not informed about these instruments. For this, the actors of the private sector propose that a wide popularization of the instruments of environmental and social safeguard be made among all the population involved in the process.</p>
5	Media professionals	The realization of the SESA led to the identification of the potential impacts which made it possible to design the national REDD+ strategy and to refine the strategic options.

Table 16: Opinions and comments of stakeholders on the complaints management mechanism

	Category of actors consulted	Appreciations, comments and suggestions from the actors
1	Administrative, municipal and local authorities	Two Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) have been developed: one for the readiness phase which is operational at the prefectural, regional and national levels and enables conflicts, concerns, grievances and complaints to be resolved and another mechanism which has been established. developed following an inclusive and participatory approach with the objective of preventing, minimizing or resolving concerns, complaints, grievances or conflicts for the implementation phase. This process saw the participation of all stakeholders during consultation workshops at the prefectural, regional and national levels. We must continue to disseminate and build the capacities of actors on this tool.
2	Actors of decentralized technical services	The implementation framework is quite elaborate due to the various tools and instruments developed. The GRM is developed to oversee the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy in Togo. However, it is necessary to fully disclose and share this tool for a better appropriation by the actors.
3	Actors of civil society organizations	Two complaints management mechanisms have been developed in a participatory and inclusive manner by the MERF Legal Texts Commission in collaboration with the various actors and partners involved in the REDD+ process: i) an GRM of the preparation phase which deals with complaints in link with the activities of the preparation phase; ii) an GRM for the implementation phase of the national REDD+ strategy, which has the scope of activities to be carried out during this phase.

		<p>These two GRMs were developed through consultation workshops, taking into particular account the concerns of vulnerable groups.</p> <p>However, they note that the complaint management bodies as currently set up do not facilitate the accessibility of the GRM at the level of the municipalities and cantons. To this end, they suggest the creation of complaint management bodies at village, cantonal and municipal level. They also suggest the creation of a toll-free number to handle complaints and recommend continuing the popularization and dissemination of the GRM from the implementation phase.</p>
4	Private sector actors	<p>"We are <i>satisfied with</i> the framework for implementing the national REDD+ strategy developed by mutual agreement with the various actors involved".</p> <p>During the REDD+ readiness process, tools were developed to guide and monitor the process: this is a complaints and appeals mechanism for the REDD+ readiness phase, which is already operational, a grievance redress mechanism for the implementation phase. All these tools were developed in a participatory, inclusive and iterative manner with the different categories of actors.</p> <p>However, they are still unrecognized by the majority of grassroots actors who are likely to be the first beneficiaries, this because of insufficient communication on these tools. For this, private sector actors in almost all regions of Togo, propose that the GRM be decentralized to the cantons and villages, and that its dissemination be maximized at these levels.</p>
5	Media professionals	The GRM was developed as a directive to frame the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy.

Table 17: Opinions and comments of stakeholders on carbon governance and the benefit-sharing mechanism

	Category of actors consulted	Appreciations, comments and suggestions from the actors
1	Administrative, municipal and local authorities	<p>There is a benefit sharing mechanism within the framework of REDD+ which was developed in an inclusive manner through broad stakeholder consultations during workshops at the prefectural, regional and national levels. This mechanism allows for an equitable sharing of the benefits in proportion to the efforts of the stakeholders. It is a mechanism that defines the status of forests as well as the right of access to forests.</p> <p>However, it will be necessary to ensure its wide dissemination to stakeholders.</p>
2	Actors of decentralized technical services	The implementation framework is quite elaborate due to the various tools and instruments developed. The BSM is being developed to oversee the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy in Togo and will ensure the redistribution of the benefits that will result from REDD+ activities. However, it is necessary to fully disclose and share this tool for a better appropriation by the actors.

3	Actors of civil society organizations	<p>The carbon governance and benefit sharing mechanism was developed in a participatory and inclusive approach, through broad consultations to serve as a guideline to frame benefit sharing. However, the legal text to regulate the implementation of this mechanism has not yet been developed.</p> <p>Civil society actors believe that the level of progress of sub-component 2c requires improvement. To this end, they suggest drawing up legal texts that will frame the management of carbon funds and ensuring the systematic popularization and dissemination of the BSM at all levels.</p>
4	Private sector actors	<p>A benefit sharing mechanism to ensure the distribution of the gains resulting from the process, in proportion to the efforts of the actors is developed. However, it will be necessary to ensure that this mechanism is widely disseminated among stakeholders.</p>
5	Media professionals	<p>The BSM was developed as a guideline to frame the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy.</p>

Table 18: *SWOT analysis of the REDD+ process (National REDD+ coordination, 2021)*

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The national REDD+ coordination has a cohesive multidisciplinary, experienced team with a clear objective and mandate, • An adequate working environment with appropriate material and equipment, • Good financial and accounting management skills 	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong partnerships with the private sector and civil society • Close link between the national REDD+ strategy and national development priorities (PND, government roadmap 2020 - 2025) • Priority of the land use and forest sector in the country's NDC • A favorable political environment that supports climate change initiatives/actions in Togo
<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical/logistical capacity challenges; • Lack of sustainable and predictable funding 	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor law enforcement • Anarchic exploitation of forests, including classified forests • Lack of broader political support (beyond the environmental sector) • Lack of sustainable and predictable funding

The following measures have already been taken to address the weaknesses and possible threats:

- An inclusive method was adopted for all analytical studies,
- REDD+ stakeholder awareness,
- Development of a concept note for a priority program for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy,
- Development in collaboration with the designated national authority of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the PALCC project and the FAO of three concept notes in SAP format,
- Collaboration and partnership development with civil society organizations, the private sector, public universities,
- Discussions and working sessions were organized with several donors in order to mobilize funds for the implementation of the process.

The measures planned to address the weaknesses and threats are given in Chapter 6.

6 NEXT STEPS

6.1 National REDD+ strategy and action plan

The REDD+ strategy has identified measures to address policy and legal gaps or obstacles to reducing deforestation and forest degradation or enhancing carbon stocks. In addition, a REDD+ strategy action plan has been drawn up. This realistic and costed action plan defines the roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the REDD+ strategy.

Thus, in addition to the measures identified to fill these various gaps and consolidate the roles and responsibilities clearly defined in the REDD+ strategy and the action plan, the participatory evaluation suggested certain actions that should be implemented in the short, medium term and long term to maintain momentum. These will include:

- Ensure the full operationalization of the CNDD and strengthen the capacities of members (to be finalized by June 2022).
- Continue to strengthen and coordinate consultation and participation platforms, in particular the CCDDs (to be finalized by June 2022),
- Continue efforts to mobilize resources for the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy: (organization of the round table with the TFPs, search for accredited entities for the submission of project concept notes to the green climate fund) (continued),
- Continue discussions to ensure the continuity of REDD+ activities at the end of the project in December 2021 (to be finalized by December 2021)
- Continue the development and adoption of texts to strengthen the consideration of the REDD+ dimension in the various activity sectors (ongoing)
- Improve and strengthen the monitoring system for better integration of the REDD+ dimension into sectoral policies and programs (continuous).
- Continue and intensify awareness-raising and capacity building of stakeholders in order to maintain the momentum of participation (continuous)

6.2 Forest Reference Level

An update of the FRL will be made with data from the second national forest inventory in accordance with the requirements of the UNFCCC and as a key step in the implementation of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+.

To take into account certain aspects that had not been integrated in this first FRL but important to explain the variations in biomass and forest cover in Togo: (i) research projects will be initiated in order to have data on aspects of degradation, vegetation fires, sustainable forest management, (ii) the methodology will be improved to take into account the carbon stock in wooded land, (iii) new high-resolution images will be acquired and processed in order to update the land use maps, (iv) the capacities of actors will be strengthened for future FRL updates. These activities will be carried out gradually during the implementation phase of the REDD+ strategy. For now, by the end of December 2021, the data from IFN2 will be available to start updating the FRL with an improvement in the biomass data (emission factors).

6.3 National Forest Monitoring System

A national forest monitoring system has been developed. It is important in the future to strengthen the specific capacities of the institutions responsible for collecting, analyzing and publishing information as part of the establishment of this system.

For the operationalization of the system, a geo-portal for its hosting will be designed, by the end of December 2021, to ensure the dissemination of data relating to forest monitoring to the general public.

6.4 Safeguards Information System

To comply with the requirements of the UNFCCC, it will be necessary to establish a national safeguards information system that will report on how safeguards are “respected and processed”.

A Safeguards Information System is being developed, and will be finalized by December 2021, following UNFCCC requirements to report on how safeguards are “respected and processed”. As part of the development of this system, the mandates and tasks of the structures

responsible for its management will be defined and clarified and their capacities and those of the actors strengthened.

For the operationalization of the benefit-sharing mechanism, a legal and exclusive text will be drawn up by December 2022. With regard to the complaints management mechanism, it is planned to set up complaint management bodies at the municipal level to improve its accessibility to grassroots stakeholders. The dissemination and capacity building of actors on these mechanisms will also be continued, for better (continuous) ownership.

Advocacy will be made for the adoption of the decree drawn up, by December 2022, with a view to regulating SESA in Togo.

The various safeguard instruments developed will be widely disseminated to stakeholders by June 2022.

6.5 REDD + register

The national REDD+ register is under development, and will be finalized by December 2021, in order to have georeferenced and relevant information on REDD+ projects. As part of the establishment of this register, a REDD+ investment approval manual is being prepared and will define the REDD+ investment accreditation procedure. This manual will be validated in a participatory manner, formalized and distributed to stakeholders by December 2021.