

Interim REDD+ Partnership

**International Workshop on Enhancing Coordinated Delivery of REDD+:
Emerging Lessons, Best Practices and Challenges**

Friday 26 November 2010
Cancun, Mexico

Concept Note

1. Introduction

The UNFCCC COP 15 in December 2009 confirmed the need for joint action to reduce GHG emissions to meet the overarching objective of keeping the increase in global temperature rise below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. COP 15 provided methodological guidance and the Copenhagen Accord called for immediate establishment of “a mechanism including REDD+”. Also in Copenhagen, six donor countries (Australia, France, Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States) collectively dedicated approximately US\$3.5 billion in “fast-start” funding for REDD+ through the end of 2012.

Following COP 15, progress has been made on addressing, in a coordinated and effective way, the challenges associated with deforestation, forest degradation, forest carbon enhancement, conservation and sustainable forest management. Under the leadership of Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway, and co-chaired by Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia, the Oslo Climate and Forest Conference was organized on May 27, 2010. It was attended by heads of State and Government, Ministers and other representatives of 55 countries as well as delegates from civil society, indigenous peoples and the private sector. At the Oslo conference, a new Interim REDD+ Partnership was launched. In total, approximately \$4 billion was dedicated towards fast-start funding to support developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions from forest loss during 2010-2012, including the \$3.5 billion committed in Copenhagen.

The Interim REDD+ Partnership is intended to allow developing and developed country partners to act now to implement REDD+, building on the political momentum from Copenhagen and a conference of the major forest basins convened by French President Nicolas Sarkozy in Paris in March 2010. Through the interim REDD+ Partnership, the Parties aim to improve “the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and coordination of REDD+ initiatives and related financial instruments, to facilitate among other things knowledge transfer, capacity enhancement, mitigation actions and technology development and transfer”. It is interim to the extent that it would be replaced by a UNFCCC mechanism including REDD+ whenever the latter is put in place.

The first technical session of the REDD+ Partnership met in Brasilia on July 14-15, 2010 and discussed a variety of issues related to the functioning of the Partnership and the first operational measures that might be taken under the Partnership. Partners discussed priority activities, such as: a Partnership draft Work Program, a Voluntary Database on financing/actions/results & preliminary gap and overlaps analysis, and secretariat services and stakeholders’ participation. It was agreed that once a Work Program is established, the FCPF Facility Management Team and UN-REDD Programme Team (FMT/PT) should be expeditiously tasked with providing the secretariat services to the Partnership detailed in the Work Program.

A Work Program was agreed in Bonn during the UNFCCC AWGs sessions 2-6 August 2010. It includes a 2010 work program based on Appendix II of the REDD+ Partnership document; and provides a process to agree on a Work Programme for 2011-2012. The latter was further discussed at the Meeting of the REDD+ Partnership, 3 October 2010 - 8 October 2010 in Tianjin, China. Each component of the Work Program has its own objectives, approach, stakeholder involvement strategy, immediate actions, resources needed..

With regard to Component 4, the Work Program elaborated items outlined in Annex II: Operational Measures of the Partnership Document and requests the FMT/PT to develop concept notes for two activities outlined in the Partnership Document:

- a) Share lessons on our REDD+ initiatives and share best practices regarding significant REDD+ actions and financing, practical experiences regarding safeguards, multi-stakeholders consultations and benefit sharing mechanisms.
- b) Promote and facilitate cooperation among Partners including South-South partnerships and regional REDD+ networks as well as among multilateral and bilateral REDD+ initiatives.

This document constitutes the concept note for activity (a) to hold an initial Workshop on the agreed topics. Session V of the Workshop has been designed to solicit feedback and input from the Partners on activity (b) which will take the form of a Paper on Facilitating Cooperation among Partners on REDD+. A concept note on activity (b) will therefore be prepared following the Workshop.

2. Rationale

The multitude of multilateral and bilateral institutions and initiatives supporting REDD+ suggests that there exist both opportunities and challenges arising from coordinating international efforts aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation and restoring forests in developing countries (and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, conservation and sustainable management of forest). In particular, if these institutions do not collaborate and build on their comparative advantages, efforts to address REDD+ will create unnecessary redundancies and paralysis. Recognizing this, the REDD+ Partnership has called for a more coordinated approach for REDD+ financing and technical assistance among Partners and other key REDD+ institutions and players.

Given the significant wealth of experience among REDD+ Partners and institutions, and the fact that sharing best practices and lessons learned can play a significant role in enabling the effectiveness of scaling up REDD+ finance and action, the REDD+ Partnership has organized this Workshop as an initial step toward collective action. In this way, the Workshop is intended to provide a forum to initiate sharing of lessons and experiences in key areas identified in the REDD+ Partnership document.

The Workshop will bring together some two hundred participants comprising policy makers, practitioners, scientists, researchers and academics, civil society including indigenous and local communities, the private sector and representatives of international organizations engaged in the development and implementation of REDD+.

3. Objectives

As stipulated in the Work Program, the key objectives of this initial Workshop include:

- Share best practices and lessons learned related to (1) significant REDD+ actions and financing, (2) practical experiences regarding safeguards, (3) multi-stakeholder consultations and (4) benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- Explore mechanisms to facilitate cooperation through exchange, for example:
 - Platform for communication among the Partnership countries
 - Targeted actions to promote regional REDD+ networks

4. Key Topics

As outlined in the REDD+ Partnership Document, the Partners agreed to immediately initiate efforts to share best practices and lessons learned on four key topics: significant REDD+ actions and financing, applying safeguards, multi-stakeholder consultations and benefit-sharing mechanisms, elaborated below:

Significant REDD+ Actions and Financing

Significant actions and financial contributions have taken place in a short time span since UNFCCC COP 13 in December 2007. Several governments have invested millions of dollars into making

REDD+ work, there are notable parallel and collaborative processes being undertaken by the UNFCCC; the REDD+ Partnership; through bilateral agreements; multilateral institutions like FIP, FCPF, the UN-REDD Programme, the GEF, etc.; and at the regional level through for example, the Amazon Fund, the Congo Basin Forest Fund and the Congo Basin Forest Partnership. Major foundations, NGOs, and in some cases the private sector, are also helping to fund large scale REDD+ pilot initiatives.

Applying Safeguards

While REDD+, as an instrument to reduce GHG emissions, also has the potential to alleviate poverty, protect human rights, improve governance, conserve biodiversity and provide environmental services, the required policies and legal reforms and the potential channelling of new and additional funds to support REDD+ implementation also bears the risk of creating unintended negative consequences for the poor and marginalized, if REDD+ is implemented without taking into account appropriate safeguards. In the context of the negotiations, safeguards for REDD+ focus on policy coherence, transparency, respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, effective stakeholder participation, conservation of biodiversity, while ensuring permanence of emissions reductions and avoiding leakage of emissions. The workshop will highlight practical experiences regarding safeguards, drawing upon initiatives underway in developing countries.

Multi-Stakeholder Consultations

There is widespread agreement that efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation will only succeed with the full engagement of the communities that live and rely directly on forests for their livelihoods. Great importance is being placed on ensuring that the articulation and implementation of REDD+ is participatory and inclusive of a wide range of relevant civil society representatives including indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities. The workshop will highlight existing approaches to stakeholder engagement, highlighting innovative processes, with a focus on the national country led efforts and experiences.

Benefit-Sharing Mechanisms

A central challenge for successfully connecting national governance systems with a future REDD+ mechanism will be the receipt of financial flows from international and domestic sources and the distribution to relevant national actors. The apportionment of such revenues among forest governance actors (including local and indigenous communities) and other supporting actors will require equitable benefit-sharing and arrangements to compensate them for their participation in REDD+ schemes. REDD+ also has the potential to conserve biodiversity including protecting endangered species and promoting the sustainable economic and social development of communities. In the process, communities can also build their capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change. The workshop will highlight benefit-sharing mechanisms that are being piloted for REDD+ in developing countries.

5. Conference Organizers and Collaborators

An initial Workshop is being jointly organized by the current Partnership co-chairs representing Japan and Papua New Guinea in collaboration with the Partnership Secretariat Facility Management Team of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FMT) and the UN REDD Programme Team (PT) under the oversight of the Co-chairs.

6. Date

The Workshop will be held Friday 26 November, concurrently with UNFCCC COP 16 in Cancun, Mexico, 29 November – 10 December 2010.

7. Languages

The working languages for the Workshop will be English, French and Spanish. There will be facilities for simultaneous interpretation.

8. Registration

The Workshop is open to all REDD+ Partners and stakeholders, including indigenous peoples, local communities, and the private sector, and admission is free. However, pre-registration is required.

Contact for Enquiries

REDD+ Partnership

fbietta@rainforestcoalition.org

junya.nakano@mofa.go.jp

FCPF Facility Management Team & UN-REDD Programme Team

fcpfsecretariat@worldbank.org

un-redd@un-redd.org

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Draft Agenda

8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:15	Opening Remarks
9:15-10:00 (10-15 mins) (30 mins)	Session I: Significant REDD+ Actions and Financing Presentations from significant REDD+ actors: Indonesia Discussion
10:00-11:30 (5-7 mins) (5-7 mins) (5-7 mins) (1 hr)	Session II: Multi-stakeholder Consultations Overview: Inventory of key actors, relevant approaches, emerging lessons and common challenges National-level Experience: Paraguay National-level Experience: Democratic Republic of Congo Discussion
11:30-11:45	Coffee Break
11:45-1:15 (5-7 mins) (5-7 mins) (5-7 mins) (1 hr)	Session III: Applying Safeguards Overview: Inventory of key actors, relevant approaches ¹ , emerging lessons and common challenges National-level Experience: Brazil National-level Experience: Tanzania Discussion

¹ For example: UNFCCC, WB Safeguard Policies and FCPF SESA, UN-REDD Programme Social and Environmental Due Diligence Approach and Risk Assessment Tool; REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards (CCBA, CARE); Safeguard and standards from related fields and emerging safeguard indicators for REDD+.

1:15-2:30	Lunch
2:30-4:00	Session IV: Benefit-Sharing Mechanisms
<i>(5-7 mins)</i>	Overview: Inventory of key actors, relevant approaches ² , emerging lessons and common challenges
<i>(5-7 mins)</i>	National-level Experience: Vietnam
<i>(5-7 mins)</i>	National-level Experience: Ecuador
<i>(1 hr)</i>	Discussion
4:00-4:15	Coffee/Tea Break
4:15-5:45	Session V: Promoting and Facilitating Cooperation among Partners
<i>(10-15 mins)</i>	Presentation on possible mechanisms to facilitate cooperation through exchange, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform for communication among the Partnership countries • Targeted actions to promote regional REDD+ networks
<i>(1 hr)</i>	Discussion
5:45-6:00	Conclusions, Next Steps and Closing Remarks

² For Example: Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES)-based; Participatory Forest Management (PFM)-based; and Nationally uniform revenue splitting-based.