

Document of
The World Bank

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ASSESSMENT NOTE

ON A

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL GRANT

IN THE AMOUNT US\$ 5.2 MILLION

TO THE

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

FOR

ADDITIONAL REDD+ READINESS PREPARATION SUPPORT

FROM

THE FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADB	African Development Bank
ANE	Agence Nationale de l'Environnement
BCECO	Bureau Central de Coordination
CBFF	Congo Basin Forest Fund
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CO ₂ e	Carbon dioxide equivalent
CN-REDD	Coordination Nationale REDD (National REDD Coordination)
COMIFAC	Commission des Forêts de l'Afrique Centrale
CSR	Comité de Suivi des Risques (et co-bénéfices) Sociaux et Environnementaux
CT	Coordination Thématique
CT-FLEGT	Technical Coordination working of the FLEGT agenda
CU-FNCP	Coordination Unit of Forest and Nature Conservation Project (CU-FNCP)
DIAF	Direction des Inventaires et des Aménagements Forestiers
DGM	Dedicated Grant Mechanism
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ERPA	Emission Reductions Payment Agreement
ER-Program	Emission Reductions Program
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
EU REDD Facility	European Union REDD+ Facility
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FLEGT-VPA	FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements
FM	Financial Management
FMT	Facility Management Team
FNCP	Forest and Nature Conservation Project
GEEC	Groupe d'Etudes Environnementales du Congo
GLOBE	Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment
GoDRC	Government of Democratic Republic of Congo
GRM	Grievance Redress mechanism
GTCR	Working Group on Climate and REDD (<i>Groupe de Travail Climat REDD</i>)
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDA	International Development Association
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IFR	Interim Unaudited Financial Reports
IPPF	Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
IT	Information Technology
MDTF	Multi Donor Trust Fund
MECNT	Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism

MRV	Measurement, reporting and verification
NICFI	Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRM	Natural Resources Management
OP	Operational Policy
BP	Bank Procedures
PC	Participants Committee
PFM	Public Financial Management
PNFoCo	Programme National Forests et Conservation de la Nature
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forest, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries
REL	National forest reference emissions level
RL	Forest reference level
REPALEF	Réseau des populations autochtones et locales pour la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers
R-Package	Readiness Package
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
R-PP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
RRN	Réseau Ressources Naturelles
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
CU-FNCP	Coordination Unit of Forest and Nature Conservation Project
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-REDD Programme	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries
VCS	Verified Carbon Standard
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
Additional REDD+ Readiness Preparation Support

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DATA SHEET

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO REDD+ READINESS PREPARATION SUPPORT

READINESS PREPARATION PROPOSAL (R-PP) Assessment Note

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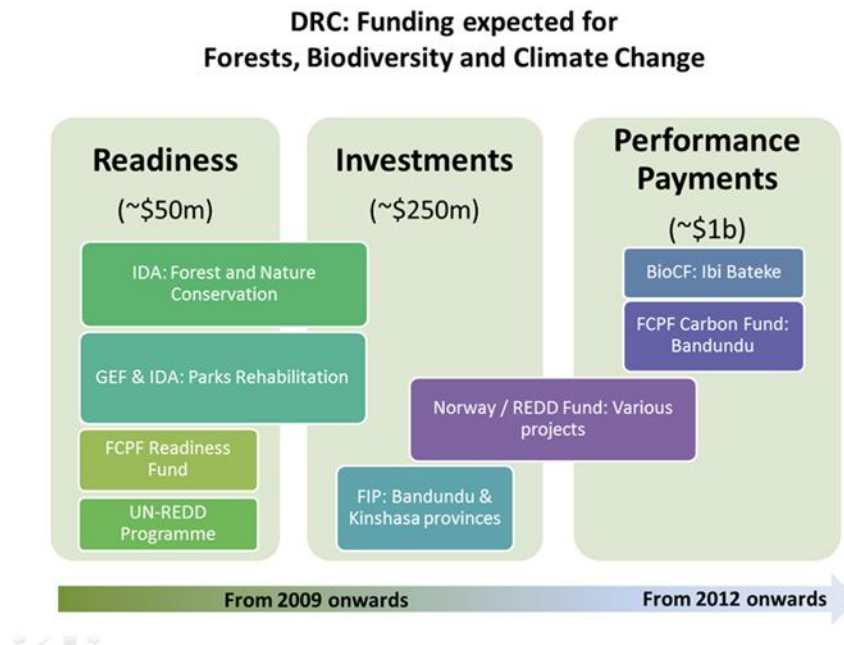
<p>Date: October 31, 2013 Country Director: Eustache Ouayoro Sector Manager/Director: Benoit Bosquet Project ID: P124072 Lending Instrument: TF Grant Team Leader: Jean-Christophe Carret Regional Safeguards Coordinator: Alexandra Bezeredi Social Safeguards Specialist: Antoine Lema Environmental Safeguards Specialist: Abdulaye Gadiere Procurement Specialist: Philippe Mahele Liwoke Financial Management Specialist: Bella Lelouma Diallo</p>	<p>Risk Rating: High Sectors: ENV Themes: Forests, Climate Change</p>
<p>Date of country selection into FCPF: July 1, 2008 Date of Participation Agreement signed by Country: August 16, 2008 Date of Participation Agreement signed by Bank: August 16, 2008 Date of R-PP Formulation Grant Agreement signature: March 18, 2009 Date of Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement signature: 03/24/11 Expected date of Additional Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement signature: December 15, 2013</p>	
<p>Project Financing Data:</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Other, explain: <input type="checkbox"/> Credit <input type="checkbox"/> Guarantee</p>	
<p>For Loans/Credits/Others: N/A Total Project Cost (US\$M): US\$ 5.2 million Cofinancing: N/A Total Bank Financing (US\$M): N/A</p>	
Source	Total Amount (US\$)
Recipient	N/A
IBRD	N/A
IDA	N/A
New	N/A
Recommitted	N/A

Others (FCPF)	US\$ 5.2 million
Regional FCPF Trust Fund Number: TF093599 FCPF Country Child Trust Fund Number: TF093871	
Recipient: Democratic Republic of Congo Responsible Agency: <i>National REDD+ Coordination</i> , at the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism	
Contact Person: Mr. Victor Kabengele Telephone No.: +243 999995462 +243 898152282	Fax No.: N/A Email: abckab@gmail.com
Project Implementation Period: December 2013 to December 31, 2016	

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
Additional REDD+ Readiness Preparation Support

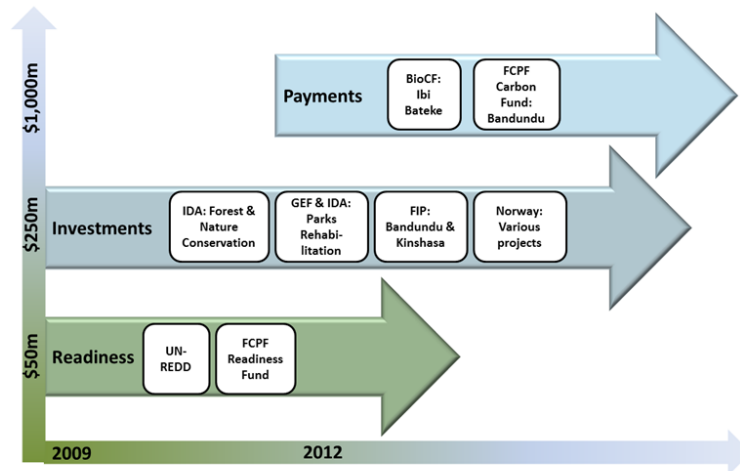
I. Introduction

1. The purpose of this Assessment Note aims at assessing additional activities supplementing those detailed in the Readiness Preparation Proposal Assessment Note, dated March 8, 2011 (Annex 4), relative to the US\$3.4¹ million grant agreement signed on March 24, 2011 for preparation of DRC's REDD+ Readiness. Proposed additional activities seek to complete the REDD+ Readiness process within a three year period. Progress achieved under the original FCPF grant and the rationale for additional funds are developed in the Request for Additional Funding presented in annex 4.
2. REDD+ Readiness aims at creating the national infrastructure necessary to future investments and performance based payments in a socially and environmentally responsible way. For that reason, the proposed project appropriately complements bank operations in the DRC, such as the Forest and Nature Conservation Project, the National Parks Network Rehabilitation Project and the Forest Investment Program, real cornerstone of an emission reductions program likely to enter the pipeline of the FCPF Carbon Fund as soon as 2014. It also accompanies various initiatives supported by the donor community. One billion dollar investment is expected in the DRC in the coming years. REDD+ Readiness process is thus of critical importance to ensure the proper implementation framework.



¹ The US\$3.4 million grant agreement signed on March 24, 2011 supplemented a first US\$ 200,000 Readiness Grant Agreement signed on March 19, 2009 for formulating the Readiness Preparation Proposal of the DRC. As of November 12, 2013, \$2,829,367.06 is disbursed with an undisbursed balance amounting to \$570,632.94.

**DRC: Funding expected for
Forests, Biodiversity and Climate Change**



3. REDD+ Readiness process will also contribute to operationalizing the forest/biodiversity/REDD+ chapter of the Economic Governance Matrix serving as framework for the relationship between the DRC and the World Bank, in particular through the preparation of the Readiness Package².
4. The DRC is among the most advanced REDD+ country participants. Well aware of its status, the DRC is eager to remain such a leading country. Being selected by the FCPF Carbon Fund as one of the few pilots to test emission reductions payments is henceforth the objective of the government, whose political commitment to REDD+ is anchored at the highest level.
5. The Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) prepared by the Government of DRC (GoDRC) identifies a broad set of activities to support the country in strengthening technical and institutional capacities to participate in a REDD+ mechanism. The financial envelope needed to cover this set of activities is estimated at US\$ 23 million..
6. Over the period 2009 – 2013, the country secured funding from various partners (FCPF, DRC, Norway through its International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), UN-REDD Programme) to finance the priority activities of the REDD+ Readiness process, which allowed the country to build a strong base for further engagement in the REDD+ process.
7. Based on an independent mid-term evaluation of the REDD+ process in 2012 and the set of criteria of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework validated as per the resolution PC/14/2013/1 adopted by the Participants Committee at the 14th meeting held in March 2013 in Washington D.C., the DRC self-assessed in 2013 its REDD+ Readiness progress and identified the remaining technical gaps and associated financial needs..

² The Readiness Package (R-Package) is completed at the end of the readiness preparation phase, at a stage when activities proposed in the readiness preparation proposal (R-PP) are well-advanced or completed. The R-Package consists of a national multi-stakeholder self-assessment by the country, using the Readiness Package Assessment Framework as guidelines. The Readiness Package Assessment Framework was formally endorsed (resolution PC/14/2013/1) by the Participants Committee (PC) of the FCPF at the fourteenth PC Meeting, March 19-21, 2013, Washington, DC.

8. As of January 1, 2013, US\$15.50 million was still needed out of which US\$11.82 million is secured, including the additional US\$5.2 million from the FCPF. COMIFAC, DRC, Norway, and UN-REDD Programme are the other partners who have already pledged funding. The financial gap amounts to US\$3.68 million.
9. The FCPF and UN-REDD programs are playing an important role in helping the country leverage additional funding for the overall REDD+ process, by supporting the emergence of a clear vision on how the country can engage in REDD+ and the associated financial, technical and institutional needs.
10. It should be noted that the activities to be financed by the FCPF in support of the REDD+ Readiness Program in DRC do not include the implementation of REDD+ programs on the ground. The FCPF support is limited to analytical studies, capacity building, and consultation processes at the national and sub-national levels. Through the Readiness Program, the government is expected to identify priority investment needs to achieve the goals of REDD+. These investment needs will be financed by public and private donors and investors and the Government itself, and not by the FCPF Readiness Grant.

II. Background and Rationale for Additional Funding

A. Additional funding: US\$5 million

11. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presented a request for additional funding for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) at its 13th meeting held in October 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. At this meeting, the PC allocated funding subject to a revised request. Final endorsement occurred on August 02, 2013 (Refer to Annex 2 for more details about the validation process).

B. Feedback and grievance redress mechanisms: US\$0.2 million

12. The PC adopted electronic resolution PC/Electronic/2012/1 allocating additional funds up to US\$200,000 to strengthen national feedback and grievance redress mechanisms for REDD Country Participants.
13. The purpose of this Assessment Note is therefore to assess project activities relative to both sources of funding amounting to US\$ 5.2 million.

III. Proposed changes

A. Project Development Objective (unchanged)

14. The Project Development Objective is to reinforce DRC's capacities to design a socially and environmentally sound national strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and to develop a national reference scenario of emissions from deforestation and degradation that takes into account national circumstances.

B. Key Results (unchanged)

15. A National REDD+ Strategy (including the legal framework) is prepared and validated by national stakeholders;

16. National circumstances affecting the reference scenario are identified and quantified.
17. A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is prepared and validated by national stakeholders.

C. Project Beneficiaries

18. REDD+ is essentially a multi-stakeholder process, since it involves the interests of a multitude of actors. The REDD+ Readiness process in DRC places a strong emphasis on consultations and on the creation of participatory mechanisms to ensure multi-stakeholder engagement. In order to ensure full participation in the Readiness process, national NGOs have created the Groupe de Travail Climat REDD (GTCR), a network including most NGOs working in the area of environment, forests and rural development, both in the capital and in the provinces.
19. The private sector has also been involved in the process, even if to a lesser degree at present. The CN-REDD maintains constant contact with private entities interested in developing carbon transactions in the country, with the goal of making sure that all of these transactions accord to the rules being established as part of the Readiness process.

D. Project Activities

1. Description

20. The additional activities identified by the GoDRC are based on the set of criteria of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework while taking into account:
- DRC's Readiness progress as concluded in the independent mid-term evaluation report completed in June 2012 by an independent evaluator;
 - Other REDD+ initiatives led by the donor community, especially those supported by Norway related to the creation of a National REDD+ Fund and the development of an investment program, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) when it comes to Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and national forest inventory.
21. The proposed project activities aim at generating the Readiness Package (R-Package)³ by the end of December 2015⁴, at the end of the readiness preparation phase, at a stage when activities proposed in the readiness preparation proposal (R-PP) are well-advanced or completed.
- 62.19% of the grant will be allocated to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-stakeholder Consultations;

³ Readiness Package (R-Package): the Charter establishing the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (August 8, 2013), defines (Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 1.1) the R-Package as follows: “ Readiness Package means a package of activities designed to support a REDD Country Participant’s capacity to participate in possible future systems of positive incentives for REDD, which include the following elements:

- (i) A Reference Scenario,
- (ii) A REDD strategy
- (iii) A Monitoring System

⁴ The endorsement of the R-Package by the Participants Committee (PC) of the FCPF is an important milestone as it is a precondition towards the possible signature of an Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA) with the participants of the FCPF Carbon Fund. The earlier the ERPA is signed, the higher the ERPA value will be, as the Carbon Fund has a limited lifetime expiring in 2020. For that reason, the DRC envisions to accelerate the implementation of the activities.

- 25.87% of the grant will allow updating the national REDD+ strategy in the frame of a socially and environmentally sound framework incorporating SESA outcomes and recommendations;
 - 1.94% will ensure alignment among activities related to Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV), as well as national forest reference emissions level (REL) and forest reference level (RL);
 - 10.00% of the grant will be dedicated to Project Management.
22. The structure of the project remains the same (compared to the initial \$3.4 million grant), with the same four components.
23. In order to measure progress in the course of project implementation, a set of Yes/No indicators is proposed for each key result, as well as National REDD+ management arrangements, which constitute a key prerequisite. All of them refer to some criteria (chosen among 34) of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework. (See Annex 3).
24. As the grant will support a number of interrelated activities, especially on safeguards, it is important to carefully sequence those activities so that they appropriately and effectively feed into each other. For that reason, a manual specifying the modalities of implementation of the project containing clear milestones for each expected deliverable will be completed upon grant signing.

			Additional Funding
Project Activities	\$3.4 million FCPF Grant (in US\$ thousands)	R-PP component	\$5.2 million FCPF Grant (in US\$ thousands)
<i>Component 1: Support to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-stakeholder Consultations</i>	1,200.00		3,234.00
<i>1.1 - Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process</i>	900.00	1A	2,034.00
CN-REDD staff for piloting the REDD+ Readiness Process			683.00
Decentralization			766.00
Support to the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism			90.00
Equipment (vehicle)			55.00
Operational expenditure (OPEX), including office rental			440.00
<i>1.2 - Promotion of multi-stakeholder consultation</i>	300.00	1C	1,200.00
Support to civil society			60.00
Information, Education and Communication (IEC)			431.00
Policy dialogue			709.00
<i>Component 2: Contribute to the design of a National REDD+ strategy</i>	1,300.00		1,345.00
<i>2a - Preparation of the National REDD+ strategy</i>	400.00	2B	321.00
Actualization of the national REDD+ strategy			125.00
Monitoring and evaluation of REDD+ pilot projects and other REDD+ initiatives			196.00
<i>2b - Preparation of the Implementation Framework</i>	500.00		517.00
Finalizing the Registry		2C	296.00
Feedback and grievance redress mechanism		1A	200.00
Review of the decree approving REDD+ project activities		2C	21.00
<i>2c - Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment</i>	400.00	2D	507.00
Finalizing the SESA process			507.00
<i>Component 3: Preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+</i>	600.00		101.00
Recruitment of the MRV-REL-RL Leader		3	101.00
<i>Component 4: Project Management</i>	300.00		520.00
Financial management and procurement, including external audits		1A	520.00
Total Costs	3,400.00		5,200.00

2. Component 1: Support to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-stakeholder Consultations (US\$2,794,000)

a) 1.1 - Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process (US\$1,594,000)

CN-REDD staff (US\$683,000)

25. Eight team members⁵ will be hired as consultants, including the National REDD+ Coordinator and his deputy (international expert) to support the REDD+ readiness coordination process in the DRC. The consultant fees are amounting to US\$850,000 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$683,000).

CN-REDD staff 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Gap
US\$850,000	US\$167,000	US\$683,000	-

26. Once the readiness phase is completed, it is expected that the expertise capitalized within the CN-REDD (Annex 5a, Annex 5b) during the FCPF funding period will be transferred to the technical body in charge of the management of the national REDD+ fund. Most of the jobs will thus be sustained.

Decentralization (US\$766,000)

27. In accordance with the recommendation of the independent mid-term review, the CN-REDD recruited eleven experts in 2012 as "Provincial REDD+ Focal Points". Unfortunately, operating costs are very high⁶ in a vast country like DRC and the Provincial REDD+ Focal Points have never benefited from the necessary means to achieve results. On the other hand, in some remote provinces where the likeliness of REDD+ activities implementation is questionable, the DRC was taking the risk of generating frustration among rural communities in the long run stemming from the lack of expected benefits (including carbon revenues).

28. Based on these observations, the CN-REDD reduced its ambition and decided to target only five provinces, the "REDD+ Pilot Provinces" of the Investment Program supported by Norway and UNDP (UN-REDD Programme).

29. In terms of mission content, the five Provincial REDD+ Focal Points will incorporate the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) agenda into their work programs. Both processes (REDD+ and FLEGT) aim to synergistically improve forest management and land use. They use the same levers (governance improvement within the forest sector, law enforcement, fight against illegal logging, access rights to resources, civil society representation and structuration, constructive dialogue with all the stakeholders interested in NRM, etc.) to achieve a shared strategic vision on land use. To that extent, a partnership⁷ is

⁵ The eight team members include the National REDD+ Coordinator, his deputy, an assistant to the Coordinator, a secretary, a logistician, a cleaning lady and two drivers.

⁶ Needs are estimated at US\$1million per annum for a nationwide deployment.

⁷ CN-REDD, the Technical Coordination on FLEGT (CT-FLEGT) and the EU REDD Facility organized a training workshop in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on 29 - 31 July, 2013. Provincial REDD+ Focal Points

envisioned between the EU REDD Facility, the national Technical Coordination on FLEGT (CT-FLEGT) and the National REDD+ Coordination (CN-REDD). REDD+ Provincial Focal Points will be working on both REDD+ and FLEGT agendas, on a 50/50 split basis to be discussed with the EU REDD Facility.

30. Beyond complementary agendas, cooperation with the EU REDD Facility will occupy the Provincial REDD+ Focal Points full time. That will avoid overselling REDD+ in provinces that might never see the implementation of an Emission Reductions Program (ER-Program).

31. *Proposed activities:*

- Training sessions and workshops in Kinshasa to enhance qualifications and competencies of the Provincial REDD+ Focal Points and develop a common background among the provinces,
- Outreach about the REDD+ process in the REDD+ pilot provinces through workshops and seminars organized and animated by the Provincial REDD+ Focal Points,
- Information, Education and Communication (IEC): production of communication tools (at a strategic level), such as Provincial Strategic Plans,
- Operating costs: office rental in the provinces, stationary, motorcycle maintenance, etc.,
- Recruitment of the CN-REDD staff member (the decentralization leader⁸) managing the team of Provincial REDD+ Focal points.

32. *Decentralization costs:*

Amounting to US\$1,701,000 over a three year period (2013 - 2015), the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 45% of the overall costs (US\$766,000).

Overall Decentralization Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Norway	Gap
US\$1,701,000	US\$145,000	US\$766,000	US\$450,000	US\$340,000

Support to the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (US\$90,000)

33. The General Secretary of the MECNT will be supported to attend important international events where it is of critical interest to the DRC to voice its views on some key REDD+ related issues.

34. The consolidated budget over a three year period amounts to US\$100,000. 90% (US\$90,000) of this amount will be covered by the FCPF (additional funding).

were updated on the key elements of the EU FLEGT Action Plan, including VPAs. Participants acknowledged that Provincial REDD+ Focal Points succeeded in positioning themselves as facilitators and key resource persons, advising stakeholders at provincial level on forest governance beyond the REDD+ agenda. Participants recommended properly equipping Provincial REDD+ Focal Points with the necessary tools to communicate clearly about the EU FLEGT Action Plan and to facilitate information sharing and reforms at provincial level.

⁸ The decentralization leader fees are amounting to US\$126,000 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$101,000).

Overall MECNT support Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Gap
US\$100,000	US\$10,000	US\$90,000	-

Equipment (vehicle) (US\$55,000)

35. One vehicle will be acquired over the three year period (2013 – 2015)

Operational expenditure (OPEX), including office rental (US\$440,000)

36. This section covers the mandatory costs relative to the CN-REDD functioning over a three year period, including office rental (47%).

37. The consolidated budget over a year period amounts to US\$769,000. 57% (US\$440,000) of this amount will be covered by the FCPF (additional funding).

Overall OPEX 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Norway	COMIFAC	DRC	Gap
US\$769,000	US\$229,000	US\$440,000	US\$40,000	US\$10,000	US\$50,000	-

b) 1.2 - Promotion of multi-stakeholder consultation (US\$1,200,000)

Support to civil society (US\$60,000)

38. Since the launch of the REDD+ process in DRC, civil society (including Indigenous Peoples) organized itself around a national platform, called “Groupe de Travail Climat REDD” or GTCR. This platform aims at being the interface between decision makers and remote rural communities likely to be impacted by any REDD+-related activities or decisions. Its role is essential to ensuring an inclusive REDD+ readiness process in DRC and its successful decentralization.

39. GTCR, like any young organization, needs to evolve toward a more mature structure with clarified legal status and representativeness rules. Internal conflicts, poor flows of information within the organization, and like problems are currently weakening its contributions to the REDD+ agenda. For that reason, the FCPF grant will help GTCR to position itself to better voice its views in the course of the REDD+ implementation in DRC.

40. Indigenous Peoples (IPs) have their own national representation platform, the “Réseau des populations autochtones et locales pour la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers” (REPALEF), which is facing similar hurdles. Similarly, the FCPF will support some of their activities.

41. *Proposed activities:*

- Strengthening the representativeness of GTCR members through financial support to status review of the platform, internal elections and strengthening of internal accountability procedures,
- Workshops to be organized by GTCR in provinces to enhance awareness about REDD+,
- GTCR operating costs, primarily focusing on decentralization (field trips in provinces, etc.),
- Support to REPALEF (US\$20,000) to design their work program to be submitted to the FIP Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM)⁹ for financing.

42. *Multi-stakeholder (civil society) consultation costs;*

Amounting to US\$440,000 over a three year period (2013 - 2015), the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 14% of the overall costs (US\$60,000).

Overall multi-stakeholder (civil society) consultation Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Norway	Gap
US\$440,000	US\$20,000	US\$60,000	US\$320,000	US\$40,000

Information, Education and Communication (US\$431,000)

43. A national Communication Plan was developed in 2012, but very few tools are currently available to meet the needs in terms of Information, Education and Communication (IEC), particularly at the ground level. The grant will thus support the development of tools for mass dissemination and distribution through adequate channels (media, NGOs and national platforms such as GTCR and REPALEF, etc.), while upgrading the national Communication Plan to a National Communication and Participation Plan.

44. In parallel, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MECNT) wishes to invest upstream in youth (elementary and middle schools) and asked CN-REDD to cooperate with the Ministry of Education to design a curriculum dedicated to the fight against deforestation and climate change. The FCPF grant will support this lead, as well as its deployment.

45. Both initiatives will be harmoniously supplementing ongoing activities supported by the FCPF under the former grant (Website dedicated to the REDD+, international high level seminars on REDD+ (“Universités d’été”)), as well as those supported by the donor community.

46. *Proposed activities:*

- Production of communication tools (brochures, pamphlets, handbooks for potential project developers, etc.) adapted to local circumstances (regional languages),
- Dissemination of mass communication tools through meetings, workshops, NGOs, TV and radio spots, etc., according to the updated Communication and Participation Plan,
- Design and deployment in pilot elementary and middle schools of a new curriculum relative to fight against deforestation and climate change,

⁹ The FIP Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities has been established to provide the communities in the eight FIP pilot countries a financing and learning mechanism to support their participation in and complement the FIP investment programs and projects.

- Recruitment of two CN-REDD staff members¹⁰ (the Information, Education, Communication leader (IEC leader) and his assistant).

47. *IEC costs:*

Amounting to US\$871,600 over a three year period (2013 - 2015), the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 49% of the overall costs (US\$431,000).

IEC Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Norway	UNEP	COMIFAC	Gap
US\$871,600	US\$229,600	US\$431,000	US\$88,000	US\$34,000	US\$10,000	US\$79,000

Policy dialogue (US\$709,000)

48. The REDD+ process is in essence cross-cutting. The seven pillars of the national REDD+ strategy (Agriculture, Energy, Forests, Governance, Demography, Country planning and Land Tenure) recall this intersectorality and all the associated challenges which may arise from potential competitions among sectors. It is thus of critical importance to embed the REDD+ agenda at the highest political level for proper (in line with the REDD+ goals) arbitrage among sectors in the course of the REDD+ implementation.

49. Along with this rationale, the CN-REDD identified four priorities:

- Political commitment in the country,
- Participation in international negotiations,
- Dissemination of the REDD+ agenda in sectors that might negatively impact the forest cover with an interest in promoting REDD+-friendly sectoral policies, as well as improved governance within those sectors,
- Reforms to adapt the legal and regulatory framework: REDD+ readiness will produce numerous deliverables, as well as new behaviors and recommendations (SESA, ESMF, GRM, benefit sharing plan, free, prior and informed consultations leading to broad community support, etc.) which will require a review of the existing legal and regulatory framework to be effective. Several decrees (decree on community forests) or orders (ministerial order specifying the criteria for eligible REDD+ activities, etc.) have also to be revisited before approval or promulgation. Upstream, some political leaders will have to voice the need for changes.

50. The FCPF grant will support the last three priorities, where Norway will primarily focus on political commitment¹¹.

51. *Proposed activities:*

- Recruitment of two CN-REDD staff members¹² (the Politics and Legal Framework Adaptation leader (PLFA leader) and his assistant,

¹⁰ The consultant fees are amounting to US\$201,600 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$162,000).

¹¹ Norway will support e.g. a forum on green economy, the development of a funding strategy for REDD+, etc.

¹² The consultant fees are amounting to US\$201,600 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$162,000).

- Capacity building: several politicians will be trained¹³ to articulate the REDD+ agenda and the needs of reforms, as well as the judiciary apparatus to monitor and tackle corruption relative to REDD+ related matters,
- Legal works for the adaptation of the legal and regulatory framework,
- Consultancy to support the development of REDD+-friendly sectoral policies,
- Workshops for outreach and consultation in sensitive sectors for REDD+,
- Travel costs to allow the DRC to take part in the international dialogue on REDD+.

52. *Policy dialogue costs:*

Amounting to US\$1,573,600 over a three year period (2013 - 2015), the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 44% of the overall costs (US\$709,000).

Overall policy dialogue Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Norway	Gap
US\$1,573,600	US\$99,600	US\$709,000	US\$495,000	US\$270,000

3. Component 2: Contribute to the design of a National REDD+ strategy (US\$1,345,000)

a) 2a - Preparation of the National REDD+ strategy (US\$321,000)

Updating of the national REDD+ strategy (US\$125,000)

53. The national REDD+ strategy (validated in 2012) has been qualified as a « Framework » in order to acknowledge that it was a step in a long-term process necessarily fed by experience and submitted for regular assessments and updating. As such, two « programs » are proposed during the period covered by the FCPF additional funding (2013 – 2015). They seek to:

- promote sectoral strategies within various ministries, inspired by the national REDD+ strategy, while expecting inputs from discussions with ministries to inform the strategy actualization;
- draw and share lessons from pilot REDD+ projects or initiatives.

54. *Proposed activities:*

This component aims at supporting the operating costs of the seven “Coordinations Thématiques” (CT) in charge of the discussions with ministries, as well as the costs of a national workshop validating a first revised strategy during the 3 year period.

55. *Strategy actualization costs:*

Amounting to US\$171,000 over a three year period (2013 - 2015), the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 73% of the overall costs (US\$125,000).

¹³ The GLOBE program (Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment) will manage the training.

Overall Strategy Actualization Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	COMIFAC	Gap
US\$171,000	US\$31,000	US\$125,000	US\$15,000	-

Monitoring and evaluation of REDD+ pilot projects and other REDD+ initiatives (US\$196,000)

56. Pilot REDD+ projects¹⁴, funded by the Congo Basin Forest Fund (CBFF) and the FIP, are currently under development and/or implementation. In addition to these eight projects (6+2 respectively), some private initiatives are well advanced (“Ibi Batéké degraded savannah afforestation project for fuelwood production” registered under the CDM in 2011, “Mai Ndombe REDD+ project” registered under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) in 2012). Other initiatives to be supported by the donor community might start soon as well. Norway is currently designing an investment program which could lead to additional investments in the field at a short run.

It is of critical interest to the DRC to build on those experiences. It is thus important to ensure the monitoring and evaluation and broad dissemination of lessons learned of those activities, especially at the socio-environmental level as well as at the organizational and institutional level.

Lessons learned will be key inputs for the update of the national REDD+ strategy and DRC’s Social and Environmental Standards.

57. Proposed activities:

- Recruitment of the Monitoring & Evaluation leader¹⁵ (CN-REDD staff member) in charge of this sub-component within the CN-REDD;
- Capacity building to strengthen the competencies of the Monitoring & Evaluation Leader;
- Travel expenses for local consultants (Monitoring & Evaluation Leader, SESA leader, REDD+ provincial focal points) for their field trips.

58. Monitoring and Evaluation costs:

The overall budget over the 3 year period 2013 – 2015 is estimated to be US\$426,000. 46% of this amount (US\$196,000) will be covered by the FCPF (additional funding).

Overall Monitoring & Evaluation Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	COMIFAC	Gap
US\$426,000	US\$25,000	US\$196,000	US\$14,000	US\$191,000

¹⁴ The DRC has already secured approximately US\$84 M to invest in pilot REDD+ project activities:

- US\$24 M for REDD+ pilot integrated projects (six) from the Forest Fund for the Congo Basin (Congo Basin Forest Fund), managed by ADB,
- And US\$60 M from the Forest Investment Program (FIP).

¹⁵ The Monitoring & Evaluation leader fees are amounting to US\$126,000 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$101,000).

b) 2b - Preparation of the Implementation Framework (US\$517,000)

Finalizing the Registry (US\$296,000)

59. The CN-REDD has developed an online registry for REDD+ projects. Designed a few years ago, the current architecture does not take into account the outputs of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). For that reason, there is a need to refine the tool accordingly.

60. A new architecture will be adopted based on the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The new tool will combine all the basic functions of a registry (project and/or program¹⁶ data, project and/or program status relative to the registration process, carbon credit issuances, beneficiaries, etc.) while being interconnected with the information system on safeguards and the GRM to be developed separately. The new system will allow for monitoring and evaluation of the respective national social and environmental standards in the course of project/program implementation.

61. Proposed activities:

The design of this new architecture will require services provided by high-level IT specialists. The project will also support the recruitment of a CN-REDD staff member (the Registry Leader¹⁷) to supervise the sub-component over a three year period.

62. Registry costs:

Amounting to US\$326,000, the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 91% of the overall costs (US\$296,000) which are exclusively consultancy costs.

Overall Registry Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	UNDP	Gap
US\$326,000	25,000	US\$296,000	US\$5,000	-

Feedback and grievance redress mechanism (US\$200,000)

63. Based on the FCPF guidelines and building on local experiences (WWF), the CN-REDD on behalf of the MECNT will set-up and maintain an operational GRM. A three-step process is envisioned: (i) identify potential grievances and conflicts that may arise as a result of REDD+ (this identification could be refined as a result of this activity but it should certainly benefit and draw from the outcomes of the SESA process); (ii) assess DRC's existing capacity to respond to and resolve those conflicts; and (iii) put in place an action plan to strengthen existing grievance capacity.

64. Proposed activities:

- Workshops to ensure the participatory design of the Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism;
- IT services to connect the Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism to the registry.

¹⁶ An Emission Reductions Program is usually a sum of REDD+ projects

¹⁷ The registry leader fees are amounting to US\$126,000 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$101,000).

65. *GRM costs:*

The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 100% of the overall costs (US\$200,000).

Review of the decree approving REDD+ project activities (US\$21,000)

66. The ministerial order (February 15, 2012), setting the procedures for approving REDD+ activities in the DRC, needs to be revisited to align its content with the ESMF, related safeguards documents and the specifics of the new registry. A participatory process, allowing all stakeholders interested in the REDD+ process to voice their views, will be ensured.

67. *Proposed activities:*

Meetings and workshops ensuring a participatory process¹⁸.

68. *Costs of the review of the ministerial order:*

Amounting to US\$35,000, the FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 60% of the overall costs (US\$21,000).

Overall Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Gap
US\$35,000	-	US\$21,000	US\$14,000

c) 2c - Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (US\$507,000)

Finalizing the SESA process (US\$507,000)

69. This component aims at finalizing the SESA process through a last series of consultations in the provinces on the ESMF and its five related frameworks:

- Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF);
- Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF);
- Process Framework;
- Cultural Heritage Framework;
- Pests Management Framework.

A special emphasis will be placed on the national social and environmental standards as part of the ESMF. Once completed, a national workshop will be held in Kinshasa to validate all the frameworks and to have the SESA process deemed finalized.

70. Simultaneously, the missing tools, products or guidelines necessary for operationalizing the SESA process will be developed (Information system on safeguards, free, prior and informed consultation processes, and Benefit Sharing Plan) in order to envision experimentation (based on existing REDD+ activities), dissemination and simplification (for more effective communication) of the related-ESMF products (social and environmental standards, etc.).

¹⁸ Legal works for the adaptation of the legal and regulatory framework, scheduled under the component 1.2 (policy dialogue), will support this activity as well.

71. Experimentation will allow for fine-tuning of all the deliverables produced during the REDD+ readiness process, including those developed under the first FCPF grant agreement, such as household survey and MOABI¹⁹.

72. Fine-tuning will follow a participatory process associating the relevant bodies, including the Social and Environmental Risk (and co-benefit) Monitoring Committee (Comité de Suivi des Risques (et co-bénéfices) Sociaux et Environnementaux - CSR) and stakeholders.

73. *Proposed activities:*

- Recruitment of the SESA leader²⁰ (CN-REDD staff member) responsible for managing the SESA process;
- Consultation workshops in the provinces about the SESA process outputs;
- National validation workshop on the SESA process outputs;
- Development of the information system on safeguards (consultancy services) to be interconnected with the registry ;
- Development of guidelines to support free, prior and informed consultations leading to broad community support;
- Design of a benefiting sharing plan applicable to any ER-Program (consultancy services);
- Training and awareness sessions aiming at disseminating the SESA tools (social and environmental standards, MOABI, GRM, etc.). Beneficiaries may include NGOs, CSO, IPs, Project developers, etc.;
- Costs relative to the monitoring and evaluation of the utilization of the SESA tools (meetings, workshops), as well as to the meetings of the CSR.

74. *SESA costs:*

The consolidated budget over the 3 year period (2013 -2015) amounts to US\$1,461,000. 35% of this amount (US\$505,800) will be covered by the FCPF (additional funding).

Overall SESA Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	UNDP	Gap
US\$1,462,200	US\$812,000	US\$507,000	US\$143,200	-

4. Component 3: Preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+ (US\$101,000)

75. DRC entrusted the design and maintenance of the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) platform (TERRA CONGO), as well as works on national forest reference emissions level (REL) and forest reference level (RL) to the Department of Forest Inventory and Management Planning (DIAF: Direction des Inventaires et des Aménagements Forestiers). Belonging to the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MECNT), DIAF is financially and technically supported by the UN-REDD Programme (FAO), while

¹⁹ Moabi DRC is the first application of the Moabi tool. It aims to increase civil society participation in REDD+. It helps track the future of forests in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), providing critical data for predicting deforestation. They allow users to update and share spatial information on new projects proposed by companies, banks, governments, and other agencies. is a collaborative mapping system that builds a community of users to share, edit, and discuss issues that could affect the sustainability of critical ecosystems.

²⁰ The SESA leader fees are amounting to US\$126,000 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$101,000).

CN-REDD ensure alignment among all activities serving the REDD+ Readiness preparation process. The FCPF grant will support the recruitment of one expert, the MRV-REL-RL leader²¹ over a three year period, dedicated to the coordination of all activities related to MRV, REL and RL..

5. Component 4: Project Management (US\$520,000)

Financial management and procurement, including external audits (US\$520,000)

76. This section covers the mandatory costs relative to the financial / fiduciary management of the grant over a three year period, including payment for services provided by CU-FNCP, audits and financial costs (bank fees).

100% of this amount will be covered by the FCPF, 87% by the additional funding.

Overall Financial Management Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Gap
US\$596,400	US\$76,400	US\$520,000	-

E. Implementation Arrangements

77. No change is envisioned for the implementing agency.

78. A decree by the Prime Minister (N°09/41) was signed on November 26, 2009 to establish the National REDD+ institutions in the country, comprising:

- A national REDD committee, in charge of decisions and orientations, involving all stakeholders, particularly civil society, and representatives from indigenous and local communities;
- An inter-ministerial committee, in charge of overall REDD+ planning;
- A national REDD coordination (CN-REDD) in charge of coordinating day-by-day activities, and particularly responsible for the implementation of UN-REDD programme and FCPF activities;

79. The National REDD Committee's mission is to: i) define the orientations and guidelines of the REDD+ process and to decide on the actions to be followed; ii) approve the Inter-ministerial Committee's and National Coordination's respective work plans; iii) monitoring and evaluate the REDD+ process implementation; iv) implement a national fund and establish the forms of management and redistribution of REDD+ benefits. It consists of 13 members, appointed among various sectors of administration, civil society (notably with representatives from Indigenous Peoples), private sector and the academic sphere. It is chaired by the Secretary General of the MECNT.

80. The Inter-ministerial Committee is responsible for planning the implementation of the National Committee's decisions and assigning responsibility for their execution to the Administration's competent structures.

²¹ The MRV-REL-RL leader fees are amounting to US\$126,000 over a three year period (2013 – 2015). The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support 80% of the overall costs (US\$101,000).

81. The CN-REDD was set up in May 2009 and is in charge of the overall technical implementation of the REDD+ Readiness process in DRC, including the activities financed by the FCPF. The fiduciary management (financial management and procurement) will be delegated by the CN-REDD to the Coordination Unit of Forest and Nature Conservation Project (CU-FNCP), due to the latter's fiduciary capacity. A Memorandum of Understanding between the CN-REDD and the CU-FNCP, specifying the roles and responsibilities of the CU-FNCP in terms of grant fiduciary management, is in place and will be renewed.

82. The CN-REDD is part of the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MECNT), directly dependent on the Direction of Sustainable Development. The CN-REDD is responsible for:

- Ensuring daily management of the national REDD+ coordination and monitoring activities;
- Ensuring overall coordination of the REDD+ Readiness process in DRC, including ties with the PNFoCo, other donors (thematic group on forests) and COMIFAC's regional REDD+ process;
- Ensuring multi-stakeholder participation in the REDD+ Readiness process.
- Acting as the technical secretariat for the National Committee and Inter-ministerial Committee.

The CN-REDD enjoys the full support from the Minister of the Environment, and buy-in from other units in the Ministry. A continued challenge now is to make sure that the knowledge being generated within the CN-REDD is shared with the broader staff of the Ministry of Environment and beyond.

F. Key Risks and Risk Management

83. The CN-REDD was strongly supported with international expertise through the end date of the UN-REDD Programme in the DRC (December 2012). Four international experts left the team. For that reason, in January 2013, the CN-REDD had to reorganize its team in order to pursue the REDD+ readiness preparation in an efficient way. The reorganization is underway (refer to section III, C, 4, a.) with a challenge when it comes to the operationalization of the new CN-REDD. Any significant delay might postpone the completion of the REDD+ readiness process, and as a result progress towards the signing of an ERPA with the Carbon Fund of the FCPF.

84. Since their creation in 2009, REDD+ institutions have to take into account progress in the REDD+ preparation while learning from past difficulties. Discussions are currently underway at the governmental level and should lead to the revision of the decree concerning the organization of the REDD+ process in DRC. The idea would be to anchor the REDD+ process at a higher political level (Presidency or Government) with a strong implication of the Ministry of Finance. A REDD+ National Steering Committee would replace both existing Committees (National and inter-ministerial).

85. In order to ensure full participation in the Readiness process, national NGOs have created the Groupe de Travail Climat REDD (GTCR), a network including most NGOs working in the area of environment, forests and rural development, both in the capital and in the provinces. The GTCR has played a very active role throughout the process of preparation of the R-PP, interacting on a daily basis with the CN-REDD. The group's dynamics are still evolving and maturing and the structure should be strengthened during the Readiness phase. The GTCR has to position itself to better voice its views in the course of the REDD+ implementation in DRC.

86. Management and distribution of international REDD+ revenues present many opportunities for corruption, unless a transparent, efficient and effective mechanism to manage funds is established.

87. Risk Rating Summary

Risk	Rating	Risk	Rating
Project Stakeholder Risks		Project Risks	
- Stakeholder Risk	Substantial	- Design	Moderate
Operating Environment Risks		- Social and Environmental	Moderate
- Country	High	- Program and Donor	Moderate
- Sector and Multi-Sector	Substantial	- Delivery Monitoring and Sustainability	Moderate
Implementing Agency (IA) Risks (including Fiduciary Risks)		- Institutional framework	Substantial
- Capacity	Substantial		
- Governance	High		
- Fraud and Corruption	High		
Overall Risk (proposed rating by the project team before review)			High

IV. Appraisal summary

A. Technical

88. The activities to be financed by the FCPF have been selected after technical discussions with the CN-REDD and the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MECNT), who take into consideration the technical and financial needs of DRC's REDD+ Readiness process, the World Bank's comparative advantage, as well as support provided by other partners (mainly Norway and FAO). Many technical activities to be supported by the FCPF grant will directly inform and be coordinated with others. The planning team clearly identifies critical interfaces between components and proposes activities that are complementary and mutually enhancing. Still, careful coordination and timing of multiple donor activities during the grant implementation phase will be crucial.

B. Financial Management

89. As per the recent agreement between the Bank and the Prime Minister regarding the use of country systems, the project will be implemented through the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MENCT). It is however critical that project fiduciary team meet the requirements of the Bank, and that its capacities are satisfactory to the Bank.

1. Interim period

90. For that reason, the Coordination Unit²² of the Forest and Nature Conservation Project (CU-FNCP) will be remaining the Bank main counterpart and focal point for fiduciary aspects during an interim period until the full establishment and operation of dedicated staff with adequate support within the MECNT. CU-FNCP will oversee the entire fiduciary management of the FCPF grant including management of the funds and the designated account and will primarily be responsible for: (i) handling financial and administrative management; (ii) disbursement; (iii) procurement; and (iv) auditing.

2. Regular financial management in the mid-run

91. Once dedicated FM and procurement specialists have been assigned within the MECNT to the FCPF Project, are fully operational and have either adequate capacity or support (to be acknowledged²³ through FM and Procurement Assessments conducted by World Bank specialists), the CU-FNCP will hand over the day-to-day management of the Project to the MECNT.

92. By default, the interim arrangements will apply as long as the MECNT is not fully operational.

93. Once the MECNT is fully operational, the CU-PFCN will prepare an activity report at the end of the interim period, along with a financial review, that will both be reviewed by the Bank. The report will describe the status of the various activities undertaken during the interim period and the working plan in place for the remaining period of the fiscal year, as well as present the expenditures made during the interim period. The first audit to be launched by the Project will thus cover both the interim period and the following period with the operational fiduciary team.

94. The overall FM risk for the project is substantial.

3. Financial Management Supervision

95. The fiduciary functions of this project are centralized and managed by the MECNT. In accordance with the risk-based approach, FM supervision will vary according to the level of risk and will aim to ensure that the funds are used for the intended purpose and provide support when need be. On the basis of the current FM risk level, it is expected that two annual supervision missions will be carried out during the first year to support the project implementation, shifting to one annual supervision mission when appropriate. These supervision efforts will comprise IFR and

²² An assessment of the capacity of the Coordination Unit of the Forest and Nature Conservation Project (CU-FNCP) was conducted and the conclusion is that the financial management arrangements for the project meet the Bank's requirements under OP/BP 10.02 and are adequate to provide, with reasonable assurance, accurate and timely information on the status of the project required by IDA. The CU-FNCP has satisfactorily implemented the US\$2 million preparation grant for the Forest and Nature Conservation Project and US\$ 7 million grant funds under the Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) for strengthening governance for natural resources (DRC-Forest). The FM unit is staffed with specialists who are familiar with Bank's FM procedures and have established a sound financial management system. The computerized accounting system is effective and has been expanded to the proposed Grant.

²³ The financial management capacity assessment will be conducted in line with the Financial Management Practice Manual for World Bank-Financed Investment Operations that became effective on March 1, 2010. The objective of the assessment will be to determine whether the implementing entities have acceptable financial management arrangements, which will ensure: (i) the funds are used only for the intended purposes in an efficient and economical way, (ii) the preparation of accurate and timely periodic financial reports, and (iii) safeguard the entities assets.

on-site reviews, and will be complemented by continued assistance to be provided by the Bank team based in Kinshasa.

4. Disbursements

96. The grant will finance 100% of eligible expenditures inclusive of taxes. The grant proceeds can be withdrawn using three disbursement methods (Advance, Reimbursement and Direct Payment). The current designated account open in a commercial bank acceptable to the Bank will be maintained as is. Upon grant effectiveness, an initial advance up to a ceiling of US\$400,000 will be made to the designated account and subsequent advances will be made upon reporting on the use of the initial advance. Applications for withdrawal will be supported with Statements of Expenditures (or records documenting the eligible expenditures) during the first year of implementation.

97. Thereafter, the project will be evaluated for conversion to report-based disbursements using quarterly Interim Financial Reports subject the project maintaining satisfactory FM and Disbursement performance over that period.

98. The project will have the option to submit applications using the electronic delivery tool, “e-Disbursements”, available at the Bank’s Client Connection website. The Authorized Signatory Letter signed by the government will include authorization for the designated signatories to receive the electronic authentication devices (“Tokens”) from the World Bank.

C. Procurement

99. The procurement capacity of the MECNT²⁴, as well as of the CU-FNCP during the interim period, will be assessed by the Senior Procurement Specialist on a continuous basis through frequent visits to the Unit, including during the supervision missions for the IDA Forest and Nature Conservation Project. Procurement capacity of the MECNT (and CU-FNCP’s capacity during the interim period) will also be strengthened through specialized technical assistance and training as needed. For the time being, the CU-FNCP has shown some progress in the procurement area due to the technical assistance provided by BCECO, but there is still room for improvement.

²⁴ The risks factors for procurement performance include those posed by the country context and those due to the low procurement capacity of MECNT. Regarding the country context, the last Country Procurement Assessment Review (CPAR) published in 2004 and the experience of other World Bank assisted projects indicate that procurement on the projects is likely to involve the following risks:

- 1.-A weak governance environment, insufficient accountability, and an overall lack of transparency in conducting procurement processes entail a significant risk of corruption, collusion and fraud.
- 2.-The administrative system as it operates in practice creates opportunities for informal interference in the procurement process by senior officials and politicians, which may result in waste, mismanagement, nepotism, corruption, collusion, and fraud.
- 3.-Government officials who are involved in procurement through tender communities may not be familiar with procurement procedures.
- 4.-For certain kinds of goods and works, only a few companies are interested in providing them under the current conditions, especially in the eastern part of the country, where goods may be in short supply available only at exorbitant price.

The main recommendations of the 2004 CPAR were to (i) prepare and approve a public procurement code, (ii) do a survey of the existing capacity on procurement, (iii) make a needs assessment of the institutional and human capacity requirements for public procurement in the country, and (iv) prepare a plan of action for the procurement reform. All these recommendations have been implemented and the new procurement code has been promulgated on April 27, 2010.

100. *Procurement Supervision.* As the overall project risk implementation for procurement is substantial due to the Country context and the moderately satisfactory procurement capacity of the implementing agency, the following risk mitigating measure will be applied: the procurement activities will be carried out by the Coordination Unit of the Forest and Nature Conservation (CU-FCNP) as long as the procurement capacity of the MECNT is not satisfactory to the Bank.

D. Social and Environment (including Consultation, Participation, Disclosure and Safeguards)

1. Social (including Safeguards)

101. The FCPF Readiness Preparation grant must comply with World Bank safeguard policies regarding the management of environmental and social impacts. This grant will, in part, support the country's activities to identify the potential risks associated with REDD+ and mitigation options. In order to do this, the FCPF is using a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to integrate key environmental and social considerations into REDD+ Readiness by combining analytical and participatory approaches. The SESA allows: (i) social and environmental considerations to be integrated into the REDD+ Readiness process, in particular the REDD+ strategy; (ii) stakeholder participation in identifying and prioritizing key issues, assessment of policy, institutional and capacity gaps to manage these priorities and recommendations, and disclosure of findings in the REDD Country's progress reports on Readiness preparation; and (iii) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be put in place to manage environmental and social risks and to mitigate potential adverse impacts. The SESA has been identified as the most appropriate instrument to ensure a proper consideration of social dimensions in the REDD+ process, in line with the international best practices (including the WB policies). The FCPF financing will support the country in putting in place the framework to manage social and environmental risks of REDD+ operations, but the responsibility for the implementation of this framework lies with the government and with those financing each operation.

102. National institutional capacity for the monitoring and implementation of safeguards is very weak in the DRC, at all levels (national, provincial and local) and across Ministries (environment, agriculture, mines, land issues). The body mandated by Ministerial decree to review and approve the evaluation of social and environmental impact assessments, the Groupe d'Études Environnementales du Congo (GEEC), does not have the human and technical resources to effectively carry out its mandate. At the provincial level, government agencies (including those attached to the Ministry of Environment) often do not have the equipment necessary to monitor social and environmental impacts, their staff lacks training, and management capacity is very thin.

103. National capacity for the implementation of the World Bank's Indigenous Peoples Operational Policy (OP 4.10) is also very weak. The national legal and institutional framework for involuntary resettlement does not conform to the standards of the Bank's Operational Policy on Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12). Nevertheless, there is no direct conflict between the Bank's policy and national legislation, but rather a difference in the level of standards imposed.

104. A new law - Framework Law on Management and Protection of the Environment²⁵ - has been enacted in July 2011. This law created a National Environment Agency (ANE - Agence Nationale de l'Environnement), which replaces the GEEC as the national agency with overall responsibility for social and environmental impact assessments. It is expected that the creation and

²⁵ Loi Cadre sur la Gestion et la Protection de l'Environnement

initial functioning of this agency will be supported by World Bank operational projects, including the Promines project, which is expected to provide USD 3 million to the establishment of the Agency.

In addition, the World Bank funded Forest and Nature Conservation Project is strengthening national capacities to design, implement, and monitor safeguards. The project will reinforce environmental and social management capacity at the national and provincial level and within the Congolese Nature Conservation Institute (ICCN).

105. The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for the National REDD Readiness process has been led by the CN-REDD and carried out through inclusive consultations. The exercise has been directly supervised by a National SESA Overseeing Committee (CSR), made up of representatives from government, civil society, and the private sector. This Committee is in charge of overseeing the SESA process and of ensuring it aligns with the National REDD+ Strategy.

106. As of today, the SESA process is well advanced. One ESMF and five related frameworks:

- Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF);
- Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF);
- Process Framework;
- Cultural Heritage Framework;
- Pests and Pesticides Framework;

are completed. A final round of consultations is foreseen in provinces before a validation workshop to be held in Kinshasa by the end of 2013. Over the grant agreement period, the missing tools, products or guidelines necessary for operationalizing the SESA process will be developed (Information system on safeguards, free, prior and informed consultations processes, benefit sharing plan) in order to envision experimentation (based on existing REDD+ activities) and vulgarization of the related-ESMF products (social and environmental standards, etc.).

2. Environmental (including Safeguards)

107. While the overall environmental impact of the REDD+ process is expected to be strongly positive, the Grant will fund the preparation of a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to ensure that the design of the REDD+ program, and the future implementation of activities with REDD+ resources, adhere to the requirements of World Bank safeguard policies. In particular, the SESA will (i) develop an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), which will include application of the requirements of the Bank's policies on Natural Habitats (OP 4.04) and Forests (OP 4.36), (ii) prepare an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework, and (iii) reflect the Process Framework already developed under the ongoing Bank-supported protected areas project, to protect the rights and livelihoods of indigenous pygmy groups during the establishment of new protected areas.

3. Safeguard Policies triggered

108. If the application of OP 4.09 and OP/BP 4.11 were to be determined upon the signature of the initial grant agreement, the ongoing SESA process based on a national REDD+ strategy duly validated confirms today the need to trigger these safeguard policies. Similarly, as evidenced by ongoing works on SESA, OP/BP 7.50 has to be triggered.

Safeguard Policies Triggered	Yes	No	TBD
Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)	X		
The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to be carried out under the project will serve to identify, avoid, and mitigate the potential negative environmental and social impacts associated with future activities to be supported by the final REDD+ strategy by providing guidance and key elements for the preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The SESA will also influence the final national REDD+ strategy, by ensuring that social and environmental risks are factors in the preparation of the strategy.			
Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)	X		
The application of this policy seeks to ensure that all options proposed in the National REDD+ Strategy take into account the conservation of biodiversity, as well as the numerous environmental services and products that natural habitats provide to human society. Overall, REDD+ activities are expected to have significant positive impacts on natural habitats, as the country puts in place an effective strategy to reduce loss of natural forests. The SESA will address issues related to natural habitats and potential impacts of the National REDD+ Strategy, which will later be included in the ESMF.			
Forests (OP/BP 4.36)	X		
Overall, REDD+ activities are expected to have significant positive impacts on forest, in that the main goal of the program is to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, while contributing to the well-being of forest-dependent communities. Potential impact of the National REDD+ Strategy on natural forests will be assessed through the SESA and included in the ESMF. The SESA and associated ESMF will reflect the requirements of the Bank's Operational Policy regarding forest management, in particular as these relate to the establishment of plantations.			
Pest Management (OP 4.09)	X		
Agricultural intensification and reforestation activities, among others are REDD+ activities which could require pest management in the course of project implementation. The SESA will address critical issues related to pest management, as necessary, and these will also be included in the key elements of the ESMF, as well as in a specific framework related to pests and pesticides.			
Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11)	X		
REDD+ activities are likely to be implemented in areas containing sites deemed physical cultural resources by the Indigenous Peoples living there (e.g. holy/secret sites such as sacred groves, sacred forests, etc.). Though it is not anticipated that the project will have negative impacts on any such sites, the SESA will address issues related to physical cultural resources and potential impacts of the National REDD+ Strategy, which will later be included in the ESMF and a specific dedicated framework.			
Indigenous Peoples (OP/BP 4.10)	X		
It is likely that some of the activities to be implemented as part of the National REDD+ Strategy would take place in areas inhabited by Indigenous Peoples (pygmies). This policy underscores the need for the government of the DRC to identify indigenous peoples, consult with them properly, ensure that they participate in, and benefit from REDD activities. Adverse impacts on indigenous people should also be avoided (or where that is not feasible, minimize or mitigate these impacts). Drawing on the SESA, an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework will be prepared. Additionally, and in relation to possible future support for the establishment of new protected areas, the SESA will incorporate the requirements of the Process Framework already prepared for the ongoing Bank support to the Congolese Nature Conservation Institute (ICCN).			
Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)	X		
REDD+ activities will trigger Involuntary Resettlement in situations involving involuntary restrictions of access to legally designated parks, protected areas, or forest management / reforestation areas. The policy aims to avoid involuntary resettlement to the extent feasible, or to minimize and mitigate its adverse social and economic impacts in cases where resettlement or other involuntary restrictions cannot be avoided. Through the SESA process, any issues related to land acquisition or involuntary resettlement will be identified, and a Resettlement Policy Framework will be prepared. In terms of restriction to natural resources, the Process Framework prepared successfully for the Protected Areas Project in DRC, will be adopted and adjusted to the reality, needs and specificities of the REDD+ activities regarding project.			

Safeguard Policies Triggered	Yes	No	TBD
Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)		X	
Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP 7.50)	X		
Fishing activities on international waters (Congo, Oubangui, Kasai rivers, etc.) aiming at improving livelihoods might be part of a possible basket of REDD+ activities. The SESA will address issues related to activities on international waters and potential impacts of the National REDD+ Strategy, which will later be included in the ESMF.			
Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP 7.60)		X	

ANNEX 1: Operational Risk Assessment Framework (ORAF)

Democratic Republic of Congo

ADDITIONAL REDD+ READINESS PREPARATION SUPPORT FROM

THE FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

P124072

Risks

Project Stakeholder Risks

Stakeholder Risk	Rating	Substantial
<p>Risk description:</p> <p>Elite capture of benefits is common practice in DRC. REDD+ revenues may be captured by local elites (government, NGOs, community leaders or businesses), which would prevent them from reaching local forest-dependent communities;</p> <p>Some stakeholders may oppose progress in the establishment of a national REDD+ system, leading to blockages in project implementation. REDD+ is a mechanism still under discussion internationally. Some stakeholders (mainly international NGOs) have expressed concerns about various aspects of REDD+, including its potential adverse consequences on vulnerable forest-dependent communities.</p> <p>Some stakeholders might resist some of the policy changes that REDD+ entails;</p> <p>Stakeholder expectations for receipt of large near term payments for REDD+ are high and may not be realistic. REDD+ attract a lot of international attention at present. This is leading to increased expectations on the part of the governments, civil society and even private sector. There could be backlash if DRC is not able to access REDD+ funds in the medium-term;</p> <p>There are tensions between private forest concession-holders and local communities over social benefits. Communities claim that forest</p>	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>SESA and other studies will support identification of mechanisms to ensure transparent benefit sharing and avoid elite capture;</p> <p>SESA will identify social and environmental risks arising from the national REDD+ Strategy, and prepare an ESMF. Project team maintains close communication with national and international NGOs (both at the country level and internationally, with support from the FCPF Management Team);</p> <p>Project entity has hired a person in charge of communication and outreach;</p> <p>Project team will ensure to manage expectations throughout project implementation;</p> <p>Continued support to the negotiation of the social accountability contracts within forest concessions.</p>	

<p>concession holders do not respect their traditional rights and do not share benefits appropriately.</p>	<p>It should be noted that the REDD+ process enjoys full support from national NGOs and the broader donor community.</p>					
	Resp:	Status:	Stage:	Recurrent	Due Date:	Frequency:
Implementing Agency (IA) Risks (including Fiduciary Risks)						
Capacity	Rating	Substantial				
<p>Risk description:</p> <p>Weak capacity at the government to deliver a complex program, including on funds management, inter-sectoral planning and management of social and environmental risks;</p> <p>FM and procurement risks are low as the PIU for the Forest Nature and Conservation Project will be used for an interim period. The move towards a country mechanism, if any, will depend on FM and Procurement assessment.</p> <p>REDD+ is at the frontier of environmental discussions. It requires strong capacities on different domains: cross-sectoral planning, project / program management on the ground, management of multi-stakeholder engagement, capacity to monitor and report on verifiable emission reductions, modeling of future development, etc.</p>	<p>Risk management:</p> <p>The focus of this project is capacity building at various levels and domains (planning, monitoring, financial management, communication and stakeholder engagement, etc.);</p> <p>Continued efforts in assessing capacity needs and proactively responding;</p> <p>Assessing the potential outsourcing of some REDD+ activities (such as the MRV system and REDD+ funds management).</p>					
	Resp:	Status:	Stage:	Recurrent	Due Date:	Frequency:
Governance	Rating	High				
<p>Risk description:</p> <p>Possible weak inter-sectoral coordination and lack of appropriate participation of different stakeholders in decision making. A national REDD+ system will need to involve different levels of the government and various stakeholders. REDD+ revenues need to reach beneficiaries on the ground, mainly forest-dependent communities. In the past, revenue sharing across government levels in DRC has not worked properly;</p> <p>Lack of necessary high-level ownership to tackle governance issues necessary for REDD+ to work. Some policy decisions on the national REDD+ legal framework will require strong levels of government commitment - REDD+ can only succeed in a context of good governance - where rules for carbon transactions are transparent, revenue sharing schemes are known to stakeholders</p>	<p>Risk management:</p> <p>Support government in creating clear rules for carbon transactions in the country and creating the capacity to implement those;</p> <p>Support the establishment of clear rules on benefit sharing of REDD+ revenues;</p> <p>Support the functioning of the National REDD+ Committee and the National Interministerial Committee;</p> <p>Continued support to multi-stakeholder participation and transparency in the process.</p>					
	Resp:	Status:	Stage:	Recurrent	Due Date:	Frequency:

and respected, funds are managed properly.													
Project risks													
Design				Rating		Moderate							
Risk description:				Risk management:									
<p>There is an unlikely risk of lack of appropriate coordination with other donors during project implementation.</p> <p>REDD+ entails important social risks (elite capture of benefits, conflicts over land and REDD+ benefits), and less so environmental risks (such as conversion of natural forests for monoculture plantations)</p>				<p>The design of the project has been kept simple. It has also been prepared in close collaboration with the UN-REDD program, which will be financing part of the REDD+ Readiness process; Continued interaction with donors during design and implementation.</p>									
				Resp:		Status:		Stage:		Recurrent		Due Date:	Frequency:
Social and Environmental				Rating		Moderate							
Risk description:				Risk management:									
<p>REDD+ entails important social risks (elite capture of benefits, conflicts over land and REDD+ benefits), and less so environmental risks (such as conversion of natural forests for monoculture plantations).</p>				<p>A SESA will be conducted, to identify the social and environmental risks associated with REDD+, and ensure they are considered in the design of the REDD+ Strategy. A national SESA Overseeing Committee with representatives from different sectors will be created to supervise the overall SESA process.</p> <p>Close supervision of the SESA process; WB participation in the National SESA Overseeing Committee; Capacity building to the national members of the SESA Committee; An ESMF will be prepared that will support the country in managing and mitigating negative environmental and social impacts from the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (including impacts on natural habitats and forests, and social impacts); An Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework will also be prepared; A Resettlement Policy Framework will be prepared as well, as future REDD+ activities may result in land acquisition/involuntary resettlement.</p>									
				Resp:		Status:		Stage:		Recurrent		Due Date:	Frequency:
Program and Donor				Rating		Moderate							
Risk description:				Risk management:									
<p>The success of the overall o REDD+ readiness process depend on the financing from other donors. Delays in their financing could hinder progress of the overall process, and jeopardize some FCPF-financed activities.</p> <p>There is a reputational risk to the WB, which could be held accountable for the whole REDD+ Readiness process although financing only a part of it.</p>				<p>There is strong interdependence across activities financed by the FCPF and other donors, mainly the UN-REDD program. As an example, the regional-level consultation activities, which are key to the SESA process, are to be financed by the UN-REDD Program.</p> <p>Continued support to the efforts of the National REDD+ Coordination of coordinating support to the overall Readiness process; Ensure close contact with other donors, particularly UN-REDD; Continued communication effort to clarify what is financed by the FCPF versus what is financed</p>									

	by other agencies.					
	Resp:	Status:	Stage:	Recurrent	Due Date:	Frequency:
Delivery Monitoring and Sustainability	Rating	Moderate				
Risk description: The REDD+ Readiness process is well advanced today. The risk to have a process not completed is not likely to happen.	Risk management: The total financial needs for the REDD+ Readiness process amounts to USD22 million. USD19.5 million is secured today. The FCPF-funded activities have been selected strategically, to support priority REDD+ Readiness needs that allow the country to progress in getting 'ready'.					
Institutional framework	Rating	Substantial				
Risk description: A successful REDD+ mechanism involves important changes to the existing institutional framework and touches sensitive issues, such as land tenure rights. These reforms are likely to face opposition. Nevertheless, not all of these reforms have to be achieved before the country is 'ready' to participate in a REDD+ mechanism. A national REDD+ system entails the creation of a framework to reward those activities that can effectively reduce deforestation. This will take gradual institutional reforms to the forest, land and agriculture codes.	Risk management: Support the inclusion of REDD+-related institutional reforms in ongoing policy reforms (such as the reform of the Forest Code); Communicate to all stakeholders the 'progressive' nature of REDD+ Readiness, which is not a static point in time but a process of gradual capacity strengthening towards sustainable forest management.					
	Resp:	Status:	Stage:	Recurrent	Due Date:	Frequency:
Overall Risk						
Governance risks (mismanagement of funds, elite capture, non-transparent decision-making) are likely to happen given the current governance situation at the country level. However, the impact to local stakeholders would not be high, as it is unlikely that substantial REDD+ funds would be available before most prominent governance challenges are addressed. It should be noted that this grant does not deal with on-the-ground investments at this stage, but rather focus on high-level support to the process of designing a national REDD+ strategy and its legal framework. Finally, it should be noted that there is a high reputational risk to the WB from this operation, as REDD+ attracts high visibility internationally and the WB can be seen to be funding the full REDD+ Readiness support, when in reality it finances only a part of it.						

ANNEX 2: Approval process of the request for additional funding

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presented a request for additional funding for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) at its 13th meeting held in October 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. At this meeting, the PC adopted a resolution PC/13/2012/3 and allocated funding to the DRC up to an additional US\$5 million to continue with its preparation for Readiness. The PC requested that the DRC submit a revised request for additional funding to the Facility Management Team (FMT), reflecting the key issues summarized in the annex of the Resolution.

Annex

Key issues to be reflected in the revised request

The following are the key issues that DRC needs to reflect in the revised request before entering into a Grant Agreement:

1. Include a detailed budget and timeline for implementation of the activities for which additional funding is requested, clearly ranking activities in terms of priority, explaining why those activities have been prioritized, and presenting the expected outcomes of the activities, including expected contributions to the country's national capacity building, if relevant. The budget will be developed in consultation with stakeholders.
2. Describe the specific achievements of activities financed thus far by the FCPF, and identify associated co-financing and previous financing provided for these activities.
3. Provide details on how the additional FCPF funds will contribute to the decentralization of the REDD+ readiness process, and how the proposed activities link to land use planning, actions to address illegal logging, and improving access to information in the forest sector.
4. Describe how the Government is tracking its REDD+-related financing from different sources, the activities being financed, and the outcomes of these activities. Describe how the registry could assist DRC in coordinating governmental and non-governmental REDD+ financing in DRC more comprehensively.

The DRC submitted a revised request for additional funding to the FCPF FMT on July 12, 2013.

The FCPF FMT assessed whether the issues raised by the PC were addressed and issued a completeness check report on July 17, 2013.

Members of the Participants Committee and Observers were notified on July 18, 2013 that the revised request for additional funding (in both French and English) and FMT completeness check report were available on the FCPF website at <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/democratic-republic-congo>.

In accordance with the aforementioned resolution, as the FMT received no objection from the Members of the Participants Committee within a 14-day period (by August 02, 2013), the World Bank, as the Delivery Partner for the Democratic Republic of Congo, conducted its due diligence in order to provide the additional funding of up to US\$5 million to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Members of the Participants Committee were notified of this decision to move forward on August 12, 2013.

ANNEX 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

Indicators: Is the grant on track for achieving the following?	
A National REDD+ Strategy (including the legal framework) is prepared and validated by national stakeholders	
Criteria of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework	Indicators
National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Accountability and transparency Yes/No
	Operating mandate and budget Yes/No
	Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration Yes/No
	Technical supervision capacity Yes/No
	Funds management capacity Yes/No
	Feedback and grievance redress mechanism Yes/No
Consultation, participation and outreach	Participation and engagement of key stakeholders Yes/No
	Consultation processes Yes/No
	Information sharing and accessibility of information Yes/No
	Implementation an public disclosure of consultation outcomes Yes/No
Assessment of land use, land-use change drivers, forest law, policy and governance	Assessment and analysis Yes/No
	Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest enhancement Yes/No
	Links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities Yes/No
	Action plans to address natural resources rights, land tenure, governance Yes/No
	Implications for forest law and policy Yes/No
REDD+ Strategy options	Selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options Yes/No
	Feasibility assessment Yes/No
	Implications of strategy options on existing sectoral policies Yes/No

Indicators: Is the grant on track for achieving the following?	
National circumstances affecting the reference scenario are identified and quantified.	
Criteria of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework	Indicators
Reference Emissions Level / Reference Levels	Demonstration of methodology Yes/No
	Use of historical data, and adjustment for national circumstances Yes/No
	Technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines Yes/No

Indicators: Is the grant on track for achieving the following?	
A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is prepared and validated by national stakeholders.	
Criteria of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework	Indicators
Social and Environmental impacts	Analysis of social and environmental safeguards issues Yes/No
	REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts Yes/No
	Environmental and Social Management Framework Yes/No

ANNEX 4: Key Reference Documents

- Readiness Preparation Proposal Assessment Note, dated March 8 2011, relative to the US\$3.4 million grant agreement signed on March 24, 2013 for preparation of DRC's REDD+ Readiness;
- Request for additional funding for assessment by the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) at its 13th meeting held in October 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo;
- Revised request for additional funding submitted to the FCPF FMT on July 12th, 2013;
- FMT completeness check report dated July 17, 2013;

can be found on:

<http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/democratic-republic-congo>

- Resolution PC/13/2012/3 adopted by the PC at the 13th meeting held in October 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo,

can be found on:

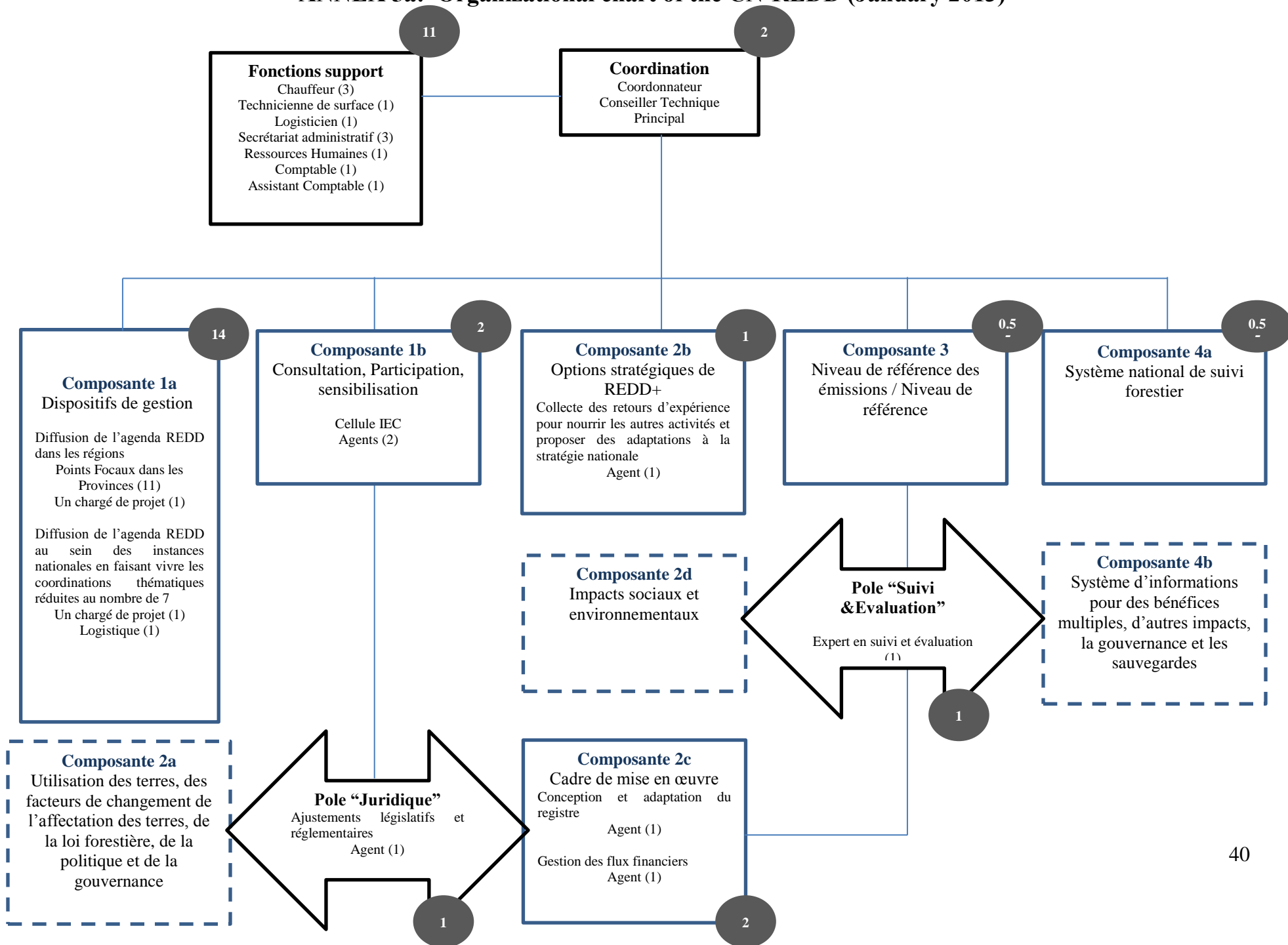
<http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/pa5pc13-october-20-23-2012-brazzaville-republic-congo>

- Electronic resolution PC/Electronic/2012/1,

can be found on:

http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2013/PC_Resolution_Approved_02-20-12.pdf

ANNEX 5a: Organizational chart of the CN-REDD (January 2013)



ANNEX 5b: Final Organizational Chart

CN-REDD consultant fees (US\$1,513,200)

The consultant fees of CN-REDD members were supported by the UN-Programme through the end date of the UN-Programme in the DRC (December 2012). As a result and logical continuation, the FCPF had to take over, pending an evaluation of the agency. A new organizational chart was designed concomitantly with the review of the request for additional funding. This reorganization aimed at allocating adequate human resources to the tasks to be implemented in order to achieve a well-advanced or completed Readiness process within a short period of time. Tasks were identified by comparing the findings of the independent mid-term evaluation of the REDD+ process in 2012 with the set of criteria of the Readiness Package Assessment Framework. The first version of this organizational chart (Annex 5a) foresaw 22 technical experts dedicated to the implementation of the components of the R-PP, including 11 REDD+ Provincial Focal Points. For the support functions, 13 positions were identified. Theoretically this organization was the most efficient to quickly complete the REDD+ readiness process, however the review of the request for additional funding demonstrated that this was not viable financially. A second version was designed accordingly, with less ambitious deployment.

22 employees have been identified in the final organizational chart.

CN-REDD Management (3)	1 National REDD+ Coordinator 1 Coordinator Deputy 1 Assistant to the Coordinator
Support functions (5)	1 secretary 2 drivers 1 logistician 1 cleaning lady
Technical experts (9)	1 Registry leader 1 MRV-REL-RL leader 1 SESA leader 1 Monitoring & Evaluation Leader 1 Politics and Legal Framework Adaptation leader (PLFA leader) 1 Information, Education, Communication leader (IEC leader) 1 Decentralization leader 1 Assistant to the PLFA leader 1 Assistant to the IEC leader
Decentralization (5)	5 REDD+ provincial focal points (COMIFAC Funding)

Overall Salary Cost 2013 - 2015	FCPF REDD+ Readiness Preparation support	FCPF Additional Funding	Comifac	Gap
US\$2,140,000	US\$370,000	US\$1,513,200	US\$256,800	-

The FCPF grant (additional funding) will support the recruitment of 17 employees (out of 22) over a three year period.

N° ordre	Poste	Catégorie	Coût mensuel	Coût annuel	FCPF1	FCPF 2/année 1	FCPF 2/année 2&3	COMIFAC
1	Coordonnateur	Personnel clé	6,000.00	72,000.00	42,438.40	29,561.60	144,000.00	
2	CTP	Personnel clé	11,000.00	132,000.00	77,803.74	54,196.26	264,000.00	
4	Assistant Administratif (RH)	Personnel clé	2,100.00	25,200.00	14,853.44	10,346.56	50,400.00	
5	Secrétaire de Direction	Personnel d'appoint	1,200.00	14,400.00	8,487.68	5,912.32	28,800.00	
6	Logisticien	Personnel d'appoint	1,200.00	14,400.00	8,487.68	5,912.32	28,800.00	
7	Technicienne de Surface	Personnel d'appoint	593.11	7,117.33	4,195.11	2,922.22	14,234.67	
8	Chauffeur 1	Personnel d'appoint	760.00	9,120.00	5,375.53	3,744.47	18,240.00	
9	Chauffeur 2	Personnel d'appoint	758.00	9,096.00	5,361.38	3,734.62	18,192.00	
10	Coordonnateur des Points Focaux REDD+	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
11	Responsable Adaptation des politiques, Cadre légal	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
12	Assistant au responsable Adaptation des politiques, Cadre légal	Personnel clé	2,100.00	25,200.00	14,853.44	10,346.56	50,400.00	
13	Responsable du Registre	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
14	Responsable du Système d'Information des Forêts & REL	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
15	Responsable IEC	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
16	Assistant technique National IEC	Personnel clé	2,100.00	25,200.00	14,853.44	10,346.56	50,400.00	
17	Responsable Suivi Evaluation des projets	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
18	Responsable SESA	Personnel clé	3,500.00	42,000.00	24,755.73	17,244.27	84,000.00	
19	Point Focal 1	Personnel clé	1,426.67	17,120.00				17,120.00
20	Point Focal 2	Personnel clé	1,426.67	17,120.00				17,120.00
21	Point Focal 3	Personnel clé	1,426.67	17,120.00				17,120.00
22	Point Focal 4	Personnel clé	1,426.67	17,120.00				17,120.00
23	Point Focal 5	Personnel clé	1,426.67	17,120.00				17,120.00
	Total			713,333.33	370,000.00	257,733.33	1,255,466.67	85,600.00

ANNEX 6: Procurement Plan

	Monthly price (\$)	Price over the grant period	Acquisition type	Date of the contract signature
Component 1: Support to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-stakeholder Consultations		580,000		
1.1 Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process		0		
1.2 Promotion of multi-stakeholder consultations		580,000		
Services (outreach about REDD+) provided by GTCR		40,000	Firm	Mar-14
Services (outreach about REDD+) provided by REPALF		20,000	Firm	Mar-14
Communication tools (design and editing)		200,000	Firm / Individual	Jun-14
Services provided by GLOBE aiming at training politicians		70,000	Firm	Mar-14
Consultancy services to design REDD+ friendly sectoral policies		110,000	Individual	Apr-14
Legal expertise for the review of the legal framework		140,000	Individual	Sep-14
Component 2: Contribute to the design of a National REDD+ strategy		495,000		
2a Preparation of the national strategy		0		
2b Preparation of the implementation framework		295,000		
High-level IT services to finalize the registry		195,000	Firm	Jan-14
High-level IT services to set up a Feedback, grievance and redress mechanism		100,000	Firm	Jan-14
2c Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment		200,000		
High-level IT services to develop the SIS		100,000	Firm	Jan-14
Consultancy services to design the Benefit Sharing Plan related to the ER-Program in the Bandundu Province		100,000	Firm	Jan-14
Component 3: Preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+				
Component 4: Project Management		2,145,200		
4.1 CN-REDD consultant fees over a 28.93 month period (bearing in mind that FCPF 1 funding will cover the costs over a 7.07 month period)		1,513,200		
National REDD+ Coordinator	6,000	173,562	Individual	May-14
Coordinator Deputy	11,000	318,196	Individual	Apr-14
Assistant to the Coordinator	2,100	60,747	Individual	Apr-14
Secretary	1,200	34,712	Individual	Apr-14
Logistician	1,200	34,712	Individual	Apr-14
Cleaning lady	593	17,157	Individual	Apr-14
Driver (1)	760	21,984	Individual	Apr-14
Driver (2)	758	21,927	Individual	Apr-14
Decentralization leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
Politics and legal framework adaptation (PLFA) leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
Assistant to the PLFA	2,100	60,747	Individual	Apr-14
Registry leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
MRV-REL-RL leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
Information, Education and Communication (IEC) leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
Assistant to the IEC leader	2,100	60,747	Individual	Apr-14
Project Monitoring & Evaluation leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
SESA leader	3,500	101,244	Individual	Apr-14
Focal Point 1	1,427	COMIFAC		
Focal Point 2	1,427	COMIFAC		
Focal Point 3	1,427	COMIFAC		
Focal Point 4	1,427	COMIFAC		
Focal Point 5	1,427	COMIFAC		
4.2 Financial management and procurement, including external audits		337,000		
Procurement specialist (2 years)	3,000	72,000	Individual	Jul-14
Accountant (2 years)	2,500	60,000	Individual	Jul-14
Services provided by CU-FNCP (1 year)		85,000	Firm	Dec-13
External financial audits		120,000	Firm	Feb-15
4.3 Operational expenditure (OPEX)		240,000		
Office rental		240,000	Firm	Dec-13
4.4 Support to the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism		0		
4.5 Equipment		55,000		
Vehicle purchase		55,000	Furniture	Dec-13
Total		3,220,200		

ANNEX 7: Overall budget (Readiness Preparation proposal) updated at the mid-term review (July 2013)

Necessary financings for the finalization of the preparation phase from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015														
Program	Sub-Program	Activity	Needs	Secured financings									GAP to Mobilize	
				FCPF 3 400 000	FCPF2 5 000 000	FCPF3 200 000	NORWAY UNDP	FAO	UNEP	COMI- FAC	DRC	AVAILABLE TOTALS		
Communication and consultation	Civil Society	Supporting Civil Society (NGOs Network, including Indigenous People, etc.)	40 000	20 000	20 000							40 000	0	
		Support to GTCR (status revision, elections communication, functioning, training, trips to Provinces, etc.)	400 000		40 000		320 000						360 000	40 000
	Sub-Total		440 000	20 000	60 000	0	320 000	0	0	0	0	400 000	40 000	
	Pilot Provinces	Elaborate tools of awareness on REDD+ (prospectus, Brochures, awareness modules, radio spots, etc.)	100 000		36 000		50 000				9 900		95 900	4 100
		Produce IEC tools (in French and national tongues)	75 000		75 000								75 000	0
	Communication Tools	Produce radio and television Spots	50 000		50 000								50 000	0
		Dispatch IEC tools (Workshops, seminar, training)	67 000		33 000					34 000			67 000	0
		Develop the web site for REDD+ in DRC and advocacy documents for high level international events	137 067	100 000			37 067						137 067	0
		Organize training sessions called « Universités d'été REDD+»	90 000	90 000									90 000	0
		Integrate REDD+ in National education programs (primary and secondary) and diffusion	150 000		75 000								75 000	75 000
	Sub-Total		669 067	190 000	269 000	0	87 067	0	34 000	9900	0	589 967	79 100	

Necessary financings for the finalization of the preparation phase from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015													
Program	Sub-Program	Activity	Needs	Secured financings									GAP to Mobilize
				FCPF 3 400 000	FCPF2 5 000 000	FCPF3 200 000	NORWAY UNDP	FAO	UNEP	COMI- FAC	DRC	AVAILABLE TOTALS	
Strategy and REDD+ tools implementation	National REDD+ Funds	Establishing the Road Map	20 000				20 000					20 000	0
		Development of Project Operations Manuel (MOP)	250 000				250 000					250 000	0
		Consultations on the MOP at national level (establishment of a short governmental commission and meetings with TFP)	85 000				85 000					85 000	0
		Technical Exchanges of experiences between countries	100 000				80 000					80 000	20 000
		Establishment of the Short Technical Secretary	350 000				130 000					130 000	220 000
		Meetings of the Steering Committee	30 000				10 000					10 000	20 000
		National and International Experts team	494 465				353 465					353 465	141 000
		Links with the Registry and assured SIS	60 000				60 000					60 000	0
	Sub total		1 389 465	0	0	988 465	0	0	0	0	0	988 465	401 100
	Registry	Finalizing the registry	200 000		195 000				5 000			200 000	0
	Pilot Projects and other initiatives	Monitoring and Assessment of Pilot Projects	150 000		75 000							75 000	75 000
		Monitoring and Assessment of Other REDD+ Initiatives	150 000		20 000					14 000		34 000	116 000
	Sub total		300 000		95 000					14 000		109 000	191 000
	Homologation Decree	Revision of homologation decree and its annexes	35 000		21 000							21 000	14 000
	NFMS	Setting-up the National Forests Monitoring System	75 000					25 000				25 000	50 000
	Nat. Forest Inventory	Carbon measurement	271 594					50 000				50 000	221 594
	GHG	GHG inventories	286 300					5 000				5 000	281 300
	MRV	MRV	1 943 762					743 290				743 290	1 200 472
	Reference level	Emissions Reference Level / Reference level	70 000									0	70 000
Sub total		2 681 665		21 000			823 290				844 290	1 837 366	

Necessary financings for the finalization of the preparation phase from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015														
Program	Sub-Program	Activity	Needs	Secured financings								GAP to Mobilize		
				FCPF 3 400 000	FCPF2 5 000 000	FCPF3 200 000	NORWAY UNDP	FAO	UNEP	COMI- FAC	DRC		AVAILABLE TOTALS	
Strategy and REDD+ tools implementation	SESA and ESMF Finalization & grievances and redress management Mechanisms	Redress Mechanisms and grievances management	200 000			200 000						200 000	0	
		Production of REDD+ SESA	290 785	290 785								290 785	0	
		Functioning of CS for regular commitment in all the validation activities	71 687	7 687	64 000							71 687	0	
		SESA Validation	220 810	200 000	20 810							220 810	0	
		Experience tools through ongoing projects and finalize their focus	90 000		30 000					60 000		90 000	0	
		Animate the participatory process with stakeholders (participatory restitution workshop and exchanges within 5 Pilot Provinces)	50 000		50 000							50 000	0	
		Monitoring and assessing tools implementation and mechanisms (redress on safeguards, FIPC, benefit sharing, etc.) by the projects	75 000		75 000							75 000	0	
		Organize semestrial workshops in Kinshasa of results presentation of REDD+ projects Monitoring- Assessment	60 000		60 000							60 000	0	
		Administrations training, projects bearers and NGOs to the application of safeguards and standards	75 000		75 000							75 000	0	
	Modelization	National Social and Environmentalstandards Validation	72 097							72 097		72 097	0	
		Operationalize the SIS (ESFM and Standards)	42 000		30 000					12 000		42 000	0	
		Training workshops and of awareness on analysis tool upon REDD+ totals costs in DRC	9 000	9 000								9 000	0	
	Moabi	Contribution of CN-REDD in household surveys	226 393	226 393								226 393	0	
		MOABI Independent system Adaptation REDD+ monitoring in DRC with WWF/DRC	52 600	52 600								52 600	0	
	Sous total			1 535 372	786 465	404 810	200 000			444 097		1 535 372	0	
	Strategy Actualization	Thematic coordination Functioning (animation and functioning)	115 000		100 000						15 000		115 000	0
		Workshops Organization/ missions upon experiences feedbacks for the strategy consolidation (ERND - CODELT)	31 000	31 000									31 000	0
		Validation workshops of the actualized strategy	25 000		25 000								25 000	0
	Sous total			171 000	31 000	125 000					15 000		171 000	0
	formulation of an investment program	National and international staff of the investments formulation	906 108					576 108					576 108	330 000
Technical Consultations and workshops		234 901					184 901					184 901	50 000	
Fees for specialized field missions		100 000					50 000					50 000	50 000	
Sub total			1 241 009	0	0	0	811 009	0	0	0	0	811 009	430 000	

Necessary financings for the finalization of the preparation phase from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015													
Program	Sub-Program	Activity	Needs	Secured financings								AVAILABLE TOTALS	GAP to Mobilize
				FCPF 3 400 000	FCPF2 5 000 000	FCPF3 200 000	NORWAY UNDP	FAO	UNEP	COMI- FAC	DRC		
Policy dialogue	Reforms	Adaptation of the legal and regulatory framework	150 000		150 000							150 000	0
		Support to the improvement of the legal Framework (Globe)	35 000		35 000							35 000	0
	International Negotiations	Participation to the negotiations under the UNFCCC: Positions Defense of the DRC in matters of REDD+ in international conferences	330 000	60 000	120 000		150 000					330 000	0
	Politico Commitment	Policy dialogues and mobilizing financing / strategic partnerships	350 000				110 000					110 000	240 000
		Forum on the green economy in Kinshasa with international expertise	125 000				125 000					125 000	0
		development of a funding strategy for REDD+ (public and private, national and international) to diversify sources	70 000				40 000					40 000	30 000
		Training of experts to advance issues important REDD+ for the country in the negotiations under the UNFCCC	70 000				70 000					70 000	0
	Dissemination of REDD+ agenda in sectoral policies	Support to the development of sectoral policies based on the national REDD+ strategy (workshops, meetings, etc.)	66 990		66 990							66 990	0
		Functioning and animation of National Steering Committee	50 000		50 000							50 000	0
		Train the judiciary unit for monitoring and implementation modalities of the fight against corruption in REDD+	50 000		50 000							50 000	0
		Workshops and consultations	75 000		75 000							75 000	0
	Sub-Total		1 371 990	60 000	546 990	0	495 000	0	0	0	0	1 101 990	270 000

Necessary financings for the finalization of the preparation phase from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015													
Program	Sub-Program	Activity	Needs	Secured financings								AVAILABLE TOTALS	GAP to Mobilize
				FCPF 3 400 000	FCPF2 5 000 000	FCPF3 200 000	NORWAY UNDP	FAO	UNEP	COMI- FAC	DRC		
Decentralization	All Provinces	Training of REDD+ Provinces Focal Points	100 000		70 000		20 000					90 000	10 000
		Operation of provincial Focal Points (office, small furniture, fuel for motorcycles, etc..)	295 000	120 000	175 000							295 000	0
		Workshops, training and awareness sessions organized by the Focal Points in the provinces.	300 000		200 000		50 000					250 000	50 000
		Supervision of the focal points for the CN-REDD (Kinshasa meetings, visits to the provinces, IEC specific production tools including provincial strategic plans, publishing, broadcasting)	220 000		220 000							220 000	0
	Pilot Provinces	Consultants in sustainable Development in charge of deployment in Province	250 000				150 000					150 000	100 000
		Support missions specialized, workshops, multi-stakeholder dialogue, training carriers and project beneficiaries, provincial strategic vision	350 000				200 000					200 000	150 000
		Logistical support to REDD+ cells in the three pilot provinces	60 000				30 000					30 000	30 000
Sub-Total			1 575 000	120 000	665 000	0	450 000	0	0	0	0	1 235 000	340 000
Process Management	PROCESS MANAGEMENT	External Audit Cabinet for Don TF 099125	158 150	38 150	120 000							158 150	0
		Cabinet for Fiduciary Management (FNCP)	288 250	38 250	250 000							288 250	0
		Vehicle purchasing	99 000	44 000	55 000							99 000	0
		CN-REDD Global salary	2 139 960	369 944	1513200						256816	2 139 960	0
		Support to General Secretary and to the Sustainable Direction	100 000	10 000	90 000							100 000	0
		CN-REDD Functioning Fees	408 688	108 688	200 000		40 000			10 000	50 000	408 688	0
		RH project	175 000				100 000					100 000	75 000
		Offices Renting	360 000	120 000	240 000							360 000	0
		Activities Monitoring and Evaluation	45 602				30 602					30 602	15 000
Administration, bank costs and monitoring-assessment (3%)	150 000		150 000							150 000	0		
Sub-Total			3 924 650	729 032	2 618 200	0	170 602	0	0	266 816	50 000	3 834 650	90 000
General Total			15 499 209	1 936 497	5 000 000	200 000	3 322 143	823 290	183 097	305 716	50 000	11 820 743	3 678 466