

# World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF093871  
Printed On: 11/05/2013

Reporting Period: 03/19/2009 to 03/31/2011  
Report Type: Completion  
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF093871

## DRC: FCPF READINESS GRANT

## FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

Task Team Leader: 00000055111 - Simon A. P. Rietbergen  
Approving Manager: 00000096218 - Idah Z. Pswarayi-Riddihough

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Congo, Dem Rep
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	8107 - AFTN1
Grant Start Date / Closing Date	03/19/2009 to 06/30/2011
Program Manager	
Original Grant Amount	200,000.00
Grant Amount	200,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	191,086.21 as of 03/31/2011
Disbursed 03/19/2009 to 03/31/2011	191,086.21
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

*This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Completion, Disbursements, Procurement Plan, Procurement Actuals.*

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## OVERVIEW

### Overall Assessments

#### Grant Objectives:

The objective of the Project is to assist the Recipient to develop a Readiness Plan, on the basis of the Readiness Plan Idea Note following the FCPF template for the Readiness Plan.

#### Overall progress from 03/19/2009 to 03/31/2011 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

##### Comment:

The grant objective was fully achieved. The Democratic Republic of Congo's (DRC) Readiness Plan (R-PP) for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation and protecting and enhancing carbon stocks (REDD+) was discussed by the Participants' Committee of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (CPF) in their session of March 2010 and finally approved in July 2010. Since then, the National REDD Coordination has continued work on the REDD+ Strategy, for which a second FCPF grant for \$3.4 million was approved in March 2011.

#### Overall progress from 03/19/2009 to 03/31/2011 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

##### Comment:

The implementation of the grant was satisfactory. Disbursement percentage was over 95% and financial management was satisfactory. The audit report covering the period up to 31 December 2010 is due on 30 June 2011. The audit has already been carried out and the report is expected to be delivered on time.

### Grant follow-up and structure

#### Description and context of Grant:

The grant has four components:

- i) Roadmap for the preparation of a REDD+ Strategy;
- ii) Preparation of roadmap for design of a system for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV),
- iii) Preparation of roadmap for the establishment of a Reference Levels;
- iv) promotion of consultations on the R-PP.

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

#### Comment on follow up:

A second grant from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) for US\$3.4 million for the preparation of the national REDD+ strategy has already been prepared (P124072)

**End Date of Last Site Visit:**

**Restructuring of Grant:**

## COMPLETION

### Overall Assessments and Lessons Learned

#### Main lessons learned:

There are four main lessons:

1. Given the sensitive nature of interactions on REDD between DRC government and civil society stakeholders (and within civil society between indigenous peoples rights groups and environment & development NGOs), it was important to have intensive process management supervision by the Bank of this activity. This was achieved by having a Carbon Finance Specialist posted in the field.
2. The Congolese government has remained firmly in the driver's seat of the whole REDD+ exercise, despite a variety of donors involved and a large contingent of foreign Technical Assistance. This was both because of true national leadership and because of the willingness of all the REDD+ donors to stick to the "rules of the game" in this respect.
3. The REDD Readiness process encouraged Congolese NGOs to organize themselves into a platform ("Working Group on Climate

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and REDD, GTCR), which increased their capacity to make their voice heard and to mobilize resources for stakeholder consultations on the topic.

4. The Bank's active role in sharing knowledge, both in terms of cross-fertilizing the REDD Readiness process with inputs from the outside and in terms of reaching out to the world to explain DRC's approach to the REDD Readiness process, and the results it was generating, paid off in a big way. This was achieved in large part through excellent collaboration between ENVCF and AFTEN, as well as with the Bank's external partners (DRC Ministry of the Environment UN-REDD, Norway).

### Overall outcome (and its Sustainability):

#### Comment:

It is difficult at this stage to comment on the overall outcome and its sustainability, given that the REDD+ Readiness process is set to continue for years. However, there are four clear outcomes so far and they are very promising. One is improved knowledge of the REDD and climate change agenda in DRC, which has led to the new Poverty Reduction Strategy having one pillar (out of four) on environment and climate change. The second clear outcome so far is that the quality of interactions between government and civil society has improved significantly. The third one is that DRC is recognized as a regional leader on REDD+ and that there is much demand from other COMIFAC countries for knowledge sharing and collaboration, which the Bank can facilitate through the GEF-funded and Bank-managed Central Africa Regional REDD project. The fourth outcome is that successful completion of the R-PP has helped the government in leveraging additional resources from the UN-REDD program, and the Japanese (for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification of forest carbon emissions reductions). All four of these outcomes should be ascribed to the REDD+ Readiness process as a whole, in which the current Bank-managed Trust Fund operation played a decisive catalytic role.

### Bank Performance:

#### Comment:

The Bank performed well in important but tricky areas such as

1. Coordination with parallel UN-REDD and other donor assistance to the DRC REDD Readiness process, despite the relatively small funding envelope managed by the Bank
2. Constructive nature of interactions with local and international civil society on the subject
3. Knowledge sharing, including innovations such as the "International REDD University" held in Kinshasa in summer 2010

## Additional Assessment

### Development / strengthening of institutions:

#### Comment:

The REDD+ Readiness process encouraged Congolese NGOs to organize themselves into a platform ("Working Group on Climate and REDD, GTCR), which increased their capacity to make their voice heard and to mobilize resources for stakeholder consultations on the topic. Although the Bank's financial contribution was modest, its catalytic role in the REDD+ Readiness process in DRC contributed substantially to this result - both through the active engagement of the Bank's field-based staff with the national NGO community and through helping to mobilize additional funds from other donors for their involvement in the REDD+ Readiness Process.

### Mobilization of other resources:

#### Comment:

A multiple of the Bank-managed Trust Fund budget was mobilized by the Congolese government from other donors. Some donors were no doubt more comfortable with providing such funding following the Bank's early engagement in the REDD+ REadiness process in DRC, through the current grant.. The task team also leveraged additional internal resources, in particular PREM funding for a Political Economy Analysis of REDD+.

### Knowledge exchange:

#### Comment:

The Bank played a very active role in sharing knowledge, both in terms of cross-fertilizing the REDD Readiness process with inputs from the outside and in terms of reaching out to the world to explain DRC's approach to the REDD Readiness process, and the results it was generating. This was achieved in large part through excellent collaboration between ENVCF and AFTEN, as well as with the Bank's external partners (DRC Ministry of the Environment, Congolese civil society, UN-REDD, Norway).

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### Client's policy / program implementation:

#### Comment:

In terms of implementation of DRC's overall REDD+ strategy, it is too early to judge whether the grant has had a decisive long-term impact - even the next FCPF grant is for strategy development, not implementation. The advanced nature of DRC's REDD Readiness process to which the grant contributed, however, has had two noticeable impacts:

1. It made DRC an ideal candidate to be a pilot country for the Forest Investment Program (FIP), one of the World Bank-managed Climate Investment Funds, which intends to invest \$60 million in DRC. Along with Burkina Faso, DRC will be the first FIP pilot country to present its FIP investment plan for approval to the FIP sub-committee session of 29-30 June 2011. If DRC's FIP investment plan is duly approved in June, the implementation of FIP investments may start as early as mid FY13.
2. The inputs generated by DRC's REDD Readiness process have led to some realignment of activities under the Ecosystem Services component of the Bank-funded DRC Forest and nature Conservation Project (P100620).

### Efficiency:

#### Comment:

The grant resources were used efficiently and the speed of grant implementation was satisfactory.

### Replicability:

#### Comment:

DRC is a very particular country (extremely large and diverse, "post-conflict" but with some conflicts still lingering) so some of the experience will be relevant mainly to other post-conflict countries. Other elements of the current grant are likely to be replicable more generally, however. The REDD+ technical work carried out in DRC is highly relevant to other Congo Basin countries, which have similar forest types and socio-economic characteristics and whose people use forests in similar ways. In particular, the methodologies used for the studies on drivers of deforestation, benefit sharing arrangements and funds management are highly replicable. Finally, the emphasis on engaging with the national civil society and the investment in communication and knowledge sharing are more universally replicable.

### Main recommendations to stakeholders:

Maintaining and enhancing the constructive relationship among government and NGO stakeholders and technical and financial partners will be crucial for putting together a solid REDD+ strategy and implementing it successfully in DRC

### Main recommendations to Bank Management:

The current DRC project portfolio has not been substantially informed by the REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks), work as the latter is very recent. REDD+ recommendations can provide major contributions to the Agriculture, Energy and Infrastructure sectors among others. It will be important to start informing the Bank's evolving portfolio with the preliminary results of the REDD+ now, and not wait until the REDD+ strategy is completed (in FY14 or FY15). Initial discussions between the task teams leading on the Forest Investment Program and the proposed Growth Poles Project show that there is considerable scope for synergies between REDD+ and the rest of the Bank's portfolio in DRC.

## DISBURSEMENTS

### Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2009	06/30/2009	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2009	12/31/2009	0.00	0.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
01/01/2010	06/30/2010	0.00	0.00	177,082.40	77,082.40
07/01/2010	12/31/2010	0.00	0.00	191,086.21	14,003.81

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01/01/2011	06/30/2011	0.00	0.00	191,086.21	0.00
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## PROCUREMENT PLAN

None

## PROCUREMENT ACTUAL

None