

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

Report to Donor

Ref. TF099125  
Printed On: 05/31/2019

Reporting Period: 03/26/2011 to 02/28/2018  
Report Type: Completion  
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF099125

## Preparation of DRC's Readiness Plan, Readiness Fund of the FCPF FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000297108 - Laurent Valiergue  
Approving Manager: 00000086169 - Benoit Bosquet

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Congo, Dem Rep
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9268 - GENA2
Grant Start Date / End Date	03/26/2011 to 06/30/2018
Original Grant Amount	3,400,000.00
Grant Amount	8,600,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	8,599,876.78 as of 02/28/2018
Disbursed 03/26/2011 to 02/28/2018	8,599,876.78
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

*This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Completion, Disbursements, Procurement Plan, Procurement Actuals.*

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## OVERVIEW

### Overall Assessments

#### Grant Objectives:

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.

#### Overall progress from 03/26/2011 to 02/28/2018 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

##### Comment:

The PDO indicators of the REDD+ Readiness grant have been achieved. The DRC completed the development of its national REDD+ framework and key pillars for REDD+ implementation in May 2015, and was the first country to reach that stage of the REDD+ process in accordance with the readiness process. This was led by the National REDD+ Coordination (CN-REDD) #with support from the FCPF grant and UN-REDD # and involved the following milestones: (i) a national consensus on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (2012); (ii) the adoption of the National REDD+ Strategy by the Council of Ministers (2012); (iii) the creation of the National REDD+ Fund (FONAREDD) and its initial capitalization under CAFI (April 2016); (iv) the revision of the 2015-2020 national REDD+ investment plan (basis for resource allocation to FONAREDD); (v) the validation of the REDD+ socio-environmental standards as well as the national environmental and social management framework for REDD+ (SESA), as well as an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and its associated frameworks, (vi) the development of a grievance redress mechanism; (vii) the development of a national forest monitoring system, and (viii) the adaptation of the legal and regulatory framework for REDD+.

#### Overall progress from 03/26/2011 to 02/28/2018 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

##### Comment:

In March 2015, the DRC presented its Participatory Self-Assessment of the REDD+ Readiness Package (available here: <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2015/April/DRC%20R-Package%20English.pdf>) outlining the progress made in the REDD+ readiness phase and a work program for consolidation, based on the 34 criteria and indicators set forth in the FCPF Readiness Package Assessment Framework. An TAP-Expert Review of the Self-Assessment (April 2015, Report available here: <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/sites/fcp/files/2015/April/TAP-D-C-R-Package-Self-Assessment%20Review-9%20April%202015.pdf>) independently assessed both progress and achievements of REDD+ Readiness in the country, as well as potential remaining gaps moving forward and transitioning from Readiness to implementation of performance-based REDD+ activities. The FCPF Participants Committee endorsed DRC's R-Package based on the following conclusive comments of the TAP-Expert Review:

- DRC is now ready pursue the next level of its REDD+ process; to implement an ER-Program at subnational level.
- A solid process has been conducted over the past six years to advance the REDD+ Readiness process in the country as outlined in the comprehensive and complete R-Package and observed using a thorough Self-Assessment review.
- A considerable effort has been undertaken in the consultation process, driven by a variety of stakeholders, including those that had been excluded in former development processes.
- The work program for consolidation of the Readiness phase is well prepared and potentially will lead to full accomplishment of REDD+ Readiness within a reasonable time frame. There is no need to go beyond what is planned in the work program but to embark on a learning-by-doing process.

The implementation of the work program for consolidation of the Readiness phase took place from March 2015 onwards with support from the US\$5.2 million additional funding grant from the FCPF. An analysis of the key anticipated outcomes versus those achieved at grant completion is provided in the #Completion# section of this report.

### Grant follow-up and structure

#### Description and context of Grant:

Since January 2009, the DRC has been engaged in the REDD+ process to contribute to the achievement of the objectives

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pursued by different Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). REDD+ in DRC has been a strong process with steady progress, starting with the approval of the DRC's REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) in March 2012 by the FCPF Participants Committee and the UN-REDD Policy Board (R-PP available here: [http://redd.unfccc.int/uploads/2\\_186\\_eng\\_rpp\\_drc\\_version\\_020310.pdf](http://redd.unfccc.int/uploads/2_186_eng_rpp_drc_version_020310.pdf)). This approval paved the way for the release of US\$8.9 million in funding (FCPF: US\$3.4 million, UN-REDD: US\$5.5 million). The FCPF grant essentially supported components 1a (National readiness management arrangements), 1b (Stakeholders consultation and participation), 2b (REDD strategy options), 2c (REDD implementation framework), and 2d (Social and environmental impacts) of the R-PP. The UN-REDD program focused components 3 (Develop reference emission level and reference levels) and 4 (Design a monitoring system). To strengthen and complete the readiness phase, and based on an independent mid-term evaluation conducted in May 2012, the DRC benefitted from additional funds from the FCPF Readiness Fund (US\$5.2 million). The corresponding grant agreement was signed in January 2014. The main goals of the additional grant were to: (i) complete the REDD+ readiness phase, based on the criteria and indicators in the Readiness Package Assessment Framework; (ii) operationalize the implementation tools, including the measurement, reporting verification (MRV) system, the national REDD+ registry, the REDD+ safeguards instruments, the benefit-sharing mechanism, and the feedback and grievance redress mechanism; and (iii) ensure REDD+ deployment in the provinces.

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

### Comment on follow up:

As further detailed in the #Mobilization of other resources# section, several programs have already leveraged the established REDD+ readiness to support the DRC in pursuing the next level of its REDD+ process, including implementing REDD+ actions at the subnational level and seeking results based-payments for the emissions reductions generated.

### End Date of Last Site Visit:

### Restructuring of Grant:

N/A

## OUTCOME

### Comments on outcome achieved from 03/26/2011 to 02/28/2018

### Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

## COMPONENTS

There are no components defined for this trust fund / grant.

### Comment on planned and actual Output

N/A

### Comment on component implementation progress

N/A

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## EXECUTION

### Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P124072 - DRC-FCPF REDD READINESS  
Project Status: Lending  
Global Focal Area: Climate change  
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

### Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Nat.ional REDD+ Coordination, Ministry for Env't and Sust. Development  
Contact: Rubin RASHIDI BUKANGA  
Address: CN-REDD, Ministère de l'Environnement et Développement Durable, Kinshasa  
Phone: +243 (0) 990179733 Email: rubinrashidi@yahoo.fr  
Website:

## PROGRAM

### Program Specific Questions

1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f  
N/A
2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.  
N/A
3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.  
N/A
4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?  
N/A
5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?  
N/A
6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.  
N/A

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## COMPLETION

### Overall Assessments and Lessons Learned

#### Main lessons learned:

The DRC has been engaged in the REDD + process for almost 10 years and completed its national REDD+ framework in May 2015. DRC's REDD+ readiness process has generated key insights and lessons learned for other FCPF participating countries and the international REDD+ technical agenda overall including the following:

-REDD+ is a cross-cutting process that engages a considerable number of stakeholders who undertake different activities necessary to achieve large-scale mitigation. Hence, the importance of consultation and broad and inclusive participation.

-REDD+ also cuts across scales. Local-scale activities can stimulate community action and private investment, and provide operational on-the-ground capacity. It is important to incorporate local-scale activities into subnational programs and the overall national REDD+ framework.

-Drafting laws, codes and regulations is not enough. These must be enforced and complied with at all levels including the administration and private actors. Significant effort and resources must be invested in reaching out to and educating stakeholders to mobilize and create ownership around REDD+ strategy and action.

-Demonstrating tangible results to local communities is capital to the operationalization and sustainability of REDD+. Pilot projects are critical to that extent since they allow highlighting concrete benefits, experience and lessons learned from REDD+.

#### Overall outcome (and its Sustainability):

##### Comment:

An analysis of the key anticipated outcomes of the readiness consolidation work program (March 2015) versus those achieved at grant completion is provided below:

-The various REDD+ implementation tools are finalized and operational: The tools and frameworks are finalized and are being operationalized in the context of on-the-ground REDD+ activities at the program and project levels. All safeguard instruments were completed and approved by the WB in April 2015. They include the SESA, the ESMF and its five related frameworks. In addition, the national social and environmental standards for REDD+ were validated and capacities were built for implementation. The National Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) was completed and validated during a multi-stakeholder national workshop held in Feb. 2017. The full operationalization of the National FGRM involves the development of project-level FGRMs such as that of the FIP project (see <http://www.pifrdc.org/mgpr?post=66>). The development of the national Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) a national forest monitoring system was led by the Department of Forest Inventory and Management Planning. The FREL (covering 2010-2014) was submitted to the UNFCCC in Jan. 2018 (see [http://redd.unfccc.int/files/2018\\_frel\\_submission\\_drc.pdf](http://redd.unfccc.int/files/2018_frel_submission_drc.pdf)). Refined reference levels will be developed at the sub-national level and used to measure the performance of ER Programs (under development for the Mai-Ndombe ER Program). The Ministerial Homologation Decree for REDD+ projects and programs which was signed May 2018 provides the legal basis and procedures for any REDD+ investments to comply with the country's legal REDD+ framework. Art. 26 of the Decree set outs the respective shares of those carbon transaction's proceeds earmarked to the state (i.e. Treasury, Competent Authority and Registry Administrator, Ministry of Environment, and Local Administration) while a Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) will be developed at the level of ER Programs (and subsequently at the project level) to define how the proceeds are shared between other beneficiaries (local communities, Indigenous Peoples, private sector etc.). The development of the BSP for the Mai-Ndombe ER Program involved comprehensive, multi-level (national, province, territories) and inclusive stakeholder engagement (Indigenous Pygmy Peoples, local communities, civil society, local administration, private sector) throughout the preparation of the ER Program (2013-2016) and the ERPA negotiations with the FCPF Carbon Fund Participants (2016-2018). The National REDD+ registry is currently at the final stages of development, incl. to address the feedback collected from the CN-REDD and other stakeholders during user tests performed in Kinshasa in December 2018. The National Registry is expected to be released on-line in June 2018. A #transaction module# will be added (under CFI's Governance Support Program) onto the National Registry (2018/2019) to support future carbon transactions.

-The specific frameworks designed for REDD+ (safeguards instruments) are integrated into the legal and regulatory framework:

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The Ministerial Homologation Decree (signed in May 2018) enshrines the various REDD+ implementation tools and framework into national law and provides the legal basis for and procedures for any REDD+ investments to comply with them.

-REDD+ information is disseminated and information, education, and communication tools are developed: Since the TAP-Expert Review of the Self-Assessment (April 2015) communication, education and capacity building efforts have continued. An information session for universities was organized in Kinshasa in 2016 the context of the International Forest Day. Communication efforts were more specifically targeted at the local level such as the radio campaign organized in the Kasai Oriental Province. In terms of international outreach, the project supported the participation of relevant DRC delegates in the Climate Week in September 2015 and regular UNFCCC sessions (including COP-21).

-Lessons learned from REDD+ projects and initiatives are leveraged: As further detailed in other sections, several recent programs have already leveraged the experience and REDD+ infrastructure established under the readiness process (Phase I). These programs support the DRC in pursuing the next level of its REDD+ process, including implementing REDD+ actions at the subnational level (Phase II) and seeking results based-payments for the ERs generated (Phase III).

-The National REDD+ Fund (FONAREDD) is capitalized and provincial REDD+ investment programs are developed in the DRC: As of 2018, FONAREDD has been capitalized with 81.2 million USD and transferred 59.7 million USD to the Participating Organizations to implement 8 approved programs.

-Harmonization among the various laws on natural resource management is gradually established, adhering to the principles of the REDD+ process. In the context of the Economic Governance Matrix, REDD+ reforms (land tenure, land-use planning) are implemented and REDD+ standards are available in the mining and hydrocarbon sectors: The DRC REDD+ Investment Plan was adopted in 2013 and revised in Nov. 2015 after double independent review in 2015. Its general objective is to reduce the loss of forest cover from the current 300,000 ha/year to 200,000 ha/year by 2020. Implementation started in 2016 and includes programs supporting major structural and policy reforms, such as land tenure reform to secure rural tenure, a land use planning policy, improvement in governance and increases in agricultural productivity that promotes activities in savannahs.

Developing laws, codes and regulations, as well as tools and other technical elements of REDD+ is not enough for the implementation and sustainable financing of REDD+. Institutional support and capacity building are needed for the successful entry of the DRC into the second (implementation) and third (result-based payments) phases of the REDD+ process. This will in turn support operationalizing and road-testing of REDD+ tools, including the National REDD+ Registry and the Grievance Redress Mechanism. The upcoming #REDD+ Governance Support# project financed by CAFI is aimed at strengthening DRC's government capacity to enforce and administer REDD+ through building further capacity within the Ministry of Environment and anchoring FONAREDD programs at the level of all competent administrations. In addition, result-based payments for the ERs achieved under existing and future ER Programs in DRC are expected to scale up funding and strengthen sustainability of REDD+. The ERPA in discussion with the FCPF Carbon Fund to purchase 11 million of the ERs achieved by the Mai-Ndombe ER Program could generate additional financing of up to US\$ 55 million and thus represent a critical milestone in replenishing FONAREDD and catalyzing further REDD+ action in DRC.

### Bank Performance:

#### Comment:

The overall Bank Performance is satisfactory, based on quality at entry, project supervision and additional resource mobilization and alignment. The project was prepared by a team which had sound and appropriate experience and was able to build upon the DRC's early interest and engagement in the REDD+ process. The project objectives were substantially relevant to both country and Bank strategies (REDD+, land-use reform, sustainable forestry etc.) throughout the project's implementation period. Project activities were well aligned with the achievement of the project objectives. As a result, the project served as a model for many other countries engaged in REDD+. Despite a rather high TTL turnover (5 TTLs in 6/7 years), actions taken by the Bank during supervision were mostly appropriate and timely. Regular supervision missions were conducted 1 to 3 times per year (3 for the last two years of implementation) and there was supervision continuity overall. Supervision teams comprised the right mix of expertise and members, such as a #FCPF Focal Point# supporting the TTL on specific aspects related to REDD+, the FCPF Trust Fund and its donors. Procurement and financial management performance were regularly assessed and, when problems were found, all necessary attempts were made to rectify them promptly. The mission aide-memoires were comprehensive and described agreed actions for each project component (the period during which

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no aide-memoire was produced is because the TTL was based in the Kinshasa office). One key achievement for which the Bank should be specially credited is the mobilization of other sources of funding to ensure the sustainability of the project's outcomes and support the DRC in progressively moving from REDD+ readiness into piloting (CAFI's Governance Program), investment (FIP) and performance-based payments (FCPF CF). The development of the related proposals as well as project preparation processing at the level of both the trust funds and the Bank were performed with significant resource and time efficiency. Optimal alignment of financing instruments was in fact the main reason for extending the grant from December 2016 to December 2017 (preparation of the Mai-Ndombe ER Program). One notable issue was the funding for the CN-REDD being discontinued after the closure of the project in December 2017, which have been a serious threat to the sustainability of the project's outcomes and have put a strain on REDD+ progress in DRC (the CN-REDD being the body in charge of REDD+). However, such developments should not be attributed to the Bank's performance but rather to significant delays in decision-making on the side of the trust funds providing follow-up financing (negotiations of the ERPA with the FCPF CF, and Request for Proposals process for CAFI's Governance Program).

## Additional Assessment

### Development / strengthening of institutions:

#### Comment:

The institutional framework for REDD+ readiness in the DRC was set forth by Prime Ministerial Decree in November 2009. It established a decision-making body (National Committee), a planning body (Inter-ministerial Committee), a steering and implementation body (National REDD Coordination, CN-REDD), and a Scientific Council #although the latter has yet to be established.

DRC's REDD+ readiness efforts and developments have mostly been driven by the CN-REDD which received human, technical and financial and logistical support to successfully carry out its mission including:

- Establishing and training a team of about twenty professionals;
- Designing and implementing REDD+ preparation activities, managing administrative and financial aspects and ensuring coordination with national and international technical and financial partners;
- Supporting the Government in the negotiation and signing of the Letter of Intent with CAFI and the operationalization of FONAREDD; and
- Advising the DRC Delegation on UNFCCC negotiations and other major meetings on REDD+ to maintain a proper watch on international developments and inform the domestic agenda.

The National and Inter-Ministerial Committees have, by nature, played a more modest role at this stage of the REDD+ process. Nonetheless, they have helped to structure and organize information-sharing, consultations, and capacity building with different key Ministries and other partners such as civil society and the private sector. Also, their early establishment has allowed them to build on competences to perform their prerogatives in the next REDD+ phases (i.e. implementation and result-based payments). At the provincial level the establishment of appropriate institutional arrangements has only gradually started since mid-2012 with the nomination of Provincial Focal Points within the provincial governments and the decentralized services of the Ministry of the Environment.

### Mobilization of other resources:

#### Comment:

Several additional programs have leveraged the established REDD+ readiness to support the DRC in pursuing the next level of its REDD+ process, including implementing REDD+ actions at the subnational level and seeking results based-payments for the ERs generated.

Following signing of the Letter of Commitment between the DRC and the CAFI Board in April 2016, the FONAREDD has approved eight programs (totaling US\$ 91 million in approved funding) implemented with different partners including the World Bank, UNDP, FAO and UN-Habitat. They are aimed at supporting the launch of key needed reforms on land use planning and tenure

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and related national land use scheme, enhancing actions at the provincial and territorial level in high deforestation REDD+ areas, and engaging civil society and indigenous peoples in REDD+:

- Integrated Maï Ndombé Program (US \$30 million, World Bank);
- Program for the Finalization and Implementation of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) (US \$10 million, FAO);
- Civil Society Support Program (US \$2 million, UNDP);
- Program on the Sustainable Management of Forests by Pygmies Indigenous Peoples (US \$2 million, World Bank);
- Integrated Eastern REDD+ Program (provinces of Tshopo, Ituri et Bas Uele) (US \$33 million, UNDP);
- Integrated REDD+ Program for the Province of Sud Ubangi (US \$7 million, World Bank);
- Support Program to Land Use Planning Reform (US \$4 million, UNDP); and
- Support Program to Tenure Reforms (US \$3 million, UN-Habitat).

More information on each program is available at  
<http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/partner-countries/democratic-republic-of-the-congo/drc-fonaredd-programmes.html>

In addition, the #REDD+ Governance Support Program# (US\$ 5 million, pending approval by CAFI) will aim at strengthening DRC#s government capacity to enforce and administer REDD+.

Another REDD+ related investments in DRC is the FIP#s Improved Forested Landscape Management Project (IFLM) (US\$ 36.9 million). The IFLM includes, among other components, the Integrated REDD + Plateau Project in the Plateau District (US \$ 14.2 Million) which falls under the Maï Ndombé ER Program along with CAFI#s Integrated Maï Ndombé Program mentioned above and Wildlife Works Carbon#s (WWC) REDD+ Project (private sector). As explained above, the DRC is also seeking result-based financing from the World Bank#s FCPF Carbon Fund (up to US\$ 55 million) for the ERs achieved under the Maï Ndombé ER Program.

### Knowledge exchange:

#### Comment:

The national REDD+ preparation process in DRC has been highly educative, participatory, inclusive and transparent. A constant dialogue has been established with the civil society within the platform called #Working Group Climate REDD# (GTCR) and its several offshoots. The Network of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for Sustainable Forest Ecosystem Management of the DRC (REPALEF) has worked closely with the CN-REDD to learn and inform the implementation of REDD+ on the interests of Indigenous Peoples. The private sector has been systematically invited in the multiple REDD+ events and shown increasing interest. Meetings and workshops were held on a regular basis and in response to specific needs and developments. While views were sometimes divergent, the dialogue has always been maintained, with the Ministry of Environment facilitating or playing an arbitration role when necessary. Participation was also strong in other sectors of the administration.

The significant level of stakeholder mobilization has been driven by the technical and tangible nature of project activities # such those related to the determination the drivers of deforestation, the elaboration of national REDD+ strategy, the preparation of socio-environmental standards, and so on # which in turn has allowed for increased knowledge generation and exchanges. Some activities specifically targeting communication, information sharing and education also allowed to scale up knowledge dissemination. These include, for example, the annual International REDD+ Universities, one large intensive training on REDD+ and sustainable development (open to the public), a tree planting campaign involving 3,000 young people in Kinshasa, the production of educational songs and a concert. Radio and TV sketches targeting the Congolese population were also produced, along with other mass-oriented communication material such as calendars, flyers, press articles etc.

In parallel, and building on the established knowledge basis, several programs implementing REDD+ on the ground (e.g. CAFI, FIP, FCPF Carbon Fund) have also fueled and scaled-up exchanges and learning #especially at the local level. For example, the FIP project has engaged the private sector and rural communities. Working meetings and training with Indigenous Pygmy Peoples, local communities, civil society organizations, decentralized administration, and companies were also organized in most territories of the Maï Ndombé province throughout the design phase of the Maï Ndombé ER Program.

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### Client's policy / program implementation:

#### Comment:

Since 2009, the DRC REDD+ readiness process has successfully mobilized a variety of actors for better engagement and political ownership. The High-Level Forum held in November 2011 with the involvement of the Head of State and the presentation of the National REDD+ Framework Strategy by the Deputy Prime Minister to the international community in the 18th Conference of the Parties in Doha (November 2012) demonstrate DRC's significant early political appropriation and commitment to REDD+ at the highest level. Key reforms have started and are continuing in several sectors, including forestry:

- Reinforcement of the mechanisms on new forest concession contracts regarding environmental and social requirements;
- The observance of the economic governance matrix concluded with the Bretton Woods Institutions;
- Revision of the modalities for granting permits for artisanal logging: a commission to certify timber harvesting permits has been established to clean up the licensing system and to avoid abuses committed in the past;
- Change in the performance of controls on the export of timbers, through a new commission tasked with ensuring good governance (July 2012) which includes, in addition to experts from the Ministry of Environment, representatives from the Central Bank, the General Directorate of Rights and Assizes of the Congolese Office of Control, the Commercial Corporation of Transport and Ports and the Ministry of the Interior, Security and Customary Affairs to analyze all cross-cutting issues related to the export of timber;
- Implementation of measures related to the control and traceability of the timber industry;
- Sensitization of provincial authorities to the fight against illegal artisanal and industrial logging;
- Deployment on a larger scale, particularly for the Eastern Provinces, the Wood Production and Marketing Control Program (PCBCB / SGS);
- Commitment to the signing process of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement - FLEGT between the DRC government and the EU to ensure the certification of Congolese timber exported to EU countries;
- Accession to the Organization for the Harmonization of African Business Law (OHADA).

### Efficiency:

#### Comment:

Overall, the project achieved its objectives in a timely manner with one key result being the presentation and endorsement of the country's Readiness Package during the 19th meeting of the FCPF PC in May 2015.

Challenges facing the project during implementation include:

1/ Institutional: the reduction of forest-related emissions involves a range of activities, implemented at multiple scales (i.e. territorial, provincial, national) and by different stakeholders (i.e. government, communities, private sector). In addition, REDD+ implementation involves several phases (i.e. readiness, investments, and results-based payments) which are not purely sequential but can instead overlap. Therefore, REDD+ requires considerable policy, technical and financial support, and related coordination. For the readiness phase and financing to be efficient, much more time and resources than anticipated had to be invested in mobilizing much necessary additional funding and ensuring coordination with relevant institutions, partners, and support programs. Despite successful financing mobilization and overall coordination, the CN-REDD was left unfunded after the end of the project, spurring uncertainty over the future of this institution and hence the sustainability of REDD+ implementation in DRC.

2/ Operational: the implementation of a REDD+ strategy and related stakeholder engagement at the provincial level could not just rely on REDD+ preparation funding due to distance with Kinshasa and constrained resources. Allowing for efficient REDD+ preparation at the local level therefore required leveraging implementation-oriented programs (i.e. CAFI, FIP).

3/ Financial: achieving emission reductions across a landscape requires the availability of finance for various scales and from various sources. Readiness funding must help create a favorable framework for private investments and promote innovative models for private- and community-based REDD+ action. Although controversial when first proposed under the Mai Ndombé ER Program, integrating forest carbon projects into a larger-scale REDD+ program stimulate private sector and communities' interest and provide operational on-the-ground capacity.

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### Replicability:

#### Comment:

REDD+ is generally considered to be implemented in three phases: I. Readiness; II. Investments; and III. Results-based payments. The phases are not purely sequential but can instead overlap to a significant extent based on national circumstances. In phases I and II, the national REDD+ strategy is being developed and implemented through the facilitation and improvement of enabling conditions (legal framework, capacity building, governance structures and monitoring and verifications systems) and early investments in results-based demonstration activities. Phase III provides payments for verified emission reductions, achieved among other things through activities in the second phase. After preparation (phase I), DRC has committed to the effective implementation of REDD + in the field (phase II) through integrated REDD+ programs (PIREDD) supporting local communities to reduce their pressure on natural forests. These include projects in the Kinshasa (WBG), Mbuji-Mayi/Kananga and Kisangani Basins (AfDB) supported by the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and others in the Provinces of Mai-Ndombe, Sud Ubangi, and former Eastern Province supported by the Central African Forest (CAFI). The DRC has also engaged into piloting Result-based payments for the Emission Reductions (ERs) (phase III). An Emissions Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA) is in discussion for the FCPF Carbon Fund to purchase 11 million of the ERs achieved by the ER Program in the Province of Mai-Ndombe over the period 2018-2022. This pilot transaction could generate additional financing of up to US\$ 55 million to support the ER Program and provide a pathway to the objectives of REDD+ in DRC.

### Main recommendations to stakeholders:

Recommendations to stakeholders from the DRC's experience on REDD+ include:

1/ The REDD + process is connected to the much broader policy agenda and reform process (i.e. forest, agriculture, energy) and represent a lever for countries' transition to a green economy. As REDD+ in DRC is moving towards implementation and result-based payments coordination within Government will be all the more critical #especially between the Ministries of Finance, Planning, Environment, Agriculture and Energy # for allowing REDD+ finance to play such a transformative role.

2/ While REDD+ involves several phases, establishing relevant REDD+ infrastructure and capacities requires some degree of overlap between such phases. In particular, those REDD+ investments starting before readiness is reached allow for road-testing and operationalizing REDD+ frameworks at all levels #including subnational and local. Likewise, early engagement in result-based financing provide necessary lead time and capacity building for discussions with stakeholders on key REDD+ aspects such as sharing of ER payments, carbon transaction governance and accounting modalities etc. Therefore, timely availability and coordination of different financing sources and technical assistance are critical.

3/ Results-based finance is a cornerstone in the approach to REDD+ and channeling payments to actors effectively generating GHG emission reductions on the ground is critical for sustaining and scaling-up REDD+ action. A Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) setting out specific economic, policy and institutional arrangements for ensuring equitable and efficient delivery of ER payments is a central element of performance-based ER Programs. The experience with the Mai Ndombe ER Program shows that early, multi-level (national, province, territories) and inclusive stakeholder engagement (Indigenous Pygmy Peoples, local communities, civil society, local administration, private sector) is needed to reach agreement on a BSP that provides effective incentives for a variety of actors.

### Main recommendations to Bank Management:

Insights and lessons learned for follow-up engagement in DRC and/or REDD+ support to other client countries include:

1/ The REDD + process is a financial mechanism that can mobilize multiple and innovative sources of financing for a set of policies, programs and projects that contribute not only to the fight against climate change, but also, and especially, to the country's development and the fight against poverty. Therefore, effective REDD+ implementation relies on a broader development agenda, focused on poverty reduction, country-driven strategies and the inclusion of social and environmental considerations.

2/ The success of REDD+ in DRC requires sustainable public and private financing and thus will depend on the capacity of the DRC to build and sustain the integrity of the established REDD+ framework. Robust governance will be especially critical in the context of payments based on the performance (i.e. 3rd phase of REDD+) which will be made based on duly verified emission reductions and will have to flow from the State to beneficiaries taking action at the local level. The viability of such

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Report to Donor

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mechanism presupposes strong credibility of all stakeholders involved especially regarding the respect of all relevant regulations.

## DISBURSEMENTS

### Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2011	06/30/2011	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2011	12/31/2011	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
01/01/2012	06/30/2012	0.00	0.00	796,881.91	396,881.91
07/01/2012	12/31/2012	0.00	0.00	1,270,810.39	473,928.48
01/01/2013	06/30/2013	0.00	0.00	2,178,120.44	907,310.05
07/01/2013	12/31/2013	0.00	0.00	2,829,367.06	651,246.62
01/01/2014	06/30/2014	0.00	0.00	3,339,683.03	510,315.97
07/01/2014	12/31/2014	0.00	0.00	4,448,161.40	1,108,478.37
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	5,541,780.05	1,093,618.65
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	6,451,429.14	909,649.09
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	7,366,515.88	915,086.74
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	8,381,324.80	1,014,808.92
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	8,599,876.78	218,551.98
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	8,599,876.78	0.00
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	8,599,876.78	0.00

## PROCUREMENT PLAN

None

## PROCUREMENT ACTUAL

None