

REDD+ ANNUAL COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORTING (with semi-annual update)

COUNTRY: Suriname
PERIOD: July 2016 – June 2017

Background: This country reporting framework has been developed following the structure of the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, its logical framework and Performance Measurement Framework (PMF), so as to facilitate and systematize the data analysis. The semi-annual country reporting should provide the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) with indications of REDD+ countries' progress towards the achievement of their readiness activities and the implementation of their Emission Reductions programs overtime, in a way that data are easily consolidated and provide indications on the level of achievement of the FCPF output, outcome and impact indicators as defined in the FCPF M&E Framework.

Report preparation: Submitted country reports should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of R-PP) and should be prepared in consultation with members of REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated into national reporting, and divergent views indicative of lack of consensus on specific issues should be recorded in the country report.

Reporting schedule: It is expected that the annual progress country reporting will be submitted to the FMT by August 15th each year. The reporting should be based on a self-assessment of progress. An update of this country reporting will also be submitted by March 15th each year.

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This section should provide a short description of FCPF support in country (bullets on FCPF-financed activities only). Information should summarize progress, key achievements with a focus on higher level results and important issues/problems that arose during the reporting period. Highlights of next steps in following period should also be provided (key bullets only).

Suriname's R-PP was approved by the FCPF in 2013 and the country is currently in its REDD+ Readiness phase. The Mid-Term Review (MTR) mission was conducted in November 2016, with a final report submitted in January 2017. The consultations and discussions for the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy have commenced in January 2017, with a first National consultation workshop in May 2017. In short, the following progress has been made in the reporting period:

Awareness and consultations:

- REDD+ information sessions (walk-in-school) have been initiated in February 2017, to be able to provide key stakeholders with more technical information on REDD+, and will continue. So far, 9 walk-in school sessions with a total of 180 participants have been organized. Two South-South learning missions have been realized to Costa Rica (one technical prospective visit in June 2016, and one with representatives of high-level government in Oct 2016);
- Continued training has been provided and contracts signed with REDD+ Assistants (representing Indigenous and Tribal Communities) for spreading the REDD+ message to their respective indigenous and tribal communities. A total of 12 training days have been organized in this reporting period for the REDD+ Assistants.
- In addition, community meetings have been organized throughout this year to enable the engagement of ITPs in the REDD+ process; High-level engagement has been given priority to strengthen the

government's overall support for REDD+. In total 13 community meetings have been organized, with a total of 582 participants (174 Indigenous, and 408 Tribal).

- A number of outreach and awareness activities have been organized, such as celebrating the International Day of Forests and World Environment Day. Brochures and folders have been printed, and videos have been produced (5 movies in English and Dutch, one movie in Sranan Tongo). In total, around 10 radio programs have been produced together with the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control, from July 2016 – Feb 2017 with weekly broadcasts. In addition, television and radio broadcasts (other radio programs) have been realized (around 50 television and 50 radio broadcasts).

Background studies for REDD+ National Vision and Strategy: 'Multi-Perspective Analysis of Drivers of Deforestation, Forest Degradation and Barriers to REDD+ activities' (DDFDB+ study) final report was produced and validation workshop held in December 2016, with an updated national edition published in May 2017; Background study on Innovative Economic Opportunities (IEO) commenced in November 2016 (scheduled to be finalized August 2017), Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) for Suriname has been finalized in May 2017.

REDD+ National Vision and Strategy: Consultancy firm contracted for REDD+ National Vision and Strategy and SESA/ESMF development in January 2017. First national workshop organized May 4 and 5 2017, to discuss with stakeholders on draft vision for REDD+, categorize and prioritize a preliminary list of PAMs and define risks and benefits for the priority PAMs (total of 100 participants, which includes traditional Indigenous and tribal leaders, REDD+ Assistants). Active community engagement with ITPs to take place in the months May, June and July by visiting communities in the field. At the same time, national stakeholders will be consulted in Paramaribo. Validation workshop to present the final National Vision and Strategy for REDD+ is envisioned for October 2017.

National Forest Monitoring System: NFMS roadmap finalized on status and plans for Suriname's National Forest Monitoring System; Deforestation map 2014-2015 produced as well as LULC maps; QA/QC training conducted for validation of existing maps and production of official deforestation numbers; State-of-the-art study on Best estimates of emission factors and carbon stocks for Suriname conducted; National workshop 'Towards a participatory multi-purpose national forest inventory for Suriname' conducted; NFMS online Geoportal launched (<http://www.gonini.org/portal/>); Technical and strategical preparations for a first FREL/FRL made (planned for submission in January 2018).

Mid-Term Review: The mission of the consultant for the Mid-Term review was conducted in November 2016, and the final MTR report was received in January 2017. The management response on the MTR was prepared in February 2017 and submitted to the UNDP. Feedback was received from UNDP regional advisor mid-March, the Management response was finalized in April together with the UNDP CO.

Next steps:

- Completing the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy, which includes a SESA/ESMF (in September/ Oct 2017).
- Finalize the Land tenure and land rights study as part of the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy, as a desktop study (in July – Oct 2017).
- Support in facilitation of the visit of the Minister of Environment from Costa Rica in September or October 2017 (as a result of the visit in October 2016). In addition to promoting the concept of Green Strategy for Suriname, REDD+ will be highlighted as a tool for the government to aim for the Green Strategy.
- Establishment of a REDD+ Steering Committee (July 2017).
- Board meeting in July 2017, which will be important for discussing the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy.
- Initiate the SIS assessment in August or September 2017.
- After the REDD+ Strategy is finalized, ensure that this document is shared (in a way that the public will understand) with a wide range of stakeholders (4th quarter 2017 and 1st quarter 2018).
- High-level engagement with the government to endorse the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy (from September 2017 - 1st quarter 2018).
- Publication of updated and validated deforestation numbers for 2015-2016 (July 2017).
- Preparation of FREL/FRL for Suriname (submission to UNFCCC in January 2018).

2. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS DURING THE PERIOD

The section below should provide qualitative and quantitative data on the progress towards expected results along the following subsections. Information is to be provided cumulatively. If the information requested is not available or not relevant at the time of the reporting, mention “does not apply – n/a”.

Amount of non-FCPF investments received under R-PP process (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):	
<u>Source:</u> Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization project	<u>Amount provided:</u> \$ 88,400
<u>Source:</u>	<u>Amount provided:</u>
<u>Source:</u>	<u>Amount provided:</u>
Amount of non-FCPF investments received for implementation of activities relevant to ER Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private sector), if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):	
<u>Source:</u>	<u>Amount provided:</u>
<u>Source:</u>	<u>Amount provided:</u>
<u>Source:</u>	<u>Amount provided:</u>

Describe how stakeholders are participating and engaging in REDD+ decision making processes (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.3.A):

Provide examples of how IPs and CSOs are represented in institutional arrangements for REDD at the national level.

REDD+ Assistants Collective

To date, 18 REDD+ Assistants are representing 4 indigenous peoples (IP) and 5 (of the in total 6) tribal communities in Suriname. The REDD+ Assistants support the work of the REDD+ Project Management Unit (PMU). They are able to deliver REDD+ messages from PMU to the communities and the other way around and they can provide PMU valuable input for the REDD+ program. On average, the REDD+ Assistants are brought together in meetings 3 times a year, where they discuss the project progress and personal work plans in the respective communities and get trained for better engagement of rural communities in REDD+.

Major Groups Collective

The Major Groups Collective is represented in the Project Board and as such is involved in the REDD+ process. CSOs are represented in the Major Groups Collective, which is composed of the 9 Major Groups identified in Agenda 21: Women, Children & Youth, Indigenous and Tribal communities, NGOs, Local Authorities, Farmers, Scientific & Technological community, Workers & Trade Unions, Business & Industry. Major Groups Collective meetings were organized in January 2017 as a preparation to the Project Board Meeting held the same month, and more meetings are planned in July 2017.

Project Board

At this point, almost every ITP tribe is represented and participates in the Project Board. These representatives are also REDD+ Assistants.

Examples of stakeholder engagement platforms in country which meet regularly to discuss and provide inputs to the REDD+ readiness process (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.a.):

<p><u>Frequency:</u> Twice a year: Jan 2017 / July 2017</p> <p>In addition, pre-meetings with different Project Board representatives, twice a year (Jan 2017, July 2017)</p> <p>In this reporting period, around 10 meetings with working groups have been held for the Drivers of Deforestation study, and around 10 meetings have been held for preparations of the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy</p>	<p>REDD+ Project Board The Project Board consists of 30 representatives of Ministries, Major Groups Collective, Knowledge Institutes and the REDD+ Assistants Collective (representatives of Indigenous and Tribal communities). The Project Board is responsible for providing technical and operational guidance to the project. However, smaller pre-meetings are organized prior to the Project Board with the different groups (e.g. with Major Groups Collective) to keep the project board updated and informed, and allow for more interactive discussions.</p> <p>Technical working groups Technical working groups are established when the need occurs for specific topics. E.g. all the background studies rely on input and validation of technical institutes and ministries for whom the theme is relevant. During the Drivers of Deforestation study (July – Dec 2016) a number of technical working groups were active to discuss the drivers of deforestation (working group for mining sector, forestry sector, etc.). Other technical working groups have provided support to land use and land cover maps and for scenario modelling and vision/strategic lines for the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy.</p> <p>Other engagement consultations have been realized by consultants for gathering input to the following background studies: Corruption Risk</p>
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Assessment (total timeframe of the study November 2016 – June 2017) and Innovative Economic Opportunities (total timeframe of the study November 2016 – July 2017). These were bilateral consultations more or less with the same stakeholders as were involved in the Technical working groups.

The consultations for the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy will continue until September 2017 through different working groups and bilateral meetings.

Besides Technical working groups, consultants will also make use of the Major Groups Collective as a mechanism for understanding and taking into account the diverse perspectives of a wide range of stakeholders.

Examples of resources made available to enable active participation of IPs, CSOs and local communities in national REDD+ readiness.

Mechanisms for self-representation need to be established and/or strengthened to ensure full and active participation of ITPs in Suriname's national governance, including REDD+. The FCPF funded REDD+ readiness project serves as an instrument to catalyse this democratic development.

The 4 indigenous peoples in Suriname currently do not all feel represented by one single institution. However, REDD+ has provided resources to enable dialogue between traditional leaders from some indigenous communities and the institution VIDS that represents communities in other parts of the country, to see if they meet common grounds. This is an ongoing process that REDD+ will continue to support.

The 6 tribal peoples with African descent in Suriname recently established a representative organization called KAMPOS, which is recognized by the REDD+ project as a relevant platform to strengthen. A dialogue is ongoing between KAMPOS and REDD+ staff to encourage the formalization of KAMPOS through development of statutes etc. This dialogue also resulted in REDD+ support to the institutionalization of KAMPOS by providing office equipment.

Number and type of policy reforms initiated, completed or underway complying to REDD+ standards, if any (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.3.B.):

Number of policy reforms during the reporting period that are:

Underway:

- Anti-Corruption law (concept is discussed in Parliament)
- Revised Mining Decree (commission is in place to improve the current law)

Completed:

- EITI standards for the mining sector (24 May 2017)

Please describe these policy reforms:

Anti-Corruption Law:

The Anti-Corruption law currently discussed in Parliament is meant to enforce regulations on government officials and penalties that need to be in place when government officials are involved in corruption practices. When government officials commence office, they will be required to register all their properties.

Mining Decree:

A Commission is currently in place to revise the Mining Decree, established by the Ministry of Natural Resources with representation of GMD, NIMOS, Grassalco, BIS, Staatsolie, the Foundation of mining concessionaires, Ministry of Regional Development and Ministry of Finance/Taxes. The objective is to revise the mining law in line with multilateral environmental agreements and conventions that Suriname has committed to. Suriname is also far gone in the process towards ratification of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

EITI standards for the mining sector:

Suriname was accepted as an official member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) on 24 May 2017 (read more: <https://eiti.org/news/suriname-becomes-52nd-country-to-implement-eiti>). To increase transparency in the mining sector it is planned to make the map of mining concessions public, to publish validated independent reports on mining incomes, to show how these incomes are used and what is brought back to local communities in areas with mining concessions, etc. Institutional reorganization is under way, with a GMD/OGS/BIS mineral institute planned to be established, to be linked with EITI.

Design of national REDD+ Strategies addresses indicators for enhancement of livelihoods of local communities and for biodiversity conservation (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 3.B.):

Provide examples of how national REDD Strategies address livelihoods of local communities and biodiversity conservation.

Suriname still needs to formulate its REDD+ National Vision and Strategy. In doing so, livelihoods of local communities as well as biodiversity conservation will be given central priority.

Suriname intends to use REDD+ as a tool for sustainable development, while keeping its high forest cover and low deforestation (HFLD) status as confirmed in the INDC. The “+” activities will most likely be part of the REDD+ strategy of Suriname, including conservation of forest carbon stocks, which also leads to biodiversity conservation. As a part of the human population in Suriname live in the forest are directly dependent on forests for their livelihoods, REDD+ will be an instrument to ensure their continued wellbeing.

Specifically, through the SESA (incorporated in the consultancy for the National REDD+ Vision and Strategy), the consultant will analyze the social and environmental risks and benefits of PAMs and develop a framework to manage these risks and maximize these benefits, with a special attention to the issues of land tenure and land rights. It is worth mentioning that it will be key that insights in the issues of land tenure and land rights will be available during the course of this consultancy.

3. PROGRESS AT R-PP sub component level

3.1. REDD Readiness Progress

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please briefly describe here the progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.A.): up to 300 words, if applicable

Progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package:

Readiness organization and consultation:

- Support of the Project Management Unit staffing: Senior Program Advisor, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, and a Chief Technical Advisor (international) were all contracted to support the R-PP Project Management Unit on part-time basis. As of December 2016, the Senior Program Advisor also functions as the interim Project Coordinator. A Community Liaison Officer was contracted in November 2017 to support the operations of the REDD+ program, and who is responsible for the engagement process. In April 2017, a new REDD+ Assistants Liaison officer was contracted, as a result of the resignation of the previous officer.
- Capacity-building for PMU and key stakeholders in UNDP Procurement procedures through a 1-week training in April 2017.
- Technical training realized in March 2017 in scenario modelling (in preparation for the National Strategy scenario modelling).
- Engagement: The REDD+ Assistants Collective was formalized by individual contract signing. The REDD+ Assistants are representatives (18 in total) of 8 IP and tribal communities (2 tribes/peoples are not yet represented, but this is in the planning). Total of 3 capacity building sessions (October, December and May, total of 12 days) were organized for the REDD+ Assistants.
- Communication and consultations: Finalized new REDD+ website (<http://www.surinameredd.org> in English and Dutch). Outreach through Facebook page, press releases and videos (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIXiv21JRsTnBnzEcu-0PRg>), provided REDD+ information through so-called walk-in-school sessions for various stakeholders (initiated in Feb 2017) such as key ministries and youth groups. Published a first edition of the REDD+ Newsletter in February 2017 (in English and Dutch), and the second edition will follow in July 2017.
- Engagement and stakeholder analysis plan finalized.
- Proposed action plan for Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) implementation.

REDD+ Strategy Preparation:

- Finalized Background study for REDD+ in Suriname: Multi-Perspective Analysis of Drivers of Deforestation, Forest Degradation and Barriers to REDD+ activities, including a validation workshop on December 8, with 90 participants.
- Finalized Corruption Risk Assessment for Suriname including a capacity development plan (June 2017).
- Ongoing study on Innovative Economic Opportunities (to be completed August 2017).
- Commenced with consultancy for the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy for Suriname in January 2017 which includes a national vision for forest, land use and climate change; identify, analyze and prioritize PAMs addressing the drivers of deforestation; analyze the social and environmental risks and benefits of PAMs (SESA); prepare a detailed implementation plan for the national REDD+ strategy.
- As part of the REDD+ Strategy, consultations have been held prior to the first workshop in May 2017 with key-stakeholders: NIMOS, Planning Office Suriname, UNDP, and Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB).
- National 2-days workshop held in May 2017 with more than 100 participants, to enable national stakeholder consultation on: draft vision REDD+, prioritize preliminary list of PAMs, identify risks and benefits on prioritized PAMs.
- Community consultations in ITP communities commenced in May 2017 (until August 2017, covering around 44 field days). REDD+ Assistants trained as facilitators. Methodology for National Strategy consultations with indigenous and tribal peoples developed and finalized in April 2017. In the methodology it is aimed for that all 6 tribal and 4 indigenous communities in Suriname will be consulted through localized meetings (May – August 2017).
- Training in scenario modelling for the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy held for 15 participants from different institutions. The SBB Forest Cover Monitoring Unit works closely with the consultant to

develop the scenarios.

Monitoring system for forests:

- National Forest Monitoring System: Historical deforestation mapped (2000 – 2015), land use land cover maps drafted in a participatory approach with multisector stakeholders, a National Forest Monitoring System roadmap finalized, design and preparation of National Forest Inventory, including national workshop with 80 participants, estimation of emission factors and carbon stocks, launch of a geoportal for national land monitoring (<http://www.gonini.org/portal>).
















OTHER

The Mid-Term Evaluation mission was conducted in November 2016. Final report submitted in January 2017. The management response on the MTR was finalized together with UNDP CO in April 2017.

Please indicate which of your country R-PP components and sub-components have received support from FCPF through the Readiness Preparation Grant (>3.4 million USD)

Components	Sub-components	Support from FCPF (Yes/No)
1. Readiness Organization and Consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yes
	1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach	Yes
2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Yes
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Yes
	2c. Implementation Framework	Yes
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yes
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		Yes
4. Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring System	Yes
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Yes

Level of overall achievement of planned milestones according to approved FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD) (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.b.):

<u>Planned Milestones:</u>	<u>Level of Achievement</u> ¹ :	<u>Tracking</u> ² :															
Sub-Component 1a – National REDD+ Management Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Project Board Meeting (Jan 2017 - meetings in June 2016 and July 2017 fall out of the reporting period) • 1 South-South learning mission to Costa Rica (Oct 2016) which included Parliamentarians and representatives of key ministries. • REDD+ Assistants training (representatives of different ITP tribes): Oct and Dec 2016 and May 2017. REDD+ Assistants (18) have signed contracts with NIMOS (National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname). • HACT audit completed in March 2017 • UNDP independent Mid-Term Review mission and report completed (February 2017) • Scenario modelling training (March 2017) for key technical stakeholders (15 participants) • UNDP procurement training completed (April 2017) for PMU, NIMOS and other key stakeholders (15 participants) 	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>x</td> <td>Further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table> <p>Please explain why:</p>			Significant progress			Progressing well, further		x	Further development			Not yet demonstrating			Non Applicable
		Significant progress															
		Progressing well, further															
	x	Further development															
		Not yet demonstrating															
		Non Applicable															
Sub-Component 1b – Consultation, Participation, and Outreach	<p>1b:</p> <p>Engagement and stakeholder analysis plan finalized</p> <p>9 Walk-in-school sessions organized (180 individuals reached)</p> <p>12 Community information sessions organized (carried out by the Project Management Unit and REDD+ Assistants as a preparation for the REDD+ Strategy sessions)</p> <p>4 REDD+ Strategy community sessions with ITPs organized by external consultant</p> <p>5 new videos developed https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIXiv21JRsTnBnzEcu-0PRg</p> <p>Facebook page likes (from 598 to 913)</p> <p>Number of new brochures and folders developed: 3 (General</p>																

¹ Countries are expected to provide data on the overall level of achievement of planned milestones as defined in their Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, and, if applicable, on their Supplementary Grant Agreement for an additional grant of up to \$5 million. For instance, under their Preparation Readiness Grant Agreement (>3.4 million USD), Countries should provide data on (i) the support to the Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-Stakeholder Consultations; (ii) the contribution to the Design of a National REDD+ Strategy; and (iii) the preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+

² The level of achievement of planned milestones according to approved RF grant will be summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of an overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale "Non Applicable" can be selected.

This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework

<p>Subcomponent 2a - Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</p> <p>Subcomponent 2b - REDD+ Strategy Options</p> <p>Subcomponent 2c - Implementation Framework</p> <p>Subcomponent 2d - Social and Environmental Impacts</p> <p>Subcomponent 3 - Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</p> <p>Subcomponent 4a - National Forest Monitoring System</p>	<p>REDD+ brochure, REDD+ strategy brochure, General REDD+ folder)</p> <p>Number of newsletters developed: 2 (one in Dutch, one in English)</p> <p>Number of brochures and folders printed: 1750</p> <p>Number of newsletters printed: 700 (200 in English and 500 in Dutch)</p> <p>Number of WISE-REDD posters printed: 100 (50 in Dutch and 50 in Sranan Tongo)</p> <p>2a: The Multi-Perspective Analysis of Drivers of Deforestation, Forest Degradation and Barriers to REDD+ activities (DDFDB+) study has been finalized in December 2016. Updated national edition was published in May 2017.</p> <p>Corruption Risk Assessment for Suriname finalized in June 2017.</p> <p>2b and 2c: To be determined in the National REDD+ Vision and Strategy, which has commenced in January 2017. First draft for PAMs submitted in April by consultants. Had a roundtable discussion for input with key stakeholders, also discussed the PAMs in the national workshop with around 100 participants (May 4 and 5).</p> <p>2d: Initial SESA has commenced as of April 2017. Preliminary PAMs have been identified, after which discussion has taken place in National Workshop in May 2017. Benefits and risks on the PAMs have also been discussed in the workshop.</p> <p>Subcomponent 3 and 4a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Forest Monitoring Roadmap has been finalized in December 2016. • The deforestation map for the year 2014-2015 was finalized. • QA/QC on the existing deforestation maps was carried out by national institutions through training by the FAO. • Official deforestation numbers were produced for the historical periods 2000-2009 and 2009-2015. • Geoportal launched with forest related geographical information for land monitoring in Suriname (http://www.gonini.org/portal/). 	
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Subcomponent 4b - Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Subcomponent 4b: To be discussed during the National REDD+ Vision and Strategy engagement and development.	
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Degree of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component and sub-component (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.c.).
Countries are expected to rate progress toward the implementation of R-PP sub-component only once a year, as part of the reporting submitted by August 15th each year






	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ <i>(Please select your light rating)</i>
		Planned milestones	Achievements	

³ The level of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component should be self-assessed and reported, as well as summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of this overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then briefly explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale 'Non Applicable' can be selected. This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework, The R-Package assessment criteria are included to assist countries identify, plan and track their readiness preparations progress with the core aspects and desired outcomes of readiness preparation activities as contained in R-Package Assessment Framework.






	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)																
		Planned milestones	Achievements																	
Component 1 – Readiness Organization and Consultation PF M&E Framework	<p>Sub-Component 1a – National REDD+ Management Arrangements</p> <p><i>Purpose: setting-up national readiness management arrangements to manage and coordinate the REDD-plus readiness activities whilst mainstreaming REDD-plus into broader strategies</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment</i></p> <p><i>Criteria: (i) accountability and transparency; (ii) operating mandate and budget; (iii) multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration; (iv) technical supervision capacity; (v) funds management capacity; (vi) feedback and grievance redress mechanism</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Project Management Unit fully operational Running REDD+ institutions effectively (REDD+ Assistants Collective, Major Groups Collective, Project Board, Project Steering Committee) FGRM pilot operational 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Project Management Unit operational, and additional support staff added: Chief Technical Advisor, Senior Program Advisor, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (all on part time basis). A Community Liaison Officer was contracted in November 2016. From December 2016, the Senior Program Advisor serves as interim Project Coordinator. A new Project Coordinator is expected to be contracted in July 2017. As of February 2017, the REDD+ Officer for the technical partner SBB (Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control) works 2 days per week in the Project Management Unit and therefore serves also as direct liaison officer between NIMOS and SBB. UNDP technical expertise utilized: Jennifer Laughlin (FGRM and Land tenure and land rights study), Estelle Fach (Corruption Risk Assessment), Pierre-Yves Guedez (overall guidance, MTR management response). REDD+ Assistants Collective formalized (signed agreements), Major Groups Collective represented in Project Board, Project Board operational. Project board meetings organized in January and July 2017 (minutes of meetings shared on REDD+ website). Steering Committee still needs to be established. FGRM still under discussion. Plan of action was developed by PMU. Consultant will be hired in the second half of 2017 to advise and guide the piloting of FGRM. 	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development required</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>x</td> <td>Further development required</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Significant progress			Progressing well, further development required		x	Further development required			Not yet demonstrating progress			Non Applicable	<p>Please explain why:</p>
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Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)		
	Planned milestones	Achievements			
<p>Sub-Component 1b – Consultation, Participation, and Outreach</p> <p><i>Purpose: broad consultation with and participation of key stakeholders for future REDD+ programs, to ensure participation of different social groups, transparency and accountability of decision-making</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) participation and engagement of key stakeholders; (ii) consultation processes; (iii) information sharing and accessibility of information; (iv) implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder, Communication and engagement plan finalized and implemented Capacity building of institutions relevant for REDD+ Social media and website updated, radio programs developed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder and engagement plan finalized. Capacity building sessions have been realized for different institutions: NIMOS (National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname), REDD+ Assistants Collective, Project Management Unit, SBB (Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control), and in the context of the NFMS also several other institutions, private sector and NGOs have been trained and involved in different technical aspects. Press releases in local newspapers: 20, article in UN-REDD newsletter: 1, article on ACTO website (http://otca.pagina-oficial.com/news/details/88): Number of likes Facebook page from 590 (July 2016) to 913 (June 2017). Production of radio programs in Dutch and Sranan Tongo (lingua franca): 15 (with weekly broadcasts in Paramaribo on national radio, in total around 25 broadcasts). Television broadcasts of videos (see you tube channel): around 50 New website finalized January 2017; http://www.surinameredd.org/en/ New video's produced (5): https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIXiv21JRsTnBnzEcu-OPRg 			Significant progress
				x	Progressing well, further development required
					Further development required
					Not yet demonstrating progress
					Non Applicable
			Please explain why:		






	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)																		
		Planned milestones	Achievements																			
R-PP Component 2 – REDD+ Strategy Preparation	<p>Subcomponent 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</p> <p><i>Purpose: identification of key drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation, as well as activities concerning conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) assessment and analysis; (ii) prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest enhancement; (iii) links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities; (iv) actions plans to address natural resource right, land tenure, governance; (v) implications for forest law and policy</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Background study on Multi-Perspective Analysis of Drivers of Deforestation, Forest Degradation and Barriers to the plus REDD+ activities (DDFDB+) Background study on land tenure and land rights (LTLR) Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) Background study on Innovative Economic Opportunities (IEO) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> DDFDB+ study has been finalized. In 2017 this study will be used to develop the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy, which will look into action plans, implications for forest law, policy and others. The following components were completed in the DDFDB+ study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of the HFLD status of Suriname Description of the main Land Use sectors Spatially explicit analysis of the Drivers in the country Community perspectives study Crosscutting analysis and description of the direct drivers and underlying causes. <p>Next step will be to formulate a policy paper on drivers, that will include additional research data that the SBB (Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control) has collected in the field, to be shared with the general public (August 2017).</p> Land tenure and land rights study scheduled to commence in July (same consultancy firm that is responsible for the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy, after 2 procurement notices, no successful other candidates were identified for conducting this study). Corruption Risk Assessment has been completed in June 2017. It provides for a comprehensive analysis of national legislation in general of Suriname, but there is a chapter that specifically discusses the risks for corruption that could disrupt REDD+ implementation. Innovative Economic Opportunities study scheduled to be finalized in August 2017. 	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>x</td> <td>Progressing well, further development required</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Further development required</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Significant progress		x	Progressing well, further development required			Further development required			Not yet demonstrating progress			Non Applicable	Please explain why:		
				Significant progress																		
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FCPF M&E Framework			July 2017	17																		

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)	
	Planned milestones	Achievements		
<p>Subcomponent 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options</p> <p><i>Purpose: Develop a set of policies and programs for addressing the drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment</i></p> <p><i>Criteria: (i) selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options; (ii) feasibility assessment; (iii) implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies.</i></p>	<p>1. Initial REDD+ strategy and vision finalized, including strategy options</p> <p>2. Prioritizing of PAMs and their risks and benefits</p>	<p>1. Consortium contracted in January 2017 for the development of the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy, in close collaboration and consultation with national stakeholders: a national vision for forest, land use and climate change; identify, analyze and prioritize PAMs addressing the drivers of deforestation; analyze the social and environmental risks and benefits of PAMs (SESA); prepare a detailed implementation plan for the national REDD+ strategy.</p> <p>2. PAMs have been listed and discussed in a national workshop, May 4 and 5. Furthermore, the national workshop provided for discussions on REDD+ vision and the preliminary identification of risks and benefits of prioritized PAMs. Community consultations on all of the above have commenced in May 2015, with the consultant finalizing a methodology for consultation of communities for their input in the REDD+ strategy in April 2017 and 4 community visits conducted before end of June.</p>		Significant progress
				Progressing well, further development required
			 x	Further development
				Not yet demonstrating progress
				Non Applicable
			<i>Please explain why:</i>	

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)		
	Planned milestones	Achievements			
<p>Subcomponent 2c: Implementation Framework <i>Purpose: Set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options</i> <i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations; (ii) guidelines for implementation; (iii) benefit sharing mechanism; (iv) national REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support to institutions to prepare for REDD+ implementation As part of the REDD+ strategy, recommendations will follow for legislation. The benefit sharing mechanism will be assessed as well 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Suggested legal reforms, benefit sharing mechanism and REDD+ registry will be streamlined with REDD+ Strategy to be finalized in October 2017. Capacity of REDD+ Project Management Unit / NIMOS strengthened in specific technical subjects related to the ongoing activities (such as scenario modelling realized in March 2017). Capacity building of NFMS unit specifically. 			Significant progress
					Progressing well, further development required
				x	Further development
					Not yet demonstrating progress
					Non Applicable
Please explain why:					
<p>Subcomponent 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts <i>Purpose: Ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)</i> <i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues; (ii) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts; (iii) Environmental and Social Management Framework</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of social and environmental safeguards ESMF has been developed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development of SESA/ESMF is part of the consultancy for development of REDD+ National Vision and Strategy, to be completed in August 2017. Preliminary discussions have been realized in May and June 2017, as part of the REDD+ National workshop on May 4 and 5, and in community meetings organized in May and June. 			Significant progress
					Progressing well, further development required
				x	Further development
					Not yet demonstrating progress
					Non Applicable
Please explain why:					

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 3 – Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	R-PP Component 3 - Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels <i>Purpose: Development of the general approach to establish a REL/RL</i> <i>Country Self-Assessment</i> <i>Criteria: (i) demonstration of methodology; (ii) use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances; (iii) technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines</i>	1. Gathering and analyzing historical activity data 2. Gathering and analyzing emission factor data 3. Preparation of FREL/FRL document for consultations and submission	The FREL/FRL itself will be finalized in 2017 and submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2018. In the reporting period, technical preparations have been made for obtaining the relevant data needed for inclusion in the FREL/FRL: - The deforestation map for the year 2014-2015 was finalized; - QA/QC on the existing deforestation maps was carried out by national institutions through training by the FAO; - Official deforestation numbers were produced for the historical period 2000-2009 and 2009-2015; - Report “Best estimate of emission factors and carbon stocks for Suriname” was produced by national institutions in collaboration with CATIE research Centre in Costa Rica; - Field work was carried out with external funding to improve the estimation of emission factors from logging.			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development required
					x	Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				And explain why:		

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	<p>Subcomponent 4a: National Forest Monitoring System</p> <p><i>Purpose: Design and develop an operational forest monitoring system and describe the approach to enhance the system over time</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) documentation of monitoring approach; (ii) demonstration of early implementation; (iii) institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NFMS Roadmap finalized 2. Formulation of a National Forest Inventory proposal (measuring carbon stocks) 3. Establishment of an online geoportal (NFMS platform) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'NFMS roadmap: Status and plans for Suriname's National Forest Monitoring System' was drafted and shared with stakeholders for feedback, after which it has been finalized. - 2-day workshop "Towards a participatory multi-purpose National Forest Inventory" was carried out with 80 national stakeholders, with joint formulation of NFI objectives. - Initiation of collaboration with IRD (France-GUYAMAPA-project) on the production of a geomorphological landscapes map to stratify the country in terms of Carbon stocks, biodiversity etc. - Participatory process to prepare Land Use/Land Cover Change maps for 2013, 2015. (Session 15/11: 7 male, 10 Female, Session 23/11: 5 male, 11 female). - National capacity was built on the management of geodatabases by the UN-REDD program (12 male, 3 female) during a week. - Online geoportal was launched in Dec 2016 (www.gonini.org). This was a collaboration between SBB and other institutes who provided data. FAO provided technical support, and the geoportal will be maintained by the National Forest Monitoring Unit within the SBB. 			Significant progress
					x	Progressing well, further development required
						Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				And explain why:		

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking ³ (Please select your light rating)	
	Planned milestones	Achievements		
Subcomponent 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards <i>Purpose: Specify the non-carbon aspects prioritized for monitoring by the country</i> <i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues; (ii) monitoring, reporting and information sharing; (iii) Institutional arrangements and capacities – Safeguards</i>	SIS finalized	It is planned to finalize the Terms of Reference for contracting a consultant for the identification of social and environmental issues in August 2017 (when draft final REDD+ National Vision and Strategy is available and SESA has more or less been completed).		Significant progress
				Progressing well, further development required
				Further development
			 x	Not yet demonstrating progress
				Non Applicable
			And explain why:	

Disbursement rate of FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD), in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):																	
	Rate	Tracking															
RF Grant - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements		<p><i>Please select your rating:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Up to 10% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 10-25% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 25-40% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>x</td> <td>More than 40% variance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Up to 10% variance with plans			Between 10-25% variance with plans			Between 25-40% variance with plans		x	More than 40% variance			Non Applicable
		Up to 10% variance with plans															
		Between 10-25% variance with plans															
		Between 25-40% variance with plans															
	x	More than 40% variance															
		Non Applicable															
<p>Until from Jan - June 30, 2017 actual disbursements: \$528,650, and \$11,182 in commitments</p> <p>Planned disbursement (Annual Work Plan Jan-Dec 2017) is \$ 2,480,266</p>																	





Disbursement rate of Total R-PP Budget in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):																	
	Rate	Tracking															
Total Budget in R-PP - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements (including other funding sources and FCPF Readiness Grant)		<p><i>Please select your rating:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Up to 10% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 10-25% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 25-40% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td>More than 40% variance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Up to 10% variance with plans			Between 10-25% variance with plans			Between 25-40% variance with plans		X	More than 40% variance			Non Applicable
		Up to 10% variance with plans															
		Between 10-25% variance with plans															
		Between 25-40% variance with plans															
	X	More than 40% variance															
		Non Applicable															
Total program budget \$3,694,000. Total disbursements YTD \$1,802,883 (46%)																	

3.2. Engagement of stakeholders within the approach to REDD+

Examples of actions/activities where IPs, CSOs, and local communities participate actively, if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.a.):	
Action/activity:	Describe IP, CSO, and local community participation:
REDD+ Assistants Collective activities in rural communities and in Paramaribo, Suriname	<p>18 REDD+ Assistants have been established and trained, some since the preparation for R-PP phase (since 2012). The REDD+ Assistants are the REDD+ messengers in their own respective ITP communities.</p> <p>The REDD+ assistants facilitate community meetings, support in data collection (e.g. Drivers of Deforestation study), inform communities on REDD+, participated in national workshops/events to discuss REDD+ related issues (meetings with ministries and government institutions, project board meetings, validation workshop for Drivers of Deforestation study, National Strategy workshop).</p>
Community meetings of the Project	<p>The Community meetings are large gatherings where the PMU and/or the REDD+ Assistants explains more about REDD+, and the community members get the chance to actively voice their opinions, concerns, etc. These concerns are taken</p>

<p>Management Unit to inform on REDD+, in preparation for the National Strategy consultation meetings</p> <p>National Strategy Consultation meetings</p>	<p>into account by the PMU to determine strategies how to mitigate risks, and further strengthen the participation and engagement of local communities.</p> <p>Community meetings were organized in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - August 2016 in Pokigron and Kappe konde (Tribal community); - October 2016 in Kwamalasamutu (Indigenous community); - February 2017 in Witagron and Kwakoe Gron (Tribal community); - March 2017 in Paramaribo for the people of the Mapane area, the Bataliba area and the Tapanahony area (all Tribal communities); - April 2017 in the Langu area (Tribal communities), in the Cottica aan de Lawa (all Tribal communities); in Erowarte for surrounding villages (Indigenous communities); - June 2017 in Nieuw Jakob kondre for surrounding villages (Tribal communities); in Apetina for surrounding villages (Indigenous communities). <p>From July 2016 – June 2017, 50 communities (Indigenous & Tribal) were reached and 582 people were engaged.</p> <p>Consultations with ITPs for specific input to the REDD+ National Vision and Strategy have been held in Witagron (Tribal community) in May and in different Saamaka villages in the Upper Suriname river (Tribal communities), Matta (Indigenous communities) and Apura (Indigenous communities) in June. Some of these communities are not yet represented by a REDD+ Assistant, so extra efforts were made to improve involvement from these areas in REDD+ e.g. PMU members attended these consultations and prior to the consultation a film was showed or information on REDD+ was shared with the people.</p>
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Number of IP and REDD country CSO representatives (men/women) having been successfully trained by FCPF training programs (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.b.):

<u>Please list the training conducted:</u>	<u>Duration (# of days)</u>	<u># of participants # of men / # of women</u>		X	<i>Targets in terms of number of men and women to be trained by country to be defined</i>
Training for 18 REDD+ Assistants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development goals, preparation of work plans, use of phablets (July 2016) 	<u>2</u>	5 female, 12 male (all ITPs)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drivers of Deforestation- training in data collection and active participation within the activity on gathering the community perspectives on drivers (Oct 2016) 	<u>2</u>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Forest Monitoring System (visit), use of phablets, 	<u>2</u>				<i>Non Applicable</i>

(Dec 2016)			
• Semi-annual evaluation on the work done so far (Dec 2016)	<u>2</u>		
• Session with Ministry of Regional Development on Community forest use (Jan 2017)	<u>1</u>		
• Training as part of REDD+ National Vision and Strategy facilitator for community engagement (May 2017)	<u>2</u>		
Hands-on training in field forest inventory procedures of the Amazon Conservation Rangers in Kwamalasamutu by SBB forest guards (June 2016)	<u>30</u>	2 male (Indigenous)	

3.3. Knowledge sharing

Has your country developed and published REDD+ knowledge products with FCPF support:	
Yes/No:	Please provide the list of published REDD+ knowledge products, if any during reporting period :
YES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Video of interview with Regional Director of the United Nations Development Programme, Ms. Jessica Faieta, who visited Suriname (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mj6wp8vY-Gc) 2. Video on REDD+ and forestry in Suriname (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2VgfTOnwho) 3. Video on REDD+ and mining in Suriname (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ah8QWkp1Fil) 4. Video on REDD+ and land rights in Suriname

	<p>(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMVDxLI01RI)</p> <p>5. Geoportal: www.gonini.org</p>
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How many people have been reached by these knowledge products, if any:
Overall number by product:
of Men:
of Women:

Have some experts of your country participated in any South-south learning activities? If yes, how many (men and women)?		
Yes/No:	List the South-South learning activities:	# of men / women: (IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning mission to Costa Rica (October 2016) with representatives of different ministries, UNDP, NIMOS (National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname), Tourism Institute, and the Parliament. 2. Biodiversity congress in Guyana (August 2016), with delegates from the PMU and the SBB (Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control). 3. Participation to 4th Symposium of the National Forest Inventory in Brazil (presentations: http://eventos.florestal.gov.br/simposioif/o_evento/simposio/6) by the National Herbarium of Suriname and the SBB. 4. Participation to regional workshop to exchange experiences on monitoring forest degradation in Bogota, Colombia (30 Oct – 01 Nov) - funded by ACTO but highly relevant for the NFMS. 	<p>Men: 9 / Women: 4</p> <p>Men: 0 / Women: 3</p> <p>Men: 0 / Women: 3</p> <p>Men: 1 / Women: 1</p>

4. ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND RISKS

This section should present any problems, difficulties or constraints faced by the country in making progress towards the intended REDD+ results (outputs, outcomes and possible impacts), the main causes and their expected effect on the work plan. Actions that have been taken to overcome or manage these constraints/flaws/problems identified should be stated. Each problem/constraint should be stated as a separate point, along with associated proposed changes in work planning for the next six month/year to address it, as relevant.

It is expected that the country monitors any changes in the assumptions that underpin the logic of intervention of FCPF at the national level and other significant risks that may arise. This section should explain through a narrative any changes in the level of risk associated with the different assumptions, or describe new risks that may have emerged and have a significant bearing on the national work-planning with respect to FCPF support for the next year and beyond, along with the associated measures required to address this change.

Issues and Challenges:

- Implementing capacity lacking in the REDD+ Project Management Unit. The unit was not fully staffed in July 2016. A Community Liaison Officer was contracted in November 2016, and the Chief Technical Advisor, Senior Program Advisor and Monitoring and Evaluation Officer only came on board from September 2016. The National Implementing agency, NIMOS, decided not to extend the contract of the Project Coordinator in November 2016 because the project outcome fell short in 2016. Her role has been taken over by the Senior Program Advisor, who functions as the interim Project Coordinator as of December 2016. As of January 2017 NIMOS decided not to extend the contract of the Communications Officer, and in April 2017, the contract for the REDD+ Assistant Liaison Officer was not extended as well. In March 2017, advertisement published locally for the recruitment of three PMU members: Project Coordinator, Project Administrator and Administrative Assistant. In March 2017 a firm was contracted for support in Communication strategy implementation (supporting the REDD+ National Strategy communication).
- Political support towards the project, especially with high-level decision makers, needs to be strengthened. Activities have been undertaken to engage with and build institutional capacities of important stakeholders, such as the National Planning Office, Ministry of Regional Development, Natural Resources, Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management, as well as Indigenous and Tribal Community representatives and NGOs.
- The REDD+ Steering Committee should be a high-level inter-ministerial policy coordination body responsible for the overall REDD+ strategy formulation. The RSC is not yet operational due to a number of functionality issues and barriers. Dialogues have initiated with the Cabinet of the President to have the Steering Committee established by the third quarter of 2017.
- Communication of the project needs to be improved.

RISKS:

- The ongoing economic crisis / inflation situation remains a risk for high level government to focus their attention towards environment. At the same time, NIMOS recognizes this as an opportunity as well, as this is the time to discuss how the country can develop sustainably and be financially compensated for its efforts.

- Sustainability of the structures established and capacities built needs to be guaranteed beyond the funding flows from FCPF. For example, to implement the NFMS roadmap, additional funding will be required than what is available from the FCPF. Therefore it is of crucial importance that the NFMS structures support integrated monitoring frameworks with a direct link to needs beyond REDD+, supporting the practitioners and decision makers in their daily activities.

5. MAIN LESSONS LEARNED

This section should be used to provide information on important lessons learned since the beginning of the readiness process. It is expected that this section will be fairly substantial, making reference to different lessons learned, analysis documents developed, and/or experiences made in dealing with issues of particular interest to REDD+.

- Lack of local capacity to implement REDD+, since this is a complex subject and not often very clear to understand for policy makers, since there are few direct short-term benefits, but REDD+ is part of a long term vision and strategy of the country. There is a clear need for a strong technical and administrative support from the beginning in order to prevent unnecessary delays and slow execution (MTR report, January 2017). As of September 2017, the Chief Technical Advisor and the Senior Program Advisor were contracted to support in technical and administrative issues.
- Proper monitoring of project progress from the start of the project is of crucial importance. This was lacking in the beginning, but has been improved after contracting the M&E Officer for NIMOS in October 2016. Information was lacking to perform monitoring, and reporting requirements have since been introduced to support input to monitoring reporting on project outputs and deliverables.
- The development of the NFMS results in services and information useful beyond the REDD+ requirements. Concrete examples of positive spin-off effects are the alert system for illegal logging, the use of the geoportal to detect other land uses by certified concession holders, improved data sharing and communication between institutions, mangrove monitoring etc.
- Indigenous and Tribal community involvement and engagement is crucial for REDD+ to be a success. Community members recognize that not participating in REDD+ would exclude them from important development opportunities, and therefore they are “voluntarily obliged” to participate. Due to strict guidelines from above, the project is sometimes experienced as too dominant and not possible to fully adjust to self-defined local and cultural needs.