

Community-Based REDD+ (CBR+) Fact Sheet

What is CBR+?

CBR+ is a partnership between the **UN-REDD Programme** and the **GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)** implemented by UNDP to deliver grants directly to indigenous peoples and local communities to empower them to fully engage in the design, implementation and monitoring of REDD+ readiness activities, and develop experiences, lessons, and recommendations at the local level that can feed into national REDD+ processes.

CBR+ will support community-level projects that complement UN-REDD National Programmes, national REDD+ readiness processes and/or strategies. During the pilot phase, CBR+ will be implemented in six countries that have benefitted, or are benefitting, from UN-REDD National Programmes: **Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay and Sri Lanka.**

The **objectives** of CBR+ are to:

- Support the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, communities and civil society in national-level processes related to reducing emissions for deforestation and forest degradation, including supporting communities to determine whether and how they see themselves engaging in REDD+;
- Build the capacity and awareness of communities to engage in REDD+ activities and processes;
- Facilitate the integration of community-based activities, knowledge and ideas into national REDD+ processes; and
- Develop and share knowledge and lessons learned from community-based experiences to inform national and international REDD+ policies and practice.

By supporting the protection of forests, and the empowerment of forest communities who live in and depend on them, CBR+ aims to contribute to the fulfilment of broader environmental and social goals, including biodiversity conservation, enhanced food security, improved rights and livelihoods for indigenous peoples and local communities, and climate change adaptation.

Implementation Arrangements

CBR+ is co-financed by the UN-REDD Programme and SGP, and grants will be delivered through SGP's tried-and tested decentralized grant-delivery mechanism which has been operating in

over 120 countries for over 20 years. The UN-REDD Programme's contribution to CBR+'s pilot phase (2014-2017) is made possible by a USD 4 million contribution from the Government of Norway and will fund USD 400,000 of community grants in each of the six pilot countries, as well support costs including monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management and management costs. This will be matched by similar co-financing from SGP, which will be provided through in-kind support and through parallel SGP grants that are complementary to CBR+ goals.

Between June and September 2014, a **CBR+ Country Plan** will be developed in each pilot country, through participatory processes, to guide the selection of CBR+ projects and guide grant applicants in the development of their proposals. CBR+ Country Plans will ensure that CBR+ activities align with existing national REDD+ readiness processes and complement existing SGP Country Programme Strategies. Established SGP National Steering Committees in each of the pilot countries will be expanded to form CBR+ National Steering Committees, by adding additional members (including IP and community representatives) with REDD+ expertise.

CBR+ Activities: What Will Be Funded?

CBR+ grants of **up to USD 50,000** will support a range of community-level activities such as: addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, building the capacities of communities to engage in REDD+ readiness processes, clarifying and improving the definition of land use rights, exploring mechanisms for benefit sharing, and advancing the implementation of safeguards for REDD+, among others.

The project selection process for CBR+ is open to national and local NGOs, indigenous and community-based organizations, and grassroots organizations. Consideration will be given to applications from forest-based and directly impacted communities and indigenous peoples' organizations, as well as NGOs with an interest and track record in forests and/or REDD+ in relation to their mission. The specific eligibility criteria for CBR+ grants will be determined by each country's CBR+ Country Plan.

Below are some examples of potential CBR+ activities:

Building communities' capacities to engage:

- Training communities and community leaders on forest and REDD+ related topics
- Developing community networks or community knowledge sharing platforms on REDD+
- Capacity building to help communities organize and prepare for consultations
- Dialogues and exchanges among communities and indigenous peoples

- Developing materials to communicate REDD+ objectives and implications at the local level

Designing or testing methodologies at the local level, e.g.:

- Participatory forest monitoring (e.g. supporting community initiatives to learn about, test or demonstrate participatory forest monitoring methods)
- Participatory mapping (e.g. supporting communities to learn about, test or demonstrate cost-effective micro-mapping methods, or ancestral domain and rights mapping by communities)
- Free Prior and Informed Consent (e.g. supporting the development of community-based FPIC protocols or processes)
- Conflict resolution (e.g. supporting communities to design or trial conflict resolution methods that could be used to mitigate or resolve conflicts arising during REDD+ implementation)

Addressing drivers of deforestation:

- Community-based approaches to reduce deforestation and improve land-use management at the local level
- Alternative livelihoods projects that reduce pressure on forests
- Compilation, application or sharing of traditional knowledge of and approaches to community forest management
- Outreach and awareness-raising on deforestation and forest degradation and potential activities to reduce them

➔ *CBR+ grants are not intended to finance projects whose objective is to generate credits or payments for the carbon stored in forests. CBR+ grants could however support communities who want to take part in such projects, for example, by giving funds to communities to consult among themselves and organize their involvement in such projects, or by helping them get the technical advice and training they need to participate effectively, but CBR+ will not play any role in the generation or certification of carbon credits or payments.*

Contact

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