

National Programme Document- Nigeria

UN-REDD PROGRAMME SEVENTH POLICY
BOARD MEETING

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Berlin, Germany



Federal Republic
of NIGERIA



Cross River State
(NIGERIA)



UN COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME ON REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES NATIONAL PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

Version for the
7th UN-REDD Policy Board
(October 2011)

Country: **FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

Programme Title: **Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme**

Programme Objective: **To build the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, using Cross River State as a demonstration model.**

<p>Programme Duration: 2 ½ Years Anticipated start/end dates: January 2012 – June 2014 Fund Management Option(s): Pass-Through Managing/Administrative Agent: UNDP MPTF Office</p>	<p>Total estimated budget (*): US\$ 4 m</p> <p><i>Out of which:</i></p> <p>1. Funded Budget: US\$ 4 m 2. Unfunded budget: -</p> <p>(*) Total estimated budget includes both programme costs & indirect support costs. Co-finance will be sought to ensure a robust REDD+ readiness process and to expand REDD+ across other interested states.</p>
<p>Sources of funded budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government: to be defined annually, depending on annual federal & state budgets UN-REDD MDTF: US\$ 4 million Other: under exploration 	

Names & signatures of national / sub-national counterparts and participating U.N. organizations

[to be signed after approval from the UN-REDD Policy Board]

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The joint Nigeria and UN-REDD Team recognises the valuable contributions from countless stakeholders through the many meetings, field visits and e-mail exchanges conducted during the intense design, drafting and validation of this programme. Detailed information on REDD+ preparatory events and lists of participants in core stakeholder review and validation meetings, in both Abuja and Cross River State, is compiled in Annexes 1 to 4.

List of abbreviations and acronyms

AD	Activity Data	MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism	NCCC	National Climate Change Commission
CERs	Certified Emission Reductions	NESREA	National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency
CRNP	Cross River National Park	NFI	National Forest Inventory
CRS	Cross River State	NGO	Non-governmental organization
CRSFC	Cross River State Forestry Commission	ODA	Official development assistance
CSO	Civil society organization	PAM	Planning of Policies and Measures
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor	PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services Payment for Environmental Services
DFID	UK Department for International Development	PGA	Participatory Governance Assessment
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	PNI	Pro-Natura International Nigeria
EF	Emission Factor	QA	Quality Assurance
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations	QC	Quality Control
FDF	Federal Department of Forestry [Nigeria Government]	REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation <i>plus</i> conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
FMC	Forest Management Committees	REL/RL	Reference Emission Level / Reference Level
FME	Federal Ministry of Environment	RL	Reference Level
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent	SCCU	Special Climate Change Unit
FRA	Forest Resources Assessment	SLMS	Satellite Land monitoring system
GCF	Climate Change and Forests	THF	Tropical High Forest
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
GHG-I	Greenhouse Gas emissions inventory	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
GIS	Geographic Information Systems	UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
GUG	Good Urban Governance	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
HACT	Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers	UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on REDD+
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	US\$	United States' dollar
ILUA	Integrated Land Use Assessment	WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
KWAI	Katoomba West Africa Incubator	WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
LGA	Local Government Authorities		
M & MRV	Monitoring & Measurement, Reporting and Verification		
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification		

Official support documentation

A. Formal request for submission of final draft to the UN-REDD Policy Board

REQUEST FOR SUBMISSION OF FINAL DRAFT OF NIGERIA REDD+ READINESS PROGRAMME TO THE UN-REDD POLICY BOARD

We acknowledge the intense analysis, drafting and consultation work undertaken in the past few months to prepare a draft Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme, in order to submit on time, by the end of February 2011, for the sixth UN-REDD Policy Board. We appreciate the quick-start approach of the UN-REDD Programme, which has allowed Nigeria to advance on a REDD+ proposal in a flexible manner and in a short period of time, so to better respond to progress in the international climate change negotiations.

We confirm that broad-based stakeholder consultations and validation of the draft document were held recently, both in Cross River State and in the Federal Capital, resulting in a Statement of Cross River State Stakeholders and in a Communiqué of the National Validation Workshop. These communications confirm there is stakeholder support for the submission of the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme, while providing valuable insights for moving forward.

We hence request that, in line with UN-REDD Programme guidelines, a Final Draft is submitted to the UN-REDD Policy Board as soon as it is available.

Signed in Abuja on 22nd February 2011



Honourable Mr. John Odey
Federal Minister of the
Environment



Mr. Daouda Toure
U.N. Resident Coordinator



His Excellency Liyel Imoke
Governor of Cross River State

B. Communiqué of the National Validation Workshop

Communiqué of the National Validation Workshop on the draft *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*

Abuja, 21st February 2011

A wide array of stakeholders interested in REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation “plus”) attended the National Validation Workshop on the draft *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*, held in Abuja on 21st February 2011. Participants comprised members of non-governmental organisations and civil society, forest community leaders, academic experts, researchers, senior officials from various government structures, representatives from a number of states, members of the business community, professionals of the media, members of international development partners, and the UN-REDD mission, among others. Several of them had attended the national REDD+ workshop held during the first UN-REDD mission last October 2010, when the drafting of the REDD+ readiness proposal was initiated.

The National Validation Workshop was presented with, and examined the key elements of the draft proposal, including the two-track approach to REDD+ in Nigeria to be employed by this programme (consisting of a combination of Federal and State actions, with a focus on activities at community level), the deforestation context, the Results Framework, the proposed forest monitoring and MRV system, and the framework for social and environmental safeguards.

The programme's outcomes and outputs as proposed in the draft were endorsed. Several amendments were suggested at activity level, and the drafting team agreed to include them in the final draft to be submitted to the UN-REDD Policy Board.

The following aspects were emphasised as priority issues concerning REDD+ readiness in Nigeria:

- i) broad capacity-building and knowledge sharing are necessary since REDD+ is a new concept;
- ii) active community participation and engagement in programme's activities (e.g. capacity-building and forest monitoring) should be maximised;
- iii) the U.N. rights conventions should inform the REDD+ readiness process;
- iv) gender equality and social inclusion should be mainstreamed;
- v) due clarification and definition of carbon rights and land-tenure matters as they affect REDD+ are required;
- vi) REDD+ activities and benefits should reach communities equitably;
- vii) issues of displacement of deforestation are to be considered;
- viii) detailed work on the definition of forests is needed; and
- ix) private sector engagement and investment in REDD+ should be encouraged.

The assessment of deforestation drivers highlighted agriculture as a major issue and the need to invest in sustainable intensification of agriculture to protect forests and enhance community livelihoods. The plenary highlighted the importance of facilitating the participation of other states in REDD+ readiness in view of their growing interest. It was noted that this would be enabled through outcomes 1 and 2 of the programme. The activities planned for Cross River State will in fact serve as a model for other states with respect to REDD+. In addition, the plenary also indicated the need to strengthen the national policy and legal framework for climate change to ensure that it incorporates REDD+.

The proposed work on safeguards as an integral part of Nigeria's REDD+ system was welcomed and deemed very important to address human rights issues, inequality, exclusion of communities and other potential risks.

Aware that national level stakeholders for REDD+ need to be better organised to accompany and monitor the development of REDD+, the participants agreed to form a National Stakeholders Forum on REDD+ with particular representation from civil society and non-governmental organisations.

Endorsed in Abuja, on the 21st of February of 2011.

NOTE: For list of participants, see [Annex 3](#).

C. Statement of Cross River State Stakeholders on the draft programme

STATEMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE STAKEHOLDERS ON NIGERIA'S REDD+ READINESS PROGRAMME

Today, the 18th of February 2011, over 100 members of a wide range of stakeholders of Cross River State that are interested in the REDD+ process met in Calabar to discuss the design and submission of *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*. We belong to, and represent many different actors and facets of Cross River State's society, including forest communities, non-governmental & civil society organisations, state's government officials, technical specialists, project managers, media and opinion leaders. We constitute a heterogeneous assembly that is interested in REDD+. Since the UN-REDD Scoping Mission of October 2010 we are in the process of forming a new umbrella platform called Cross River State Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+, which we believe will play a central role in the REDD+ process as it evolves.

Our meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Cross River State, Senator Liyel Imoke, who openly restated his support for a REDD+ process and for our participatory engagement to guide and build it. We acknowledge the presence of a UN-REDD mission and the National REDD+ Coordinator.

We have examined the core elements of the draft programme document, both in public discussions and thematic working groups. First we are pleased to see that efforts for the REDD+ process has advanced in Nigeria. We consider REDD+ as a potential means to better protect our forests and strengthen the livelihoods of the people that depend on them. During the appraisal workshop we focused on the following topics: (a) programme's outcomes and outputs that concern Cross River State; (b) drivers of deforestation; (c) participation, consultation and stakeholder engagement; (d) forest monitoring systems; and (e) governance, social and environmental risks/safeguards.

We have provided a set of ideas and recommendations for the finalisation of the programme document. The main ones are as follows:

- i) forest communities should be properly engaged, receive training, and feel early and tangible actions throughout the programme's implementation;
- ii) there is need for REDD+ to have a broad approach that goes beyond forest conservation to address questions of land management, afforestation & reforestation, ecosystem restoration, sustainable agriculture and community-based livelihoods;
- iii) there is need for capacity building on forest monitoring systems; *and*
- iv) the programme should include provisions to assess issues of land tenure, carbon rights, fair benefit-sharing mechanisms, and community conflict, providing guidance on how to address them in the context of REDD+.

(.../...)

(.../...)

We have also provided several specific suggestions and amendments to refine the document.

We look forward to the implementation of the REDD+ readiness programme, while highlighting the need to pay attention to issues of consultation, forest governance, community rights, enhancement of sustainable livelihoods, and gender equality.

We are delighted to know that the programme envisions Cross River State to become a centre of excellence for REDD+ in Nigeria, producing best practices and models on REDD+ that can serve other states as they engage in REDD+. We are eager to share our experiences with REDD+ with other states and abroad, as the opportunity emerges.

Taking into consideration the recommendations and remarks mentioned above, we are satisfied with the design of the programme and its operational approach. We support its submission to the UN-REDD Policy Board, hoping the programme will soon be approved and start implementation. We need this programme to expand capacity building, public awareness, training, forest conservation and local initiatives so that REDD+ is well understood and can be adequately built in our State and across Nigeria.

This Statement is read and endorsed at the State Library Complex in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, on the 18th of February of 2011, at 6:47 pm.

[endorsed by unanimity]
[signed by about 100 participants]

NOTES: The signed version is in Annex 2. A further stakeholders' meeting, with over 70 participants, was convened in Cross River State in August 2011 to address comments received from UN-REDD's Independent Technical Review panel and UN-REDD's Policy Board members – see Annex 4.

1. Executive Summary

Nigeria's forests, which currently extend over 9.6 million hectares, have been dwindling rapidly over the past decades. The current deforestation rate is estimated at 3.7%, which is one of the highest in the world. Awareness of this issue is growing in the country and an ambitious nationwide reforestation programme with indigenous species and local involvement has been launched to simultaneously regain forest cover and improve community livelihoods across the country. In addition, Cross River State, which has more than 50% of Nigeria's remaining tropical high forests, declared a moratorium on timber extraction in 2008, now extended indefinitely, while starting to explore new environmental finance mechanisms to further protect the forests, with a priority focus on enhancing the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities and rural dwellers. These initial steps to better protect the forests with a community focus and by exploring innovative means suggest a policy shift in Nigeria in the forest domain. However, the country needs further and more intense actions, coupled with external cooperation and support, to succeed in this crusade.

The REDD+ mechanism, as agreed under ongoing international negotiations in the climate-change convention, represents a valuable opportunity for Nigeria in their efforts for forest conservation, while contributing to climate change mitigation and enhancing community development alike. The Federal Government of Nigeria, reinforced by pioneering efforts from Cross River State, started to engage in REDD+ in 2009, requesting for membership of the UN-REDD Programme, which was granted. During 2010, with support from UNDP, the country took the first, tangible steps towards REDD+: it created the first REDD+ coordination and consultation structures, both at Federal level and in Cross River State, and conducted a comprehensive Preliminary Assessment of the REDD Context in Nigeria, thus setting the basis for REDD+ planning. Then the Federal Government with Cross River State embarked on preparing, consulting and validating a national REDD+ readiness programme, which was presented at the sixth UN-REDD Policy Board in March 2011. It was praised for its innovative approach, and received a number of comments for improvement with the aim of being finally considered for funding at the seventh UN-REDD Policy Board in October 2011. As part of developing and improving its proposal, Nigeria has launched work on various REDD+ streams, notably on socio-environmental safeguards, multiple ecosystem benefits, participatory governance assessment for REDD+, and enhanced capacities for UNFCCC reporting. A Nigeria REDD+ University was planned for September 2011 (then postponed in the aftermath of the Abuja bomb attack) as a major capacity-building event that will serve to build the basis for the programme's inception, once approved.

The present proposal represents the primary means for Nigeria to access funding in order to embark on REDD+ readiness, doing so in line with negotiations under the UNFCCC, while integrating the federal, state and community levels for REDD+ in an innovative way. The country considers that the UN-REDD partnership, which was designed as a quick-start initiative to support countries to enhance capacities and stakeholder engagement for REDD+, is a suitable platform for their REDD+ readiness ambitions. The Federal Government of Nigeria and the Government of Cross River State are politically committed to develop and realise the REDD+ mechanism in the country, willing to work in synergy, combining their distinctive roles and capacities, employing participatory methods and advancing in close cooperation with the UN-REDD Programme.

The Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme envisions a two-track approach to achieve REDD+ readiness in Nigeria, based on: (i) the development of institutional and technical capacities at Federal level, and (ii) carrying out intense institutional, strategy-building and demonstration activities in Cross River State. In this sense, this REDD+ readiness programme will simultaneously build capacities at federal (national) and state (sub-national) levels, in a cooperative fashion. Federal-level work will provide the national policy direction for REDD+. State-level progress will inform the national process and guide pragmatically other states interested in REDD+. Cross River State has been retained as the pioneer, state-level demonstration model for a number of reasons, such as its political leadership and manifest engagement in forest conservation, its efforts to bringing the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, and its major potential for GHG emissions reduction from the forest sector in view that it hosts over 50% of the country's high tropical forests. The Nigeria's approach to REDD+ represents an innovative process in the world, suiting well the recent Cancun Agreements on climate change (2010).

The goal of the Programme is to enable Nigeria to contribute to climate change mitigation through improved forest conservation and enhancing sustainable community livelihoods. The objective is to build the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, using Cross River State as a demonstration model. The Programme is structured in four outcomes, two at the Federal level and two focusing on Cross River State, as follows (see Table 1 below for details):

1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level.
2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared.
3. Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened.
4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State.

These outcomes are unfolded into 14 outputs and a broad set of core and indicative activities, all structured into a coherent and detailed Results Framework. The outputs and proposed activities address all REDD+ readiness components as proposed internationally, and include support for management of REDD+ readiness (both at federal level and in Cross River State), stakeholder engagement, learning and dialogue (from the federal level to communities), enhanced regional and international engagement on REDD+, a national MRV framework coupled with Cross River State's forest monitoring capacity, establishment of mechanisms for social & environmental safeguards and the promotion of multiple benefits, coordinated support for REDD+ experimental and field initiatives in Cross River State, and broad dissemination of the knowledge and best practices that will emerge throughout the implementation of the Programme. Specific outputs also provide for building a preliminary national strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria (to allow the rolling out of REDD+ in new states) and a REDD+ Strategy in Cross River State (to trigger transition to REDD's phase 2).

The Programme's budget is US\$ 4 million, as currently available from the UN-REDD Programme for the Africa region. This will allow substantial progress, although some outputs will need co-financing to be fully attained. The proposed timing is two and a half years, with implementation intended to start in January 2012. The three UN-REDD agencies (namely FAO, UNDP and UNEP) will share technical and fiduciary responsibilities. The Programme will be implemented by two units: the National REDD+ Secretariat (under the aegis of the Special Climate Change Unit, and the technical support of the Federal Department of Forestry) and the Forestry Commission of

Cross River State. They will have management and implementation responsibilities for outcomes 1-2 and 3-4, respectively. The National Advisory Council on REDD+ will be slightly reformed to serve as the Programme's Executive Board. The National REDD+ Technical Committee will provide technical advice and support across the entire programme activities, in close cooperation with Cross River State's REDD+ team. A number of mechanisms for stakeholder engagement, technical support and policy advice are envisaged to guide and enrich the implementation. In view of the weak capacities for REDD+ in the country and the wish of country stakeholders to progress at a good pace, the Programme will recruit a number of national and international professionals to support smooth implementation, provide high technical quality and foster dynamic stakeholder engagement.

The two-track approach of Nigeria, which combines efforts at both national (Federal) and sub-national (Cross River State) levels, will allow an integrated, multifaceted process for REDD+, from federal governance to forest communities. It is envisaged that as federal capacities grow, new Nigerian states with political commitment will join in the REDD+ process. The intended intense action in Cross River State will in turn inform the national REDD+ readiness framework and provide a model for replication in other interested states, as appropriate. This approach is not only dynamic, building from the bottom up, but it is politically appropriate since Nigeria is a federal country where states and local communities hold rights over the forests and also exercise major policy and investment roles. It is equally the most feasible approach in view that Nigeria is a vast and complex country, with uneven levels of REDD+ awareness and interest across their 36 states. This approach is thus based on a pragmatic, learning and scaling-up dynamic.

The Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme has been developed with inputs from a range of Nigerian and international technical and policy specialists, including support from UN-REDD professionals. It was enriched by a series of consultations, UN-REDD support missions and appraisal/validation events in Abuja, the federal capital, and in Cross River State, between November 2010 and August 2011, including forest community representatives. It was prepared under the spirit of the quick-start approach of the UN-REDD Programme, hence aiming at mobilising prompt initial funding and UN advice to explore and start building REDD+. The Programme was first presented and discussed at the sixth UN-REDD Policy Board in March 2011. It was later improved by addressing comments received from members of the UN-REDD Policy Board, from a 3-member Independent Technical Review team commissioned by the UN-REDD Secretariat, and from a number of technical and dialogue events in Nigeria (notably on governance and socio-environmental safeguards). This Programme is submitted for consideration for financial support by the UN-REDD Policy Board at its seventh meeting in October 2011. It is expected that the Programme will serve as a platform to mobilise more partners, alliances and funding for full-fledge REDD+ work across all Nigeria.

Figure 1.
Territorial map of Nigeria,
highlighting the location of Cross River State (CRS).



Synopsis of Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme (Table 1)

Goal: To enable Nigeria to contribute to climate change mitigation through improved forest conservation and enhancing sustainable community livelihoods.				
Objective: To build the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, using Cross River State as a demonstration model.				
Outcomes	Outputs	UN agency support	Implementation level	UN-REDD budget (US\$)
1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level	1.1. The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide	UNDP	FEDERAL	725,000
	1.2. Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced	UNDP, UNEP		
	1.3. Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established	UNDP		
	1.4. Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced	UNDP		
2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared	2.1. National REDD+ challenges & potentials assessed	FAO	FEDERAL	485,000
	2.2. National MRV framework designed	FAO		
	2.3. A Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states built	UNDP		
3. Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened	3.1. CRS REDD+ Unit fully functional and effective	UNDP	CRS	1,615,318
	3.2. CRS stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained & engaged on REDD+	UNDP		
	3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed	UNDP		
	3.4. CRS forest monitoring system operational	FAO		
4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State	4.1. REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported	UNDP	CRS	913,000
	4.2. REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ phase 2 triggered]	UNDP, UNEP		
	4.3. CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+	UNDP, UNEP		
Subtotal				3,738,318
Indirect support costs (7%)				261,682
TOTAL				4,000,000

→ Results Framework in Table 6 (pp. 53-56).

→ Budget Synthesis in Table 7 (p. 57).

2. Situation Analysis

2.1. Overview

Nigeria is the most populous nation in Africa, with a population of over 140 million in a surface area of approximately 1.26 million km². Nigeria is a federal republic, with 36 states and the federal capital territory, with a highly decentralised dynamic such that the states have important policy, regulatory and public investment competencies, including forest management. Nigeria is a large country with a wide range of ecological habitats and diverse cultures, as well as a complex socio-economic and political dynamic.

Nigeria's original forest cover has been dramatically reduced over the past decades. Over 50% of the remaining tropical high forests are located in a single state: Cross River State (CRS). Yet forest resources of different types, from savannah forests to mangroves, are still found across Nigeria, albeit with high fragmentation and ongoing pressures. Since 2009 there has been a growing interest in Nigeria in REDD+ as a mechanism to save the dwindling forest resources, whilst simultaneously contributing to global efforts for climate-change mitigation and support to forest-related livelihoods. Cross River State launched this interest, which soon captured the attention of Federal authorities. This led to several meetings within the country, and between the country and international stakeholders, notably with the UN-REDD Programme, to explore opportunities for collaboration. At the end of 2009, Nigeria formally requested membership in the UN-REDD Programme, which was granted.

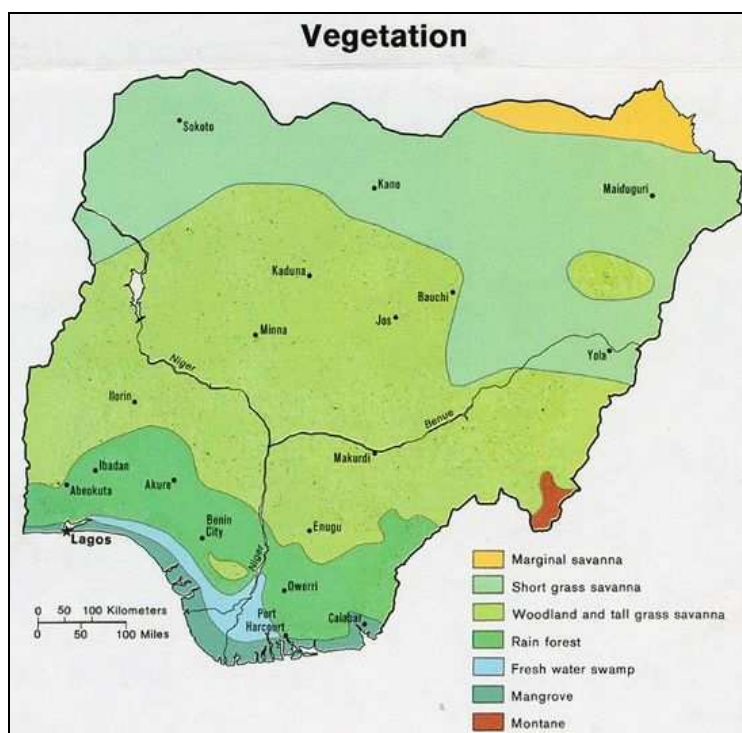
Throughout 2010, UNDP's country office in Nigeria provided some finance to jump start awareness raising, stakeholder dialogue, analysis and initial planning around a REDD+ process in Nigeria, as part of its ongoing strategic support to Nigeria on the issue of Climate Change. As part of this support, UNDP commissioned an exploratory report, titled: **A Preliminary Assessment of the Context for REDD in Nigeria** (Nigeria/UN, 2010; hereafter referred to as the "Preliminary Assessment"; available at: <http://www.un-redd.org>). This report is notably rich and vast, with about 150 pages, providing a wide range of information that is relevant to REDD+ and that serves to explore the basis for REDD+ in Nigeria. This report therefore provides broad supporting information to this programme document and a sort of extensive "Situation Analysis" section. The information in this section presents a summary of this report plus new, recent developments. All figures quoted in this section come, unless otherwise stated, from the mentioned "Preliminary Assessment". Furthermore, during 2011, FAO, UNDP and UNEP provided additional technical and financial support for the development of REDD+ specifics related to governance, safeguards, and MRV, among others, while engaging with policy, technical and forest community constituencies.

2.2. Forest resources and their management

Nigeria contains a rich series of climatic and vegetation zones across landscapes, leading to a diverse range of habitats, from desert zones in the northeast to tropical rain and swamp forests along the south coast ([Figure 2](#)). Nigeria's forests and woodlands currently cover about 9.6 million ha. Nigeria's biodiversity is very rich with some 4,600 plant, 839 bird and 274 mammal species. The *Gulf of Guinea's* forests stretch into southern Nigeria: these forests are recognized

as a global biodiversity hotspot. There are 22 primate species, including threatened and endangered species such as the Cross River Gorilla, Drill and Preuss's Guenon monkey.

Figure 2. Vegetation zones in Nigeria



Within Nigeria there is a myriad of forest management regimes. [Table 2](#) below outlines the main forest regimes and details on their forest cover and conservation status – it is evident that the conservation status across these regimes is poor and there is considerable need for improvement. In general, Nigeria's forests are threatened. Forest cover declined from approximately 24 million ha in 1976, to 15 million ha in 1995, and continued to decline to the current 9.6 million ha in 2011. Rates of deforestation in Nigeria remain amongst the highest in the world, placing Nigeria 7th on the list of countries emitting GHGs due to land use changes. Recent estimates place Nigeria's deforestation rate at 3.7% (FAO's FRA, 2010). Given this high deforestation rate, REDD+ is very pertinent.

Table 2: Forest management regimes in Nigeria

Management regime	Area (ha)	Description of management	Conservation status
Total Forest Area	9,600,000	About 70% of the country's forest is open tree savannah with the remaining 30% classed as closed forest.	Most of Nigeria's forests are heavily degraded – the least degraded forests tend to be found in national parks or in CRS.
Forest Reserves (FR)	2,700,000	About 445 gazetted reserves (~29% of forest cover). Established for the supply of timber. Collection of NTFPs is permitted as well as hunting.	Variable, majority are heavily degraded with no management plans, and ineffective protection
National Parks (NP)	2,509,000	There are 7 of these (~28% of forest cover). Established for the protection of biodiversity and tourism. No hunting or collection of NTFPs allowed.	Relatively well managed compared to forest reserves
Game Reserves (GR) & Wildlife Sanctuaries	745,000	There are 23 of these. Established for the sustainable management of wildlife with controlled hunting. No timber extraction permitted.	Mostly degraded with no management plans and ineffective protection
Strict Nature Reserves (SNR)	1,140	There are 8 of these. Strict protection with no use of any type allowed other than scientific research.	Most are small (between 19 and 460 ha), and degraded with ineffective protection
Plantations	382,000	Often within FRs. Planted forests, mostly exotics e.g. teak, Gmelina, rubber, etc.	Variable, most are without management plans
Community Forests/"free" areas	2,700,000	Depends upon community bye-laws. Most allow all uses including timber extraction and clearing for farmland but some have controlled use of some forest products.	Variable mostly degraded except in the more inaccessible parts of the country.

Sources: Total forest areas are from FAO's FRA (2010) and UNEP-WCMC (2005)

Cross River State, in southeast Nigeria has a population of almost 3 million people (2006) and covers an area of 23,074 km². CRS contains much of Nigeria's remaining standing forest. Lowland rainforests occupy approximately 40% of State land (829,412 ha), the mangrove forests (fresh water and salt water) jointly account for 5 % of the state land area (105,339 ha), and montane forest covers 0.5% of the Cross River State land area (11, 376 ha). Farmland occupies 42% or 889,039 ha. Between 1978 and 1995, the area occupied by natural forests in CRS decreased from 52.7% to 44.8%. More recent forest assessments have indicated additional losses until at least 2008. Deforestation rates in CRS are estimated at 2.2% per annum, which is very significant. CRS forests also host a great deal of Nigeria's biodiversity, with many endemic fauna and flora species. CRS has one national park (covering roughly 4,000 Km²), about 2,700 Km² of forest reserves under the control of the CRS State government, and an estimated 1,600 Km² of community forest under the control of communities. The "Preliminary Assessment" provides detailed data on CRS forest types, land-use, land use change over time, and biodiversity.

2.3. Forest policies and programmes

Federal level

Following a lengthy and participatory review, the *National Forestry Policy* was approved by the Federal Government in 2006. The Policy's overall objective is to achieve sustainable forest management, leading to sustainable increases in the economic, social and environmental benefits from forests and trees, for present and future generations, including the poor and vulnerable groups. Specific objectives include:

- Increase, maintain and enhance the country's forest estates through sound forest management practices;
- Address the underlying causes of deforestation, forest degradation and desertification;
- Promote and regulate private sector involvement in forestry development, and create a positive investment climate in the sector;
- Support schemes that facilitate access to carbon markets; *and*
- Encourage forest dependent people, farmers and local communities to improve their livelihoods through new approaches to forestry.

The strategy to implement this Policy includes promoting broad partnerships, decentralization, community participation, and the active participation of women, youth and vulnerable groups. It is worth noting that with Nigeria's federal structure, the Federal Government has responsibility for setting national forest policy while all implementation is carried out at the state level.

A draft *National Forestry Act*, to give legal backing to the Policy, was produced in 2006. This is being reviewed by the National Assembly. Other pertinent national policies include: the *National Policy on Environment*, which aims, amongst other things, to halt environmental degradation, and various regulations issued by the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA). A relevant policy is the *Land Use Act* of 1978, which vests ownership of all land in the country to the state government.

At the State level, each of the 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory have their respective forest policies and Forest Acts which are used to regulate forestry practices in their jurisdiction. Most of these policies and legislations were adopted from the old regional governments in Nigeria and so they predate the creation of states (i.e. before the 1970s). The four regions of Nigeria were dissolved and became 12, then 19 and, finally, 36 states. However the old forestry laws for these regions are still in force in most of the current states. As such, virtually all are obsolete and need to be reviewed.

Cross River State

In Cross River State, the *Eastern Nigeria Forest Law and Regulations* of 1956, revised in 1960, were still operative until 2010. These laws established Forest Reserves, defined the reserve boundaries, and provided for access rights for communities and the general public. These included the right to hunt, fish and collect non-timber forest products. Until 1999, the forests of the State were managed by the Forestry Department under the Ministry for Agriculture and Natural Resources. In 1999, the Cross River State House of Assembly passed the Forestry Commission Bill into law. This created the Cross River State Forestry Commission (CRSFC) as an autonomous organization that reports directly to the state's Governor.

From 1991, ODA (now DFID), worked with the CRSFC and a wide range of stakeholders to revise the state's forestry laws and introduce new clauses giving formal recognition to community forestry. However, the programme closed before the revised law could be forwarded to the state House of Representatives. In 2006, a USAID-funded programme facilitated a second stakeholder review of the DFID draft law; however they were also unable to get it into the formal state process for the review and creation of new laws.

In 2008, the new state Governor, Senator Liyel Imoke, supported a process to finally get the draft law debated by the State House of Representatives and the Senate and in 2010 the new *Law on the Management and Sustainable Use of the Forest Resources of Cross River State* was finally approved. This Law provides provisions for all of the different types of forests within the state. This Law also defines the roles and responsibilities of all the potential stakeholders and beneficiaries of forest resources in the state. It provides for the procedures, processes and checks and balances necessary to ensure that all of the existing and potential benefits from the state's forest resources contribute directly to the well-being of the people of Cross River State. It also enabled the government to allocate "carbon concessions" in the states forests. This is a first in Nigeria. The law includes a mechanism for the sharing of timber royalties from logging concessions that splits royalties between the government and forest communities. This is 50:50 split for royalties from timber from forest reserves, and 30:70, with 70 for the communities, for timber royalties from community forests.

A crucial policy initiative in CRS with respect to REDD+ is the **moratorium on all logging**, issued in 2008 by the State Government and recently renewed. It in effect cancelled all logging concessions and bans logging in all forest types (e.g. forest reserves, community forests) across the entire state.

Sustainable forest management, climate change and payments for environmental services

At the national level, many forestry initiatives and programmes have been developed to support sustainable forest management. These include the Nigerian Forestry Action Programme, the Forest Outlook Study for Africa, the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Desertification and Deforestation Programme, and the programme of the National Council on Shelterbelt. In spite of a variety of attempts to address deforestation in Nigeria, as mentioned above, the rate of deforestation in Nigeria remains one of the highest in the world. Most recently, an ambitious nationwide reforestation programme with indigenous species and local involvement has been recently launched to simultaneously regain forest cover and improve community livelihoods across the country.

Several federal climate change government structures have recently emerged, including the Presidential Implementation Committee on Clean Development Mechanism located in the Office of the Secretary to the Federal Government. The recently established regulatory agency National Environmental Standards Regulation and Enforcement Agency (NESREA) has a role to play in controlling pollution and emissions. Increasingly, the National Assembly is providing climate change decision-making. At the national level, a Bill to establish the National Climate Change Commission (NCCC) has been passed by the National Assembly. It includes a substantial section on REDD+. The NCCC will be tasked with consolidating the administration of climate change activities in the country by bringing units from several environmental institutions into one organization. These include the Nigerian Meteorological Agency, the newly established NESREA, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Forestry Department (Federal Ministry of Environment), the National Food Reserve Agency, the Energy Commission of Nigeria, the NEPAD Environment Initiative, the National Oil Spillage Detection and Response Agency and several research and academic institutions. The Bill also aims to establish the NCCC as the statutory body with the responsibility to regulate and coordinate policies and action plans on climate change, in addition to setting up a national Carbon Market Scheme.

In Cross River State, the Government, largely through its CRSFC, has initiated several initiatives to conserve their forests and biodiversity. These include the establishment of the first mangrove forest protected area in Nigeria, the creation of the Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary and the certification of 19 Forest Management Committees (FMC). Through establishing FMCs, the State gives formal recognition to community forest management and builds on the tradition of forest communities' stewardship and conservation of forests. In CRS, the policies relevant to climate change and PES are the new CRS law on Management and Sustainable Use of the Forest Resources of Cross River State described above that was finally approved in 2010 and enables the award of concessions for PES. These include concessions for carbon, biodiversity offsets, eco-tourism and watershed protection. This is a first for Nigeria.

2.4. Key stakeholders and existing stakeholder participation mechanisms

The forest and climate constituencies are broad and expanding in Nigeria. The "Preliminary Assessment" document explores this in detail. Annex 5 of the present document outlines the main institutions and stakeholders, both at national level and in CRS that are relevant for REDD+. A brief description follows next. Stakeholder profiling and categorization has started as part of the PGA/REDD+ initiative in Nigeria (see [section 4.5](#) for more details).

National level

The institutional framework for forestry development at the national level includes the Federal Ministry of Environment (FME) and parastatals of the ministry, the National Forestry Development Committee (NFDC), and the National Council on Environment, among others including the Ministries of Finance, Tourism, Agriculture and Women Affairs. The FME has established the Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU), with a mandate that includes negotiation, planning, policy, education and carbon finance. The SCCU is holding country-wide public awareness campaigns, targeting different stakeholders such as environmental NGOs, the media, universities, legislators, industries, the business community, community-based organizations and civil society.

Besides the government, there are several national and international NGOs involved in natural resource management and climate change issues including the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), Pro-Natura International (PNI), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Birdlife International, the International Centre for Energy, Environment and Development (ICEED) and the Climate Change Network Nigeria that represents over 150 NGOs. Private sector organizations, both Nigerian and international with activities in Nigeria, also have roles to play. The *Preliminary Assessment* (in its chapter 6) provides detailed information and an analysis of these stakeholders.

Cross River State

In CRS, the Cross River State Forestry Commission (CRSFC) is the main government agency responsible for the management of forests. It employs a participatory, community-oriented strategy, seeking to incentivise forest conservation and best management practice by increasing community revenue from forest products, thereby increasing the value of the forest to them. CRSFC is committed to genuinely devolving forest rights and responsibilities to communities. It is supervised by a Management Board with participation from representatives of government and

civil society (see further details at the "Preliminary Assessment". The Head of the CRSFC Management Board has been instrumental in driving forward the REDD+ agenda in the state. Other key government institutions include Cross River National Park (CRNP), the state's 13 Local Government Authorities (LGAs) and the Federal University of Calabar. The CRS Governor has taken a personal interest in the development of REDD in the state and has been instrumental in lobbying the Federal Government as well as the international community on this issue.

There are several active NGOs based in CRS, including the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Concern Universal, and numerous local environmental NGOs such as Pandrillus, CERCOPAN, Ekuri Initiative, and the NGO Coalition for the Environment. WCS has a conservation programme in the Mbe Mountains, conducts ecological research in the Afi Mountain (Okwangwo Division part of Cross River National Park) and is writing a management plan for whole Park. WCS is now in the process of carrying out carbon mapping of the Afi/Okwangwo area and are collaborating with CRSFC on the development of the Afi complex REDD pilot.

The Ghana-based Nature Conservation Resource Centre (NCRC) and the Katoomba Group have established the Katoomba West Africa Incubator (KWAi). This is one of several regional *incubators* established worldwide to support the development of pilot PES projects. The KWAi and NCRC have been working with CRS since 2009 to assess the potential for REDD+ and to help develop a vision for REDD+. They also support the identification of potential REDD pilot projects. They are developing 3 pilot projects that will complement the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme. They are as follows:

- *Flexible Mechanism to Support Emerging Carbon Finance Pilot Activities in Africa* – this project will create a fund to support the implementation of REDD pilots across Africa
- Establishing REDD pilots in 3 forest states in Nigeria – this project will support the development of pilots in Cross River State as well as Ogun and Ondo States
- *Livelihood Interactions with Forest Ecosystems in West Africa* (ESPA LIFE West Africa) – this project will implement research into key topics relevant to REDD across West Africa including Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ghana and Nigeria

Community level in CRS

At the community level, 45 Forest Management Committees (FMC) representing 75 forest communities across the State have the responsibility for the management of much of the state's community forests. Some of these FMCs have received significant capacity building support from local NGOs in the past and some have played a role in limiting and monitoring logging – demonstrating their potential role in a REDD programme.

Of particular note is the Ekuri community that has led the state with their conservation of over 33,000 ha of community forest. Other notable community forestry/conservation communities include the 9 villages around the Mbe Mountains, Iko Esai, Abontakon and villages around the Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary. International and local NGOs have supported these community forest management and conservation initiatives over the last 20 years. For example, WCS has been working with a number of communities around Afi River Forest Reserve, the Mbe Mountains and the Okwangwo Division of Cross River National Park for over a decade. CERCOPAN has supported the conservation efforts of Iko Esai for over 12 years.

The establishment of REDD+ in CRS, therefore draws on the long-term stewardship in the area and this emphasis on community ownership also contributes to reducing the risks of reversals.

Gender dimensions are particularly relevant on forest issues at community level. Although specific data and detailed analyses are incomplete, women are key, but vulnerable stakeholders in the forests. On the one hand, women play a key role in forest management. On the other, shortages of timber and non-timber forest products are known to particularly affect women's lives and livelihood, increasing marginalization and poverty. Notably with support from its international partners, the Government of Nigeria, in particular in CRS, has been taking steps to address gender issues. This has included increasing the number of female employees in administrative agencies, as well as gender mainstreaming and engaging social scientists in development programmes. At the national level, the Federal Ministry of Women's Affairs is a key stakeholder. At the community level, women in the community are key stakeholders and their involvement and participation will be prioritized.

2.5. Drivers of deforestation

As in all countries experiencing deforestation, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Nigeria are complex, multifold and multi-layered. Agricultural expansion is believed to be the dominant driver, according to land use information. For example, an assessment of vegetation and land use change between 1976/78 and 1993/95 noted that there was a significant increase in the areas of agriculture – all types of agriculture identified had grown by a total of 84,073 km². Similarly, grazing land is also expanding – its area increased from 18.3 percent of Nigeria in 1976/78 to 20.06 percent in 1993/95. Available data suggests these trends have continued into the present day.

Generally, infrastructure development (roads, power lines, mining, built up areas, etc) is also a contributing factor across the country (see [Table 3](#) below). In addition, the clearance of trees for firewood (in the North) and small-scale logging (in the South) further drive the fragmentation of remnant forest areas. These direct impact factors are driven by underlying governance, macro-economic and capacity issues. Nigeria is a Federal Republic with a high degree of autonomy at the state level. The Federal Ministry of Environment sets national policies, but responsibility for the implementation of forest management lies with each of the country's 36 states, each of which has its own forestry laws guided by those at federal level. At the state level, management capacity of the state forestry departments and local organizations is mostly low, with poor funding, low staff morale, limited technical training and often high levels of government corruption.

Across the board at the state level, forest laws are often obsolete, and weakly enforced. The land tenure laws of Nigeria fail to formally recognize community tenure. Federal, State and local governments in the forest sector lack capacity and training. They also lack equipment and other resources for forest management. Other important factors include: the ban on timber export which depresses the price of timber within the country (driving up its demand) and high revenue targets for states that promote over-harvesting of timber rather than sustainable forest management.

In Cross River State, agricultural extension and commercial logging respectively top the list of deforestation drivers, followed by urban growth and domestic energy use. An estimated 70% of

the population, or 100 million people, are directly dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods. As with other states in the country, poor conservation and poor enforcement of forest laws, policies and regulations also drive deforestation.

Table 3. Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Nigeria, as identified through stakeholder consultations

Drivers of Deforestation (direct & indirect)	Provisional ranking	
	Nigeria	CRS
Direct factors (rated by level of impact)		
Agricultural expansion	H	H
Logging	M	M
Fuel wood harvesting/charcoal production	H	L
Forest fires/bush burning	H	M
Over grazing	H	L
Mining	L	L
Infrastructure development/urbanisation (e.g. road, power lines)	M	M
Indirect (economic and forest governance issues)		
Macro-economic factors (e.g. log export ban, external debt, value of Naira, trade policies)	M	M
Outdated state forest laws - not changed since 1960s	H	M
Lack of integration between ministries	M	M
Land/forest tenure laws alienating communities from their forests	M	L
Weak forestry dept capacity at federal and state levels	H	M
Absence of working forest reserve management plans (for timber harvesting) since 1970s	H	H
High forestry revenue targets and low timber fees	H	L
De-reservation of Forest Reserves by state governments	L	L
High population growth driving demand for land/forest products	H	M
Inefficient processing of timber (e.g. making planks using chainsaws)	M	M
Corruption in the forest sector	H	H

Rankings: H: High / M: Moderate / L: Low

2.6. Initial efforts on readiness for REDD+

Nigeria stands at the very beginning of the path to REDD+ readiness. The Federal and some State Governments have taken initial steps towards REDD+ readiness. These include forestry reforms that could facilitate development of REDD+ in Nigeria and some measures taken to generally address climate change that could also support REDD+.

Policy/institutional developments

At Federal Level, the SCCU recently published a booklet "National Guidelines for Clean Development Mechanism". Nigeria has recently registered its first two Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects both related to the reduction of gas flaring, and it is developing a

third related to efficient wood use. These three CDM projects place Nigeria ahead of every other African country in terms of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs). Experience and capacity related to CDM should be pertinent for REDD+. Nigeria's DNA has succeeded in getting these 3 CDM proposals approved but confronts many challenges in the process required for more efficient approvals due to weak institutional capacity.

The **National Advisory Council on REDD+** is the Apex Governance body for Nigeria REDD+ Programme. Its roles include:

- provide policy advice and guidance on all National REDD+ processes;
- supervise activities of the National Technical REDD+ Committee;
- maintain oversight role over consultancies on National REDD+ issues;
- review, approve and provide continuous guidance and support to a REDD+ plan of operations, annual work plans, annual budgets, monitoring & evaluation process and implementation.

The **National Technical REDD+ Committee** is under the guidance of FMEV and chaired by SCCU. The Committee consists of specialists on forestry, climate change and development affairs. Its role is to:

- Make recommendations on the effective planning and implementation of REDD+ programmes;
- Develop a roadmap for Nigeria REDD+ Framework and Strategy;
- Identify and advise on institutional roles and mandates of relevant stakeholders;
- Coordinate national REDD+ activities with National Development Programmes;
- Recommend measures on awareness-raising, education, and institutional capacity building;
- Serve as the liaison between respective REDD+ institutions, stakeholder groups, UN-REDD agencies and development partners for effective planning and implementation of REDD+ activities in Nigeria.

The **National REDD+ Secretariat** has been established inside the Federal Department of Forestry. Its role is to provide coordination and REDD+ readiness management roles, as well as liaison and overall administrative coordination for the National Advisory Council on REDD+ and the National Technical Committee on REDD+. The Secretariat is headed by the National REDD+ Coordinator, and has 4 staff drawn from the Forestry Department and the Special Climate Change Unit (both of which are parts of the Federal Ministry of the Environment). Currently, a new Department of Climate Change has been established in the Ministry and is proposed to include REDD+. Once the organizational arrangement of the Department is endorsed by the Office of Head of Service of the Federation, the REDD+ will be moved to the new Department.

Since 2009 the Federal Government has become an active participant in the UN-REDD Programme.

Technical Developments

With international support, Nigeria has undertaken a rapid assessment of its REDD+ preparedness at national level and sub-regional levels, with a specific focus on Cross River State. This led to the preparation and dissemination of the document: *A Preliminary Assessment of the Context for REDD in Nigeria*.

The government has also developed a programme on carbon/forest monitoring together with the UNEP-WCMC's *Carbon, Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services programme*. This programme aims to support countries to address co-benefits in planning and implementing climate change mitigation measures, including REDD+. Under this, a capacity assessment was carried out in Nigeria and the Preliminary results of the study on carbon, biodiversity & ecosystem services : exploring co-benefits in Nigeria was published in 2010 . Next steps in Nigeria will include two components: an assessment of capacity for GIS and follow-up training.

The Cross River State government has shown considerable commitment towards REDD+ and developing readiness for REDD. Practical steps taken include:

- The removal of the revenue target from forest exploitation which led to incentives to sustainably manage forests and increase carbon stocks;
- The setting of a moratorium on logging, since December 2008 and recently extended indefinitely;
- Establishment of an Anti-Deforestation Task Force to control illegal timber harvesting and implement the moratorium. The government has committed significant human and financial resources to the Task Force;
- Legal and forest policy reforms (as discussed in the previous sections);
- Institutional reforms: The recently approved state forestry law reforms the structures of the Cross River State Forestry Commission making forest conservation and protection the main focus of the Commission's mandate.
- Establishment of the CRS State REDD+ committee and REDD Unit in the CRSFC to coordinate and drive REDD+;
- Supporting an initial feasibility study for two REDD pilot projects; and,
- Joining and actively participating in the global Governor's Forum on Climate Change and Forests (GCF);

Finally, discussions with the Governor and his Executive Committee resulted in the formulation of the following low carbon vision for Cross River State:

Within 10 years, Cross River State will have 1 million hectares of forest lands managed for climate change friendly activities that will include carbon, non-timber forest products, sustainable tree crops and ecotourism. The aim is to create a new low carbon economy for the state based on the sustainable management of its forests.

2.7. Key considerations on REDD+ after the *Cancun Agreements* (2010)

The UNFCCC's 16th Conference of the Parties adopted the *Cancun Agreements* in December 2010, with major impact on the modalities for developing countries on REDD+ and Monitoring and MRV aspects. The decision 1/CP.16 of the *Cancun Agreement* requests developing country Parties aiming to undertake REDD+ activities in a phased approach in order to achieve a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of the REDD+ activities, as well as a system for providing information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the REDD+ activities while respecting sovereignty ([Box 1](#)).

Box 1. Basic requirements for the national forest monitoring system

- Phased approach: there are three phases, starting with a readiness phase, followed by a second phase where result based activities will be implemented by predictable funding and finally the full MRV system in phase three with payments for verified performance;
- Be operational. Wall-to-wall coverage with sampling approach to assess historical deforestation and forest degradation rate;
- Temporal Frequency: bi-annual assessment;
- Multi-users: to allow management of data, interpretation and dissemination at national and state level and considering the paragraph 71.c. of the Cancun Agreements.
- Allow effective monitoring and actions to reduce negative impacts on the forest cover. Near real-time monitoring system can be developed through medium resolution;
- Detect land use changes (changes among different land uses categories) and forest canopy changes in forest land remaining forest land;
- Transparent: allowing the participation, validation and verification of all relevant stakeholders.
- Provide information on the safeguards when possible.

REDD+ under the AWG-LCA Section at Decision 1/CP.16 comprises 5 major activities, as agreed under the UNFCCC negotiations:

- Reducing emissions resulting from deforestation.
- Reducing emissions resulting from forest degradation.
- Conservation of forests (and the associated biodiversity and ecosystem services).
- Sustainable management of forests.
- Enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

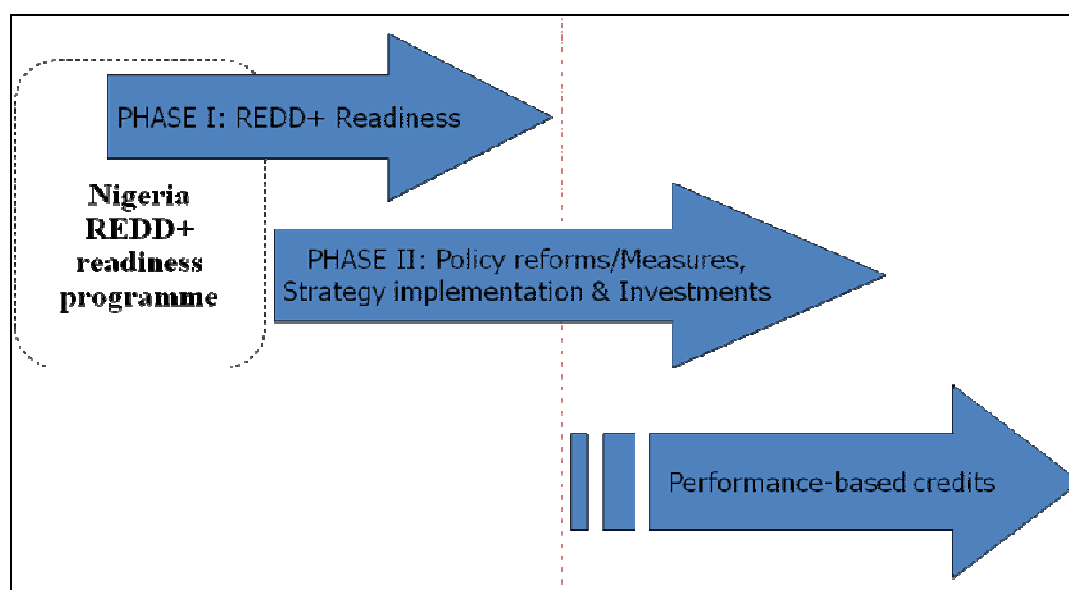
Nigeria and Cross River State are interested in all activities, and intend to employ a synergistic approach. The 3-phased approach to REDD+, as described in both Table 4 and Figure 3 below, indicates how this proposed programme for Nigeria fits in the approach.

Table 4. Phases for the establishment of a REDD+ mechanism

Phases	Concept	Brief description
Phase 1	Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building • Stakeholder engagement and national dialogue • Development of national strategies or action plans • Identification of policies (reforms & new) and measures
Phase 2	Policy measures, strategy implementation & results-based funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of national policies and measures • Implementation of national strategies or action plans (investments) • Implementation framework operational • Operational Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) for monitoring of demonstration activities • Further capacity-building • Technology development/transfer • Results-based demonstration activities and investments
Phase 3	Payments for verified performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolution into performance-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified

The 1st phase addresses preparedness, the 2nd phase focuses on developing a results-based mechanism of demonstration activities, and the 3rd phase is the deployment of a performance-based mechanism.

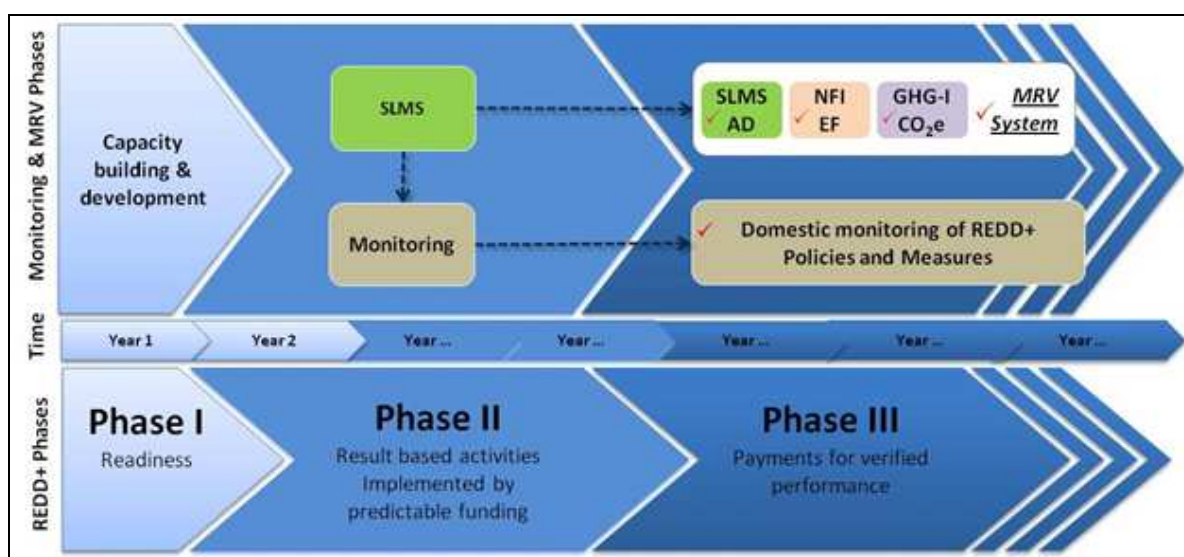
Figure 3. REDD+ readiness phases and the Nigeria REDD+ programme.



Note: This graph has been used during stakeholder training & consultations in Nigeria.

In terms of Monitoring & MRV activities, the 2nd phase's results can be evaluated in terms of area changes (*i.e.* land cover, forest cover monitoring), whereas the 3rd phase's performance shall be evaluated in terms of carbon stock changes (*i.e.* reduced emissions). Therefore, while the 2nd phase uses a monitoring system to monitor demonstration activities' results, the 3rd phase has a comprehensive MRV system to verify the necessary performances. The monitoring system (phase 2) includes data on: (i) forest area and forest area changes through the operational SLMS; and (ii) information on social and environmental safeguards, including governance. The full MRV system (phase 3) is meant to include additional data on the emission factors and the carbon stock change to achieve the GHG inventory.

Figure 4. Monitoring and MRV activities in the REDD+ readiness phases and the Nigeria REDD+ programme



2.8. Key elements for a national MRV system for REDD+ in Nigeria

Monitoring forest cover and forest cover changes

The Cancun Agreements request developing country Parties to develop a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of the REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, sub-national monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, in accordance with national circumstances, and with the provisions contained in decision 4/CP.15, and with any further elaboration of those provisions agreed by the Conference of the Parties. The *Cancun Agreements* explicitly states: "including monitoring and reporting of emissions displacement at the national level, if appropriate, and reporting on how displacement of emissions is being addressed, and on the means to integrate sub-national monitoring systems into a national monitoring system".

Regarding the AD, the IPCC indicates that countries should characterize and account for all relevant land areas in a country. This should be done as consistently and as transparently as possible and data should reflect the historical trends in land-use area (change). In addition, three approaches were developed by the IPCC for obtaining activity data. Only the third approach tracks forest and other land conversions on an explicit spatial basis (AD reporting under REDD+ will be required to go back 20 years in time, covering the entire country territory, and assign uncertainty values to the reported values). Changes in forest area can be monitored by remote sensing data by measuring forest area changes at different points in time.

MRV (Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for REDD+

Under the 3rd REDD+ phase, according to the *Cancun Agreements*, Nigeria should establish a system of Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) for Greenhouse Gas (GHGs) emissions, including GHGs from the five activities defined under REDD+. The system should be fully operational at the end of the 3rd phase and allow for assessment of the performances. The three components of the MRV system can be defined as follows:

Measurement: Refers to information on the extent to which a human activity takes place (AD) with coefficients that quantify the emissions or removals per unit activity (emission factors – EF). For REDD+ this translates into measurements of forest area and forest area change (AD) and forest carbon stock and forest carbon stock changes (EF). (**Figure 4**) Together, this information provides the basis to compile a GHG inventory. Countries may also be required to measure indicators of safeguards and other forest benefits.

Reporting: Implies the compilation and availability of national data and statistics for information in the format of a GHG inventory. Reporting requirements to the UNFCCC (National Communications) may cover issues other than just those subject to measurement. The core elements of the national communications are information on emissions and removals of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and details of the activities a country has undertaken to fulfil its commitments under UNFCCC.

Verification: Refers to the process of independently checking the accuracy and reliability of reported information or the procedures used to generate information. The UNFCCC Secretariat through its roster of experts will verify the data reported. The verification of countries' actions depends on three factors: (i) the degree to which reported data is capable of being verified; (ii) the actors who conduct the verification; and (iii) the way in which the verification is performed. *Special note*: In the IPCC (2006), verification refers specifically to those methods that are external to the inventory and apply independent data, including comparisons with inventory estimates made by other bodies or through alternative methods; verification activities may be constituents of both QA and QC, depending on the methods used and the stage at which independent information is used.

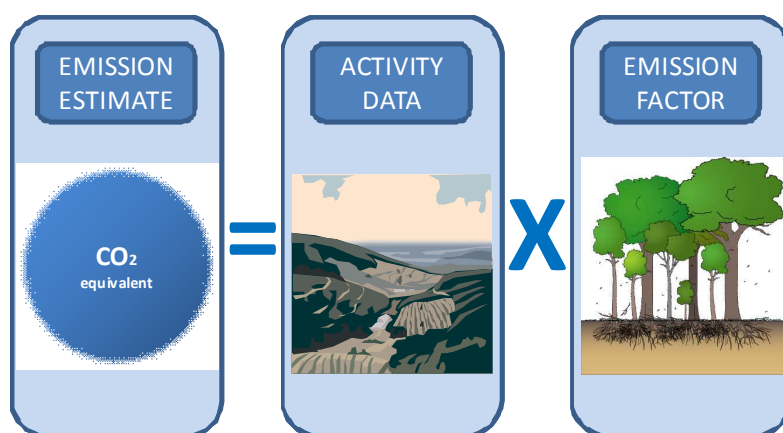
Box 2.
Key-issues in the MRV system for REDD+
that complies with the IPCC guidelines on GHGs

- **Country driven process:** each country has to establish an autonomous MRV system.
- **Learning-by-doing approach:** the development of an MRV system has to be based on in-country human resources being involved in the MRV development process from the very beginning and gradually improving skills whilst progressing towards its full implementation.
- **Safeguards:** the inclusion of the 'REDD+ Safeguards' in the monitoring system improves among others the consideration of biodiversity, governance and the inclusion of local communities.
- **Consistency:** should provide estimates that are consistent across years.
- **Transparency:** all the data and the methodologies should be clearly explained and appropriately documented, so that anyone can verify their correctness.
- **Comparability:** estimates of emissions and removals should be comparable among Parties. For this purpose, the IPCC provides standards for compiling and reporting inventories.
- **Conservativeness:** when completeness or accuracy of estimates cannot be achieved, the reduction of emissions should not be overestimated, or at least the risk of overestimation should be minimized.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHG-I): Assessing forest carbon stocks and carbon stock changes

The 15th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC adopted a decision on 'Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries' which requires to establish a "robust and transparent national forest monitoring system". The decision 4/CP.15 requests developing country Parties to use the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance and guidelines, as adopted or encouraged by the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate, as a basis for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks and forest area changes. The basic equation to calculate the Emission estimates is: Emissions = AD * EF (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Emission estimation method



For the forest MRV system, the principal aim of the forest inventory is to estimate emission factors (EF) for each forest related land use sub-categories. A forest inventory is a tool that allows countries to assess their forest resources to obtain valuable information for the sustainable management of their land. To measure changes in forest carbon stocks, IPCC (2006) recommends two options: the stock-difference method and the gain-loss method. The stock-difference method builds on traditional forest inventories to estimate sequestration or emissions. The gain-loss method is built upon an ecological understanding of how forests grow and upon information on natural or anthropogenic processes producing carbon losses. Classification of the forest into stratum through forest stratification often facilitates the sampling strategy of the forest inventory and decrease the cost of measurements.

2.9. Reference level and reference emission levels for REDD+ in Nigeria

Overview of the matter

Reference levels are important to operationalise REDD+ at the country level because they establish the yardstick against which the achievements of national REDD+ policies and interventions are measured. Setting objective and correct reference levels will ensure the emission reductions or removals to be real and verifiable. They are the thresholds that will be used to assess country performances in climate change mitigation actions and they will have a crucial role to support the implementation of a result-based mechanism under UNFCCC. Decision 4/CP.15 –recognizes that developing country Parties in establishing forest reference emission levels and forest reference levels should do so transparently taking into account historic data, and adjust for national circumstances. The GHG emissions and removals estimates have to be realized following the IPCC Guidelines on GHG inventories. The REL and RL will be key “accounting” elements. However, until now it is unclear how the REL/RL have to be established because some accounting rules that have not been identified will affect the assessment of REL and RL (market or fund based mechanism, land based or activity based mechanism, accounting methods e.g. net-net or gross-net, inclusion of emission intra-national emission displacement, national or sub-national or project based mechanism).

However, it is clear from Decision 4/CP.15 that RELs will be based on historical data, adjusted for national circumstances. It is also clear that REL will need to be developed in a way so that emissions and removals that are monitored in the future can be compared directly to the emissions and removals in the reference scenario—in other words there will be consistency between the approaches used for the REL and the MRV (Measurement, Reporting and Verification) system.

There is not a prescribed methodology for the establishment of reference levels. Under the principle of subsidiarity under the Convention, and in recognition of the multitude of ecological and socio-economic conditions shaping the world's forest resources, countries are free to establish their own reference levels, within the scope set by the Convention and following guidance from the IPCC. This gives the individual countries, including Nigeria, the opportunity to establish a reference level that is appropriate to its national circumstances – forest ecology and condition, socio-economic development, technological capacity, policy context – but it also places the burden on these countries to develop a reference level that is realistic for the national situation and acceptable to the Convention.

At the level of the UNFCCC there are discussions about the scope and the scale of reference levels. These discussions, however, relate mostly to how countries communicate their reference levels to the UNFCCC. Within the countries there is much freedom to arrive at a nationally acceptable and appropriate reference level. Nigeria may elect to have multiple reference levels, e.g. one for each major ecological zone, or sub-national approaches, e.g. specifically aimed at shifting cultivation, or both. The information submitted to the UNFCCC then becomes an aggregation of the different reference levels developed throughout the country.

Many proposals have been made for the establishment of reference levels, both as submissions to the UNFCCC by Parties and observers and in publications in scientific literature. In all cases, these reference levels apply to deforestation and they can be subdivided into retrospective reference emission levels based on historical observations of forest cover and prospective reference emission levels based on some type of modelling.

Retrospective reference emission levels

Retrospective RELs are almost all based on analysis of historical observation of forest cover over a period of at least 10 years (although the time period is still widely debated). Forest cover activity data is multiplied by an emission factor to arrive at an annualized net emission of greenhouse gases due to deforestation.

In its simplest form, also referred to as Simple Historical Approach (SiHA) (Huettnner, 2009) use is made of FAO Forest Resources Assessment activity data and IPCC default values for emission factors. There are a variety of modifications to the SiHA method. These refer to the period (anywhere between 5 and 20 years), the source of basic forest cover data (global estimates, satellite imagery of varying characteristics) and scale (global, nation or sub-national).

For Nigeria, use can be made of the existing ILUA inventory data (or, if the accuracy can be established with sufficient accuracy, for activity data and possibly for the emission factor(s) as well. This automatically leads to a preference for a national or sub-national scale for the REL, without relying on international or external data on forest cover and biomass content, as this will

have higher credibility internationally. The sub-national approach, as suggested by CATIE (Pedroni et al., 2008) and also represented in the proposed standard for Mosaic Deforestation (BioCarbon Fund, 2008), could be interesting for Nigeria in the sense that it allows for sub-national RELs on a project basis, which are later integrated into a national REL. While the project scenario may or may not be relevant for Nigeria, the mechanism of local establishment of RELs (e.g. at provincial level) that are later merged into a national REL may be useful for Nigeria.

Prospective reference emission levels

Prospective RELs are typically based on an extrapolation of a historical trend, e.g. the retrospective REL, applying some knowledge, understanding or expectation of the future. It is also possible to construct a prospective REL on the basis of policy and intervention strategies alone, but all proposals so far use hard evidence in some form or another. Given that Nigeria has substantial data on which to base the retrospective REL, it is only natural to base the prospective REL on the same evidence.

There are three distinct procedures to arrive at a prospective REL:

1. Extrapolation of the historically observed forest cover data, possibly with reference to secondary data sets.
2. Econometric modeling, whereby the formal and informal forestry sector are considered as operating in the national economy and responding to impulses (e.g. market prices for tree-based products).
3. Dynamic land use modeling, accounting for drivers of land use change and using historical spatial data of forest cover, other land uses and deforestation.

Extrapolation of historical data

One of the more straightforward ways to establish a prospective REL is to take the same historical forest cover data that was used to establish the retrospective REL, derive a mathematical relationship through regression analysis and project that relationship into the future. The functional form of the regression function can be any type that corresponds to the data, but a logarithmic, inverse exponential or low-order polynomial would be most appropriate in this context. The regression analysis can be based on forest cover data only, or it can include secondary variables that help reduce the variance in the data (Hirata, 2009). Examples of such secondary variables are: expansion of the agricultural area, labour markets, etc.

An important quality indicator of extrapolated mathematical models is the residual error or variance in the regression analysis (which is based on observed data). The variance in the data, that part of the observed phenomenon that cannot be "explained" by the mathematical model should be reduced to the extent possible, for instance through the inclusion of secondary variables. Judging from guidance on other methods under the UNFCCC (e.g. IPCC documents), the variance should be kept under 10% to be acceptable.

Mathematical models are typically easy to understand and since they are based on observed data they are also easily accepted. A problem with mathematical models is that the mechanism of the underlying processes (population pressure, poverty, inadequate management) leading to the

observed feature (declining forest cover) is not very clear. Changes in these processes can therefore not be included in the REL. If the National REDD Programme is successful in reducing deforestation, it will be because some of these processes are changing, thus invalidating a further extrapolation of the mathematical model in time. Also, changes in the resource itself (less forest available due to deforestation) may make an extrapolation based on forest cover alone not realistic. However, mathematical models are very powerful in demonstrating trends due to their simple structure and they will therefore not easily generate debate or controversy on the relative merits of decisions made in their elaboration.

Establishing reference levels by forest strata

Reference levels have to be established for each of the forest strata defined leading to sub-national reference levels. This could be at the first level stratification (i.e. the 3 global ecological zones in Nigeria), although it could be beneficial to develop these for the larger number of strata at higher levels of stratification – more homogeneous units of forest – as they will have higher accuracy. This more detailed establishment of RLs could be deferred to a later stage however, with initial development focusing on the first level stratification.

A sub-national reference level is here meant to be a reference level that applies to a certain part of the country based on some objective criterion, like global ecological zones. Multiple sub-national reference levels will encompass the entire territory of Nigeria and they will jointly form the national reference level. This is not to be confused with the sub-national approach to enable early participation on e.g. a project level, as is proposed in the "Nested Approach", submitted to the UNFCCC by CATIE, although there are some similarities between the two methods.

2.10. Social & environmental issues as related to REDD+

Development in Nigeria has confronted many social (including governance) and environmental challenges. The oil exploitation in the Delta Region has been a source of controversy, locally, nationwide and internationally. Poverty, inequalities and social exclusion are widespread problems. Nevertheless, Nigeria is making efforts to shift towards a more equitable and sustainable development path. The commitment for REDD+ is an example of this. States such as Cross River State have a valuable record of environmental concerns and protection. The moratoria on timber extraction in CRS, against powerful economic interest groups, shows that Nigeria is able to tackle environmental matters seriously.

As mentioned above, Nigeria's forests, especially those in Cross River State, are rich with biodiversity, including many endangered and threatened species. Consequently biodiversity conservation will be an important issue for REDD+ planning in Nigeria. Forests provide other environmental benefits and services including water regulation, air quality, and soil retention. While REDD+ can enhance these benefits, there are also risks related to the implementation of REDD+, so is important to identify these benefits as well as to develop safeguards to mitigate any potential risks. Besides environmental issues, there are a myriad of social issues related to forests, development and ultimately REDD+. On social issues, the forest dependant communities' lifestyles and relationship to the forest will be important to understand. It will be important to record how communities' livelihoods and health are linked to the forests, especially in terms of non-timber forest products and medicinal plants found in the forest. Furthermore, land tenure

rights, equitable sharing of the benefits of REDD+ and training in alternative livelihoods are all pertinent to the development of REDD+.

The REDD+ process has unfolded in Nigeria as a unique opportunity to protect the forests and raise international funds for community livelihoods and development. The REDD+ domain is in fact led from a socially and environmentally sensitive constituency that advocates forests for all of its values, not just carbon. Consequently, due attention to social and environmental safeguards will apply to all REDD+ work, as illustrated in the Programme's strategy ([Section 3](#)) and design ([Section 4](#)).

At the international level, many efforts are ongoing to define social and environmental safeguards to shape and support REDD+. In this sense, the UN-REDD programme is developing expertise and guidelines to support countries with these matters and Nigeria has demonstrated a commitment and desire to being a leader on operationalising social and environmental safeguards for REDD+. This was in part demonstrated with a technical consultation held in Abuja in which Nigeria contributed with valuable input to the UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria, while also reviewing this document to identify potential improvements in light of the Principles and Criteria. A specific initiative on FPIC and recourse mechanisms is ongoing in order to prepare guidelines for UN-REDD Programme's countries. This will also serve Nigeria to conform well to reflect the recent *Cancun Agreements* on REDD+.

Governance is a particularly crucial and sensitive dimension for a REDD+ mechanism to be credible. For governments to be able to provide reliable and trustworthy information on the national REDD+ process, and more specifically on how governance and social safeguards are promoted, addressed and respected, mutual trust in how this information is prepared, and mutual appreciation of the relevance of this information, are crucial. Participatory Governance Assessments (PGAs) are a valuable tool to build such information systems and UNDP is supporting two countries in conducting PGAs for REDD, namely Indonesia and Nigeria. PGAs are a demanding and hence solid exercise to help build governance for REDD under a country-led vision: they have comparative advantages over externally-led assessments, notably in terms of ownership, stakeholder engagement and grassroots-based building of governance capacities. PGAs for REDD+ emphasize the inclusion of a wide range of stakeholders (government officials, civil society actors, forest-dependent communities, national statistics offices, fiduciary control agencies, academia, and the media, among others) from the very beginning of the process to ensure that there is a broad-based agreement on the governance indicator framework developed and on the methodology used to collect data.

3. Strategies, lessons learnt and the REDD+ readiness approach in Nigeria

3.1. Political commitment for the REDD+ mechanism at Federal level and in CRS

The Federal Government has demonstrated its commitment to REDD+ through its participation in international forums and partnerships, and through its recent establishment of the Advisory Council on REDD, the Technical REDD+ Committee, and the REDD Secretariat. The Federal Government now needs international support to operationalise REDD+.

The CRS Government has demonstrated its commitment to REDD+ through its participation in international forums and partnerships, through its lobbying and interactions with the Federal Government, through its recent legislative and institutional reforms, and through its ongoing support to REDD activities at sites across CRS.

Cross River State is classified among one of the 25 biodiversity hotspots in the world. As a show of commitment to forest conservation the State set aside over 2955.10km² of its forest reserves for the creation of Cross River National park (CRNP). Furthermore the State has created Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary (AMWS), a strict nature reserve, for the protection of the endangered Cross River Gorilla and other primates.

Cross River State is deeply interested and committed to the REDD+ programme. This is evident from the following:

- From 2009 to date the State makes substantial financial resources to drive the State REDD+ agenda. In this year (2011) there's a budgetary provision of twenty five million naira (about US\$ 167,000) to promote and support the REDD+ activities.. Furthermore the State has made a commitment to set aside one million hectares of forest land to be managed for climate change related activities.
- The State has an ecological restoration programme aimed at extending the forest cover of the State by 25% through the planting of indigenous tree species.
- The State participates actively in global REDD+ related activities, such as GCF with a view to contribute to the success of the REDD+ movement while building the capacity of the State actors in the REDD programme.
- Also other stakeholders like members of the academia are demonstrating their support to REDD. The creation of a Climate Change Study Group in University of Calabar, which collaborates with the CRSFC, will serve to help build the relevant capacity that would support the State/Nigeria's REDD+ programme. Communities are not left out as they freely write requesting to collaborate with government in this respect.

The State placed a 2-year ban on timber exploitation in 2008. That ban has been extended indefinitely. To date about US\$ 500,000 have been committed to the enforcement of anti-deforestation programme in CRS.

With the support of organizations like ODA, DFID in 1990s the State embraced community forestry. Many communities like Ekuri Initiative have global recognition for their community forestry programmes. The communities have forest management committees (FMCs) which is a ready platform for community participation in the REDD+ programme. The FMC structures have been integrated into the REDD+ structure. The State president of FMC is a member of the REDD Committee. The current REDD+ activities at the pilot sites are participatory and very community based.

Nigeria's involvement with the UN-REDD programme came from the initiative of Governor Imoke following his participation at the 1st Katoomba West Africa meeting in Accra, Ghana on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES). He sponsored and led a delegation of 15 persons made up of members of his cabinet, CRSFC Board members and staff, members of the academic, CSO and community representatives and an Abuja based climate change consultant. He made a presentation requesting contact with UN-REDD, FCPF and GCF bodies to enable him drive his REDD agenda. Upon return from this event he approached the Federal Ministry of Environment for a collaborative relationship which would facilitate the REDD+ programme in Nigeria.

In general, the reasons underlying a REDD+ readiness programme in Nigeria comprise as follows:

- high rate of deforestation and hence significant levels of preventable carbon emissions;
- the last remaining forest cover in Nigeria comprises unique biodiversity as well as valuable ecological services, socio-economic benefits and cultural roles;
- there is an enormous opportunity for increasing carbon stocks in degraded forests, as well as in vast woodlands and savanna grasslands;
- there is already some technical capacity and certainly high interest to implement REDD+; and
- Nigeria is an influential voice in international diplomacy as well as on the international dialogue on climate change – hence advancing a national REDD+ programme is likely to enrich Africa-level and global negotiations around climate change and the REDD+ mechanism.

3.2. UN-REDD Programme's engagement in Nigeria

The UN-REDD Programme has been providing advisory support to the Federal and CRS authorities during the initial stages of REDD+ readiness, including a successful scoping mission in October 2010. The mission included the facilitation of multi-stakeholder workshops on REDD+ in Calabar (CRS capital city) and Abuja (Federal capital) as well as a visit to forest communities, NGOs and government institutions at both state and national level. The mission found impressive commitment to REDD+ in the country and concluded that full REDD+ readiness finance is critically needed to sustain Nigeria's progress and to respond to the interest encountered. Nigeria subsequently made a successful presentation to the UN-REDD Policy Board and was invited to submit a REDD+ readiness proposal to the Policy Board for March 2011, for technical assessment and financial consideration. The document was circulated for plenary discussion and subsequent comments, received from both the UN-REDD Independent Technical Review panel and UN-REDD Policy Board's members. These comments were discussed in a stakeholder workshop in Nigeria

(Annex 4) and they have been all addressed in the current proposal. In addition, each agency of the UN-REDD Programme (namely FAO, UNDP, and UNEP) has provides support for specific REDD+ related activities since 2010.

UNDP-Nigeria has provided catalytic finance for awareness-raising, stakeholder dialogue and planning around a REDD+ process in Nigeria. This is part of its ongoing strategic support to Nigeria on the challenges and opportunities around climate change. This included a rapid assessment of Nigeria's preparedness at national level and at sub regional level (including of potential pilot projects in Cross River State) for a REDD+ scheme. In addition, UNDP has launched a Participatory Governance Assessment initiative for RED+ (PGA/REDD+), one of two in the world, to lay the foundations for REDD+ stakeholder engagement & governance, using a country-led approach (see [section 4.5](#) for details).

Apart from being active mainly on food security for Nigeria, FAO has worked in Nigeria on the preparation of a National Medium Term Priority Framework following a request from the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources in 2007. The objectives of the priority programmes were: expansion of production, food security, human capital development and fundamental human rights. These objectives support the government's development goals of promoting economic growth, improving livelihoods, sustainable development and policy and institutional reforms. The goals are in line with Nigeria's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the Millennium Development Goals.

In 2010, UNEP-WCMC worked with the Department of Forestry and the Cross River State Forestry Commission to assess capacity and opportunities for analysis of multiple benefits and to conduct a preliminary analysis on the relationships between carbon and biodiversity in the country. Subsequently UNEP-WCMC supported an analysis leading to the publication of *"Carbon, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Exploring the Co-benefits. Nigeria: Preliminary Results*. This publication draws on national and regional data, and uses maps to provide an overview of the relationship between terrestrial carbon stocks and biodiversity and some of the factors that are likely to affect the realization of co-benefits from REDD+.

3.3. Lessons learnt from REDD+ processes and UN-REDD in other countries

The framework for developing REDD+ is more advanced in a few countries, for example in Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (D.R.C.) and Vietnam. Although still early in the REDD+ process, some REDD+ lessons are coming out of these countries which have been considered while preparing this Nigeria REDD+ programme.

In Africa, the D.R.C. is the most advanced country on REDD+ matters. Experience in this country indicates the need to combine a coherent, participatory process with good technical quality, as well as with a realistic work planning, in order to advance on REDD-related matters. The D.R.C. experience shows the importance of participation and consultations, which has to be assured through tangible and active mechanisms for information sharing and dialogue. In addition, lessons from D.R.C. show the importance of establishing appropriate governance structures, using inclusive stakeholder dynamics and appropriate methodologies.

Out of Africa, a recent review of lessons learnt from REDD+ in the Asia & Pacific region with the UN-REDD Programme has revealed 6 types of lessons learnt (*UN REDD Programme in the Asia-Pacific Region: Knowledge and Lessons* – see Annex 12 for details), as follows:

- Development of REDD+ readiness is primarily a political process;
- REDD+ readiness requires cross-sectoral coordination within Government;
- REDD+ readiness requires extensive consultation among all stakeholders;
- REDD+ readiness is more effective and efficient if harmonized with existing laws, policies and programmes;
- Go slowly;
- Develop an institutional map.

Notably, a picture is emerging of the need for high investments in coordination and dialogue, including consultation, participation and stakeholder engagement. These items, although initially costly, are proving highly beneficial in the long run.

All other countries have adopted a phased and measured approach. Ultimately, establishing REDD+ requires a broad range of reforms and developments, covering political, economic, institutional and many technical domains. Moreover, these must be undertaken at several administrative levels. Clearly, these cannot all be achieved at the same time. Hence, this Programme has been designed as a step-by-step approach that continuously demonstrates progress, maintains momentum and scales up, whilst continuously respecting the existing absorptive capacity.

Finally, a finding from REDD projects across the world is that experimenting with REDD in the field is the optimal way to achieve credibility and build operational capacity. Such field activities are also an excellent way to raise awareness. The lessons learnt is that first implementing at an experimental level is a good strategy to: (i) determine how REDD can truly function; (ii) develop operational capacity, and; (iii) clarify optimal strategies.

All the above have been accounted for in the design of the current Nigeria REDD+ Programme.

3.4. The strategy and bottom-up approach to develop REDD+ readiness in Nigeria

The Republic of Nigeria and its Cross River State (CRS) are jointly committed to pursuing REDD+ readiness, in view of the potential of the REDD+ mechanism to reducing deforestation and forest degradation (and the associated GHGs emissions from the forest sector) and simultaneously attracting international climate finance for development purposes. It has been agreed that the REDD+ readiness path in Nigeria is initially to be developed through a two-tier approach, consisting of: (i) a national REDD+ process that addresses the core REDD+ readiness elements; and (ii) a specific, more intensive REDD+ process in CRS, which will equally serve to inform the national process and, later, inspire other interested states. CRS is the selected state to pioneer REDD+ since it holds the largest share of rainforest in Nigeria, and since both the Governor and the Head of its Forestry Commission are deeply committed to protecting the state's natural resources by maintaining a moratoria on timber extraction, and by exploring mechanisms for payments for ecosystem services, Carbon finance and REDD+.

As seen in Section 2, many of the background elements for REDD+ readiness are already present in Nigeria. However, Section 2 also points to some weaknesses and gaps across the entire range of readiness elements. In particular, work is needed across the board on the following fronts: the enabling framework (forestry-related laws and policies); the REDD+ management & implementation framework (including potential payment systems); the national awareness and consultation processes; the Reference Levels; the monitoring, reporting and verification processes; several assessments of forests, the drivers of deforestation and degradation, and the economic options; and the preparation of a national REDD+ strategy.

Clearly, all factors related to all of the above issues cannot be addressed at the same stage. This Joint Programme represents the first phase of developing REDD+ readiness. In line with international guidance, this Programme shall focus on: planning of policies and measures; initial capacity building; undertaking assessments; undertaking consultations; and designing and implementing initial demonstration activities.

Given the highly decentralized nature of Nigeria, most of the above work will have to be undertaken at both Federal and State levels. The two-track approach for developing Nigeria REDD+ Readiness is both more practical and feasible as well as aligns with the political environment of Nigeria as the Nigeria constitution sanctions staged development. The most advanced and most eager state is Cross River State. Hence a full set of REDD+ readiness activities will be implemented in this state, while a plan for expansion to other states is equally an integral aspect of this programme.

Finally, based on previous lessons learnt, REDD activities should be started as soon as possible at the local level. The Preliminary Assessment identified three sites that are already planning to initiate REDD activities in Cross River State, and pre-feasibility studies have been completed for two of these. These potential sites are:

- The Ekuri--Iko Esai-Okokori-Etara Eyeyeng-Owai-Ukpon River area;
- The Mbe Mountain – Afi River REDD+ Project;
- The Proposed Mangrove Forest Reserve Area.

Based on these activities and assessments, a focus on support to such pilot sites is included in the programme. In addition, besides having pilot activities, the emphasis on the role and importance of forest-dependant communities is crucial, particularly given the commitment to conservation that has been demonstrated by forest-dependent communities as well as the recognition that community ownership reduces risks of reversals.

REDD+ readiness in Nigeria will start with Cross River State but aim at expanding to other states, and to the rest of the country, in a progressive fashion. The idea is to use Cross River State as a laboratory for REDD+ readiness, but when other states show interest and as additional funding is mobilised, more and more states will follow the REDD+ process. In fact, a number of Nigeria states have already expressed interest in engaging in the REDD+ mechanism, participating in the ongoing REDD+ exercises and meetings that have been held in Nigeria since 2010, and creating REDD+ support structures. The will of Nigeria to expand to other states, as far as capacities and funding allow, is strong and is also crucial to seriously address the risks of displacement. In fact, it is anticipated that many dialogue and capacity-building activities, whether at federal level or in

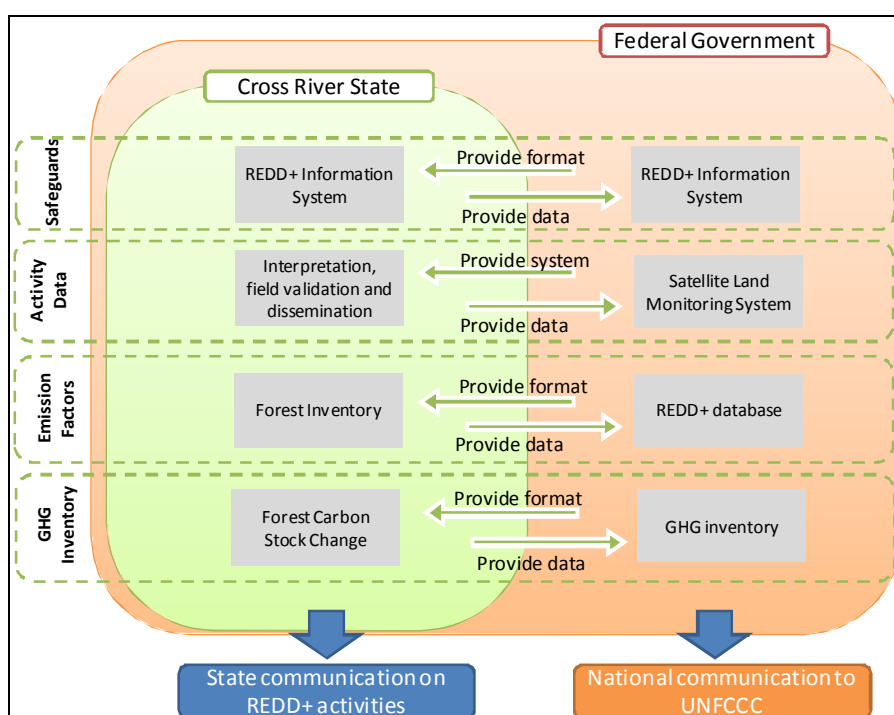
CRS, will integrate other states, notably those that are neighbouring to CRS (to address risks of deforestation displacement) and those that are actively interested (to foster a critical mass of REDD+ thinking and cooperation across Nigeria).

3.5. Design of a system for monitoring & MRV of REDD+ activities in CRS and Nigeria

The design of the phases, namely REDD+ Readiness, Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification system indicates a long term strategy to allow Nigeria and Cross River state to use capacity building under phase I (i.e. this programme) to be able to report results under the phase II and subsequently to report on performances (measured, reported and verified results) under phase III of the REDD+ mechanism. The architecture is developed for allowing the use of the experiences from CRS to implement REDD+ activities in other Nigerian states and provide information on the results and the performances at national scale. Given that most of the start-up REDD+ activities will take place in CRS, the REDD+ information system at state level will provide data to develop a federal REDD+ information system. The data flow will be two-ways since the federal level will provide the format needed for the safeguards at state level (Figure 6).

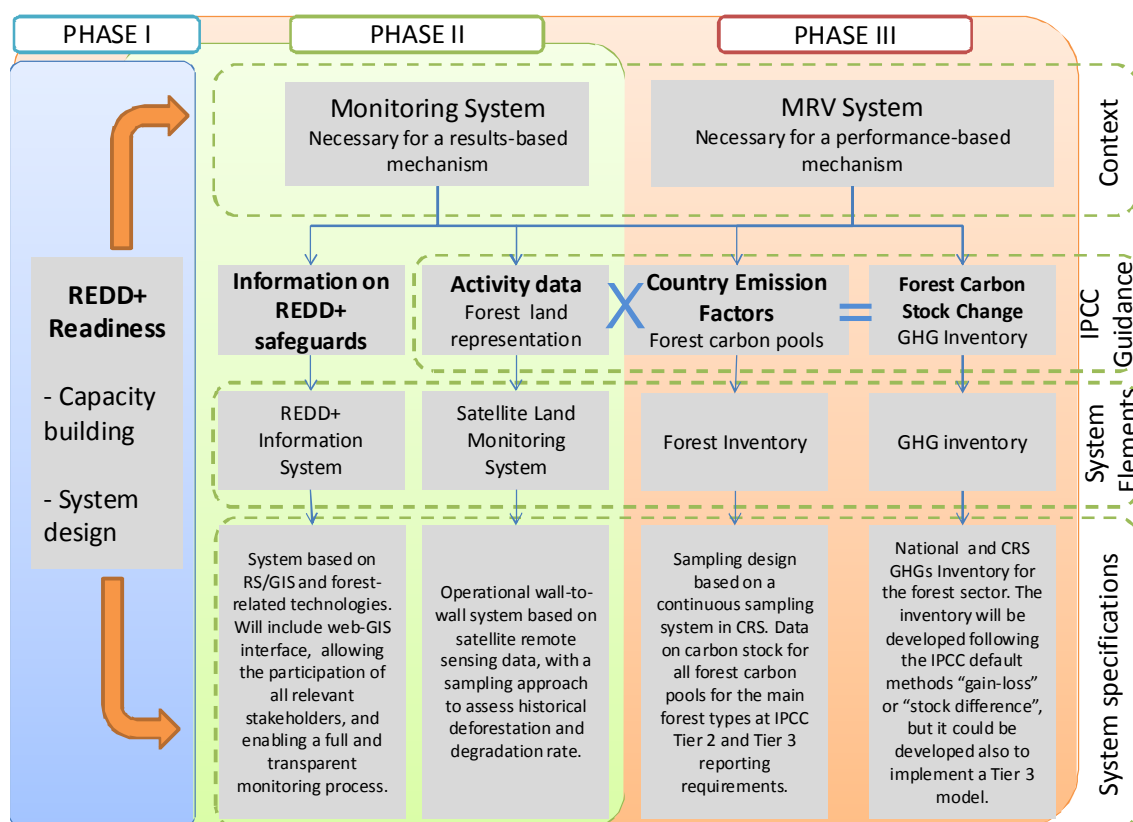
In addition, the other components of the MRV system will allow a two-way communication between the CRS and the Federal Government: the AD as interpreted, validated and disseminated in the state, will allow field validation for the national level, while also the Forest inventory as carried out at the state level will provide data for the national REDD+ database, which will be the format provider for the state level. Finally, the GHG inventory for the determination of forest carbon stock change in the CRS will allow the verification of the national GHG inventory, which on its way will provide the assessment for the state level.

Figure 6. Overview of linkages in the MRV system between CRS and the Federal Government



This proposed monitoring system enables an evolutionary process towards a full, nationwide MRV system, while being useful in intermediate stages. First, it enables the assessment of the results from REDD+ activities, as required for phase II, using two pillars that provide data on: (i) forest cover changes and activity data, and (ii) the safeguards. Furthermore, it allows to later on report on: (i) the assessment of the emission factors, and (ii) the evaluation of anthropogenic emissions by sources and anthropogenic removals by sinks resulting from REDD+. Both systems are complementary in time, allowing the reporting of the activities during phase II and the performance under phase III, in an integral, progressive way (Figure 7). The systems are also complementary in space allowing Cross River State and Federal government to report their activities. The forest inventory data of Cross River State are used to assess the emission factors for Cross River State and thus partially for Nigeria.

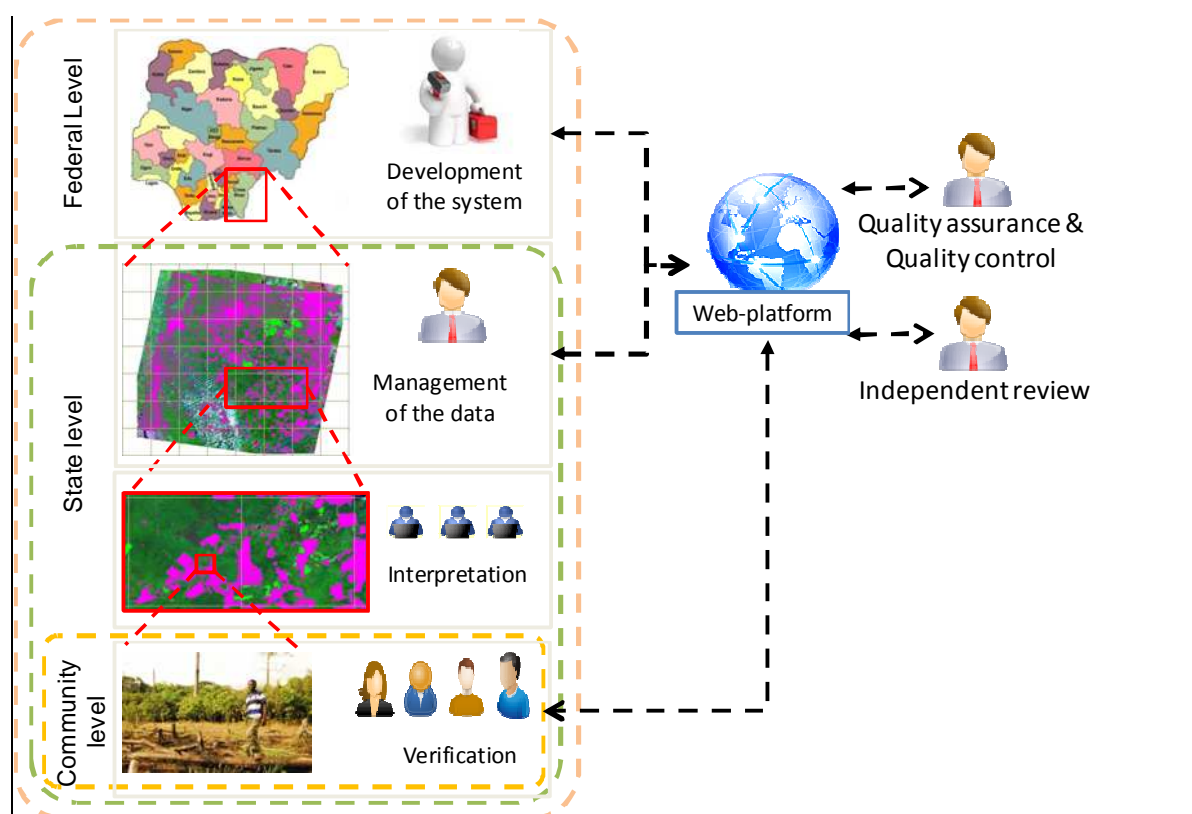
Figure 7. Proposed integrated approach to building both Monitoring & MRV systems in Nigeria and CRS



When considering the forest monitoring system (Figure 8), it should integrate monitoring of the REDD+ activities at national, state and forest community level. While the development of the system will be achieved at national scale in order to ensure the compatibility of the system with the other states and it will be used by the mandated national entity for reporting under the UNFCCC, the management of the necessary data and the interpretation could be done at state level. The system will be developed in a way that allows the transparency of the data acquisition,

analysis and interpretation and also the quality assurance, quality control and verification of the information provided. The system can be developed in order to allow several users to analyze the activity data at the same time within a state or national level. The management of the data could be performed at state and national level. The quality control could be achieved by the National Entity in charge of the compilation of the GHG inventory. The quality assurance is conducted by personnel not directly involved in the inventory compilation/development process (e.g. Independent evaluation). The verification refers to the collection of activities and procedures conducted during the planning and development, or after completion of a first inventory that can help to establish its reliability for the intended applications of the assessment.

Figure 8. Integration of the Federal, State and community level tasks into a national Monitoring system



The MRV system will be developed in accordance with the 2006 Guidelines of the IPCC for national inventories of GHGs. Following the methodological approach suggested by the IPCC, Nigeria must at least aim to establish a GHG inventory with known uncertainties on the estimations of carbon stock variations (Tier 2 or Tier 3). To meet these conditions, Nigeria should have the following:

- multi-temporal inventory data;
- estimations of emissions factors specifically for the country; and
- uncertainties associated with the estimates of the reported data.

In a first instance, the MRV system in Nigeria aims for a Tier 2 level. Nevertheless, the current approach enables the implementation of an MRV system that will allow Nigeria to assess and report on carbon stock variations at a Tier 3 in the future. The way in which the MRV system will be designed for Nigeria will be enabled to minimize MRV system costs, but at the same time obtain a system that provides reliable and solid data in Cross River State and national level.

A comprehensive Monitoring and MRV system for Nigeria should be composed of four major components for reporting REDD+ activities:

- Safeguards information assessment using a REDD+ information system;
- A land representation using a Satellite Land Monitoring System;
- Forest Carbon Pools assessment using a forest inventory;
- A Carbon stock change assessment using the GHG inventory system.

3.6. Development of REL/RL for Nigeria and State level

REL and RL are necessary for Nigeria to assess the results and performances under the convention on climate change. While states can develop REL/RL as an interim measure taking into consideration the national circumstances of Nigeria, sub-national REL/RL will have to be integrated into national REL/RL. Moreover, REL/RL will be first developed at state level, taking into consideration the national and sub-national circumstances and the historical data. Historical data such as aerial photographs and satellite images can be used to assess past forest cover changes. Based on this, the state will first assess the historical trend of the forest area cover and cover change. Additional historic data on the drivers of deforestation can be collated and harmonized in order to allow future assessments that first the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation will need to be identified and then data will need to be collected and harmonized. In addition, the activities within the state that result in reduced emissions and increased removals, and stabilization of forest carbon stocks will have to be identified. The state will provide a description of the national circumstances which may include information on features of their geography, climate and economy which may affect their ability to deal with mitigating and adapting to climate change, as well as information regarding their specific needs and concerns arising from the adverse effects of climate change and/or the impact of the implementation of response measures, as contained in Article 4, paragraph 8 and, as appropriate, in Article 4, paragraphs, 9 and 10, of the Convention.

3.7. Social & environmental dimensions of REDD+ (safeguards and multiple benefits)

Any REDD+ readiness programme shall address seriously the social & environmental dimensions, including both risks (through developing and implementing safeguards) and multiple benefits (through due monitoring and oversight).

As previously described in Section 2, there is high biodiversity throughout Nigeria's forests but more specifically in Cross River State. With multiple endangered species in the Cross River State area, it will be key to ensure REDD+ serves to protect biodiversity and increase the social and ecosystem functions of the forests locally. Since there are many active forest-dependent communities in Cross River State, their involvement is crucial, not only to understand how they

interact with the forest but also to learn from them about their wealth of experience and knowledge about the forest.

In terms of safeguards, as part of the recent *Cancun Agreements*, seven safeguards were identified as key to the implementation of REDD+ (see Box 3). While these safeguards were internationally agreed upon, it will be important to identify risks and design safeguards for the specific context of Nigeria. Country stakeholders are aware of the safeguards outlined in the *Cancun Agreements* (see Box 3 below), which are meant to guide the design of social & environmental safeguards for REDD+ in Nigeria and, besides specifying risks and safeguards to the national context, work will be needed to determine how safeguards should be implemented and monitored, ensuring a broad-base stakeholder consensus on that.

Box 3: The REDD+ safeguards in the *Cancun Agreements* (2010)

- (a) Actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
- (b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
- (c) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- (d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular, indigenous peoples and local communities, in actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;
- (e) Actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;
- (f) Actions to address the risks of reversals;
- (g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions.

As an initial step to define potential risks, benefits and safeguards, during the design of this programme stakeholders categorized potential risks under three categories: governance, social and environmental. In terms of governance, the risks identified included: sustainability of the REDD+ mechanism; the participation of forest communities into REDD+ management structures; corruption and lack of transparency in funding flows; the lack of continuity in policies; and weak legal frameworks. For social issues, the key risks identified were: potential conflicts between migrants and indigenous communities; the need for an equitable benefit-sharing mechanism; land tenure issues, especially with respect to gender and women's ownership of land; and the need for adequate involvement of stakeholders. Finally, with regards to environmental benefits, the consultations raised key issues related to the valuation of ecosystem services other than carbon, the risks to endangered wildlife and their habitats, and how to balance carbon storage with the need for agricultural land.

Moreover a number of stakeholders reported that many key stakeholders in Nigeria have a poor understanding of the concepts of safeguards and multiple benefits, and how they are linked to the conservation and sustainable management of forests. Such awareness and understanding is vital for planning and implementing safeguards, ensuring due engagement with stakeholders, particularly forest-dependent communities. The Federal Department of Forestry, the Cross River State's Forestry Commission and UNEP-WCMC recently undertook an assessment of capacity and opportunities for achieving multiple benefits. Further analyzing, assessing and managing these risks and opportunities in order to optimise benefits is a priority in developing REDD+ readiness in Nigeria.

Beyond the stakeholder engagement during the validation and appraisal workshops, a Technical Consultation on Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria was held in August, continuing work around multiple benefits, risks and the application of safeguards. The three-day consultation involved capacity building and identification of multiple benefits in the Nigeria context followed by a review of this document alongside the draft UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria. For a full description of the consultation, please see [Annex 8](#).

In addition, the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is a relevant dimension for REDD+. It refers to the collective right of peoples, notably marginalised indigenous and forest peoples, to give or withhold consent regarding decisions that may affect their rights and interests associated with their lands, territories and resources (UN-REDD: *Perspectives on REDD+*, 2010). FPIC is explicitly recognized in key international instruments such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and ILO Convention 169. FPIC is increasingly being applied across a range of sectors, such as infrastructure development, protected areas, extractive industries and forestry. REDD+ as an international environmental finance instrument requires the consideration of FPIC. The UN-REDD Programme is developing guidelines for FPIC and related Recourse Mechanisms. Nigeria's civil society and forest peoples' representatives participated in January 2011, whilst this Programme was under design, in an Africa regional workshop on FPIC for REDD+, convened by the UN-REDD Programme and this collaborative efforts is just to expand.

Finally, Nigeria has already launched a Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+ (PGA/REDD+), which will provide valuable insights and a mechanism to sustain a robust, participatory and transparent REDD+ readiness process. A first consultation on *PGA for REDD+* was held with key REDD+ stakeholders, from federal and state levels (including representatives from Cross River, Taraba and Lagos states) in Lagos on 20th May 2011. This was conducted back-to-back with a validation workshop on the Good Urban Governance (GUG) assessment, which has been piloted in 21 Local Government Authorities of Nigeria, with support from UNDP (Global Programme on Governance Assessments) and UN-Habitat. REDD+ stakeholders took part in the GUG workshop, where stakeholders critically reflected on the strengths and weaknesses of the assessment methodology and data collection process implemented during the GUG pilot, hence building on existing governance exercises in the country. REDD+ stakeholders used the GUG assessment as a valuable "case study" to learn from, and subsequently met to analyse the adjustment of PGA for REDD+ in Nigeria. This led to a first outline of key governance issues which should be assessed by the PGA – they reveal aspects as different as corruption, community participation and distribution of REDD+ benefits (see [Box 4](#) for a synthesis of the type of governance issues to tackle through the PGA/REDD+). A workplan for the first phase of the PGA/REDD+ process was agreed and is under implementation (June-December 2011).

Box 4. Overview of governance issues to be assessed by the PGAs for REDD+

Using as an overarching framework the global 'Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria' developed by the UN-REDD Programme to ensure that its activities promote social and environmental benefits and reduce unintended risks from REDD+, the following thematic areas have been identified as priority areas to be assessed by the PGAs in Nigeria:

1. Policy and legislation concerning REDD+ and democratic governance

The assessment will seek to examine the quality of existing policies and legislations which are directly related to the implementation of REDD+, the legislative and/or policy gaps which need to be filled, and the extent to which these policies and regulations are implemented in practice.

2. Institutional capacity of government agencies at federal, state and local levels

The assessment will seek to examine whether institutions specifically dedicated to REDD+ in the state and local governments have sufficient authority, budget, personnel and technical skills to implement the REDD+ Programme and to ensure compliance with forestry regulations which fall under their authority.

3. Anti-corruption strategy for REDD+

The assessment will examine the existence and effectiveness of an anti-corruption strategy and mechanism specifically designed for REDD+. It will diagnose the various corruption risks related to REDD+ at all levels, and will identify the necessary anti-corruption mechanisms to mitigate these risks.

4. Opportunities for civil society and forest-dependent communities to participate in decision-making processes related to REDD+

The assessment will examine the existence and effectiveness of mechanisms established for meaningful and broad stakeholder participation, with emphasis on forest-dependent communities and local CSOs in the implementation of REDD+, and will investigate the related challenges.

5. Benefit distribution system for REDD+

During the REDD+ Readiness phase, the assessment will examine the *design* of a) the fund mechanism that will channel REDD+ investments (in phase II: 'Implementation of REDD+ Strategy: Reforms and investments') and the *design* of b) the 'benefit distribution system' to be established in order to administer and distribute REDD+ credits and revenues to relevant stakeholders (in phase III), in a transparent and equitable manner.

The concept note on PGAs for REDD+ in Nigeria, which was developed as a result of this consultation, describes the expected outcomes of this exercise as follows:

1. Baseline governance information about the level of Nigeria's preparedness in implementing REDD+.
2. A policy paper on the critical governance issues that need to be addressed for the effective implementation of the REDD+ Programme in Nigeria.
3. An online information platform established to disseminate PGA results, and other communication tools developed to reach out to all stakeholders – including those who are illiterate, or living in remote areas.
4. Consultative fora established at local, state and federal levels to discuss governance issues related to REDD+, based on the evidence collected.
5. A capacity development programme developed to address the findings of the PGAs, and to strengthen mechanisms for uptake of PGA data into policymaking.

3.8. Outline of Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

On the basis of several months of analysis and consultations, and supported by an invitation from UN-REDD Policy Board last November 2010, a programme to truly consolidate and advance REDD+ readiness in Nigeria has been prepared. Its main elements are summarised below, and further detailed in sections 4 and 5 of this document.

The **goal** of the Programme is to enable Nigeria to contribute to climate change mitigation through improved forest conservation and enhancing sustainable community livelihoods. The **objective** is to build the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, using Cross River State as a demonstration model. The Programme will thus construct the REDD+ system from the grassroots through an intense action in Cross River State, which will inform the national REDD+ readiness framework and provide a model for replication in other interested states, as appropriate. To achieve this, the Programme is structured into **4 outcomes** and **14 outputs**, arranged according to Federal and CRS levels, as outlined in [Table 5](#) below.

Table 5. Architecture of Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme

Goal: To enable Nigeria to contribute to climate change mitigation through improved forest conservation and enhancing sustainable community livelihoods.		
Objective: To build the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, using Cross River State as a demonstration model.		
Outcomes	Outputs	Implem. level
1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level	1.1. The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide 1.2. Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced 1.3. Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established 1.4. Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced	FEDERAL
2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared	2.1. National REDD+ challenges & potentials assessed 2.2. National MRV framework designed 2.3. A Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states built	FEDERAL
3. Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened	3.1. CRS REDD+ Unit fully functional and effective 3.2. CRS stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained & engaged on REDD+ 3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed 3.4. CRS forest monitoring system operational	CRS
4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State	4.1. REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported 4.2. REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ phase 2 triggered] 4.3. CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+	CRS

Outcomes 1 and 2 are of national scope, with a focus on Federal institutions. Outcome 1 will build the capacity at the Federal level to ensure an enabling environment for developing the REDD+ mechanism nationwide, and to identify major barriers and their solutions for REDD+. Outcome 1 will also deepen information and consultations with stakeholders, and initiate REDD+ readiness assessments in different states. Outcome 2 will draw from the institutional and technical

capacities under Outcome 1, as well as from lessons from Outcomes 3 and 4, to develop a clear and pragmatic strategic framework for further developing the REDD+ mechanism across Nigeria. This will include a road map for full REDD+ readiness at the Federal level and for rolling out REDD+ in priority states.

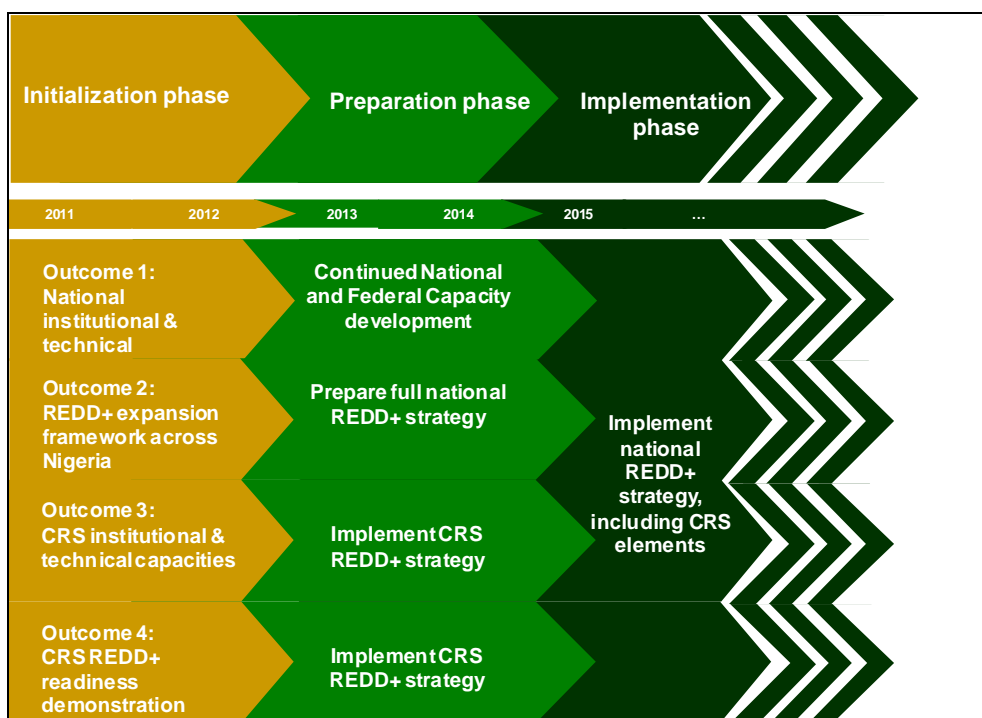
Outcomes 3 and 4 focus on Cross River State, which will serve as a laboratory for REDD+ in Nigeria, advancing intensively on REDD+ readiness and providing models and lessons. The Programme will aim at REDD+ readiness to be achieved in CRS, with initial REDD+ activities implemented. In particular, Outcome 3 will develop the institutional and technical capacities to design and run a REDD+ system in the state, leading to the development of a state-level REDD+ Strategy. Outcome 4 will develop and initiate REDD+ activities in Cross River State, as an experimentation and learning experience, thus preparing the grounds for a transition to REDD+ phase 2. Subsequent to Outcome 3 and 4, CRS state will become REDD+ *ready*.

3.9. Strategy for REDD+ expansion to other states

The REDD+ process in Nigeria is proposed as a progressive approach, starting with the state where the majority of high tropical forest cover is located (i.e. Cross River State), then replicating and disseminating the experience and results to other interested states, as additional funding is made available. In this sense, the Output 2.3 of the Programme will provide information on this strategy for replication of the experience from CRS across Nigeria's states, with a particular emphasis on preventing leakage. In essence, Outcome 2 will lay the foundations for expansion to other states across Nigeria. Interest has already been shown by Taraba, Ogun and Ondo states. Criteria to engage new participating states should ideally be established (based on studies under Output 2.3), and are likely to include as follows: strong political will; preventing leakage (i.e. avoiding displacement of deforestation and forest degradation from CRS to other states as a consequence of successful REDD+ in CRS); updated forest laws and their enforcement; sufficient forest cover; engaged NGOs and community stakeholders; and engaged forest governance institutions. It is noted that CRS already meets these criteria since 2009, and this is the reason that CRS will be the first REDD+ model state.

In any case, the Programme will sustain consultations with other states, as well as provide them with technical and capacity-development assistance for enabling them to their broaden engagement on REDD+ (Outcome 2). By the end of the Programme, at least 3 other states should be ready to launch a broader range of REDD+ activities, following lessons and best practice learnt from CRS.

Figure 9: Showing phases and components of REDD approach in Nigeria.



4. Results Framework and Programme description

4.1. Goal, objectives and outcomes

The **goal** of the Programme is to enable Nigeria to contribute to climate change mitigation through improved forest conservation and enhancing sustainable community livelihoods. The Programme will support Nigeria to contribute to climate-change mitigation in the forest sector, with initial work in Cross River State, which is the state that has demonstrated the political will, track record in community forest management, forest conservation and has relatively high forest cover.

The **objective** is to build the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, using Cross River State as a demonstration model. The Programme will thus construct the REDD+ system from the grassroots through intense action in Cross River State. REDD+ readiness in CRS will inform the national REDD+ readiness framework and will be replicated in other interested states. To achieve this objective, four outcomes (components) have been identified, two pertaining at the Federal level and two at Cross River State. They are outlined next.

Outcome1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level. Results under this Outcome will strengthen national capacity to set up and to manage REDD+, through the federal institutions and stakeholders. This will provide the foundations for more in-depth work in Cross River State under this Programme, and for future REDD+ readiness work in other Nigerian states. Results will include the establishment of an effective coordination mechanism to ensure all stakeholders participate in REDD+, and to foster the mainstreaming of REDD+ across policies and development interventions in Nigeria. Other results will include creating a critical mass of specialists on REDD+ matters, strengthened institutions to govern REDD+, and raising awareness and support for REDD+ from decision-makers and the public. Activities under this Outcome will also determine the required steps to strengthen the policy and regulatory framework in Nigeria for REDD+ and related affairs. Activities will also strengthen the knowledge of forest cover, land-use changes and carbon flows across Nigeria, as a precursor to upscaling REDD+ activities at a later date. Finally, this outcome will include tangible efforts for a regional alliance for REDD+, through ECOWAS, likely making Nigeria a leader for REDD+ in the region, exchanging lessons and better influencing international negotiations around the UNFCCC and REDD+ matters.

Outcome 2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared. Activities under this Outcome will pave the way for expanding and upscaling REDD+ across Nigeria, from the federal institutions to other interested States and forest areas. Under this Outcome, a series of national assessments will be undertaken to scope out the optimal approach to REDD+ in Nigeria, such as determining the most promising States for REDD+, the eligible forest types, the eligible REDD+ activities, the likely financial partners, the likely carbon trading and financing schemes, the methodologies for setting reference levels, and the main elements of a national MRV system. Then, drawing on the capacity built (Outcome 1), and on the operational experience (Outcomes 2 and 3), and on a broad consultation process, the Joint Programme will support development of a preliminary national strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria, which can serve to foster new alliances, and to mobilise and channel new REDD+ readiness funding.

Outcome 3. Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened. Results under this Outcome will strengthen state-level and local capacity in Cross River State to set up and manage a full-fledged REDD+ process. This capacity will be used to develop detailed REDD+ components and to run pilot activities. Results will include an effective State-level coordination mechanism (the CRS REDD+ Unit and, broadly, the CRS Forestry Commission). Another expected result will be a cadre of trained experts and interested stakeholders on key REDD+ readiness issues such as environmental finance mechanisms, forest monitoring, REDD+ policy and investment actions, social & environmental safeguards, and equitable benefit-sharing schemes – all these capacities to be used in both the State-level REDD+ readiness process and the pilot initiatives. Through activities under this Outcome, the State-level policy and regulatory framework related to REDD+ will be assessed, the necessary changes will be identified, and the process to amend/update/complement laws and regulations will then be supported. Under this Outcome, the Programme will support the comprehensive and detailed process of developing CRS's REDD+ Strategy, which includes accurate studies and assessments, many consultation rounds, policy reform and investment planning, and designing the institutions and rules to govern REDD+. Specific activities will include developing Reference Levels, designing a comprehensive forest monitoring system, conducting full analysis of the drivers of deforestation/degradation, identification of alternative development paths that will effectively reduce emissions (including interventions in the agriculture sector, sustainable energy sources, and community livelihoods), developing the benefit-sharing distribution and carbon trading systems that would underpin REDD+ in CRS, and developing a registry and rules for REDD+ initiatives. Through a fully participatory process, this will lead to a comprehensive, realist REDD+ Strategy covering CRS, and enabling CRS to shift to REDD+ Phase 2.

Outcome 4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State. International, national and local stakeholders are already starting up REDD+ activities in Cross River State. This Outcome will ensure coherence across these activities and ensure they are brought into a single REDD+ framework for CRS. It will also provide technical support to CRS and to the local stakeholders in the operationalization of these REDD+ activities. There will be an opportunity to test run and refine the technical components developed under Outcome 3. The reference levels, the MRV system, the registry, the approval procedure and the payment system will ensure that these activities become part of a comprehensive lesson-learning, capacity building experience, providing lessons that will feed directly into the development of REDD+ readiness in CRS and across Nigeria. The opportunity costs associated with these behaviour changes (for example for communities to adopt different practices and to protect the forest) will *not* be covered by the Programme. The Programme will however help secure the agreement for international REDD funding to cover these opportunity costs.

4.2. Results Framework

The **Results Framework** of the Programme is compiled in [Table 6](#), including outputs, a set of activities and a proposed budget. The activities include key and indicative actions – this is an ambitious set of activities for the Programme and its budget, but it is presented as such since it emerged from the assessments and consultations held during the design, thus providing a coherent view of what REDD+ readiness will entail. Co-financing will be required for some outputs to achieve all mentioned activities. A **synthesis of the budget, structured per outcome and per UN-REDD agency**, is presented further down in [Table 7](#).

Table 6. Results Framework of *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*

OUTCOME 1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level

Implementation level: **FEDERAL**

Outputs	core / indicative activities	Estimated UN-REDD budget (US\$)			
		FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total
1.1. The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National REDD+ Secretariat equipped, trained and active (travel, meetings) in national climate change and development policies and planning. Personnel: CTA (international, 50%), National Programme Officer, Admin-Finance specialist. Meetings of the National Advisory Council on REDD+, the National REDD+ Technical Committee, and associated working groups organized. Support drafting & validation of a Presidential Order endorsing REDD+ and giving legal backing to the REDD+ committees and structures. FED-CRS management meetings & visits to CRS to ensure federal- state coordination. 		400,000		400,000
1.2. Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil society forum on REDD+ created and functional. Meetings and events to catalyse stakeholder engagement on REDD+. Training needs assessment. {UNEP} Information products (e.g. website, reports, leaflets). {UNEP} Public awareness campaign on REDD+. {UNEP} Focused training for interested stakeholders on REDD+ components. Awareness raising and engagement with relevant government officials (across ministries) & legislators. Private sector engagement – possible creation of a carbon investment platform. Media participation: Newspaper articles, CD/DVD, radio & TV programmes. 		80,000	80,000	160,000
1.3 Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments of national forest policies, national economics (including NEEDS), trade, NBSAP and commitments, finance and land & forest tenure laws as they relate to REDD+ (partly with FAO's inputs). Analysis of issues related to Carbon rights and forest Carbon tenure and implications for benefit distribution Identification of legal modifications needed to facilitate REDD+ and limit risks of reversals in the long-term Assessment of options to strengthen national carbon governance & finance capacities. 		85,000		85,000
1.4. Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training on international climate policy and negotiations, with an emphasis on REDD+ (with other related UNDP initiatives). Creation and support of a task force for UNFCCC and REDD+ negotiations Support for Nigeria to take regional leadership on REDD+ (cooperation with ECOWAS). Promotion of South-South cooperation for REDD+. 		80,000		80,000

[Table 6. Results Framework]

OUTCOME 2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared

Implementation level: **FEDERAL**

Outputs	core / indicative activities	Estimated UN-REDD budget (US\$)			
		FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total
2.1. National REDD+ challenges & potential assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of deforestation drivers and challenges to forest governance, and potential responses at national level. Assessment of national circumstances for REDD+ including situations and roles of women and vulnerable groups (e.g. youth) Assessment of forest contribution to national sustainable development Assessment of intra-national displacement risks and measures. Preliminary design of the national REL framework 	95,000			95,000
2.2. National MRV framework designed [in conjunction with Output 3.4]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacities for developing a GHG inventory and reporting for international level Training on forest monitoring systems and GHG inventory – national forest monitoring system developed. Nationwide stratification of forests [in conjunction with CRS]. Development of national MRV on-line platform [co-finance likely required]. National software for GHG inventory [co-finance likely required]. Technical support to the GHG inventory unit to develop the national report. International MRV advisor (50%). 	300,000			300,000
2.3. A Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states built	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of REDD+ potential across all Nigerian states. Exchange of knowledge & lessons between states, capitalising on CRS REDD+ experiences build on exchange of land use plans as a means of knowledge and lessons Development of preliminary national strategy for REDD+ readiness expansion in other states. Support to investment planning for REDD+ and a national low-carbon economy. Fund raising and donor liaison efforts. 		90,000		90,000

[Table 6. Results Framework]

OUTCOME 3. Institutional & technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened

Implementation level: **CRS**

Outputs	core / indicative activities	Estimated UN-REDD budget (US\$)			
		FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total
3.1 CRS REDD+ Unit fully functional and effective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRS REDD+ Unit strengthened (e.g. office, vehicle, equipment, field travel, operational costs). Personnel: CTA (international, 50%, Calabar-based), stakeholder mobilisation specialist, Admin-Finance specialist, consultant support. Specialised training for CRS REDD+ Unit and CRSFC; attendance of workshops & conferences. Meetings of CRS REDD+ committees & associated working structures 		448,318		448,318
3.2. CRS stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained & engaged on REDD+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to CRS Stakeholder Forum on REDD+. Training (broad-based & specialised). Awareness raising for government officials, state legislators and local governments. Awareness raising, training & organizational strengthening for communities Participatory governance assessment 		235,000		235,000
3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REDD+ Strategy building, including assessments such as: forest conservation and use, agriculture, energy, livelihoods, rural economy, biodiversity & ecosystem services, development issues, SEEDS and LEEDS, traditional knowledge and cultural practices Legal review, including customary laws and by-laws associated with land use plans, and proposed legal/policy reforms to enable a REDD+ mechanism in CRS. Design of the REDD+ institutional/implementation framework Drafting of a State Law on REDD+. Analysis of land tenure dimensions and carbon rights' issues [in conjunction with Output 1.3]. Free, prior & informed consent (FPIC) for REDD+ and Recourse Mechanisms Assessment of benefit distribution options, including consideration for women and vulnerable groups, and design of an equitable and transparent mechanism based on input from relevant stakeholders Participatory & cross-sector development/adoption of a REDD+ Strategy for CRS 		270,000		270,000
3.4. CRS forest monitoring system operational [in conjunction with Output 2.2 and relevant Federal agencies]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIS laboratory & full equipment for forest monitoring [data to be shared with Federal Govn't] Satellite information management & interpretation / Specialised trainings. Support to the nationwide stratification of forests [in conjunction with Federal agencies] Design of the forest inventory and cost analysis (at state-level) Community-based verification and monitoring of forest cover. National guidelines for community forest management in development Collect and harmonise existing forest data (to be shared with federal government). Establishment of Reference Levels (based on forest coverage & socio-economic conditions). International MRV advisor (50%) 	662,000			662,000

[Table 6. Results Framework]

OUTCOME 4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State

Implementation level: **CRS**

Outputs	core / indicative activities	Estimated UN-REDD budget (US\$)			
		FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total
4.1. REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria & guidelines for the development of REDD+ pilot projects Technical support to REDD+ experimental initiatives and their stakeholders. Creation & administration of a fund to support community initiatives for REDD+ (aim: to foster and experiment alternatives to deforestation, local forest management & community empowerment) – <i>estimated budget: US\$ 150,000.</i> Establish a REDD+ registry and approval process (for enhanced coordination of pilot projects) 		255,000		255,000
4.2. REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ Phase II triggered]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical support for forest transformation and a transition to a low-carbon economy with sustainable livelihoods {UNEP} Preparation of investment plans and enabling programmes for REDD+ (transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient development path in CRS) {UNDP/UNEP}. Financial resource mobilization, donor visits & dialogue (aiming at catalysing global climate funds, donor support and philanthropic funding). {UNDP/UNEP} Design of a financing mechanism for REDD+. {UNDP} 		100,000	158,000	258,000
4.3. CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a training & knowledge management centre (open for practical training on REDD+ readiness planning for other states and abroad). Knowledge management and dissemination of best practices of REDD+ readiness. REDD+ database developed [in conjunction with Output 2.2 and with FAO's inputs]. Organising a major international REDD+ event. Design of social & environmental safeguards, including design of information system [in conjunction with Output 3.3] {UNDP/UNEP} Field-level testing and monitoring of social & environmental safeguards. {UNDP} Assessment of ecosystem-based multiple benefits in CRS and in the national context, and identification of proposed indicators/actions [to feed into outputs 2.3 & 3.3] & participatory collection of information on the achievement of ecosystem-based benefits {UNEP} [co-finance will be required for nation-scale work on ecosystem-based multiple benefits] Web-platform developed to allow transparency of data and results, and dissemination [in conjunction with Outputs 2.2 & 3.4]. {UNEP, with FAO technical lead} Information, public awareness & training materials. {UNEP} 		200,000	200,000	400,000

Table 7. Synthesis of budget allocations *per outcome and per UN-REDD agency* (US\$)

UN-REDD agency	Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4	Programme cost	Indirect support cost (7%)	Total
FAO	-	395,000	662,000	-	1,057,000	73,990	1,130,990
UNDP	645,000	90,000	953,318	555,000	2,243,318	157,032	2,400,350
UNEP	80,000	-	-	358,000	438,000	30,660	468,660
TOTAL	725,000	485,000	1,615,318	913,000	3,738,318	261,682	4,000,000

4.3. Description of the Programme outputs and core activities

Output 1.1 The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide. The national REDD+ secretariat will be responsible for coordinating inputs and outputs from the UN-REDD programme, overseeing and coordinating the process, and ensuring that REDD+ is fully integrated into national and sectoral development strategies. Activities under this Output will assure the Secretariat's basic functions, capacities and activities, including training and equipment, the training will include on fiduciary matters and responsibility as well as related issues such as agricultural expansion and reach out to the SCCU when appropriate. It will also cover travel and the meetings of the National Advisory Council, the National REDD+ Technical Committee, the associated working groups and Federal-CRS management meetings. It provides for half of the funding for the international CTA, a national programme officer, and an Administrative Finance specialist.

Output 1.2 Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced. Based on a needs assessment, training and communication plans and toolkits will be developed. These will be used as a basis to develop a civil society forum on REDD+ and launch a public awareness campaign. Following, focused training will be delivered to key stakeholders on specific aspects of REDD, including REDD+ mechanism, forest carbon governance, reference levels, forest monitoring, safeguards, benefit-distribution systems. As necessary and in line with priorities, meetings, government awareness raising, and private sector participation will be supported. The communication plan will be implemented through pertinent media – newspapers, radio/TV. Websites will be used to deliver messages and build engagement. Special consideration will be given to the engagement of women and other vulnerable stakeholders.

Output 1.3 Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established. There is a series of policy, legal and institutional barriers to REDD+. Some of these are well documented and understood, others are less so. Some need to be addressed urgently, others can be addressed later. Activities in this output will cover the forestry, economics, trade, carbon rights and tenure sectors and will take into account non-carbon benefits. Under this Output, activities will assess the situation and set out the road map to remove these barriers. This will point to needed modifications and amendments.

Output 1.4 Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced. The aim is to strengthen Nigeria's role and engagement in the international community, particularly in the West Africa (ECOWAS) region and in South-South Cooperation. Activities will include training on international climate policy and negotiations, active support to Nigeria's role on REDD+ cooperation with ECOWAS, and promoting South-South cooperation for REDD+.

Output 2.1. National REDD+ challenges & potential assessed. This output focuses on the identification of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and the analysis of the national circumstances and intra-national displacements in order to identify potential responses at national level. The data collected will provide the basis for the development of the national and state reference level and reference emission levels. Technical work necessary for expansion and replication of REDD+ to other States will be undertaken.

Output 2.2 National M & MRV framework designed. The main aspect of this output will be the development of a national satellite forest monitoring system. The system is crucial for monitoring results during the second and verification of results in the third phase. In order to allow the applicability of the system, training will be provided in basic and advanced remote sensing applications in forestry, satellite data interpretation, GIS and field validation. In addition, a forest stratification, which should include the multiple functions of forests, will be achieved in order to allow the design of the national forest inventory. The development of a web-based platform will allow the publication of the national information, the transparency of the data and the verification of the results. It will also cover the costs of an international MRV advisor with the responsibility of supervising and providing the support on MRV matters at federal and state level. As monitoring efforts expand, it will be important to prioritise states bordering on CRS to minimise the risk of leakage.

Output 2.3 A preliminary national strategy for expanding REDD+ across states in Nigeria built. The key deliverable will be a preliminary national REDD+ strategy. This will set out the next steps to up-scaling REDD+ in Nigeria, including identifying stakeholder, their roles, the budgets, timetables, etc. This preliminary strategy will be developed and approved in a participatory manner. One of its goals will be to reduce the risks of displacement of deforestation and forest degradation to other states as consequence of CRS's initial REDD+ work. In addition to the participatory preparation of the preliminary strategy, activities will include providing technical advice on REDD+ to interested states, and supporting investment planning for a low-carbon economy. The importance of building on experience of land use planning as a means to eliminate need for involuntary resettlement will be a crucial aspect of the strategy. In addition, sharing of lessons learned in the demonstration activities of CRS will be crucial for capitalizing on progress made in CRS.

Output 3.1 CRS REDD+ Unit fully functional and effective. The CRS REDD+ Secretariat will be responsible for coordinating inputs and outputs from the CRS REDD+ programme, overseeing the REDD+ process in CRS, and ensuring that REDD is fully integrated into State and sectoral development strategies. The CRS REDD Unit will become responsible for providing comprehensive technical support to all REDD+ actors in CRS. Activities under this Output will firstly assure the Secretariat's and the Unit's basic functions, capacities and activities. Specialized training to CRS REDD unit staff will also be provided, including on fiduciary matters and responsibility, gender mainstreaming and sensitivity, and multiple benefits, and essential equipment provided. This output also contains financing for the necessary staff as outlined in the results framework.

Output 3.2 CRS level stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained & engaged on REDD+. A full stakeholder assessment will identify information, awareness and training needs. A communications and stakeholder engagement plan will be developed with the necessary communications materials. Subsequently, capacity gaps will be filled through targeted training, and awareness raising for CRS government officials and concerned communities. The training will cover government, experts, private sector (including banks), NGOs and CBOs. Other activities will help establish a CRS Stakeholder forum on REDD, and will support organizational strengthening for communities. Topics of the training will include but not be limited to multiple benefits, legal rights.

Output 3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed. Activities under this Output will lead to a full REDD+ Strategy for CRS. The full cycle of activities for preparing a REDD+ strategy will be supported. This includes a broad range of assessments, an in-depth assessment of drivers of deforestation, legal review, law drafting and the design of the REDD+ state-level institutional framework. There will also be an analysis of land tenure and carbon rights issues. Activities will also involve developing the Free, Prior informed Consent (FPIC) process and recourse mechanisms, and determining the benefit distribution system. Emphasis on land use planning, especially community-based land use planning to avoid any involuntary resettlement will be crucial. The strategy will be developed and approved in a participatory manner.

Output 3.4. CRS forest monitoring system operational. Under this output, a GIS laboratory in Cross River State will be implemented. The objective of this GIS laboratory is to manage the satellite images and aerial photographs with the objective to map previous and past forest cover and forest cover changes. The interpretation of the satellite imageries will be achieved and the data on forest cover change will be made accessible on the open source internet platform (output 4.3.). The verification of the information provided can be made at community level. Training will be provided at community level to allow the verification of the information and provide additional data useful for field validation. Special attention will be paid to ensure that women and other vulnerable groups are included in the trainings and monitoring activities. It will also cover an international MRV advisor with the responsibility of providing the support on MRV at federal and state level.

Output 4.1 REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported. Under this Output, the programme will initiate support to a series of REDD+ pilot projects in CRS. The criteria and guidelines for REDD+ pilot projects will be developed, and technical support will be given to pilot site stakeholders and design teams. A fund will be established to finance community initiatives that support sustainable forest management or alternative sustainable livelihoods. A REDD+ registry and approval process will be established. Initially, this Outcome will support REDD+ activities at three pilot sites in CRS. This will lead to reduced emissions from the sites, to improved forestry management and to co-benefits to the communities in and near the three sites. Under this Outcome, the Joint programme will support the full, participatory development of activities at each site, it will support the mobilization of finance to implement the required REDD+ activities at each site, and it will support the comprehensive monitoring of all aspects of the activities – at both State level and at the site level. Sites that have been identified and are under design are: The Ekuri-Iko Esai-Okokori-Etara Eyeyeng-Owai-Ukpon River area; the Mbe Mountain – Afi River REDD+ Project; and the proposed Mangrove Forest Reserve Area.

Output 4.2 REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ Phase 2 triggered]. This will involve the preparation of investment plans and enabling programmes for REDD+ (transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient development path) across the state as well as engagement with potential donors and the private sector to link them with well-designed pilot projects. Activities will focus on mobilizing financial resources, donor visits & dialogue and specifically the design of a financing mechanism for REDD+.

Output 4.3 CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+. CRS State will be established as a centre of knowledge, capacity and expertise for supporting and developing REDD+, both across Nigeria and the region. The design and development of CRS-

appropriate social and environmental safeguards based on the UNFCCC Cancun Agreement and existing work on safeguards and standards will also be consulted. In addition, monitoring of safeguards in the field, by forest-dependent communities and other stakeholders will be a key activity. The assessment of multiple benefits and related monitoring will cover ecosystem based multiple benefits and monitoring should include downstream effects, beyond the forest. This may include the establishment of a training & knowledge management centre, or the integration of REDD+ into CRS university curricula, and support for course design. This will include knowledge management and the dissemination of best practices of REDD+ readiness. Other activities may include developing a web-platform, supporting of participatory monitoring, and developing a complete REDD+ database. Finally, a major international REDD+ event (e.g. Katoomba Group, or Governors Climate and Forest Task Force) will be hosted.

4.4. Technical dimensions – the monitoring and MRV systems (outputs 2.2 and 3.4)

The Programme will require in-depth work on two core technical matters: the monitoring and MRV systems (outputs 3.4 and 2.2 respectively). Preparation of the Monitoring and MRV systems will include institutional and capacity building arrangements in the relevant national and state institutions, as well as requiring careful methodologies – see [Annex 8](#) for full details. In essence, the objectives are to manage the following elements at the national level on a permanent basis:

- the safeguards,
- the national forest inventory,
- the satellite-based forest monitoring system, and
- the GHG inventory.

It is important to design an institutional structure that will be responsible to set up a National GHG inventory. The national system will include several tasks such as the M & MRV, the NFI, land statistics and national statistics. The national system will design legal, institutional and procedural arrangements between the entities in charge of these tasks. The national system will be adapted to the national circumstances. This system will be in charge of planning, preparing and managing the national GHG inventory.

At national level, the proposed design is composed of four main entities: the special Climate Change Unit (in charge of the coordination of the whole REDD+ implementation, the reporting to the UNFCCC, and data management); the GHG inventory unit (to be established, and to be in charge of the compilation of estimates); the federal department of Forests (in charge of collecting and managing the data from the forest inventory); and NASDRA (in charge of collecting the land area data, and in monitoring forest area and forest area change)

At state level, the Forestry Commission will play a crucial role in assessing the status of the forest resources but also in management and providing information in the state. The inventory unit of the Forestry Commission can be in charge of the forest inventory. The forest mapping unit of the Forestry Commission can be in charge of the data management, interpretation and dissemination of the information. The compilation of the data to assess forest carbon stocks and carbon stock changes can be performed by an academic entity (as in fact mentioned during the consultations in Nigeria) or other relevant institution.

Annex 8 provides full details on the following aspects: (i) technical and methodological options for the Monitoring, Measurement, Reporting and Verification of forest carbon stock changes; (ii) how to initialize the forest inventory at CRS level; (iii) assessment of forest carbon stock and carbon stock changes; and on (iv) a REDD+ database and archiving system.

4.5. Social & environmental dimensions

Social & environmental safeguards

The development of robust and viable safeguards is core to the design of the REDD+ mechanism in Nigeria, with strong support for the need of social and environmental safeguards. Taking into account the UNFCCC's *Cancun Agreements*, which contain specific guidance on safeguards, as well as other relevant work on safeguards, Nigeria is committed to ensuring that forests under a REDD+ regime deliver on benefits beyond carbon and avoid potential risks to the environment and social well-being. The workstream on social & environmental safeguards will be initially and principally carried out in CRS, as it is in CRS that the Programme will undertake full REDD+ readiness efforts as well as innovative and demonstrative work on operationalising REDD+ that will serve as basis to design and test safeguards in a pragmatic, operational way. Nevertheless, full federal involvement will be ensured, as well as participation of other states that are likely to follow on REDD+ readiness.

The preparation of the CRS REDD+ Strategy (Output 3.3) will embrace substantive work on social & environmental safeguards, incorporating and responding to the UNFCCC's *Cancun Agreements'* safeguards text. This will include analysis, stakeholder consultation, and identification of indicators and establishment of monitoring/reporting/recourse mechanisms for safeguards. The legal reviews and the FPIC mechanism will play an important role in this. Activities will also include training on safeguards and on how to satisfy them. The state-wide forest monitoring system (designed under Output 3.4) will incorporate the safeguards as well as the multiple benefits.

The field-level, demonstration activities (Output 4.1) will also address social & environmental safeguards, testing their design and monitoring from a pragmatic perspective. The criteria for pilot projects as well as the technical advice to be provided to them by the Programme will include, as priority, a focus on safeguards and multiple benefits. At each site, technical inputs and participatory methods will be merged to determine the optimal way to apply the safeguards at local sites, and to optimise multiple benefits.

As designing and monitoring safeguards is a major learning process, the efforts around REDD+ excellence in CRS (output 4.3) will serve to refine and disseminate safeguards and multiple benefits around REDD+, scaling it up to national level as well as beginning participatory monitoring of safeguards with key stakeholders. It will be essential for the development of REDD+ in Nigeria that this work at the CRS level is linked to development of safeguards at the national level. At the national level, work on safeguards will be initiated under the workstream for the preliminary national strategy to expand REDD+ across Nigeria (Output 2.3). Nigeria will continue to be involved at the international level through UNFCCC, as well as developing and refining nationally-appropriate safeguards and methods for monitoring them.

On the development of safeguards, as a part of the process to review and improve the Nigeria national programme document, a technical consultation was held in Abuja on social and environmental safeguards (see [Annex 8](#)) during which a clear will and commitment of Nigeria to lead on the building social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ was articulated.

Multiple ecosystem-based benefits

In order to optimize and generate multiple benefits, and lay the foundations for later REDD+ phases, the Programme will support the following activities:

- Wide consultation and awareness-raising activities with government agencies and related organisations on the importance of multiple benefits of REDD+ and the key factors to be incorporated in identifying, furthering and monitoring them – at both national and state levels (Outputs 3.2 and 1.2).
- Incorporation of better and additional data to reflect Nigeria's priorities and needs in the analysis of potential co-benefits – such data could include NASRDA satellite data on national land cover, national and state land use plans, poverty and population data, and information on additional benefits, including more detailed biodiversity information, forest product use and the role of forests in soil stabilisation. This will be first done primarily at CRS level (Outputs 3.4 and 2.2).
- Building CRS capacity for conducting and using such analyses in planning for and implementing REDD+, and incorporating this into the work of the Centre of Excellence (Outputs 4.3, 3.1 and 1.2).
- Assisting with the development of REDD+ multiple benefits monitoring schemes. This will also contribute to Nigeria's ability to provide information relevant to safeguards (Outputs 3.4 & 2.2).
- Supporting community-based land use planning incorporating multiple benefits as a basis for strategy development.

This work stream is a major learning process, and all lessons will be documented. The Centre of excellence (Output 4.3) will cover this. Research to support and training in adaptive management will also be key to the success of REDD+ readiness as will incorporate existing and new research and scientific knowledge. Finally, all the lessons learnt through this process will feed into the development of the Preliminary National Strategy.

Gender dimensions

The Programme will support a series of focused and mainstreaming strategies to address gender concerns, as indicated below:

- Communications material and tools will be gender-sensitive, ensuring that the messaging addresses the concerns of women i.e. the impact on their children and livelihoods. As appropriate, different forms of media will be used to reach female audiences;
- Data and Information will be disaggregated by gender where possible, for example when determining how local people use the forest;

- When developing alternative livelihoods, the needs of women will be considered;
- Renewable energy sources- in many rural communities, women are responsible for providing the energy needs for the households, usually from firewood and/or charcoal, so options for women will be considered;.
- The consultative process will ensure women are fully involved, and develop capacity to institutionalize a fully gender sensitized approach;
- Capacity building will adequately focus on women at all levels;
- Government staff and other facilitators will be trained in gender sensitivity and gender issues;
- M & MRV– it will be ensured that women have a role in MRV and monitoring systems;
- The REDD+ management structure will ensure that women are involved and have a role to play at all levels;
- Key gender actors, such as the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Women's groups, will be fully involved.

It is critical that the role and implications for gender be fully accounted for at each planning, information and implementation stage. Initially, all key stakeholders will receive gender training. The ministry for women affairs was involved in the formulation of this programme and is part of the National Technical REDD+ Committee. Gender specialists will be recruited to ensure gender concerns are integrated into project activities.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and recourse mechanisms

REDD+ has the potential to deliver several benefits to forest peoples and local communities, including the sustainable management of biodiversity, the provision of alternative livelihoods, and the equitable benefit sharing of revenues generated from the REDD+ mechanism. However, if REDD+ is not constructed and deployed appropriately, with due measures, it poses social and environmental risks, such as undermining livelihoods, biodiversity conservation or social equality. For REDD+ programmes to succeed in the long term, these risks have to be identified and addressed, to avoid or mitigate them, and stakeholders have to be involved in such effort. The UN-REDD Programme recognizes the importance of designing and applying specific policies to safeguard the rights and interests of forest and local communities. In this sense, the UN-REDD's *Operational Guidance on Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities* (2009) provides the policy framework for consultation and FPIC work (available on the Internet at: www.unredd.net). The UN-REDD Programme also recognizes that for REDD+ to be implemented, participating countries should comply with applicable international treaties and national laws.

One of the key social safeguards is related to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) around REDD+, including the building of related recourse mechanisms (to monitor and react to FPIC failures). The UN-REDD Programme is currently developing global guidelines and best practice on FPIC and recourse mechanisms. Nigeria participated with 3 non-governmental and community delegates in the Africa consultation on FPIC and recourse mechanisms conducted in Arusha, Tanzania, in January 2011, under the leadership of the UN-REDD Programme. The

implementation of the *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme* will follow these guidelines and best practice, with technical support and advice from the UN-REDD Programme's staff. In particular, attention will be given to the following aspects around FPIC:

- A human rights based approach to REDD+, with attention to activities that may potentially impact forest-dependent and local communities, and in line with the *U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, the *U.N. Development Group Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples' Issues*, and the *International Labour Organization Convention No. 169*.
- The right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) shall be upheld, as it is essential to ensuring the full and effective participation of forest and local communities in programme's activities and policy-making processes.

FPIC is the right to give or withhold free, prior and informed consent, and applies to all activities, projects, legislative or administrative measures, and policies that take place in or impact the lands, territories, resources or livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities. The FPIC process should be set in a national legal and policy framework which respects these rights, based on Nigeria's commitment to existing international agreements. To achieve this, analysis of national legislation for compatibility with these international treaties and to ensure recognition of customary institutions and customary rights to land, resources, and forests will be conducted, hence informing the FPIC process and the REDD+ work. Arrangements to provide recourse shall also be explored.

The FPIC of indigenous peoples and local communities should be sought through an open, transparent consultation process, involving the rights holders. Relevant groups that have the right to FPIC, in the context of REDD+, include directly- or indirectly-affected indigenous peoples, tribal groups, ethnic minorities and other forest-dependent communities. These groups have the right to give or withhold their consent, through their own representative institutions and with due respect for their own decision-making processes, regarding activities, proposals, administrative measures and policies that may affect their land, territories, resources or livelihoods. All rights holders should be represented in the decision-making process.

Planned programme activities should be analyzed during the REDD+ design process to understand how, where and when consultation and/or FPIC should apply to different activities. Consultation processes should be integrated into programme/project design, development and implementation. Several outputs and activities of the Programme intend to support broad-based consultation and participation efforts (outputs 1.2, 3.2, 3.3., 4.1 and 4.3), with a specific FPIC action under Output 3.3.

Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+ (PGA/REDD+)

The PGA process envisaged in Nigeria to sustain and guide its REDD+ readiness process will be technically guided by UNDP's Oslo Governance Centre and consists in two phases. The first one is already starting (financed with UNDP funds) and the second one will follow at some point in 2012 (financed from the present programme, under output 3.2).

Phase one (from June to December 2011) will be a preparatory phase focused on the development of a PGA methodology tailored to the Nigerian context, through consultations with a broad range of stakeholders. This preparatory phase may involve up to four states beyond Cross River State (mainly Taraba, Ogun, Lagos and Nasarawa states) in order to ensure broad-based participation in the design of the methodology, and to secure ownership of the process beyond Cross River State. While other "REDD candidate states" prepare the grounds for REDD+, this initiative will provide them with a valuable knowledge- and experience-sharing platform which may contribute to accelerating their 'REDD readiness'. As part of this preparatory phase, a REDD+ Stakeholders Analysis will be conducted to identify which institutions and actors will be affected negatively or positively by REDD+ activities, and who therefore should play an active role in the PGA process. A training workshop on governance assessment methodologies relevant to REDD+ will serve to produce a first cut of the PGA methodology, to be further refined by a PGA Research Team constituted by experts from universities, independent research institutions, the National Bureau of Statistics as well as representatives from CSOs with relevant skills. Stakeholders' consultations will then be held at the state level to seek feedback on the draft methodology and, once finalized, data collection instruments (survey questionnaires, administrative data collection forms, guidelines for focus group discussions, checklists for site observation, etc.) will be field-tested.

Phase two (from early 2012 onwards) will be a piloting phase during which the methodology developed in phase one will be rolled-out in Cross River State (as the pioneer 'demonstration model' for REDD+) and perhaps in a second state. The scaling-up of PGAs in other states will be considered thereafter, further to some fine-tuning of the methodology and assessment process in light of the lessons which will have emerged from the first pilot. It is also during this phase that a capacity development programme will be implemented to address the findings of the PGAs, for instance to enhance the governance structure of the entity mandated with the administration and distribution of REDD+ investments and revenues, or to strengthen the capacity of local CSOs and forest-dependent communities to aggregate their interests, and to convey them effectively in policy- and legislation-making processes.

4.6. Assessment of fulfilment of international REDD+ readiness requirements

The Programme has been designed with due attention to each of the main components of REDD+ readiness, as agreed internationally. This is shown in the Table 8 next.

Table 8. Assessment of Programme's design against internationally-adopted REDD+ readiness components

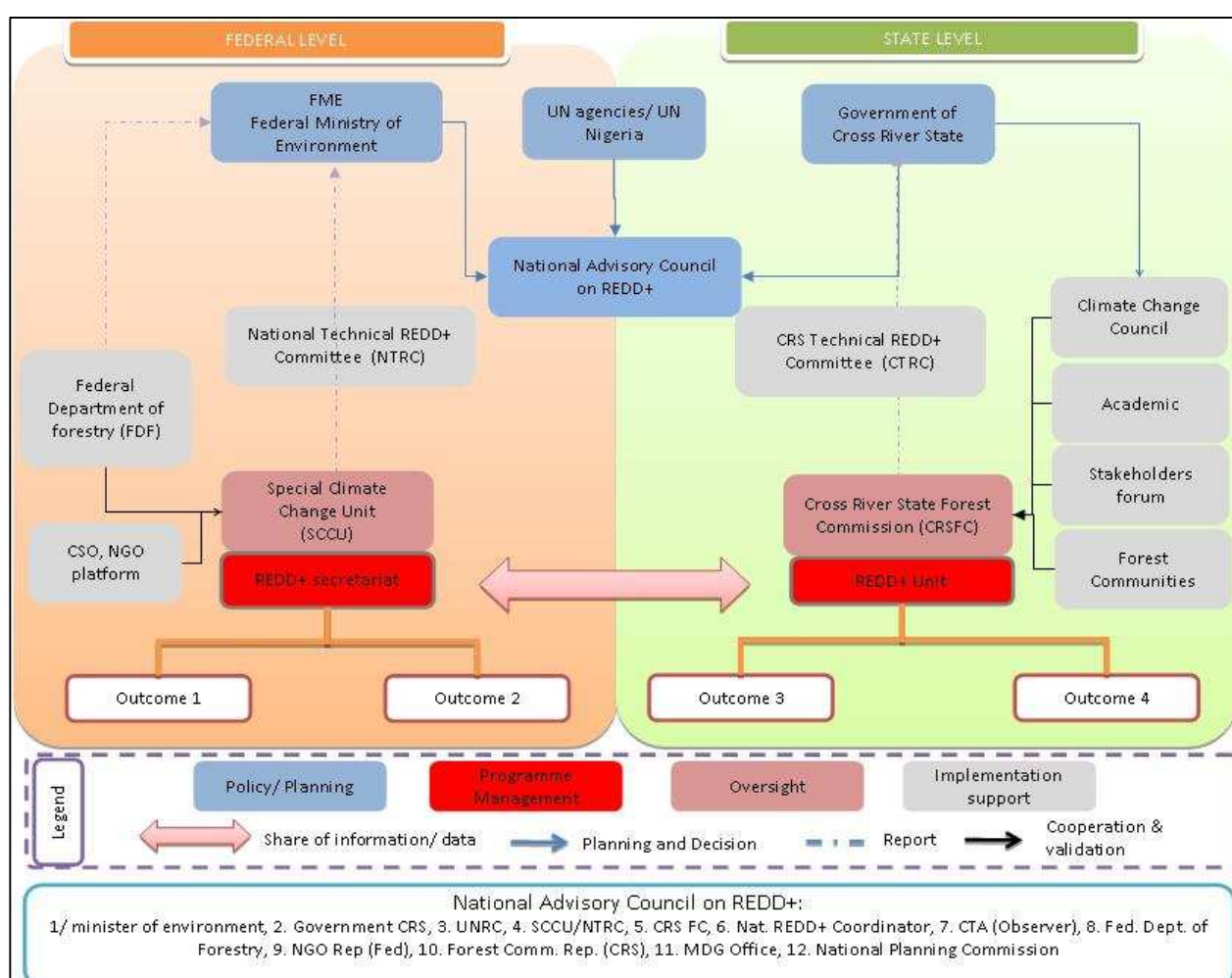
Readiness components	Brief description	Programme outputs & sections	
		FEDERAL	CRS
(1a) Management of readiness	Capacity-development to manage and co-ordinate REDD+ readiness activities, and to mainstream REDD+ into broader national development and low-carbon strategies.	Output 1.1 Output 1.3 Output 1.4 Output 2.1 Output 2.3	Output 3.1 Output 4.3
(1b) Stakeholder consultation and participation	Engagement of stakeholders, including potential beneficiaries, to get information, be consulted, and participate in the design of the REDD+ mechanism (<i>i.e.</i> quality, transparency and inclusiveness of REDD+ design & decision-making)	Output 1.2 Output 1.4	Output 3.2 Output 4.3
(2) REDD+ Strategy & REDD+ Implementation Framework	Identify the policy reforms & investments needed to address the drivers of deforestation, to reduce C emissions from the forest sector & to enhance multiple benefits. Design the institutions and measures to govern the REDD+ mechanism, including safeguards, governance, and financial mechanisms.	Output 1.3 Output 2.1 Output 2.3	Output 3.3 Output 4.1 Output 4.2 Output 4.3
(3) Reference Scenario (RLs/REls)	Comparative framework between the intended reality under a REDD+ policy and a scenario of business-as usual if no REDD+ policy had occurred (<i>i.e.</i> establishing the basis for estimating emissions reductions due to REDD+ and therefore define legitimate REDD+ payments under REDD+ Phase 3)	Output 2.1	Output 3.4
(4) REDD+ monitoring system	Design and establish a monitoring system for: (i) MRV on emissions reductions and removals of GHGs; and (ii) impacts and benefits of REDD+ over time.	Output 2.2	Output 3.4
(5) Schedule & budget	Due Programme planning and financing	Output 1.1 Sections 4 & 5	Output 3.1 Sections 4 & 5
(6) Monitoring and evaluation framework	Due Programme monitoring and evaluation	Output 1.1 Section 7	Output 3.1 Section 7

5. Management and Coordination Arrangements

5.1 Overall management of the REDD+ readiness process

The Programme's management and coordination arrangements will utilize the existing REDD+ management mechanisms in Nigeria at the Federal level and in CRS (Figure 10). To the extent necessary, the UN agencies will participate in the existing coordination mechanisms to guide activities under this Programme.

Figure 10. Overall management of the REDD+ readiness process in Nigeria



5.2. Programme's planning & policy

The planning & policy decision-making for the Programme will be provided by the National Advisory Council on REDD+, recently created, which will play three crucial functions: (i) to monitor and review progress and impact of the Programme, (ii) to ensure federal-state coordination on REDD+ matters; and (iii) to approve the work plans & budgets of the Programme, likely on an annual basis. The *Council* will be slightly reformed to ensure these functions. For the purposes of this Programme, the *Council* will include the UN Resident Coordinator as a full member, representing UNDP, FAO and UNEP, as well as a fair representation of civil society and forest community representatives. This extended *Council* will serve as the Programme's executive board. A proposed composition, to be adopted before Programme's implementation start, is presented in Box 5 below. The Council will be chaired by the Federal Minister of the Environment, with the Governor of Cross River State and the UN Resident Coordinator as co-chairpersons.

Box 5. Proposed revised composition of the National Advisory Council for REDD+, so to better serve as executive board for the *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*:

- Federal Minister of the Environment (Chairperson)
- Governor of Cross River State (co-Chairperson)
- UN Resident Coordinator (co-Chairperson)
- Special Climate Change Unit (representing also the National REDD+ Technical Committee)
- Federal Department of Forestry
- National REDD+ Coordinator (Secretary)
- Chairman of Cross River State Forestry Commission
- Chief Technical Advisor of the Programme (as observer)
- Federal CSO/NGO platform on REDD+ representative (Federal level)
- CRS Stakeholders Forum on REDD+ representative (CRS)
- 2 forest community representatives (CRS)
- Ecological Fund Office
- MDG Office
- National Planning Commission

The *Council* will meet at least two times per year. The Council will be responsible for overall coordination of the programme, the approval of annual work plans and budgets, and overall monitoring. Council decisions relating to this programme will be reached by consensus. Specific responsibilities include:

- Approving the strategic direction for the implementation of the Joint Programme within the approval by the UN-REDD Policy Board;
- Approving the annual work plans and budgets;
- Reviewing and adopting the Terms of Reference of the Programme management units;

- Reviewing the Consolidated Joint Programme Report from the Administrative Agent and providing strategic comments and decisions;
- Creating synergies and seeking agreements with related national programmes and similar programmes/projects supported by other international partners;
- Ensuring full coordination between programme activities at Federal and local levels;
- Suggesting corrective action to emerging strategic and implementation problems; and,
- Aligning UN-REDD funded activities with the UN Strategic Framework or One-Plan approved strategic priorities.

5.3. Programme management & oversight

Federal level

At the federal level, government oversight is to be provided by the Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU), given its cross-sectoral mandate and competence, and its direct linkages with the UNFCCC. The REDD+ Secretariat will be responsible for day-to-day management of federal-level activities, *i.e.* Outcomes 1 and 2, and for overall coordination of the Programme. The REDD+ Secretariat is to be embedded in the SCCU, while keeping close links with the Federal Department of Forestry as its lead technical branch.

The REDD+ Secretariat will therefore serve as the programme management unit, and will be staffed accordingly for that purpose. The REDD+ Secretariat's tasks, related to Outcomes 1 and 2, include:

- preparing draft annual and quarterly work plans;
- preparing TOR for all inputs and activities;
- preparing all progress and monitoring reports;
- overseeing the programme activities and consultants; and
- ensuring the programme payment and records are efficient and in line with required international standards.

Specific responsibilities of the SCCU, **with regards to Outcomes 1 and 2**, will include:

- Ensuring full operational coordination across activities in the programme and with activities in other government and internationally supported programmes;
- Providing technical and substance leadership on activities envisaged in the Annual Work Plan;
- Ensuring full coordination between activities at Federal and local levels;
- Ensuring consistency with national policy and international commitments
- Providing inputs to the preparation of work plans and TOR;
- Addressing management and implementation problems;
- Identifying emerging lessons learned and supporting dissemination; and
- Overseeing the development and implementation of communication & public information plans.

CRS Level

The CRS Forestry Commission's REDD+ Unit will be responsible for day-to-day management of CRS level activities; *i.e.* Outcomes 3 and 4. The CRSFC REDD+ Unit will therefore serve as a sub-programme management unit, and will be staffed accordingly for that purpose. Since a substantial part of Nigeria's REDD+ readiness will occur in Cross River State, to provide the country with a demonstration model for REDD+, the chief technical advisor for the Programme, to be recruited, will be based in CRS REDD+ Unit (Calabar), with frequent travel expected to the federal capital (Abuja) and to other states that also advance on REDD+.

With regards to Outcomes 3 and 4, the CRSFC and its REDD+ Unit will be in charge of the following tasks:

- Preparing draft annual and quarterly work plans.
- Preparing TOR for all inputs and activities
- Preparing all progress and monitoring reports.
- Overseeing the programme activities and consultants
- Ensuring the programme payment and records are efficient and in line with required international standards.
- Ensuring operational coordination across activities in the programme and with activities in other government and internationally supported programmes in CRS;
- Providing technical and substantive leadership regarding the activities envisaged in the Annual Work Plan;
- Providing inputs to the preparation of work plans and TOR;
- Addressing management and implementation problems;
- Suggesting corrective action to emerging strategic and implementation problems;
- Creating synergies and seeking agreement on related domestic programmes and similar programmes/projects supported by other international partners in CRS;
- Ensuring full coordination between activities at Federal and local levels;
- Identifying emerging lessons learned and supporting dissemination; and
- Establishing communication and public information plans.

At the State level, government oversight is provided by the CRS Forest Commission. The CRS FC will allocate sufficient staff to support the programme, hence joining the professionals to be recruited by the Programme.

All reports and documentation will be made public via a website to ensure transparency.

Human resources required

In view of the interrelated needs to enhance management of REDD+ readiness, implement this Programme and create a critical mass for REDD+, a number of specialised personnel are to be recruited for the period of the Programme. They are as follows:

- **Chief technical advisor**, based in Calabar, with frequent travel to Abuja and across Nigeria, to ensure high management & technical quality across all the Programme, and conduct the implementation Outcomes 3 & 4 – an international professional, likely UN P4 level.
- **National programme officer** based in Abuja, to conduct the implementation of Outcomes 1 & 2 – national-level recruitment.
- **Forest monitoring and MRV specialist**, with a focus on satellite data information and interpretation, to be based in Calabar with frequent travel to Abuja, to support outputs 2.2. & 3.4 – probably an international professional, likely UN P3 level.
- **Stakeholder mobilisation specialist**, based in Calabar, to enhance stakeholder engagement and training, support community activities, and have a direct role in the implementation of outputs 3.2, 4.1 & 4.3, as well as to provide support at federal-level for output 1.2 – a national level recruitment.
- Two **Administrative-Financial specialists**, one in Abuja and one in Calabar, to ensure smooth implementation in aspects such as budget management, procurement and disbursement, as well as secretarial support to the national REDD+ Secretariat and CRS REDD+ Unit, respectively – these are to be national level recruitments.

These posts are included in the budget (Tables 6 & 7 above). An outline of Terms of Reference for each of these posts is found in Annex 5.

5.4. Programme support mechanisms (technical, advisory and stakeholder engagement)

A series of bodies and actors will provide technical support to the programme, as follows next.

Federal Level

National Technical REDD Committee: With inputs from working level representatives of the three UN Agencies, the National REDD Technical Committee will technically support programme implementation and coordination. The National REDD Committee will ensure that it has representation from women and the diverse national-level stakeholders, including other Ministries and government officials, as well as representatives from NGOs/CSOs. It will meet once per quarter to discuss programme progress, outputs and challenges. It will notably be responsible for: (i) commenting on TOR and planned activities; (ii) commenting on draft outputs; (iii) identifying service providers and expertise, and collecting data; and (iv) raising awareness with other ministries to support holistic land use planning.

Federal Department of Forestry (FDF): The FDF will be responsible for ensuring that the Programme is fully integrated into the sustainable forestry management approach in Nigeria, and anchored into all forestry initiatives and programmes. This will include ensuring the programme links to ongoing initiatives, benefits from any existing opportunities, and is able to optimally influence the enabling environment for forestry in Nigeria.

A CSO/NGO Platform for REDD+: It is under creation. This will serve to ensure the knowledge and perspective of all non-governmental participants and stakeholders are adequately reflected in the programme's approach and strategies. The Platform will meet at least twice per year to discuss programme progress, outputs and challenges. Members of the Platform will be invited to contribute to programme planning and to programme activities, notably to comment on draft TOR, planned activities, and outputs. Membership of the platform will ensure representation of women, youth, forest-dependent communities and other identified marginal or vulnerable groups.

CRS Level

In Cross River State, the **Climate Change Council** is composed by the Governor (who serves as Chairman), 5 Commissioners (Justice, Finance, Agriculture, Environment, Lands), 4 state agencies (Forestry, Biodiversity and Conservation; State Planning Commission; Department for International Donor Support; Tourism Bureau) and the Chairman of the Forestry Commission (who serves as Coordinator). The close linkages this provides for REDD+ readiness are clear and reassuring.

The **CRS Stakeholder's Forum on REDD+**, which was created in 2010 at the occasion of the first UN-REDD mission, will ensure the knowledge and perspective of all non-governmental participants and stakeholders are adequately reflected in the programme's approach and strategies. The Platform will meet at least twice per year to discuss programme progress, outputs and challenges. Members of the Platform will be invited to contribute to programme planning and to programme activities, notably to comment on draft TOR, planned activities, and outputs. Members of the Forum will include a broad cross-section of stakeholders in CRS, with special attention to representation by women, youth, forest-dependent communities and other identified marginal or vulnerable groups. Academics will be represented on the Stakeholder's Forum and the climate change council. This will ensure that the best academic and expert knowledge is brought to bear on the programme design, programme activities and programme outputs. This will also help ensure that the lessons learnt through the programme are disseminated through academic circles in Cross River State and beyond. Forest Communities will be represented on the Stakeholder's Forum and the climate change council. This will ensure that the voice, opinion, concern and knowledge of forest communities are fully reflected in the programme's approach and activities.

A CRS Technical Committee on REDD+ is already created and composed by about 20 members, including: The Forestry Commission, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Lands, the Ministry Works, the Tourism Bureau, the GIS Unit of the Department of Geography and Regional Planning (University of Calabar), the Department of Forestry and Wildlife (University of Calabar), the Faculty of Environmental Sciences (Cross River State University of Science and Technology), the State Planning Commission, the Department for International Donor Support, the Cross River State National Park, at least 3 NGO Representatives, at least 4 Community Representatives and the Chairperson of the CRS House of Assembly's Committee on Environment.

A CRS Legal Sub-committee of REDD+, which has existed since the beginning of interest on REDD+, is being restructured and will continue providing legal, juridical and institutional advisory support. It is composed by representatives from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Lands, the Forestry Commission, NGOCE (the NGO Coalition for Environment) and the Gender Desk.

5.5. UN-REDD Programme structure and support

The Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme is a national initiative that emerged from Nigeria's engagement with the UN-REDD partnership. The Programme will therefore receive technical and policy implementation support of the UN-REDD partnership and its three UN agencies (namely FAO, UNDP and UNEP), as well as an initial allocation of US\$ 4 million [if the UN-REDD Policy Board approves so]. Further co-financing sources and additional international implementation partners are probably to emerge in the next months, and needed.

The implementation of the Programme, including the UN-REDD funding, is primarily the responsibility of the Government, through both the National REDD+ Secretariat and the CRSFC. The UN-REDD agencies are technical and financial partners and shall ensure country ownership and decision-making on all aspects of the Programme's implementation, with due respect to UN rules and procedures. Funds will be managed in a consistent manner among the three UN-REDD agencies, which will employ the UN's *Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers* (HACT). Funds will be disbursed in full agreement and accordance with work plans, terms of reference and other operational elements prepared by the federal and state REDD+ structures and/or as endorsed by the Government. Reports will be made public via the website established by the programme.

The implementation, disbursement and reporting needs for the UN-REDD funds will follow rules and procedures of the UN and of the UN-REDD Programme. Due compliance with UN requirements will be ensured by the presence of a chief technical advisor (CTA), to be recruited through UN procedures and to also represent UN-REDD in the country. The CTA will be part of the joint Federal and CRS REDD+ team, and will be placed into Government structures to maximise capacity-building ensure country leadership and ease implementation (in fact, it will be hosted in CRS, where substantial REDD+ readiness work will occur, and will travel frequently to the federal capital and to other states interested in REDD+, as necessary).

The UN Resident Coordinator, in his strategic leadership of the UN Country Team, will provide oversight to the implementation of the UN-REDD funds, ensuring that participating UN organisations are meeting their obligations.

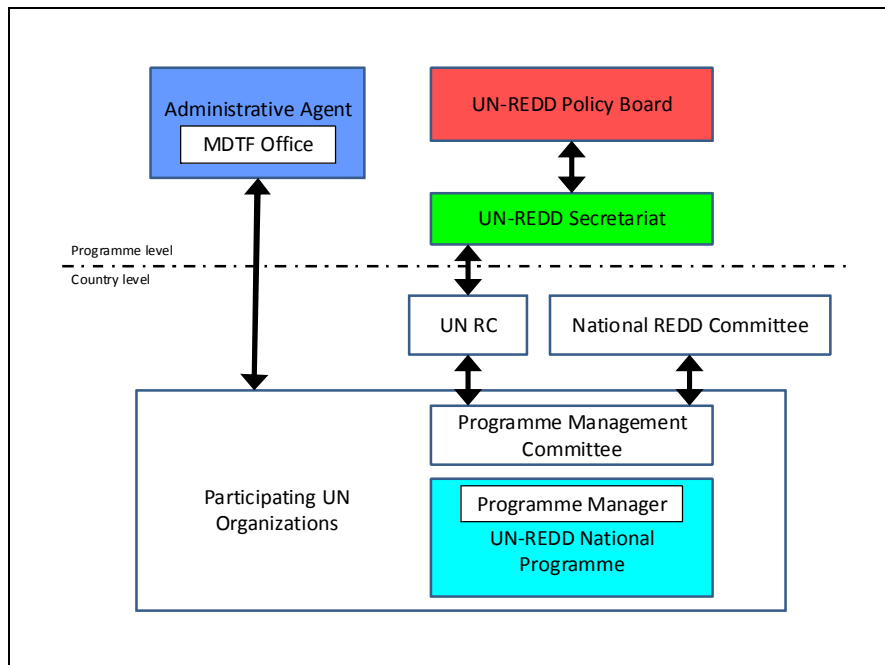
On an international level, the main structures of the UN-REDD Programme are as follows:

- **UN-REDD Policy Board:** It provides overall leadership and sets the strategic direction of the UN-REDD Programme. It decides on the Programme's financial allocations, in line with the budget parameters set out in the UN-REDD Framework Document, and develops monitoring mechanisms, with a view to ensuring Fund-wide success. The UN-REDD Policy Board will ensure coordination with REDD+ actors at a global scale, such as the World Bank's FCPF. The Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the UN-REDD Policy Board are available on the UN-REDD Programme website: <www.un-redd.org>. See also the UN-REDD Workspace for eligible users: <www.unredd.net>.
- **UN-REDD Secretariat:** It serves the UN-REDD Policy Board, using the capacities of the participating UN organisations, research institutions and recognized experts. It ensures that policies and strategies decided by the Policy Board are implemented and adhered to. It helps coordinate the UN-REDD agencies (FAO, UNDP, and UNEP). The Secretariat also manages the

national joint programme review process, as well as the overall monitoring and evaluation of implementation. It also ensures partner and external relations, provides quality assurance and oversight of national joint programmes and supports knowledge management.

- **Participating UN Organisations' Coordination Group:** This structure consists of representatives of the three UN agencies (FAO, UNDP, and UNEP) and has as the main function to ensure active, participatory and well-coordinated engagement by the agencies to implement the goals and objectives of the overall UN-REDD Programme.
- **Administrative Agent:** The UNDP's Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office is the Administrative Agent of the UN-REDD Fund. The MPTF Office manages the distribution of resources and serves as the administrative interface with donors. UNDP's accountability as the Administrative Agent is set out in the policy "UNDP's Accountability when acting as Administrative Agent in MPTFs and/or UN Joint Programmes using the pass-through fund management modality". The MPTF Office as Administrative Agent is responsible for: (i) receipt, administration and management of contributions from donors; (ii) disbursement of funds to the participating UN organisation, in accordance with the instructions of the UN-REDD Policy Board; (iii) provide support to FAO, UNDP and UNEP in their reporting functions; and (iv) compilation of consolidated narrative and financial reports to the Policy Board through the Technical Secretariat, national steering committees and to donors. The Administrative Agent may undertake additional functions at the request of the participating UN organisations.

Figure 11: UN-REDD National Management Arrangements



5.6. Potential regional-level implementation partners

A number of regional organisations are active in REDD+ in Nigeria and in West Africa, representing potential partners for this Programme. They include the following ones:

- ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) is a regional political group of fifteen countries with the mission of promoting economic integration in "all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters". The ECOWAS Commission has a mandate to play a more effective role in the integration and development process in the region. ECOWAS gives high importance to coordinating regional responses to climate change, to related knowledge management, and to assisting individual countries. In 2010 it adopted the "ECOWAS Framework of Strategic Guidelines on the Reduction of Vulnerability and Adaptability to Climate Change in West Africa". ECOWAS provides political support, can help mobilize financial support, and can be an effective knowledge disseminator.
- The Katoomba Group is an international network of individuals working to promote, and improve capacity related to, payments for ecosystem services (PES), including carbon markets. The Group serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and strategic information about ecosystem service transactions, as well as site for collaboration between practitioners on PES projects and programs. The Katoomba Group has established the West African Incubator in Ghana – it brings together global expertise and local capacity with the aim of helping communities, landowners and governments develop viable carbon finance and other payments for ecosystem services projects. Globally and in the region, The Katoomba Group has access to a broad range of important REDD capacity and experience.
- The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is one of Africa's leading research partners in finding agricultural solutions for hunger, malnutrition, and poverty. IITA's headquarters are precisely based in Nigeria, in Ibadan. IITA works with partners to enhance crop quality and productivity, reduce producer and consumer risks, and generate wealth from agriculture. It has extensive work on agricultural products such as cowpea, soybean, banana/plantain, yam, cassava and maize. IITA is a key partner in finding responses to non-sustainable agriculture and to improving agriculture. Given that unsustainable agriculture is the most important driver of deforestation, IITA could be a key partner in finding responses. IITA has indicated its willingness to be a partner in REDD.
- The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has worked to protect Africa's wildlife since 1920 and is active in 20 countries across the continent. WCS is currently involved with the development of potential carbon-financed forest protection projects in Madagascar and Congo and other countries. In Nigeria, WCS has focused on carrying of ecological research in the Afi Mountain/Okwangwo Division part of Cross River State and is helping to write a management plan for Cross River National Park. WCS has an office in Calabar. WCS has strong in-house capability to conduct field based carbon-stock surveys and a team of highly experienced lawyers specialising in environmental law and policy. WCS has good access to data and GIS. WCS has indicated its willingness to be a partner in REDD in Nigeria.
- The Nature Conservation and Research Centre (NCRC) is the leading conservation NGO in Ghana and has a broader West African work range. NCRC has worked closely for many years supporting rural communities, traditional leadership and farmers in building local institutions

to access payments for ecosystem services in Ghana. In particular, NCRC has led the process in Ghana to highlight the opportunities that carbon finance represents. NCRC is currently collaborating on projects in Nigeria, Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

- Pro-Natura International Nigeria (PNI) has been working in Nigeria for over 20 years. They support the Becheve Nature Reserve, located in the montane forests of the Obudu Plateau in CRS. In the Niger Delta they have supported the establishment of community development foundations to manage natural resources in the mangrove and swamp forest communities. In various states in the south-west they are working with the Nigerian Conservation Foundation and state governments to establish a new protected area: the Omo-Shasha-Oluwa Wildlife Sanctuary. They are planning a REDD+ pilot that will provide sustainable financing for the forest area, also protecting a population of forest elephants.

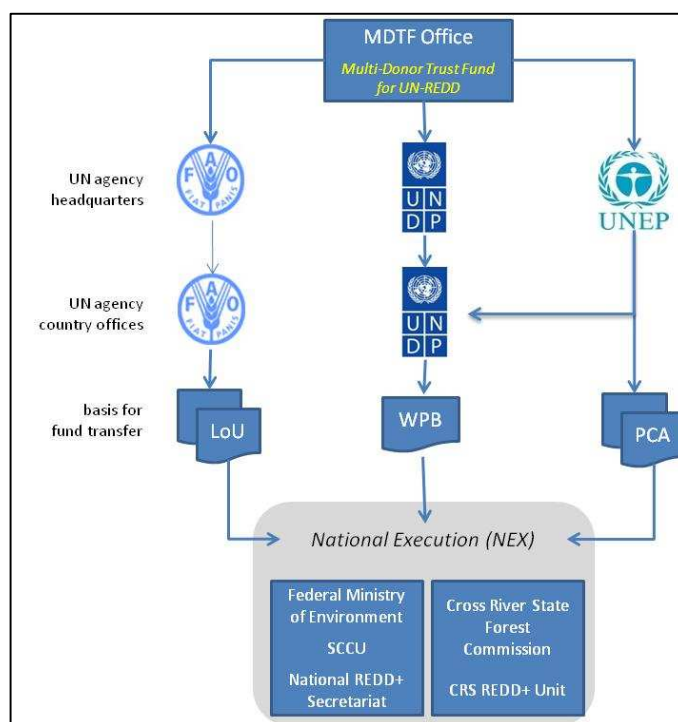
6. Fund Management Arrangements

The UN-REDD Programme is financed through a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), which is administered by UNDP (so-called the "Administrative Agent"). In principle, the UN-REDD programme uses the "pass-through" modality for fund management, which means that funds go from the MPTF to each agency, according to the budget share as set out in [Section 4](#) above, and then to the countries. The UN-REDD Programme will use the pass-through modality for fund management, in which each agency receives and manages a share of the budget, and will normally use NEX as disbursement modality.

Fund execution modality will be National Execution (NEX modality), which means that the country leads implementation, with support from the UN agencies. UNDP does this on a regular basis in Nigeria. FAO may need to enhance their country office's capacities to be able to do so. UNEP, which has no office in Nigeria, may be able to disburse funds with NEX modality via an agreement with country institutions (PCA) or through UNDP's country office in Nigeria.

The three participating UN organisations (FAO, UNDP, UNEP) assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds received from the MPTF's Administrative Agent. As stated earlier, funds will be managed in a consistent manner among the three UN-REDD agencies, which will employ the UN's *Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers* (HACT). Funds will be disbursed in full agreement and accordance with work plans, terms of reference and other operational elements prepared by the National REDD+ Secretariat, the CRS Forestry Commission (as holder of the CRS REDD+ Unit) or as endorsed by the Federal Government.

Figure 12: Nigeria UN-REDD fund management



Fund management will follow two principles, which are agreed internally among the UN-REDD agencies, as follows: (i) each UN agency will abide by the application of the HACT in the country to determine the fund transfer modality to national counterparts; and (ii) each UN agency will use the same funds transfer modality with the same national counterpart.

At the federal level, the HACT micro-assessment for the Ministry of Environment indicates that NEX modality is the one to employ. At the CRS level, a micro-assessment of the Forestry Commission will be conducted by UNDP within the next two months, and certainly by the start of the Programme's implementation, in order to examine implementation modalities. As the CRS Forestry Commission is a well reputed agency that some two years ago went through a solid reform in a transparent way, it is very probable that the micro-assessment endorses the use of NEX modality. UNDP is already planning to provide training to CRS Forestry Commission staff on UN fund management in order to ensure that the NEX modality is ready to be employed at Programme's implementation onset.

Funds will be released in accordance with the UN-REDD Programme's Rules of Procedure. These procedures require the UN-REDD Secretariat to submit the following to the Administrative Agent: (i) a copy of the signed National Programme Document (*i.e.* the present document), and (ii) a Submission Form signed by the Chair of the Policy Board. Upon receipt of the necessary documentation, the Administrative Agent shall release funds to the participating UN organisations as set out in Section II of the *Memorandum of Understanding for the Multi-Donor Trust Fund* (<www.undp.org/MPTF/UN-REDD/overview.shtml>). The Administrative Agent shall notify the participating UN organisations and the UN Resident Coordinator when the funds have been transferred. Each participating UN organisation shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.

The Administrative Agent will ensure consistency of the approved joint programme with the applicable provisions of the Standard Administrative Arrangements (SAA) entered between donors and the Administrative Agent, and the MOU between the participating UN organisations and the Administrative Agent.

Participating UN organisations are entitled to indirect support costs of 7%. In addition, specialized service delivery costs for programme and project implementation may be charged directly to the national programme, in accordance with the respective Participating UN Organization's policies.

The UN agencies will not make any commitments above the approved budgets. If there is a need to exceed the budgeted amounts, the UN agency concerned will discuss with the other participating UN agencies and then submit a supplementary budget request to the UN-REDD Policy Board, through the Secretariat.

7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

7.1. Monitoring framework of the Programme

A monitoring framework has been prepared, proposing two indicators per outcome (total of 8 indicators). Table 8 presents the framework, including indicators (at output level, as mentioned), baseline, proposed target (with timeframe), means of verification, institutional responsibilities to track it, and risks/assumptions. This Monitoring Framework requires some refinement and finalisation before signature, to ensure it is feasible to apply and useful.

7.2. Risk assessment

The main identified risks for the implementation of the Programme and for the broad REDD+ readiness phase are as follows:

1. Commitment of Government towards implementing REDD+ declines
2. Government agencies do not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively
3. REDD activities become unpopular with stakeholder groups in CRS.
4. Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion.
5. Potential investors are too eager to get into REDD+, carbon finance and carbon trading, creating confusion.

A risk assessment matrix for these risks is presented in Table 10.

Table 9. Programme Monitoring Framework

Expected Results (Outcomes)	Indicators at Output level (8 programme monitoring indicators, I1 to I8, with baselines and timing)	Means of verification	Responsibilities
1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level	I1. Presidential Order on REDD+ is promulgated <i>Baseline:</i> no official REDD+ legal endorsement, weak REDD+ structures <i>Time:</i> At implementation's mid-term (month 15 th).	Official legal gazette	FME, SCCU, national REDD+ Secretariat
	I2. A multi-stakeholder REDD+ cluster sustains REDD+ process at federal level <i>Baseline:</i> REDD+ team is small, with minimal capacities and no regular stakeholder engagement structures in place. <i>Time:</i> By end of year 2.	Annual reports, surveys, external reviews, media	National REDD+ Secretariat, CSO/NGO platform on REDD+
2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared	I3. Nationwide assessment of deforestation drivers consulted and adopted <i>Baseline:</i> inexistent (some studies exist, but lack the depth required for REDD+) <i>Time:</i> At implementation's mid-term (month 15 th)	Reports, policy documents, surveys (to assess degree of consultations)	National REDD+ Secretariat, FME
	I4. Good-quality GHG report submitted to the UNFCCC (by end of Programme) <i>Baseline:</i> GHG not reported with quality; weak national capacities on GHG reporting <i>Time:</i> End of Programme	Nigeria communications & reports to the UNFCCC	National REDD+ Secretariat, SCCU.
3. Institutional & technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened	I5. CRS REDD+ Strategy elaborated in a participatory way and adopted by both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders <i>Baseline:</i> Inexistent. <i>Time:</i> End of Programme.	CRS policy documents, surveys, media	CRSFC, CRS Stakeholders Forum on REDD+
	I6. CRS forests are well monitored via satellite and with community inputs <i>Baseline:</i> No forest monitoring system in place. <i>Time:</i> End of Programme (in time to trigger REDD+ phase 2)	CRS reports and publications, CSO bulletins	CRSFC
4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State	I7. Community and local stakeholders engaged and coordinated in REDD+ initiatives and experimentations <i>Baseline:</i> Few initiatives, dispersed, no guidelines and criteria for REDD+ pilots <i>Time:</i> Year 2.	CRS reports, CSO bulletins, surveys, independent evaluations	CRSFC, CRS Stakeholder Forum on REDD+
	I8. At least US\$ 15 million mobilised for forest investments & REDD+ phase 2 in CRS. <i>Baseline:</i> minimal REDD+ finance available, forest investments hard to mobilise. <i>Time:</i> End of Programme	CRS policy and technical documents, programme documents, donor agreements	Federal Minister of Finance, National REDD+ Secretariat, CRSFC

Table 10. Programme's risk assessment

	Description of risks	Assessment and levels of risks	Mitigation measures	Responsibilities
1	Commitment of Government towards implementing REDD+ declines	<p>Progress on the REDD+ process and on the Programme implementation relies highly on Government engagement at both federal and CRS levels, as well as on a certain intensity and broadness of the efforts. If high-level support is lacking, then the progress in programme implementation would be slow, such that REDD-readiness is not achieved, and the viability of REDD+ as an approach to climate change mitigation and forest conservation could be undermined.</p> <p>Risk: <u>low</u>. Both federal and CRS governments have been active and engaged in REDD+ since onset of work with UN-REDD, being able to mobilise stakeholders and prepare a proposal for UN-REDD in record time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several outputs are devoted to support management of REDD+ readiness, capacity building, stakeholder engagement & dialogue, and public awareness, which will serve to maintaining and enhancing the political commitment reached so far (which is high). • The focus of the Programme on community and grassroots capacities and mobilisation will sustain political commitments. • Global support for REDD+ and the importance of REDD+ in ongoing climate-change negotiations is a positive force to avoid this risk. • Nigeria's intended leadership role on REDD+ in West Africa region and in ECOWAS, which is to be enhanced through Output 1.4, will maintain the political commitment. 	<p>The UNRC and UN-REDD missions will monitor Government engagement. The Federal and CRS REDD+ teams, together with the CTA, will ensure information and political commitment are at pace with REDD+ readiness progress and decision-making requirements</p>
2	Government agencies do not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively	<p>Failure of federal and CRS agencies to cooperate would slow down and disrupt the Nigeria REDD+ process and the Programme's implementation.</p> <p>Risk: <u>medium</u>. The federal structure of Nigeria is complex and this Programme relies on a smooth federal-states cooperation. However, during the design of the programme and in the preliminary REDD+ activities, the cooperation among Government agencies and between federal and state structures have been smooth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme supports awareness raising and dialogue, as well as a fully participatory approach, to optimize broad engagement. • The project uses and supports existing in-country coordination mechanisms. • Since REDD+ arrived to the country, federal and CRS government have worked cooperatively - the Programme's design and structure are conceived to ease such governmental cooperation and coordination. • Both federal and CRS governments rely on each other for REDD+ readiness and hence are necessarily obliged to cooperate if they wish to succeed.. 	<p>The CTA will be responsible for reporting to UN-REDD and UN agencies on any early indications of lack of coordination in order to seek corrections.</p> <p>The National committees will oversee implementation and the coordination among crucial governmental structures.</p>

	Description of risks	Assessment and levels of risks	Mitigation measures	Responsibilities
3	REDD activities become unpopular with stakeholder groups in CRS.	<p>There is a vast diversity of stakeholders in CRS, with many competing demands, and hence some danger that REDD+ may be unwelcome amongst some groups, or may even be perceived as a threat to local development.</p> <p>Risk: <u>Medium</u>. There is already high interest on REDD at the grassroots. However, if REDD+ is designed in a way that alienates the grassroots, resistance could rapidly grow. Hence a medium risk, since due implementation of the Programme with the transparency required will ensure broad stakeholder support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad participatory process will be conducted. • The Programme devotes high attention to developing and respecting social and environmental safeguards, as well as to support participatory governance assessments for REDD+. • Although the support of all stakeholders can never be guaranteed, lack of support should not be sufficient to derail the programme – it would slow it down and demand increased awareness and dialogue efforts. 	The REDD+ teams and the CTA will be responsible for noting and addressing resistance or criticism from stakeholders
4	Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion.	<p>The Programme has solid funds to advance REDD+ at federal level and in CRS as demonstration model. However, co-financing is needed in order to ensure optimal quality in certain components as well as to roll REDD+ readiness across other interested states..</p> <p>Risk: <u>Medium</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Programme, through its coordination components, will work to facilitate dialogue with donor sources to enhance and expand REDD+ across Nigeria. • A special effort will be conducted during programme implementation to mobilise climate finance.. 	The CTA of the programme will be responsible for supporting federal and state governments to access donor funds and climate finance opportunities.
5	Potential investors are too eager to get into REDD+, carbon finance and carbon trading, creating confusion.	<p>Nigeria is a country with a dynamic private sector and a strong entrepreneurial culture. At the same time, the private sector sometimes jumps over new opportunities in a disorganised way, creating tensions. The REDD+ mechanism is creating expectations for the private sector while the international negotiations are not providing enough clarity on how public, private and market forces participate in climate finance.</p> <p>Risk: <u>Medium</u>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High attention will be paid to establishing a financial management system that meets highest international standard. • Involvement of UN in the management mechanism will reassure some investors. • Capacity building activities will serve to channel the interests and pressures of the private sector. • Capacities of the private sector and programme-led dialogue and coordination efforts will serve to ensure the private sector is a constructive actor in REDD+. 	<p>The UN agency country offices and CTA will monitor any disturbance from the private sector.</p> <p>The federal REDD+ Secretariat shall ensure adequate information and coordination with the private sector are in place.</p>

7.3. Evaluation and reporting requirements

The Participating UN Organizations are required to provide narrative reports on results achieved, lessons learned and the contributions made to the national programme. The information shall be consolidated by the Chief Technical Advisor of the Programme into a single narrative report every 6 months, and submitted to the UN-REDD Secretariat, which will in its turn update the UN-REDD Policy Board. The UN Resident Coordinator will assist in ensuring that UN organisations at country level provide the necessary information. Reports will be made public via the established website for REDD+ in Nigeria.

Participating UN organisations in receipt of UN-REDD resources will be required to provide the Administrative Agent with the following statements and reports:

- Narrative progress reports for each twelve-month period ending 31st December, to be provided no later than 3 months after the end of the applicable reporting period;
- Annual financial reports as of 31st December each year with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the Joint Programme Account, to be provided no later than 4 months after the end of the applicable reporting period;
- A final narrative report and financial report, after the completion of all national programme's activities financed from the UN-REDD MPTF, to be provided no later than 30th April of the year following the financial closing of Programme activities; and
- A final certified financial statement, to be provided no later than 30th June of the year following the financial closing of Programme's activities.

The UN-REDD agencies will conduct regular planning and implementation support missions together with the national counterparts (notably the national REDD+ secretariat and the CRS FC) in order to monitor progress, provide good-quality advice to implementation partners to improve the implementation, ensure inter-agency coordination, offer solutions to problems, and ensure fulfilment of outcomes. A Mid-Term Evaluation exercise, consisting of an independent evaluation (by a consultant) and a UN-REDD mission, will be conducted around the 15th month of implementation.

Additional external reviews, reporting, audits and other monitoring & evaluation procedures may be conducted according to U.N. procedures, UN-REDD requirements and country requests.

Information given to the press, to the beneficiaries of the UN-REDD Programme, all related publicity material, official notices, reports and publications, shall acknowledge the role of the UN-REDD donors, the UN Agencies, and any other relevant parties. Whenever possible and to the extent that it does not jeopardize the privileges and immunities of UN Agencies, and the safety and security of their staff, UN Agencies will promote donor visibility on information, project materials and at project sites, in accordance with their respective regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

8. Legal context

The Participating UN Organizations (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to implement the UN-REDD Collaborative Programme, which came into effect on 20th June 2008 and ends 20th June 2012. This Joint Programme document is consistent with the cooperation/assistance agreements signed by the lead UN agencies involved in this programme with the Government of Nigeria. For the UNDP, this Document is pursuant to the Country Programme Action Plan and the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) signed with the Government of Nigeria in February 1988. All provisions in the SBAA therefore apply to this document. Consistent with Article III of the SBAA, the responsibility for the safety and security of the implementing partner and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in the implementing partners' custody, rests with the implementing partner. The implementing partner shall:

- (i) put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried; and
- (ii) assume all risks and liabilities related to the implementing partner's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

The UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of this agreement.

On the part of the FAO, this document is consistent with the basic agreement with Government of Nigeria as indicated in the exchange of letters between the Government of Nigeria and FAO on [insert date]. The FAO Representative shall represent the Organization in Nigeria, and shall be responsible within the limits of the authority delegated to her, for all aspects of the Organizations activities in the country. In the effective performance of her functions, the FAO representative shall have access to appropriate policy and planning levels of Government in the agriculture, fishery and forestry sectors of the economy, as well as, to central planning authorities. He/she shall maintain close liaison with the Government's coordinating agency for external assistance and thereby serve to keep all the appropriate Government agencies fully informed on all aspects of the policies and procedures of FAO's programme in Nigeria.

For UNEP, in line with its position as a non-resident agency with a global mandate for technical cooperation and capacity building, the signed Programme document shall be the legal basis of UNEP's relation with the Government of Nigeria within the context of this programme. UNEP will work in close coordination with the programme management team.

The Participating UN Organizations agree to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the funds received pursuant to UN-REDD are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by Participating UN Organizations do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via: <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm>. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this programme document.

Annexes

Annex 1. Chronicle of the REDD+ process in Nigeria and CRS to date

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	RESULTS
June, 2008	Cross River State Environment Summit in Calabar	Resolutions ratified by state EXCO: (i) to manage Cross River State for Carbon Concession; (ii) remove revenue targets from forest exploitation; and (iii) 2-year ban on logging.
November 2008	Anti-Deforestation Task Force set up in Calabar	Many arrests of violators of the ban on logging Seizure of illegally harvested wood and power chain saws.
February, 2009	International campaign for support for CRS anti-deforestation efforts in Calabar commences	International Task Force set up for forest carbon credits.
July, 2009	Presentation on REDD+ to His Excellency, Senator Liyel Imoke, Gov. of CRS in Calabar by Tunde Morakinyo and Odigha Odigha	His Excellency requested for a REDD reconnaissance visit to the State by experts - Mr. Tunde Morakinyo and John Mason
September, 2009	Visit by REDD experts – John Mason of NCRC and Tunde Morakinyo of ERM to CRS	Visit to Ekuri, Iko Esai forests and Mbe Mountain forest communities by experts to raise awareness on REDD+ Presentation on REDD to EXCO by experts. Experts invited State team to Katoomba meeting in Ghana
October, 2009	His Excellency Senator Liyel Imoke, Gov. of CRS led a CRS delegation to the 1 st West Africa Katoomba meeting on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in Accra, Ghana	Strategic members of CRS EXCO attended the meeting and became sensitized about PES & REDD. HE, Senator Liyel Imoke made a presentation requesting help/ collaboration from experts. Received contact for UN-REDD, WB-FCPF and GCF.
October, 2009	HE, the Governor led a State delegation to FME to meet the Minister for collaboration in Abuja.	REDD and Cross River State is captured in Nigeria's position, paper to COP15 talks. Good understanding/relationship established between the FME and Cross River State Government on REDD.
October, 2009	Hon. Minister for Federal Ministry of Environment, Mr. John A. Odey applies for Nigeria's membership of UN-REDD and World Bank- FCPF	Nigeria's application acknowledged by UN-REDD secretariat and the WB-FCPF Secretariat. Cross River State designated as Nigeria's pilot State for REDD in the application.
November, 2009	HE, Governor Liyel Imoke applies for membership of the Governors' Climate and Forest (GCF) Task Force in California, USA	Application accepted and Governor invited to GCF meeting in Copenhagen in December, 2009
December, 2009	Nigeria attends the COP15 in Copenhagen, Denmark and delegation on REDD includes His Excellency, Governor Liyel Imoke	Nigeria holds press conference to inform the world about efforts to protect Tropical High Forest (THF) in CRS, Nigeria. Met with the officials of WB FCPF , UN-REDD and GCF requesting for assistance to Nigeria
January, 2010	Experts from the Katoomba Group (Prof. Yadvinder Malhi of Oxford University and John Mason of Nature Conservancy and Research Centre (NCRC) visit CRS.	Spent 11 days of study tour of two of the identified pilot sites for REDD (Mbe Mountain/Afi River Forest Reserve and Ekuri/Iko Esai community forests) working with communities on production of data for draft PINs 1st draft of PIN (Project Idea Note) for REDD pilots produced
March, 2010	Nigeria admitted as observer to UN-REDD and invited to the UN-REDD meeting in Nairobi – Kenya.	The National Focal point on REDD, Coordinator of REDD in Cross River State and UNDP – Abuja officer for Climate Change and Energy present at meeting. Collaboration of efforts between UNDP and Nigeria on REDD began and road map for REDD in Nigeria agreed.
March, 2010	Nigeria admitted as observer to WB-FCPF and invited to Gabon	The National focal point on REDD attended the Gabon meeting.

Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme (2012-2014) – Revised version for the 7th UN-REDD Policy Board (October 2011)

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	RESULTS
April, 2010	REDD governance structure established in CRS Forestry Commission	Sub-Committees established: Legal reform, Technical aspects, and Stakeholder engagement
May, 2010	State Coordinator of REDD and Mr. Arikpo Arikpo attended the GCF meeting in Banda Aceh – Indonesia.	State coordinator involved in the building of GCF structures to support REDD in GCF member States.
July, 2010	Inauguration of Nigeria's REDD+ Federal structures	National Technical Committee on REDD+ National REDD+ Secretariat National REDD Advisory Council
Sept, 2010	Mr. Arikpo Arikpo and Mrs. Edu Effiom of CRSFC attended the GCF meeting in Para Santerem, Brazil	State delegates coordinated the preparation and submission of a state REDD database document to GCF
Sept, 2010	CRS hosts Katoomba representatives from across West Africa on the development of ESPA programme.	Deliberation on areas of research required for REDD across West Africa.
14-17 Oct, 2010	Katoomba Group/NCRC carry out training in carbon measurement.	Training of CRSFC, NGOs and forest communities in biomass assessment Preliminary carbon measurement in the 3 REDD pilots in CRS
14-17 Oct, 2010	First UN-REDD Scoping mission to Nigeria	Visit to stakeholders at Federal and CRS levels including forest communities Institutional, capacity and technical readiness indicators assessed Stakeholders dialogue workshop in Abuja and Calabar.
Nov, 2010	Nigeria presents at UN-REDD Policy board meeting in Washington DC	Nigeria given go ahead to submit a REDD Readiness proposal
Dec, 2010	COP 16 in Cancun, Mexico	Presentation of "the Journey so far" to GCF Consultations with international stakeholders
January, 2011	UN-REDD holds REDD Readiness proposal drafting meeting in Abuja and Calabar	Brainstorming of outline Results Framework Preparation of the workplan and calendar for submission of the proposal by March
27-27 January 2011	Nigeria attends Africa workshop on FPIC and Recourse Mechanisms, Arusha (Tanzania)	Three community and NGO representatives from Nigeria contributes to UN-REDD guidelines on FPIC and recourse mechanisms
20 th Jan 2011	Nigeria attends FAO workshop on GHG/MRV systems in Rome (Italy)	Training on forest and GHG monitoring system for Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
31 st January, 2011	CRS REDD stakeholders forum held in Calabar	Discussion on the Nigeria REDD+ proposal workplan by government, NGO and community stakeholders Formation of steering and drafting committees to assist in the preparation of the proposal and other REDD Readiness activities
5 th Feb 2011	Review of 1 st draft of Nigeria REDD+ Readiness proposal carried out in Calabar	First proposal draft reviewed by Federal, CRS government, NGO and community stakeholders Submission of comments to drafting team
14 th – 23 rd Feb 2011	Second UN-REDD mission to Nigeria	Drafting of Nigeria REDD Readiness programme document Stakeholders Appraisal workshop held in Calabar National Validation workshop held in Abuja
21 st – 22 nd Mar 2011	UN-REDD Policy Board: the draft Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme is circulated and a first discussion is held	The UN-REDD Policy Board "welcomed the presentation by Nigeria of its draft Full National Programme Document, with a budget request of US\$4 million" while acknowledging "the progress Nigeria has made in rapidly preparing its proposal was appreciated". In addition, "the Policy Board noted the draft full National Programme is almost complete and the information presented at the sixth Policy Board meeting represents an initial round of comments." Finally, "the Policy Board will give priority consideration to Nigeria's submission at its next meeting, following the usual submission and review process."

Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme (2012-2014) – Revised version for the 7th UN-REDD Policy Board (October 2011)

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	RESULTS
18-20 May 2011	Workshop on Participatory Governance Assessments and their role in REDD+ (PGA/REDD+) – Lagos. Nigeria's PGA/REDD+ initiative launched	Training on PGA methodologies. Identification of key issues for PGA/REDD+ (the following areas were covered: policies, legislation, institutional capacity, anti-corruption strategies, participation of forest-dependent communities, and equitable benefit distribution systems for REDD+). Preparation of a work plan for the preliminary PGA/REDD+ phase (June-December 2011).
2-4 August 2011	Technical Consultation on Social and Environmental Safeguards in Nigeria - Abuja	Training and discussions on the multiple benefits and risks of REDD+. Review and improvements on these aspects in the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme. The participants also provided comments on the draft UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles & Criteria, which had been employed to improve Nigeria's programme document. See Annex 8 for details.
20 August 2011	Stakeholder workshop to review the comments received on the draft Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme	Revisions and improvements proposed, in the light of comments. See <u>Annex 4</u> for participants (over 70).
(5-9 September 2011)	Nigeria REDD+ University planned in Calabar, CRS [postponed]	--- sadly postponed after the Abuja bombings – to be conducted in mid-November 2011, and to likely be a very timely platform for inception of UN-REDD Nigeria programme (if this is approved at the UN-REDD Policy Board of October 2011, in Berlin) ---
(3-5 October 2011)	Oslo Governance Forum, Oslo (Norway)	Nigeria to present its PGA/REDD+ initiative.
(13-14 October 2011)	Seventh UN-REDD Policy Board	<i>Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme</i> to be discussed for funding approval.

Annex 2. List of participants, Cross River State's stakeholders forum on REDD+ (February 2011)

Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme

CROSS RIVER STATE - Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+

Appraisal Workshop, Calabar, 18th February 2011

STATEMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE STAKEHOLDERS ON NIGERIA'S REDD+ READINESS PROGRAMME

Today, the 18th of February 2011, over 100 members of a wide range of stakeholders of Cross River State that are interested in the REDD+ process met in Calabar to discuss the design and submission of Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme. We belong to, and represent many different actors and facets of Cross River State's society, including forest communities, non-governmental & civil society organisations, state's government officials, technical specialists, project managers, media and opinion leaders. We constitute a heterogeneous assembly that is interested in REDD+. Since the UN-REDD Scoping Mission of October 2010 we are in the process of forming a new umbrella platform called Cross River State Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+, which we believe will play a central role in the REDD+ process as it evolves.

Our meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Cross River State, Senator Liyel Imoke, who openly restated his support for a REDD+ process and for our participatory engagement to guide and build it. We acknowledge the presence of a UN-REDD mission and the National REDD+ Coordinator.

We have examined the core elements of the draft programme document, both in public discussions and thematic working groups. First we are pleased to see that efforts for the REDD+ process has advanced in Nigeria. We consider REDD+ as a potential means to better protect our forests and strengthen the livelihoods of the people that depend on them. During the appraisal workshop we focused on the following topics: (a) programme's outcomes and outputs that concern Cross River State; (b) drivers of deforestation; (c) participation, consultation and stakeholder engagement; (d) forest monitoring systems; and (e) governance, social and environmental risks/safeguards.

We have provided a set of ideas and recommendations for the finalisation of the programme document. The main ones are as follows:

- i) forest communities should be properly engaged, receive training, and feel early and tangible actions throughout the programme's implementation;
- ii) there is need for REDD+ to have a broad approach that goes beyond forest conservation to address questions of land management, afforestation & reforestation, ecosystem restoration, sustainable agriculture and community-based livelihoods;
- iii) there is need for capacity building on forest monitoring systems; and
- iv) the programme should include provisions to assess issues of land tenure, carbon rights, fair benefit-sharing mechanisms, and community conflict, providing guidance on how to address them in the context of REDD+.

We have also provided several specific suggestions and amendments to refine the document.

Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme

Calabar, 18th February 2011

We look forward to the implementation of the REDD+ readiness programme, while highlighting the need to pay attention to issues of consultation, forest governance, community rights, enhancement of sustainable livelihoods, and gender equality.

We are delighted to know that the programme envisions Cross River State to become a centre of excellence for REDD+ in Nigeria, producing best practices and models on REDD+ that can serve other states as they engage in REDD+. We are eager to share our experiences with REDD+ with other states and abroad, as the opportunity emerges.

Taking into consideration the recommendations and remarks mentioned above, we are satisfied with the design of the programme and its operational approach. We support its submission to the UN-REDD Policy Board, hoping the programme will soon be approved and start implementation. We need this programme to expand capacity building, public awareness, training, forest conservation and local initiatives so that REDD+ is well understood and can be adequately built in our State and across Nigeria.

This Statement is read and endorsed at the State Library Complex in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, on the 18th of February of 2011, at 6:47 pm.

List of participants & signatories:

NAME	ORGANISATION or COMMUNITY	SIGNATURE
1. Glory Oduji	Mun of Iho	[Signature]
2. Matilda E. Ekanem	Forestry Commi- on	[Signature]
3. Ruth Ase K. Agbor	Nig. Conservation Foundation	[Signature]
4. Stella S Ogar	Society for the Support & Advancement	[Signature]
5. Karama Okimba	Herald for Com Res	[Signature]
6. Moore yu	One Sky Int	[Signature]
7. Rose Eju	One Sky	[Signature]
8. MAURICE ANPANG	OLD EURI	[Signature]
9. Ugah Godwin U	Council for Renewa ble energy in Nigeria	[Signature]
10. Emmanuel Assey	Edbasee Develop- ment Foundation	[Signature]

Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
Calabar, 18th February 2011

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13. Ekuma Nony	CENSI	
14. Moses O. Aduor	Forestry Commission	
15. Benedict Usang	African Dignity Foundation	
16. Anthony Oke	Actual Forum	
17. Eboai, Oke	FC, Cal.	
18. Chris E. Nnaji	FC, Cal.	
19. Daniel Aduo	FC - Hq. Cal.	
20. Chief John Iles	Rainforest Seed Conservators	
21. Chief S.A. Olor	Ekuni community	
22. Michael Olor	Ekuni community	
23. Barufae Oke	Ekuni community	
24. Christhans Akinyi	Ekuni Community	
25. ENO E. Oke	BASODEN	
26. Tony Keding	Life Empowerment Foundation	
27. Edwin Usang	Ngo Coalition for Envt (NGOCE)	
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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
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34. Ibiang Essien	CRS Forestry Comm	
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36. Eyo Peter, Raymond	National Solidarity Front	
37. Felix Ukam	CEHSDATS	
38. Michael Akpang	Sustainable Tourism Initiative	
39. Lekang Augustine	Forestry Commission	
40. Justina Okey	Gov's Office -	
41. Mrs. Bridget A. Ushie	Forestry Comm Cal	
42. Dr. A.U. Ogo	CRS Forestry Comm	
43. Nwaeze Nkwam	CRS Forestry Comm	
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45. Mrs. Edu B. Ikere	CRS Forestry Comm	
46. Bridget O. Nkro	CRS Forestry Commission	
47. Florence Keking	CRS Forestry Comm	
48. Mary Jane Eboi	CRS Forestry Comm	

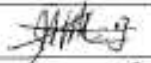

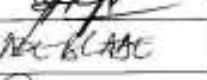
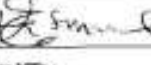


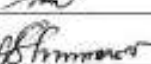
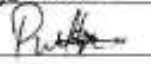

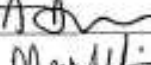
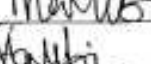
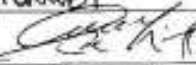



Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
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91. Iyanga, Asuwan	NTA	
92. Ene Offiong	NTA	
93. NAKANDA IYAN	INFORMATION	
94. Omini Oden	SA medical CP's Governor's office	
95. MOSES KADEN	INTERCONTINENTAL	
96. Ruth Asuquo	Old Gburi Comm.	
97. Hon Felix A. Ikine	Old Gburi Comm.	
98. ANDREW DUNN	WCS	
99. Martina W. Ubi	Min. of Agric. Cal	
100. Eng. Bassey Echei	Agric Services	
101. Steve Enwah	Nigeria Chronicle	
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Annex 3. List of Participants, National Validation Workshop (February 2011)

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Annex 4. List of Participants, Stakeholders Workshop for the review of comments (August 2011)

ATTENDANT LIST FOR THE CROSS RIVER STATE REDD STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP FOR THE REVIEW OF COMMENTS ON NIGERIAN'S REDD + READINESS PROPOSALS HELD ON THE 20TH AUGUST, 2011 AT THE STATE LIBRARY COMPLEX, CALABAR

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Annex 5. Overall institutional & stakeholder mapping for REDD+ in Nigeria and Cross River State

Institutions & stakeholders	Primary function	REDD+ roles
FEDERAL LEVEL		
Federal Ministry of Environment	Conservation and Management of Nigeria's Environmental resources in sustainable manner	Lead agency for Nigeria's climate Change Policy and implementation, including REDD+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU) National Advisory Council REDD+ Federal Department of Forestry 	<p>Designated National Authority for Climate Programme in Nig.</p> <p>Lead Agency for planning, policy and regulations for the Conservation, protection and sustainable management of Nigeria's forest Resources</p>	<p>Provide legal, financial & institutional platforms for mainstreaming REDD+ into overall National Climate Change Policy</p> <p>Provide policies guidelines for sustainable forest mgt. (SFM) in Nigeria's including REDD+ / Houses the national REDD+ Secretariat</p>
National Planning Commission	Responsible for overall National Development Policies in Nigeria	Integrate REDD+ into National Development Programmes, including Budget processes
Fed. Ministry of Agric. & Rural Dev.	Agriculture and rural dev policy formulation and projects implementation	Integration of REDD+ into National Agriculture and Rural Development policies and programmes [Agriculture is a major deforestation driver in Nigeria]
Nigeria Air Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA)	Provision of maps and data on Nigeria's Natural Resources and land use and monitor change therein	Provision of vegetation and land use change maps & data (for the purposes of MRV, Carbon / Biodiversity mapping)
Federal Ministry of Women Affairs	Mainstreaming gender equality and women affairs into national and international development.	Ensuring active participation of women in REDD+ programmes and promotion of equitable distribution of REDD+ benefits to women who have particular linkages with the forest.
Research Institutes (ABU, FRIN etc)	Teaching and research in National resources in sustainable Forest Dev. in Nigeria	Studies and research on social, economic and technical aspects of REDD+
NGO /CSO stakeholders	Advocacy, studies, awareness creation and capacity building in partnership with institutions and programmes on Climate Change and sustainable environment management in Nigeria	Studies, awareness creation, capacity building and liaison between REDD+ implementing agencies and other stakeholders
A national REDD+ forum (under creation)	To serve as platform for cross fertilization of ideas on planning and implementation of REDD+	Facilitate regular update and exchange of feedbacks between REDD+ implementing Agencies and Stakeholders
Media	Dissemination of information on CC & other matters to the general public	Dissemination of information on the potentials and benefits of REDD+ on the forest communities, stakeholders & general public. Investment and Best practices for forest conservation and enhancement of Carbon stocks; Carbon projects.
Forest related Private Sector	Management of private forests; timber production; agro-forestry based ecosystem restoration.	

Federal Ministry of Energy	Policies & regulations on energy, incl. renewable energy	Enhancement of access to alternative & clean energy for forest communities to reduce pressure on fuel wood as energy source
Federal Ministry of Finance	Financial policies and regulations, including international financial mechanisms	Advise on carbon finance and REDD+ financial mechanism
National Park Service	Protection, management and biodiversity conservation in National Parks/Protected Areas	Joint implementation of REDD+ project activities, including biodiversity co-benefits and other ecosystem services.
UN Donor Agencies (e.g. UNDP, FAO, UNEP)	Technical & financial assistance/collaboration on national and international development programmes, including CC	Already involved in REDD+ planning & implementation in Nigeria.
STATE LEVEL		
Cross River State Forestry Commission.	Manage the CRS forest estate; protect the forest estate; carry out regeneration and afforestation programmes; co-ordinate community & private Forestry activities in CRS.	Provide CRS REDD+ Desk.Co-ordinate all REDD+ activities in the state. Liaise with the Nat. REDD+ secretariat
State Technical Committee on REDD+	REDD+ readiness oversight and advice	Provide overall governance on the direction of REDD+ in the state. Co-ordinate the activities of the tech. sub-committees.
Legal sub-committee	To ensure that REDD+ programmes are protected by law.	Integration of REDD+ activities into the state legal instruments.
MRV sub-committee.	To undertake monitoring and reporting, of the REDD+ programmes in the state.	Monitor changes in the forest cover and carbon stocks in the state.
Stakeholders' sub-committee	Ensures the participation of all stakeholders in the REDD+ process in the state.	Raising awareness, promote dialogue, foster collaboration, Identify Stakeholders needs & concerns in REDD+ process in state.
Stakeholders' forum	Articulate stakeholders' interest and concerns	Collaborate with the state REDD+ secretariat to ensure full participation and support of all stakeholders in the REDD+ programmes in the state.
State Climate Change Committee	Articulation of climate change policies and programmes and facilitation of their implementation in the state.	Monitor and ensure the implementation of REDD+ activities in the state.
Forest Dependent Communities	They are custodians of the forest	Create a conducive environment at the site level for REDD+ activities
Local NGOs and CSOs	They work with forest communities to promote sustainable forest management	They provide oversight of monitoring and reporting
Academia (University of Calabar and Cross River State University of Technology)	Education, Research and Community Service	Provide research, collate/manage data to support REDD+ process in the state; collaborate with other agencies to undertake REDD+ related research / dissemination of research results; Provide training and capacity development for REDD+ programmes.

Annex 6. Detailed work plans and budgets

[to be prepared by end 2011, before signature]

Work Plan for: Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme

Period (Covered by the WP): 2012

JP Outcome											
UN organization-specific Annual targets	UN organization	Activities	TIME FRAME				Implementing Partner	PLANNED BUDGET			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Source of Funds	Budget Description	Amount	
JP Output 1:											
(of UN organization 1)											
(of UN organization 2)											
(of UN organization 3)											
JP Output 2:											
(of UN organization 1)											
(of UN organization 2)											
Total Planned Budget											
including*	Total UN organization 1										
	Total UN organization 2										
	Total UN organization 3										

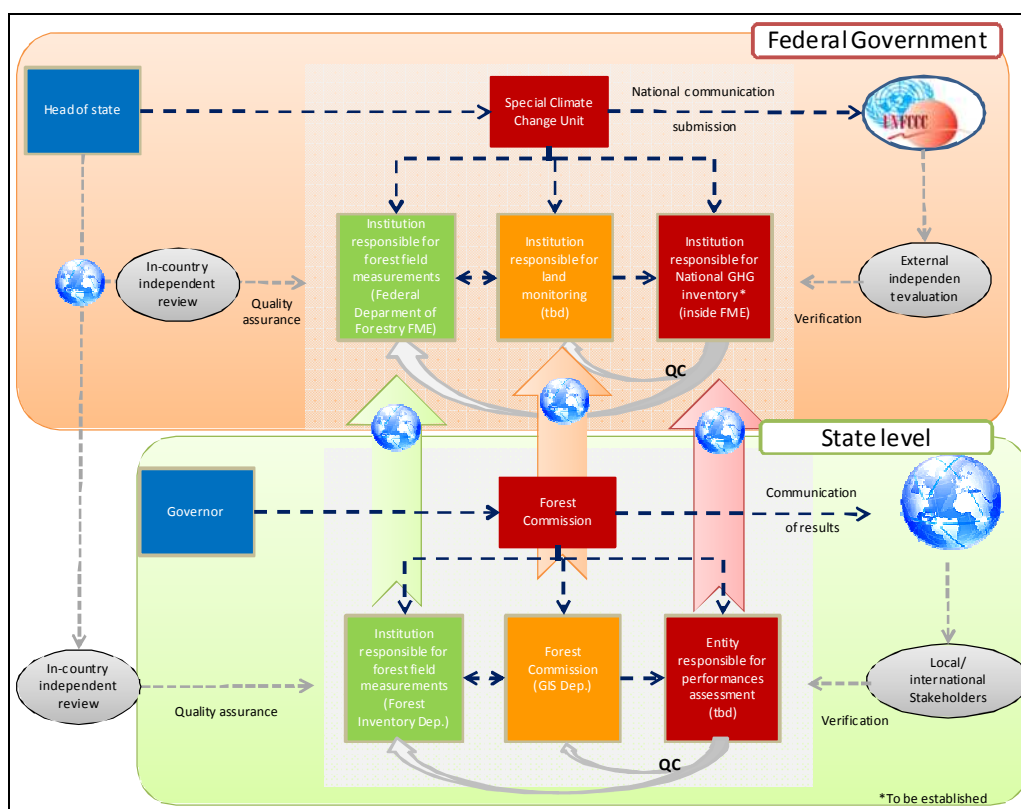
* f the Joint Programme and signature of all parties involved or following the Annual/Regular review example in reviews and agr* The Total Planned Budget by UN Organization should include both programme cost and indirect support cost

Annex 7. Specific description for the monitoring and MRV systems (outputs 2.2 and 3.4)

Institutional, governance and participative arrangements

Preparation of the Monitoring and MRV systems will include institutional and capacity building arrangements in the relevant national and state institutions (Figure 13). The objectives are to manage the following elements at the national level on a permanent basis: (i) the safeguards, (ii) the national forest inventory, (iii) satellite-based forest monitoring system, and (iv) the GHG inventory. It is important to design an institutional structure that will be responsible to set up a National GHG inventory. The national system will include several tasks such as the MRV, the NFI, land statistics and national statistics. The national system will design legal, institutional and procedural arrangements between the entities in charge of these tasks. The national system will be adapted to the national circumstances. This system will be in charge of planning, preparing and managing the national GHG inventory. The concept of National systems is explained in paragraph 9 of the Annex to Decision 19/CMP.1. REDD+ will be a mechanism that will require in Phase 2 the full participation of national institutions in Non-Annex I Parties to the financial mechanism under the Convention (e.g. like Annex I countries under the Kyoto Protocol). Thus, most probably countries participating in REDD+ will be required to set up such National systems.

Figure 13. Nigerian system for GHG inventory in the context of REDD+ activities



At national level, the proposed design is composed of four main entities. The special Climate Change Unit is in charge of the coordination of the whole REDD+ implementation and is connected with the head of State Office. It is also the lead agency and responsible for the coordination between the other

agencies. The Special Climate Change Unit will also be in charge of the reporting to the UNFCCC and archiving the data, data access and sharing and information dissemination. The GHG inventory unit will be established and will be in charge of the compilation of estimates. The data from the forest inventory are collected by the forest department. The land area data are collected by the NASDRA (the role of NASRDA in monitoring forest area and forest area change was mentioned by stakeholders during the UN-REDD mission of February 2011). On one hand, data produced by NASRDA can be used for the stratification of land for the forest department and forest commission. On the other hand, the data from forest department and forest commission can be used for field validation. Quality control is performed by the personnel from the GHG unit who compile the inventory. Quality Assurance is conducted by personnel not directly involved in the inventory compilation/development process (e.g. Independent evaluation). The verification refers to the collection of activities and procedures conducted during the planning and development, or after completion of an inventory that can help to establish its reliability for the intended applications of the inventory. The independent review is performed by the UNFCCC review expert team to verify the transparency, consistency, comparability, completeness and accuracy of the submitted data.

At state level, the Forestry Commission (or equivalent agency) plays a crucial role in assessing the status of the forest resources but also in management and providing information in the states. [The forest commission has the authority to ...]. The inventory unit of the forest commission can be in charge of the forest inventory. The forest mapping unit of the forest commission can be in charge of the data management, interpretation and dissemination of the information and particularly providing the necessary data to the Federal forest department. At last, the compilation of the data to assess forest carbon stocks and carbon stock changes can be performed by an academic entity (as in fact mentioned during the consultations in Nigeria) or other relevant institution. The quality control is supposed to be performed by this entity in order to ensure that the data are comparable, consistent, and accurate and can be compiled at federal level.

Technical and methodological options for the Monitoring, Measurement, Reporting and Verification of forest carbon stock changes

Forest carbon stock changes estimates for the MRV system will be based on two types of measurements: (i) AD using a Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) and (ii) data on emission factors through a State Forest Inventory (SFI). The estimation of the AD will be realized through a monitoring system based on remote sensing techniques that should be able to provide AD estimates annually. The monitoring system will also generate the relevant information on the different forest types that will be the basis for the SFI. On the other hand, the SFI field activities and measurements will contribute to the forest area assessment mainly as a training data for remote sensing image analysis and as ground verification.

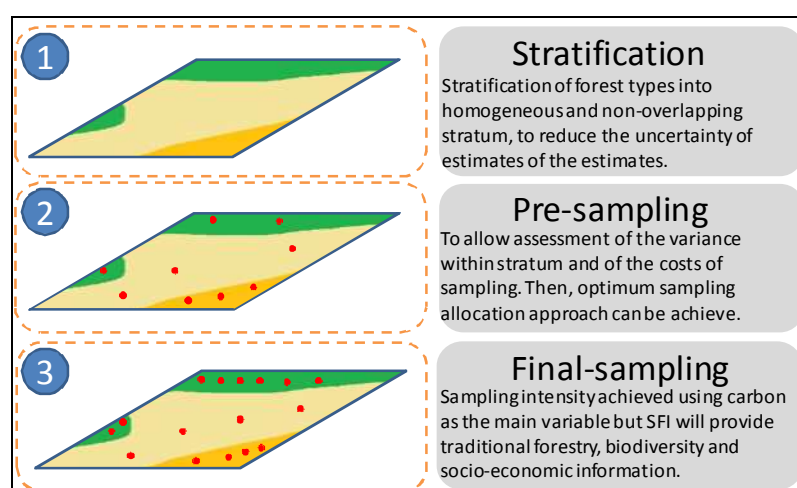
The State Forest Inventory

Emissions or removals resulting from land conversions are manifested in changes in ecosystem carbon stocks in the five IPCC eligible pools: 1) aboveground biomass, 2) belowground biomass, 3) litter, 4) deadwood and 5) soil organic carbon. In order to allow an efficient and cost-effective SFI, a three stage inventory is proposed (Figure 14): (i) Forest area pre-assessment and stratification (); (ii) pre-sampling and (iii) final sampling and assessment. This three-stage approach consists of a learning-by-doing process but simultaneously resources and efforts can be better targeted if priorities evolve or resources are scarce. Different sampling designs can take advantage of pre-existing knowledge of the forest structure (and other information) to improve precision or reduce the inventory costs. During pre-sampling, preliminary statistics of different forest strata will be assessed. These preliminary statistics will be used to define the final sampling strategy but also to produce conservative

estimates of EF. The overall approach of the SFI's final sampling stage will be to use a combination of temporary and permanent plots. As for the pre-sampling stage, there will be an optimal allocation of plots combined with a cost-effective and statistically sound solution to sample in 'managed' unexploited forests and in 'unmanaged' (intact) forests. This information is needed so that the minimum amount of plots may be undertaken that are required for an accuracy that will be decided by Nigeria.

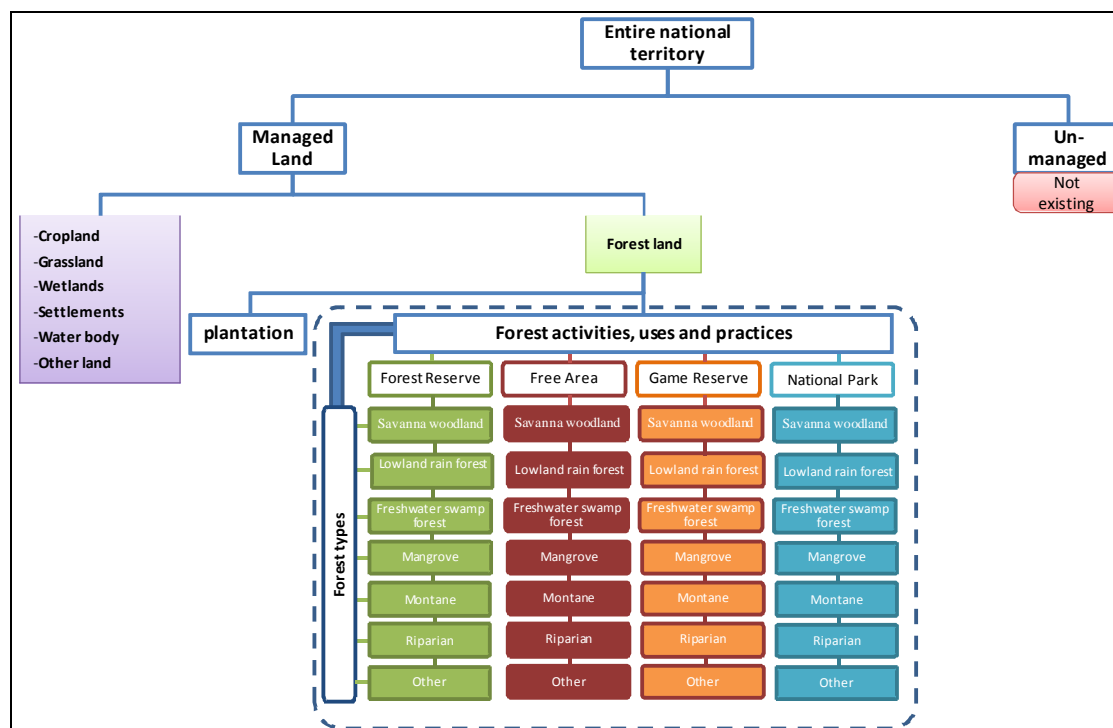
In order to increase the efficiency of the state forest inventory, ensure consistency and comparability with other states, the stratification of forests is made at national scale. Using national forest stratification allows using the data collected in one state to the other states when identical forest and management types are found.

Figure 14. Three stage forest inventory



An optimum allocation approach can potentially be very powerful as it is designed to give the most information per dollar spent - in other words, to cost the least for a given precision of the estimate or, for a given cost, to produce a minimum variance. Optimum allocation requires that estimates of both the within-forest type (stratum) variances and the costs of sampling are available. Such information is often difficult to obtain. Nonetheless, by using the proposed multi-purpose three-stage SFI this would be possible. The SFI will have to serve, guide and inform several social, economic and environmental policy purposes simultaneously. It will hence be a multi-purpose SFI. Although the optimal allocation will use carbon as a variable to decide on the sampling intensity at a given accuracy, the SFI will provide traditional forestry, biodiversity and socio-economic information. The targeted accuracy will be decided in agreement between Cross River State and the federal Nigerian government.

Figure 15. Potential Forest Land use classification/stratification system for Nigeria's national territory, based on *Forest Resources Study* (1998)



Forest carbon stock and carbon stock changes assessment

The data from the forest inventory and the data from the satellite forest monitoring system are integrated into a GHG inventory. The GHG inventory is the tool to provide the necessary data for reporting to the UNFCCC. The data from the forest inventory are converted into biomass and carbon stocks using allometric equations. The forest carbon stock data are used to assess emission factors. Emission factors provide the amount of carbon that is released to the atmosphere for the different forest land use types. The compilation of the emission factors and the forest area changes per management types provides estimate of forest carbon stocks and carbon stock changes. The GHG inventory assessment is performed using software that integrates matrix of forest area changes and the emission factors.

REDD+ database and archiving system

A standard, uniform national database should be designed. This forms the basis for a future REDD+ registry and transparency of any financial flows. This should be developed with the specific purposes of the NFI and in parallel with the development of the field sheets in order to facilitate data input and error checking. Finally, the NFI will ultimately have to serve, guide and inform several social, economic and environmental policy purposes simultaneously. It will hence be a multi-purpose NFI. Although the optimal allocation will use aboveground biomass as a variable to decide on the sampling intensity at a given accuracy, the NFI will also provide traditional forestry, biodiversity and socio-economic information. Its novelty will be that the using the NFI, Nigeria will be able to estimate EFs that will feed into the GHG Inventory used to report carbon and carbon stock changes in the five carbon pools under the UNFCCC.

Background data on forest land assessment and carbon stocks

Nigeria has data on forest land uses and land use changes in forest carbon stocks that could be used for reporting under the UNFCCC. At current state, the data does not allow reporting National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that are transparent, comparable, consistent, as accurate and complete as possible, and with reduced uncertainties, which should be aimed for when reporting under the Convention. However, the background data can be used and completed particularly the past analysis on forest land area assessment. The past aerial photographs can be used with additional satellite imageries to assess historical forest area changes. In addition, the existing forest inventory data can be compiled together and harmonized in order to allow the comparability of the existing data and their use for the GHG inventory. However, some gaps will have to be filled in the future particularly when considering the use of the allometric equations. None of the existing country specific allometric equations focus on biomass assessment in natural forests.

Annex 8. Technical Consultation on Social & Environmental Safeguards (August 2011)

On 2-4 August 2011 in Abuja, Nigeria, a technical consultation was held to review the Nigeria National Programme Document in conjunction with the draft UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria. Through the course of the consultation 15-20 participants from the Federal Government, Cross River State Forestry Commission, federal and state NGOs and UNEP discussed aspects of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ in Nigeria. After an initial day discussing the multiple benefits and risks of REDD+, the participants simultaneously reviewed the National Programme Document and the draft Principles and Criteria. This joint review process reinforced both the strengths of the Nigeria National Programme and the relevance and applicability of the draft Principles and Criteria.

For the National Programme, the consultation focused on the results framework and corresponding activities, the institutional arrangements, and narrative sections of the document as relevant, e.g. gender. It also took into account, and identified responses to relevant comments from the Independent Technical Reviewers and Policy Board Members. Specific sections of the document were highlighted as clearly indicating that the National REDD Programme satisfies the criteria, while in several instances additional wording and clarification were added to activities in the results framework and/or the narrative. Some activities were modified, and a few were added, and there were modifications to the institutional arrangements to respond to needs identified in the light of the principles and Criteria.

Some notable changes included: increasing the clarification of when special consideration needed to be paid to women, youth and other vulnerable groups; ensuring that oversight of monitoring and reporting from NGOs/CSOs; inclusion of fiduciary oversight in the institutional arrangement; a proposal for a State Technical REDD+ Committee; support to research; explicit attention to multiple functions of forests in activities like monitoring and national stratification of forests; and incorporating a section on Addressing Indirect Effects. The consultation also identified cross-cutting changes, relevant for a variety of criteria which included the need to specify the particular types of training and awareness raising that are needed, including training in multiple benefits and in the role and importance of land use planning, specifically community-based land use planning.

The consultation confirmed the usefulness of the UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria as an aide in formulating national REDD+ programmes that accord with the Cancun safeguards and in reviewing national programmes seeking UN-REDD funding. It also provided input and suggestions for consideration by the drafting committee of the Principles and Criteria, including clarifications, suggestions for the development of the risk assessment and mitigation tool, and a recommendation for an additional criterion.

Annex 9. Outline of Terms of Reference for key programme personnel

CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR (CTA)

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: International post (UN recruitment)

Duration: 2 ½ years, full time.

Station: Calabar, with regular assignments in Abuja and occasional travel throughout Nigeria.

Objectives: To ensure efficient and effective implementation of the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme, ensuring Federal and CRS integration, and UN inter-agency coordination.

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

1) Provide advice to Government counterparts and facilitate knowledge building, focusing on:

- Share knowledge on REDD+ readiness by taking an active role in meetings & events, documenting lessons learnt & best practices, and contributing to knowledge-based tools (policies, strategies, guidelines, et al.);
- Provide timely quality information & technical advice to the Federal Government, CRS Government, UN Country Team, implementing partners, ministries and other partners to ensure effective delivery ;
- Lead the review of relevant policies and development of policy framework;
- Provide technical input into all programme activities and outputs;
- Provide advice, methodological support & policy options for the development CRS REDD+ Strategy.

2) Support day-to-day management of UN-REDD programme focusing on achievement of the following results:

- Assist the CRSFC and the SCCU to coordinate technical assistance inputs and donor support;
- Assist in the identification of technical expertise and support, including assisting with the preparation of ToR, identification and evaluation of experts and reviewing reports;
- Provide close and regular backstopping to the CRSFC and the Federal Ministry (SCCU) and other implementing entities for the implementation of various components of the UN-REDD programme;
- Assist Federal and CRS REDD+ managers and teams to coordinate and liaise with stakeholders;
- Liaise with REDD+ initiatives within CRS and across Nigeria, as appropriated;
- Assist with the Programme's inception, including work plans & budget, and indicators & benchmarks.

3) Capacity Development:

The CTA will be expected to have significant experience in the overall REDD+ readiness process and at least on one technical area related to REDD. The CTA shall transfer his/her knowledge in this area directly to colleagues and indirectly to stakeholders in CRS and Nigeria. Typical actions will include public awareness, training events, strategy setting, design of legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+.

4) Qualifications, Experience and Competencies:

- Masters degree or equivalent in NRM, economics or a development-related discipline;
- A minimum of 7 years of professional experience in development, including at least 5 years of experience in project/programme management;
- Experience working in inter-cultural environments, with experience in Nigeria strongly preferable;
- Good knowledge on climate change, REDD+ matters, and UNFCCC policy and technical issues;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills;
- Experience in dialogue processes between Government and civil society, and on consensus building;
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

[Annex 9]

INTERNATIONAL MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION (MRV) ADVISOR

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: International

Duration: 2 ½ years, fulltime.

Station: Calabar, with frequent assignments in Abuja

Objectives: The objective is to facilitate the development of a robust forest monitoring and reporting system in order to meet the needs at the national and international reporting requirement levels.

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

1. At CRS level:

- Undertake capacity needs assessment on forestry monitoring;
- Develop capacities for undertaking GHG inventory in forestry and land-use sector;
- Provide specialized training on forest monitoring to experts;
- Oversee programme to develop capacity for participatory forest monitoring;
- Oversee design and installation of GIS laboratory and full equipment;
- Oversee purchase and interpretation of satellite data imagery;
- Oversee and provide ongoing support to: (i) stratification process; (ii) design of the forest inventory; (iii) collection and harmonization of data; (iv) community based verification process and (v) establishing reference levels.

2. At federal level:

- Undertake capacity needs assessment on forestry monitoring;
- Develop capacities for undertaking GHG inventory in forestry and land-use sector;
- Provide training on forest monitoring to experts;
- Oversee programme to develop capacity for participatory forest monitoring;
- Develop an approach to determine nationwide approach to stratification;
- Oversee and collaborate with the on-line tools for MRV;
- Provide ongoing support to REDD+ Technical support to unit.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies:

- Masters degree or equivalent in a discipline closely related to Remote sensing, GIS, or forest management;
- Competent in forest information system development and information management, experience in capacity building, forest modelling and MRV implementation is preferable;
- A minimum of 10 years professional experience;
- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in international development programmes;
- Experience working in inter-cultural environments, with experience in Nigeria preferable;
- Good knowledge on climate change in general and REDD+ in particular, as well as UNFCCC/IPCC technical procedures and guidelines;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills;
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

[Annex 9]

NATIONAL PROGRAMME OFFICER

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: National-level post

Duration: 2 ½ years, fulltime.

Station: Abuja, with regular travel to Calabar and throughout Nigeria

Objectives: The overall objective of the assignment is to ensure efficient and effective implementation of the Nigeria UN-REDD Programme.

Main Roles and Responsibilities (with regards to Outcomes 1 and 2):

- Organises regular meetings of the Advisory Council;
- Prepares and updates programme work plans, and submits for approval;
- Prepare and participate in quarterly work planning & progress reporting meetings with concerned parties;
- Ensures that all agreements with implementing agencies are prepared, negotiated and agreed upon.
- Helps drafts TORs for key inputs (i.e. personnel, sub-contracts, training, procurement) and submits these for approval;
- With respect to external programme implementing agencies/ sub-contractors: (i) Ensures that these agencies mobilize and deliver the inputs in accordance with their letters of agreement or contracts; and (ii), Provides overall supervision and/or coordination of their work to ensure the production of the expected outputs.
- Assumes direct responsibility for managing the programme budget by ensuring that:
 - Programme funds are made available when needed, and are disbursed properly;
 - Expenditures are in accordance with the programme document and/or existing programme work plan;
 - Accounting records and supporting documents are properly kept;
 - Required financial reports are prepared;
 - Financial operations are transparent and financial procedures/regulations for NEX projects are properly applied; and
 - S/he is ready to stand up to audits at any time.
- Assumes direct responsibility for managing the physical resources (e.g. vehicles, office equipment, furniture...) provided to the programme by UN agencies;
- Supervises the programme staff and local or international short-term experts/consultants working for the programme;
- Drafts programme progress reports of various types and the Final Programme Report as scheduled, and organizes review meetings and evaluation missions in coordination with UN agencies;
- Reports regularly to and keeps the Government and UN agencies' up-to-date on programme progress and problems.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- Post graduate degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Economics, or similar.
- At least five years experience in programme management;
- Significant experience working with government agencies;
- At least 5 years of working experience on conservation and resource management in Nigeria.
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.
- Good computer literacy and hands-on experience with data management and data analysis desired.

[Annex 9]

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: national recruitment

Duration: 30 months, fulltime.

Station: Calabar with regular travel throughout CRS

Objectives: The overall objective of the assignment is to ensure a full and efficient participation in the development of the CRS REDD Strategy and its subsequent implementation.

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

- Undertake, in a participatory manner, full stakeholder analysis;
- Develop comprehensive stakeholder involvement plan, with indicators of progress;
- Develop gender strategy and oversee its implementation;
- Oversee and ensure active involvement of NGOs and CBOs in the programme strategy development and implementation;
- Support development and action of Stakeholder Forum, acting as secretary/coordinator;
- Undertake regular consultations with the broad stakeholder group, ensuring their increasing engagement and participation;
- Undertake regular visits to concerned communities, in particular to pilot projects, to develop engagement;
- Contribute to legal/policy reviews and make appropriate recommendations regarding stakeholder participation;
- Oversee activities to develop social and environmental safeguards;
- Oversee development of an appropriate FPIC process for REDD+ in CRS;
- Provide training on stakeholder engagement methods to programme team and other stakeholders.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- Post graduate qualification in social studies, communications, or related subject;
- At least five years experience on developing stakeholder participation in development processes;
- At least five years experience in internationally supported development projects;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

[Annex 9]

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (2 posts)

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: national recruitments

Duration: 30 months, fulltime.

Station: One in Abuja, one in Calabar

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

Provide financial and administrative support to ensure Programme's efficient implementation. The post in Abuja will focus on Outcomes 1 & 2 (and overall reporting); the post in Calabar will be responsible for Outcomes 3 & 4.

Administrative roles

- Provide necessary assistance in the operational management of the Programme;
- Draft correspondence on administrative and program matters;
- Undertake all preparation work for procurement of office equipment and support facilities as required;
- Undertake preparation for programme events, including workshops, meetings, study tours, trainings, etc. ;
- Logistical arrangements (e.g. visa, transportation, bookings) for Programme staff, consultants & guests;
- Be responsible for programme filing system;
- Prepare regular list of events for information sharing within programme staff and external;
- Take care of programme telephone, fax, and email system.

Planning tasks

- Participate in work planning & progress reporting meetings with the CTA and programme leaders;
- Prepare documentation to ensure flow of funds for programme implementation on a timely basis.

Accounting/ Reporting

- Set up accounting system, including reporting forms and filing system for the programme, in accordance with the Programme document and UN procedures;
- Maintain petty cash transactions. This includes writing of receipts, preparation of payment request form, receipt and disbursement of cash and clearance of advances;
- Prepare programme financial reports and submit for clearance;
- Enter financial transactions into the computerised accounting system;
- Reconcile all balance sheet accounts and keep a file of all completed reconciliation.

Control

- Check and ensure all expenditures of programme are in accordance with UN procedures;
- Check budget lines to ensure that all transactions are correctly booked to the correct budget lines;
- Ensure documentation relating to payments are duly approved by the National Programme Director;
- Ensure Petty Cash is reviewed and updated and records are kept up-to-date.

Inventory Register

- Maintain a proper inventory of programme assets register, including numbering, recording, and reporting;
- Maintain the inventory file to support purchases of all equipment/assets.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies required

- University degree in accounting, finance or related fields;
- Solid experience of budgeting, planning and reporting on foreign funded projects;
- Good secretarial skills and good organizational capacity;
- Knowledge in administrative and accounting procedures of the Government;
- Good computer skills in common Word processing, spreadsheet (MS Excel), & accounting software;
- Appropriate English language skills, both spoken and written.

Annex 10. Leaflet on MRV in Nigeria



Forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria



REDD+ in Nigeria

Nigeria's rate of deforestation is one of the highest in the world and less than 10% of Nigeria's original forest remains. More than 50% of what is left as Tropical High Forest in Nigeria, is found in Cross River State. Deforestation and forest degradation reduce terrestrial carbon stocks and contribute to anthropogenic climate change. The REDD+ mitigation mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) would make it possible for developing countries to receive financial benefits for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation; forest conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+). As REDD+ is a result based mechanism, countries will be required to quantify their achievements in REDD+. Therefore, it is a key priority for Nigeria to establish robust and transparent forest monitoring systems.

Forest monitoring and MRV systems

REDD+ activities should be implemented in phases beginning with (1) readiness (2) results-based demonstration activities, and (3) evolving into results-based actions that should be fully **Measured, Reported and Verified (MRV)**. Nigeria is requested to develop a robust and **transparent national forest monitoring system** for the monitoring and reporting of the REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, sub-national monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, in accordance with national circumstances.

Key-issues in MRV for REDD+

Country driven process: each country has to establish an autonomous MRV system. The national MRV system is a crucial element of REDD+ implementation.

Learning-by-doing approach: the development of an MRV system has to be based on in-country human resources being involved in the MRV development process from the very beginning and gradually improving skills whilst progressing towards its full implementation.

Safeguards: the inclusion of the 'REDD+ Safeguards' in the monitoring system improves the consideration of biodiversity, governance and the involvement of local communities.

Consistency: an MRV system should provide estimates that are consistent across years. Under certain circumstances, estimates generated from different methodologies in different years can be considered consistent if they have been calculated in a transparent manner.

Transparency: all the data and the methodologies used in the MRV system should be clearly explained and appropriately documented, so that stakeholders can verify their correctness.

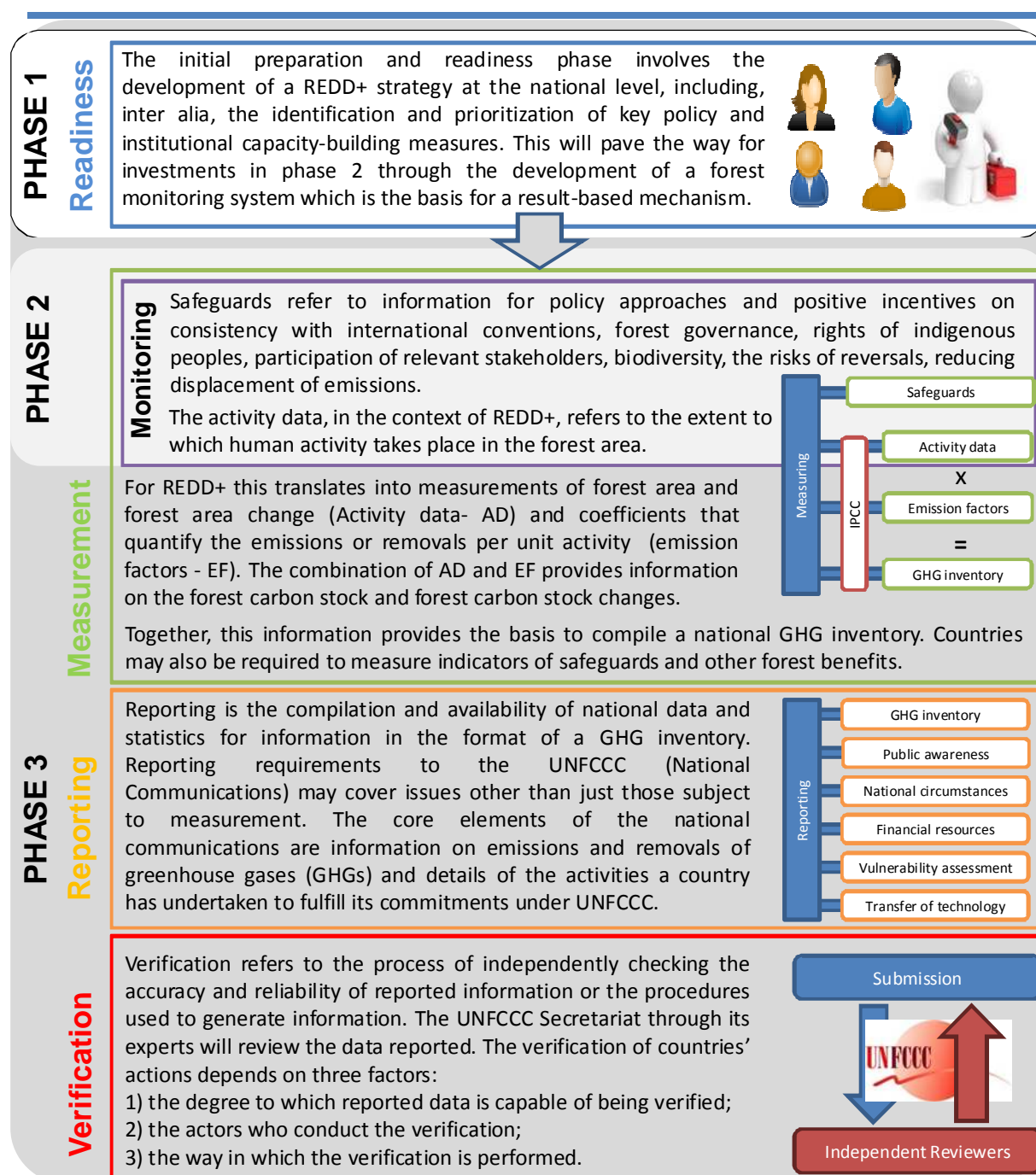
Comparability: estimates of emissions and removals should be comparable among Parties. For this purpose, Parties should follow the methodologies and standard formats provided by the IPCC and agreed within the UNFCCC for compiling and reporting inventories.

Conservative estimations: when completeness or accuracy of estimates cannot be achieved, the reduction of emissions should not be overestimated, or at least the risk of overestimation should be minimised.

Annex 11. The ABC of MRV: Forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria

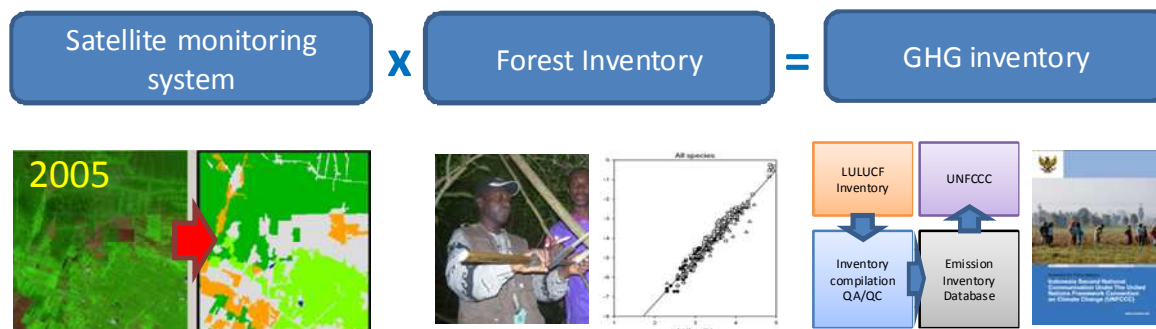
The ABC of MRV

Forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria



The ABC of MRV

MRV and forest monitoring for REDD+ in Nigeria



Measurement

Assessing the land area covered by the different forest classes. This is done with a satellite monitoring system. Measurements at different points in time are used to estimate forest area changes.

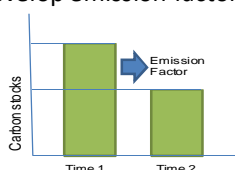
Assessing biomass, carbon stocks and emission factors. The data are obtained from a national forest inventory. Forest classification and sampling design improves the accuracy and the efficiency of the inventory.

Accounting all the greenhouse gasses. It is based on the data collected from the national forest inventory, the satellite monitoring systems and can be done using the templates developed by the UNFCCC.

Reporting

The data are stored and harmonized into a REDD+ database. The data on forest land area are used to develop matrices representing the changes between land uses and within the forest land area.

The data on carbon stocks and carbon stock changes are used to develop emission factors.



The data on land use changes and changes in forest uses are integrated with their respective emission factors to establish the GHG inventory. The data are used to report to UNFCCC.

Verification



The verification process concerns all the variables that were reported under REDD+. The verification can be done by several institutions including the civil society. All the data, including the satellite and national forest inventory data are made available in order to allow the verification of the GHG inventory. The different means of verification are: through interviews with key government officials, NGOs, forest communities, reports, media reports, training materials, etc.

Implementation plan for forest monitoring and MRV systems in Nigeria

● Capacity building for MRV

The UN-REDD Programme will support the country of Nigeria in establishing a robust and transparent monitoring and MRV system. The basic elements for a national MRV system need to be developed in accordance with the guidelines under the Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

● National and State Architecture for Monitoring and MRV Systems

In order for the Nigerian states to be able to implement REDD+, an MRV system architecture will be developed. This architecture will allow using the experiences from Cross River State to be replicated in a consistent way in other states. This provides a means to integrate sub-national monitoring systems into a national monitoring system, and enables Nigeria to provide results-based actions that can be fully measured, reported and verified. This architecture facilitates the integration of information from the forest communities, e.g through the verification of results.

● Designing forest inventories and field data access

The UN-REDD programme supports the development of and provides access to methodologies, manuals, databases, and software that can be used for an efficient forest inventory. This inventory is necessary for Nigeria and its states to develop the necessary data, to be in line with the UNFCCC decisions and the IPCC guidelines and guidance.

● Reporting and Verification and GHG inventory

The data and information will be integrated into transparent state and national databases and systems to inform actions and decision-making to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. Transparency of the data will facilitate reporting the results in the second phase and the performances in the third phase.

● Tools

In order to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and coordination of REDD+ initiatives and financial instruments, the UN-REDD Programme to develop a REDD+ database. The Database approach entails the development of a conceptual framework, computer software and functionality, the processes to collect, maintain and disseminate information, as well as in-depth analyses and reports.

For more information, please visit www.UN-REDD.org or contact the UN agencies FAO, UNDP or UNEP:

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Annex 12. Lessons learnt on REDD+ readiness management from Asia-Pacific region



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME

In Asia and the Pacific

KNOWLEDGE AND LESSONS

MANAGEMENT OF READINESS:

NATIONAL REDD+ ROADMAP PROCESS



UN-REDD Asia-Pacific

Work on the National REDD Roadmap Process

Making progress towards REDD+ readiness involves activities on many issues, covering many different disciplines. This can appear a daunting task, and without careful planning, progress can be ineffective and inefficient. The UN-REDD Programme supports a structured approach to REDD+ readiness, which can help to establish the necessary partnerships required for REDD+ readiness.

A REDD+ Roadmap is a plan for how a national Government and key stakeholders, including development partners, would like to move forward with REDD+ readiness. To be effective, the Roadmap process should be led by the relevant Government agencies, and undertaken in consultation with development partners, REDD+ project developers, civil society and indigenous peoples groups. Forest carbon is generally a state asset and Government leadership on the issue, in accordance with the principle of national ownership, is critical. The Programme has been supporting such an approach in Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Papua New Guinea.

Key Steps in a REDD+ Roadmap Process

1. Establish a multi-agency Government coordination mechanism for development of the Roadmap. This mechanism may have a temporary mandate, and through consultation will determine an appropriate permanent mechanism for implementation of the Roadmap.
2. Establish consultation mechanisms between the Government agencies, civil society and development partners.
3. Provide initial training and capacity building to Government and civil society on REDD+ in order to increase general understanding of the key components of REDD+ Readiness and the main technical issues such as carbon emissions monitoring and verification and benefit sharing.
4. Establish agreement on the key components of REDD+ Readiness to include in the Roadmap. These fall into approximately the six components of REDD+ Readiness.
5. Undertake a legal review of the roles and responsibilities of different actors with respect to aspects of REDD+ readiness.
6. Through broad consultation identify existing laws, policies and programs that are relevant to REDD+ readiness, and identify how these can be harmonized with REDD+ readiness activities.
7. Through surveys and consultations develop an institutional map of the activities (existing and planned) of all stakeholders with respect to REDD+ Readiness.

Based on these initial steps, the Roadmap can be written. Roadmap activities could include initiation of new coordination bodies, establishment of planning processes, stakeholder consultation and engagement, policy studies, REDD+ strategy development, among others.

THE UN-REDD PROGRAMME

The UN-REDD Programme is the United Nations Collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), which builds on the convening power and expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Programme assists developing countries to prepare and implement their national REDD+ strategies and mechanisms to improve forest governance.

LESSONS LEARNED

ASSISTING NATIONAL REDD+ ROADMAP PROCESS IN ASIA- PACIFIC

Lesson 1: Development of REDD+ Readiness is primarily a political process

Although there are substantial technical aspects to REDD+ and technical questions that need to be resolved, the decisions made almost always have a political dimension. For example, development of a plan for MRV involves technical questions about the most appropriate methods a country should use. However, an MRV plan also involves political questions, such as who should be implementing MRV. It is important to recognise early the political dimensions of any REDD+ Readiness activity.

Lesson 2: REDD+ Readiness requires cross-sectoral coordination within Government

REDD+ Readiness requires coordination across multiple Government agencies, including forestry and environment authorities, land management authorities, finance ministries, sub-national government agencies, all of whom may have responsibility for some aspects of the process. In some countries it may be necessary to establish a core group of decision-makers, and then to bring in additional agencies as the implications of REDD+ become clear.

Lesson 3: REDD+ Readiness requires extensive consultation among all stakeholders

Many stakeholders have a high level of interest in REDD+, including government agencies, NGOs, civil society, private sector investors, indigenous peoples, and development partners. The Readiness process needs to establish both formal and informal mechanisms to ensure adequate consultation among all these stakeholders.

Lesson 4: REDD+ Readiness is more effective and efficient if harmonized with existing laws, policies and programs, rather than designing new policies and institutions

In Cambodia it has taken over 10 years to establish official recognition for community forests. Designing new policies for REDD+ might take a similar period of time, but REDD+ might be easily integrated into the existing community forestry program.

Lesson 5: Go slowly.

Support existing structures (rather than creating new ones), and build technical understanding amongst all stakeholders on key issues before making decisions.

Lesson 6: Develop an institutional map

This involves documenting the activities (existing or planned) of key stakeholders against REDD+ readiness priorities. This matrix can then be used to identify areas that are not currently receiving support, areas for further support, and areas where coordination between actors might be useful in order to achieve more effective results.



For more information, please visit www.UN-REDD.org or contact:

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UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



Annexes

Annex 1. Chronicle of the REDD+ process in Nigeria and CRS to date

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	RESULTS
June, 2008	Cross River State Environment Summit in Calabar	Resolutions ratified by state EXCO to manage Cross River State for Carbon Concession Remove revenue targets from forest exploitation. 2 year ban on logging.
November 2008	Anti-Deforestation Task Force set up in Calabar	Many arrests of violators of the ban on logging Seizure of illegally harvested wood and power chain saws.
February, 2009	International campaign for support for CRS anti-deforestation efforts in Calabar commences	International Task Force set up for forest carbon credits.
July, 2009	Presentation on REDD to His Excellency, Senator Liyel Imoke, Gov. of CRS in Calabar by Tunde Morakinyo and Odigha Odigha	His Excellency requested for a REDD reconnaissance visit to the State by experts - Mr. Tunde Morakinyo and John Mason
September, 2009	Visit by REDD experts – John Mason of NCRC and Tunde Morakinyo of ERM to CRS	Visit to Ekuri, Iko Esai forests and Mbe Mountain forest communities by experts to raise awareness on REDD+ Presentation on REDD to EXCO by experts. Experts invited State team to Katoomba meeting in Ghana
October, 2009	His Excellency Senator Liyel Imoke, Gov. of CRS led a CRS delegation to the 1 st West Africa Katoomba meeting on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in Accra, Ghana	Strategic members of CRS EXCO attended the meeting and became sensitized about PES & REDD. HE, Senator Liyel Imoke made a presentation requesting help/ collaboration from experts. Received contact for UN-REDD, WB-FCPF and GCF.
October, 2009	HE, the Governor led a State delegation to FME to meet the Minister for collaboration in Abuja.	REDD and Cross River State is captured in Nigeria's position, paper to COP15 talks. Good understanding/relationship established between the FME and Cross River State Government on REDD.
October, 2009	Hon. Minister for Federal Ministry of Environment, Mr. John A. Odey applies for Nigeria's membership of UN-REDD and World Bank- FCPF	Nigeria's application acknowledged by UN-REDD secretariat and the WB-FCPF Secretariat. Cross River State designated as Nigeria's pilot State for REDD in the application.
November, 2009	HE, Governor Liyel Imoke applies for membership of the Governors' Climate and Forest (GCF) Task Force in California, USA	Application accepted and Governor invited to GCF meeting in Copenhagen in December, 2009
December, 2009	Nigeria attends the COP15 in Copenhagen, Denmark and delegation on REDD includes His Excellency, Governor Liyel Imoke	Nigeria holds press conference to inform the world about efforts to protect Tropical High Forest (THF) in CRS, Nigeria. Met with the officials of WB FCPF, UN-REDD and GCF requesting for assistance to Nigeria
January, 2010	Experts from the Katoomba Group (Prof. Yadvinder Malhi of Oxford University and John Mason of Nature Conservancy and Research Centre (NCRC) visit CRS.	Spent 11 days of study tour of two of the identified pilot sites for REDD (Mbe Mountain/Afi River Forest Reserve and Ekuri/Iko Esai community forests working with communities on production of data for draft PINs 1st draft of PIN (Project Idea Note) for REDD pilots produced
March, 2010	Nigeria admitted as observer to UN-REDD and invited to the UN-REDD meeting in Nairobi – Kenya.	The National Focal point on REDD, Coordinator of REDD in Cross River State and UNDP – Abuja officer for Climate Change and Energy present at meeting. Collaboration of efforts between UNDP and Nigeria on REDD began and road map for REDD in Nigeria agreed.
March, 2010	Nigeria admitted as observer to WB-FCPF and invited to Gabon	The National focal point on REDD attended the Gabon meeting.
April, 2010	REDD governance structure established in CRS Forestry Commission	Sub-Committees established Legal reform Technical aspects Stakeholder engagement

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	RESULTS
May, 2010	State Coordinator of REDD and Mr. Arikpo Arikpo attended the GCF meeting in Banda Aceh – Indonesia.	State coordinator involved in the building of GCF structures to support REDD in GCF member States.
July, 2010	Inauguration of Nigeria's REDD+ Federal structures	National Technical Committee on REDD+ National REDD+ Secretariat National REDD Advisory Council
Sept, 2010	Mr. Arikpo Arikpo and Mrs. Edu Effiom of CRSFC attended the GCF meeting in Para Santerem, Brazil	State delegates coordinated the preparation and submission of a state REDD database document to GCF
Sept, 2010	CRS hosts Katoomba representatives from across West Africa on the development of ESPA programme.	Deliberation on areas of research required for REDD across West Africa.
14-17 Oct, 2010	Katoomba Group/NCRC carry out training in carbon measurement.	Training of CRSFC, NGOs and forest communities in biomass assessment Preliminary carbon measurement in the 3 REDD pilots in CRS
14-17 Oct, 2010	First UN-REDD Scoping mission to Nigeria	Visit to stakeholders at Federal and CRS levels including forest communities Institutional, capacity and technical readiness indicators assessed Stakeholders dialogue workshop in Abuja and Calabar.
Nov, 2010	Nigeria presents at UN-REDD Policy board meeting in Washington DC	Nigeria given go ahead to submit a REDD Readiness proposal
Dec, 2010	COP 16 in Cancun, Mexico	Presentation of "the Journey so far" to GCF Consultations with international stakeholders
January, 2011	UN-REDD holds REDD Readiness proposal drafting meeting in Abuja and Calabar	Brainstorming of outline Results Framework Preparation of the workplan and calendar for submission of the proposal by March
27-27 January 2011	Nigeria attends Africa workshop on FPIC and Recourse Mechanisms, Arusha (Tanzania)	Three community and NGO representatives from Nigeria contributes to UN-REDD guidelines on FPIC and recourse mechanisms
20 th Jan 2011	Nigeria attends FAO workshop on GHG/MRV systems in Rome (Italy)	Training on forest and GHG monitoring system for Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
31 st January, 2011	CRS REDD stakeholders forum held in Calabar	Discussion on the Nigeria REDD+ proposal workplan by government, NGO and community stakeholders Formation of steering and drafting committees to assist in the preparation of the proposal and other REDD Readiness activities
5 th Feb 2011	Review of 1 st draft of Nigeria REDD+ Readiness proposal carried out in Calabar	First proposal draft reviewed by Federal, CRS government, NGO and community stakeholders Submission of comments to drafting team
14 th – 23 rd Feb	Second UN-REDD mission to Nigeria	Drafting of Nigeria REDD Readiness programme document Stakeholders Appraisal workshop held in Calabar National Validation workshop held in Abuja

Annex 2. List of participants, Cross River State's stakeholders forum on REDD+ (February 2011)**Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme**

CROSS RIVER STATE - Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+

Appraisal Workshop, Calabar, 18th February 2011**STATEMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE STAKEHOLDERS
ON NIGERIA'S REDD+ READINESS PROGRAMME**

Today, the 18th of February 2011, over 100 members of a wide range of stakeholders of Cross River State that are interested in the REDD+ process met in Calabar to discuss the design and submission of *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme*. We belong to, and represent many different actors and facets of Cross River State's society, including forest communities, non-governmental & civil society organisations, state's government officials, technical specialists, project managers, media and opinion leaders. We constitute a heterogeneous assembly that is interested in REDD+. Since the UN-REDD Scoping Mission of October 2010 we are in the process of forming a new umbrella platform called Cross River State Stakeholders' Forum on REDD+, which we believe will play a central role in the REDD+ process as it evolves.

Our meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Cross River State, Senator Liyel Imoke, who openly restated his support for a REDD+ process and for our participatory engagement to guide and build it. We acknowledge the presence of a UN-REDD mission and the National REDD+ Coordinator.

We have examined the core elements of the draft programme document, both in public discussions and thematic working groups. First we are pleased to see that efforts for the REDD+ process has advanced in Nigeria. We consider REDD+ as a potential means to better protect our forests and strengthen the livelihoods of the people that depend on them. During the appraisal workshop we focused on the following topics: (a) programme's outcomes and outputs that concern Cross River State; (b) drivers of deforestation; (c) participation, consultation and stakeholder engagement; (d) forest monitoring systems; and (e) governance, social and environmental risks/safeguards.

We have provided a set of ideas and recommendations for the finalisation of the programme document. The main ones are as follows:

- i) forest communities should be properly engaged, receive training, and feel early and tangible actions throughout the programme's implementation;
- ii) there is need for REDD+ to have a broad approach that goes beyond forest conservation to address questions of land management, afforestation & reforestation, ecosystem restoration, sustainable agriculture and community-based livelihoods;
- iii) there is need for capacity building on forest monitoring systems; and
- iv) the programme should include provisions to assess issues of land tenure, carbon rights, fair benefit-sharing mechanisms, and community conflict, providing guidance on how to address them in the context of REDD+.

We have also provided several specific suggestions and amendments to refine the document.

*Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme*Calabar, 18th February 2011

We look forward to the implementation of the REDD+ readiness programme, while highlighting the need to pay attention to issues of consultation, forest governance, community rights, enhancement of sustainable livelihoods, and gender equality.

We are delighted to know that the programme envisions Cross River State to become a centre of excellence for REDD+ in Nigeria, producing best practices and models on REDD+ that can serve other states as they engage in REDD+. We are eager to share our experiences with REDD+ with other states and abroad, as the opportunity emerges.

Taking into consideration the recommendations and remarks mentioned above, we are satisfied with the design of the programme and its operational approach. We support its submission to the UN-REDD Policy Board, hoping the programme will soon be approved and start implementation. We need this programme to expand capacity building, public awareness, training, forest conservation and local initiatives so that REDD+ is well understood and can be adequately built in our State and across Nigeria.

This Statement is read and endorsed at the State Library Complex in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, on the 18th of February of 2011, at 6:47 pm.

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Calabar, 18th February 2011

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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
Calabar, 18th February 2011

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Statement of Cross River State stakeholders on Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme
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Calabar, 18th February 2011

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Annex 4. List of Participants, Stakeholders Workshop for the review of comments received (August 2011)

ATTENDANT LIST FOR THE CROSS RIVER STATE REDD STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP FOR THE REVIEW OF COMMENTS ON NIGERIAN'S REDD + READINESS PROPOSALS HELD ON THE 20TH AUGUST, 2011 AT THE STATE LIBRARY COMPLEX, CALABAR

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(Annex 4 – continuation)

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Annex 5. Overall institutional & stakeholder mapping for REDD+ in Nigeria and Cross River State

[to be completed]

Institutions & stakeholders	Primary function	REDD+ roles
FEDERAL LEVEL		
Federal Ministry of Environment	Conservation and Management of Nigeria's Environmental resources in sustainable manner	Lead agency for Nigeria's climate Change Policy and implementation, including REDD+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU) National Advisory Council REDD+ 	Designated National Authority for Climate Programme in Nig.	Provide legal, financial & institutional platforms for mainstreaming REDD+ into overall National Climate Change Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Department of Forestry 	Lead Agency for planning, policy and regulations for the Conservation, protection and sustainable management of Nigeria's forest Resources	Provide policies guidelines for sustainable forest mgt. (SFM) in Nigeria's including REDD+ / Houses the national REDD+ Secretariat
National Planning Commission	Responsible for overall National Development Policies in Nigeria	Integrate REDD+ into National Development Programmes, including Budget processes
Fed. Ministry of Agric. & Rural Dev.	Agriculture and rural dev policy formulation and projects implementation	Integration of REDD+ into National Agriculture and Rural Development policies and programmes [Agriculture is a major deforestation driver in Nigeria]
Nigeria Air Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA)	Provision of maps and data on Nigeria's Natural Resources and land use and monitor change therein	Provision of vegetation and land use change maps & data (for the purposes of MRV, Carbon / Biodiversity mapping)
Federal Ministry of Women Affairs	Mainstreaming gender equality and women affairs into national and international development.	Ensuring active participation of women in REDD+ programmes and promotion of equitable distribution of REDD+ benefits to women who have particular linkages with the forest.
Research Institutes (ABU, FRIN etc)	Teaching and research in National resources in sustainable Forest Dev. in Nigeria	Studies and research on social, economic and technical aspects of REDD+
NGO /CSO stakeholders	Advocacy, studies, awareness creation and capacity building in partnership with institutions and programmes on Climate Change and sustainable environment management in Nigeria	Studies, awareness creation, capacity building and liaison between REDD+ implementing agencies and other stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a national REDD+ forum is under creation as of February 2011 	To serve as platform for cross fertilization of ideas on planning and implementation of REDD+	Facilitate regular update and exchange of feedbacks between REDD+ implementing Agencies and Stakeholders
Media	Dissemination of information on CC & other matters to the general public	Dissemination of information on the potentials and benefits of REDD+ on the forest communities, stakeholders & general public.
	Management of private forests; timber production; agro-	

Forest related Private Sector	forestry based ecosystem restoration.	Investment and Best practices for forest conservation and enhancement of Carbon stocks; Carbon projects.
Federal Ministry of Energy	Policies and regulations on Energy, including renewable energy	Enhancement of access to alternative & clean energy for forest communities to reduce pressure on fuel wood as energy source
Federal Ministry of Finance	Financial policies and regulations, including international financial mechanisms	Advise on carbon finance and REDD+ financial mechanism
National Park Service	Protection, management and biodiversity conservation in National Parks/Protected Areas	Joint implementation of REDD+ project activities, including biodiversity co-benefits and other ecosystem services
UN Donor Agencies (e.g. UNDP,FAO, UNEP)	Technical & financial assistance/collaboration on national and international development programmes, including CC	Already involved in REDD+ planning and implementation in Nigeria.
STATE LEVEL		
Cross River State Forestry Commission.	Manage the CRS forest estate; protect the forest estate; carry out regeneration and aforestation programmes; co-ordinate community & private Forestry activities in CRS.	Provide CRS REDD+ Desk.Co-ordinate all REDD+ activities in the state. Liaise with the Nat. REDD+ secretariat
State Technical Committee on REDD+	REDD+ readiness oversight and advice	Provide overall governance on the direction of REDD+ in the state. Co-ordinate the activities of the tech. sub-committees.
Legal sub-comm.	To ensure that REDD+ programmes are protected by law.	Integration of REDD+ activities into the state legal instruments.
MRV sub-comm.	To undertake monitoring and reporting, of the REDD+ programmes in the state.	Monitor changes in the forest cover and carbon stocks in the state.
Stakeholders' sub-comm.	Ensures the participation of all stakeholders in the REDD+ process in the state.	Raising awareness, promote dialogue, foster collaboration, Identify Stakeholders needs & concerns in REDD+ process in state.
Stakeholders' forum	Articulate stakeholders' interest and concerns	Collaborate with the state REDD+ secretariat to ensure full participation and support of all stakeholders in the REDD+ programmes in the state.
State Climate Change Committee	Articulation of climate change policies and programmes and facilitation of their implementation in the state.	Monitor and ensure the implementation of REDD+ activities in the state.
Forest Dependent Communities	They are custodians of the forest	Create a conducive environment at the site level for REDD+ activities
Local NGOs and CSOs	They work with forest communities to promote sustainable forest management	They provide oversight of monitoring and reporting
Academia (University of Calabar and Cross River State University of Technology)	Education, Research and Community Service	Provide research, collate/manage data to support REDD+ process in the state; collaborate with other agencies to undertake REDD+ related research / dissemination of research results; Provide

		training and capacity development for REDD+ programmes.
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Annex 6. Detailed work plans and budgets

[to be prepared by end 2011, before signature]

Work Plan for: Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme

Period (Covered by the WP): 2012

JP Outcome										
UN organization-specific Annual targets	UN organization	Activities	TIME FRAME				Implementing Partner	PLANNED BUDGET		
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Source of Funds	Budget Description	Amount
JP Output 1:										
(of UN organization 1)										
(of UN organization 2)										
(of UN organization 3)										
JP Output 2:										
(of UN organization 1)										
(of UN organization 2)										
Total Planned Budget										
Including*	Total UN organization 1									
	Total UN organization 2									
	Total UN organization 3									

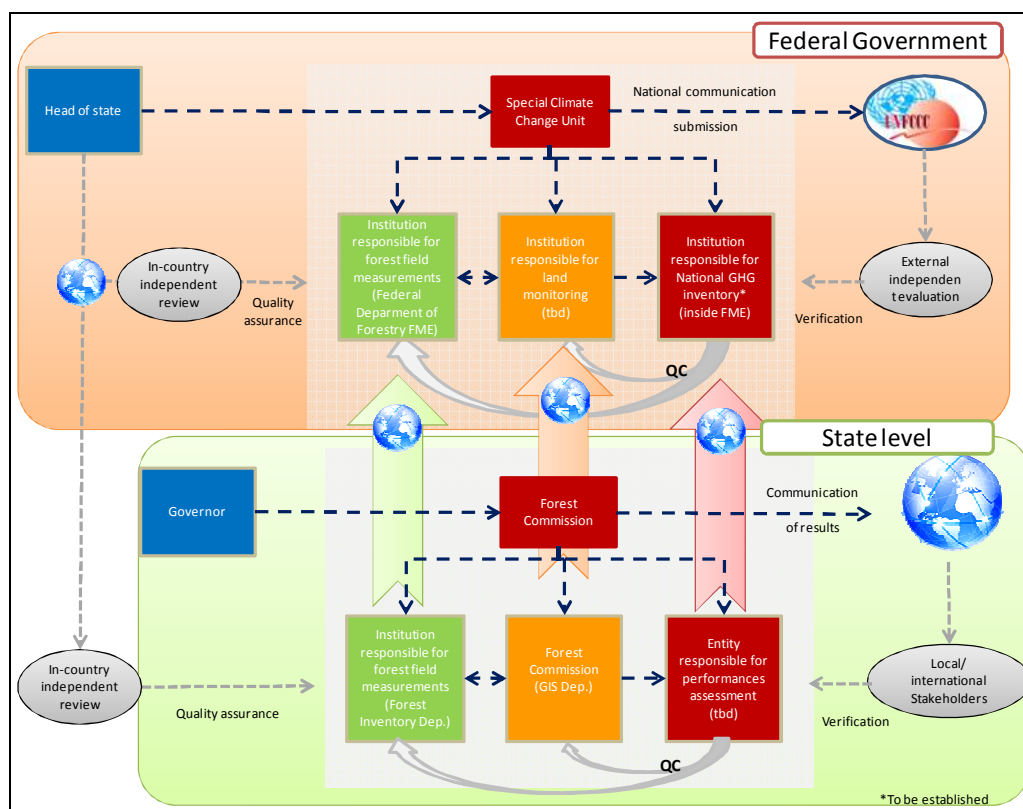
* f the Joint Programme and signature of all parties involved or following the Annual/Regular review example in reviews and agr* The Total Planned Budget by UN Organization should include both programme cost and indirect support cost

Annex 7. Specific description for the monitoring and MRV systems (outputs 2.2 and 3.4)

Institutional, governance and participative arrangements

Preparation of the Monitoring and MRV systems will include institutional and capacity building arrangements in the relevant national and state institutions (**Figure 1**). The objectives are to manage the following elements at the national level on a permanent basis: (i) the safeguards, (ii) the national forest inventory, (iii) satellite-based forest monitoring system, and (iv) the GHG inventory. It is important to design an institutional structure that will be responsible to set up a National GHG inventory. The national system will include several tasks such as the MRV, the NFI, land statistics and national statistics. The national system will design legal, institutional and procedural arrangements between the entities in charge of these tasks. The national system will be adapted to the national circumstances. This system will be in charge of planning, preparing and managing the national GHG inventory. The concept of National systems is explained in paragraph 9 of the Annex to Decision 19/CMP.1. REDD+ will be a mechanism that will require in Phase 2 the full participation of national institutions in Non-Annex I Parties to the financial mechanism under the Convention (e.g. like Annex I countries under the Kyoto Protocol). Thus, most probably countries participating in REDD+ will be required to set up such National systems.

Figure 1. Nigerian system for GHG inventory in the context of REDD+ activities



At national level, the proposed design is composed of four main entities. The special Climate Change Unit is in charge of the coordination of the whole REDD+ implementation and is connected with the head of State Office. It is also the lead agency and responsible for the coordination between the other agencies. The Special Climate Change Unit will also be in charge of the reporting to the UNFCCC and archiving the data, data access and sharing and information dissemination. The GHG inventory unit will be established and will be in charge of the compilation of estimates. The data from the forest inventory are collected by the forest department. The land area data are collected by the NASDRA (the role of NASRDA in monitoring forest area and forest area change was mentioned by stakeholders during the UN-REDD mission of February 2011). On one hand, data produced by NASRDA can be used

for the stratification of land for the forest department and forest commission. On the other hand, the data from forest department and forest commission can be used for field validation. Quality control is performed by the personnel from the GHG unit who compile the inventory. Quality Assurance is conducted by personnel not directly involved in the inventory compilation/development process (e.g. Independent evaluation). The verification refers to the collection of activities and procedures conducted during the planning and development, or after completion of an inventory that can help to establish its reliability for the intended applications of the inventory. The independent review is performed by the UNFCCC review expert team to verify the transparency, consistency, comparability, completeness and accuracy of the submitted data.

At state level, the Forestry Commission (or equivalent agency) plays a crucial role in assessing the status of the forest resources but also in management and providing information in the states. [The forest commission has the authority to ...]. The inventory unit of the forest commission can be in charge of the forest inventory. The forest mapping unit of the forest commission can be in charge of the data management, interpretation and dissemination of the information and particularly providing the necessary data to the Federal forest department. At last, the compilation of the data to assess forest carbon stocks and carbon stock changes can be performed by an academic entity (as in fact mentioned during the consultations in Nigeria) or other relevant institution. The quality control is supposed to be performed by this entity in order to ensure that the data are comparable, consistent, and accurate and can be compiled at federal level.

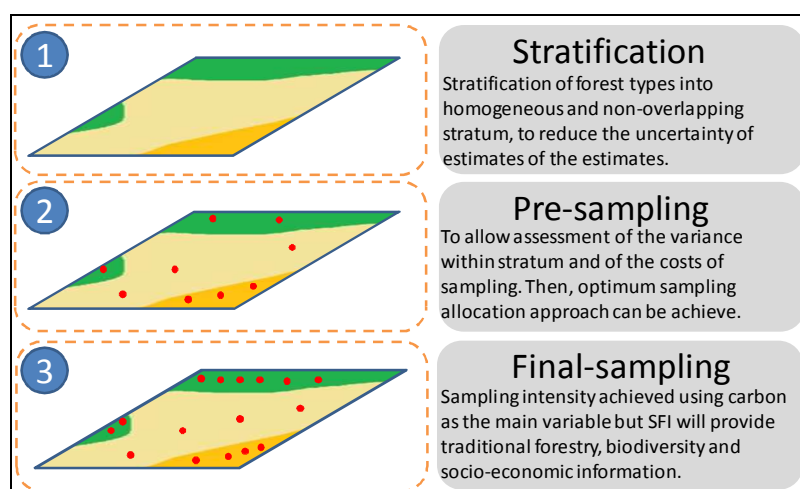
Technical and methodological options for the Monitoring, Measurement, Reporting and Verification of forest carbon stock changes

As shown in Figure 4, forest carbon stock changes estimates for the MRV system will be based on two types of measurements: (i) AD using a Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) and (ii) data on emission factors through a State Forest Inventory (SFI). The estimation of the AD will be realized through a monitoring system based on remote sensing techniques that should be able to provide AD estimates annually. The monitoring system will also generate the relevant information on the different forest types that will be the basis for the SFI. On the other hand, the SFI field activities and measurements will contribute to the forest area assessment mainly as a training data for remote sensing image analysis and as ground verification.

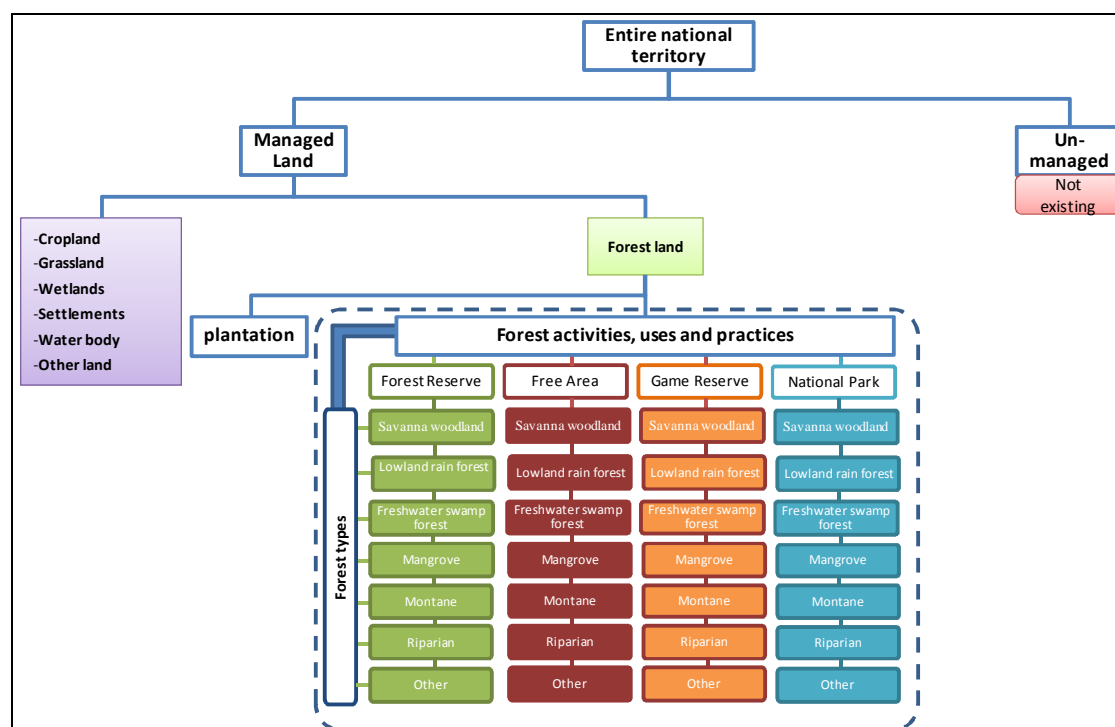
The State Forest Inventory

Emissions or removals resulting from land conversions are manifested in changes in ecosystem carbon stocks in the five IPCC eligible pools: 1) aboveground biomass, 2) belowground biomass, 3) litter, 4) deadwood and 5) soil organic carbon. In order to allow an efficient and cost-effective SFI, a three stage inventory is proposed (**Figure 13**): (i) Forest area pre-assessment and stratification (); (ii) pre-sampling and (iii) final sampling and assessment. This three-stage approach consists of a learning-by-doing process but simultaneously resources and efforts can be better targeted if priorities evolve or resources are scarce. Different sampling designs can take advantage of pre-existing knowledge of the forest structure (and other information) to improve precision or reduce the inventory costs. During pre-sampling, preliminary statistics of different forest strata will be assessed. These preliminary statistics will be used to define the final sampling strategy but also to produce conservative estimates of EF. The overall approach of the SFI's final sampling stage will be to use a combination of temporary and permanent plots. As for the pre-sampling stage, there will be an optimal allocation of plots combined with a cost-effective and statistically sound solution to sample in 'managed' unexploited forests and in 'unmanaged' (intact) forests. This information is needed so that the minimum amount of plots may be undertaken that are required for an accuracy that will be decided by Nigeria.

In order to increase the efficiency of the state forest inventory, ensure consistency and comparability with other states, the stratification of forests is made at national scale. Using national forest stratification allows using the data collected in one state to the other states when identical forest and management types are found.

Figure 2. Three stage forest inventory

An optimum allocation approach can potentially be very powerful as it is designed to give the most information per dollar spent - in other words, to cost the least for a given precision of the estimate or, for a given cost, to produce a minimum variance. Optimum allocation requires that estimates of both the within-forest type (stratum) variances and the costs of sampling are available. Such information is often difficult to obtain. Nonetheless, by using the proposed multi-purpose three-stage SFI this would be possible. The SFI will have to serve, guide and inform several social, economic and environmental policy purposes simultaneously. It will hence be a multi-purpose SFI. Although the optimal allocation will use carbon as a variable to decide on the sampling intensity at a given accuracy, the SFI will provide traditional forestry, biodiversity and socio-economic information. The targeted accuracy will be decided in agreement between Cross River State and the federal Nigerian government.

Figure 3. Potential Forest Land use classification/stratification system for Nigeria's national territory, based on *Forest Resources Study* (1998)

Forest carbon stock and carbon stock changes assessment

The data from the forest inventory and the data from the satellite forest monitoring system are integrated into a GHG inventory. The GHG inventory is the tool to provide the necessary data for reporting to the UNFCCC. The data from the forest inventory are converted into biomass and carbon stocks using allometric equations. The forest carbon stock data are used to assess emission factors. Emission factors provide the amount of carbon that is released to the atmosphere for the different forest land use types. The compilation of the emission factors and the forest area changes per management types provides estimate of forest carbon stocks and carbon stock changes. The GHG inventory assessment is performed using software that integrates matrix of forest area changes and the emission factors.

REDD+ database and archiving system

A standard, uniform national database should be designed. This forms the basis for a future REDD+ registry and transparency of any financial flows. This should be developed with the specific purposes of the NFI and in parallel with the development of the field sheets in order to facilitate data input and error checking. Finally, the NFI will ultimately have to serve, guide and inform several social, economic and environmental policy purposes simultaneously. It will hence be a multi-purpose NFI. Although the optimal allocation will use aboveground biomass as a variable to decide on the sampling intensity at a given accuracy, the NFI will also provide traditional forestry, biodiversity and socio-economic information. Its novelty will be that the using the NFI, Nigeria will be able to estimate EFs that will feed into the GHG Inventory used to report carbon and carbon stock changes in the five carbon pools under the UNFCCC.

Background data on forest land assessment and carbon stocks

Nigeria has data on forest land uses and land use changes in forest carbon stocks that could be used for reporting under the UNFCCC. At current state, the data does not allow reporting National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that are transparent, comparable, consistent, as accurate and complete as possible, and with reduced uncertainties, which should be aimed for when reporting under the Convention. However, the background data can be used and completed particularly the past analysis on forest land area assessment. The past aerial photographs can be used with additional satellite imageries to assess historical forest area changes. In addition, the existing forest inventory data can be compiled together and harmonized in order to allow the comparability of the existing data and their use for the GHG inventory. However, some gaps will have to be filled in the future particularly when considering the use of the allometric equations. None of the existing country specific allometric equations focus on biomass assessment in natural forests.

Annex 8. Summary of a Technical Consultation on Social & Environmental Safeguards (August 2011)

On 2-4 August 2011 in Abuja, Nigeria, a technical consultation was held to review the Nigeria National Programme Document in conjunction with the draft UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria. Through the course of the consultation 15-20 participants from the Federal Government, Cross River State Forestry Commission, federal and state NGOs and UNEP discussed aspects of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ in Nigeria. After an initial day discussing the multiple benefits and risks of REDD+, the participants simultaneously reviewed the National Programme Document and the draft Principles and Criteria. This joint review process reinforced both the strengths of the Nigeria National Programme and the relevance and applicability of the draft Principles and Criteria.

For the National Programme, the consultation focused on the results framework and corresponding activities, the institutional arrangements, and narrative sections of the document as relevant, e.g. gender. It also took into account, and identified responses to relevant comments from the Independent Technical Reviewers and Policy Board Members. Specific sections of the document were highlighted as clearly indicating that the National REDD Programme satisfies the criteria, while in several instances additional wording and clarification were added to activities in the results framework and/or the narrative. Some activities were modified, and a few were added, and there were modifications to the institutional arrangements to respond to needs identified in the light of the principles and Criteria.

Some notable changes included: increasing the clarification of when special consideration needed to be paid to women, youth and other vulnerable groups; ensuring that oversight of monitoring and reporting from NGOs/CSOs; inclusion of fiduciary oversight in the institutional arrangement; a proposal for a State Technical REDD+ Committee; support to research; explicit attention to multiple functions of forests in activities like monitoring and national stratification of forests; and incorporating a section on Addressing Indirect Effects. The consultation also identified cross-cutting changes, relevant for a variety of criteria which included the need to specify the particular types of training and awareness raising that are needed, including training in multiple benefits and in the role and importance of land use planning, specifically community-based land use planning.

The consultation confirmed the usefulness of the UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria as an aide in formulating national REDD+ programmes that accord with the Cancun safeguards and in reviewing national programmes seeking UN-REDD funding. It also provided input and suggestions for consideration by the drafting committee of the Principles and Criteria, including clarifications, suggestions for the development of the risk assessment and mitigation tool, and a recommendation for an additional criterion.

Annex 9. Outline of Terms of Reference for key programme personnel**CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR (CTA)**

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: International post (UN recruitment)

Duration: 2 ½ years, full time.

Station: Calabar, with regular assignments in Abuja and occasional travel throughout Nigeria.

Objectives: To ensure efficient and effective implementation of the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme, ensuring Federal and CRS integration, and UN inter-agency coordination.

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

1) Provide advice to Government counterparts and facilitate knowledge building, focusing on:

- Share knowledge on REDD+ readiness by taking an active role in meetings & events, documenting lessons learnt & best practices, and contributing to knowledge-based tools (policies, strategies, guidelines, et al.);
- Provide timely quality information & technical advice to the Federal Government, CRS Government, UN Country Team, implementing partners, ministries and other partners to ensure effective delivery ;
- Lead the review of relevant policies and development of policy framework;
- Provide technical input into all programme activities and outputs;
- Provide advice, methodological support & policy options for the development CRS REDD+ Strategy.

2) Support day-to-day management of UN-REDD programme focusing on achievement of the following results:

- Assist the CRSFC and the SCCU to coordinate technical assistance inputs and donor support;
- Assist in the identification of technical expertise and support, including assisting with the preparation of ToR, identification and evaluation of experts and reviewing reports;
- Provide close and regular backstopping to the CRSFC and the Federal Ministry (SCCU) and other implementing entities for the implementation of various components of the UN-REDD programme;
- Assist Federal and CRS REDD+ managers and teams to coordinate and liaise with stakeholders;
- Liaise with REDD+ initiatives within CRS and across Nigeria, as appropriated;
- Assist with the Programme's inception, including work plans & budget, and indicators & benchmarks.

3) Capacity Development:

The CTA will be expected to have significant experience in the overall REDD+ readiness process and at least on one technical area related to REDD. The CTA shall transfer his/her knowledge in this area directly to colleagues and indirectly to stakeholders in CRS and Nigeria. Typical actions will include public awareness, training events, strategy setting, design of legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+.

4) Qualifications, Experience and Competencies:

- Masters degree or equivalent in NRM, economics or a development-related discipline;
- A minimum of 7 years of professional experience in development, including at least 5 years of experience in project/programme management;
- Experience working in inter-cultural environments, with experience in Nigeria strongly preferable;
- Good knowledge on climate change, REDD+ matters, and UNFCCC policy and technical issues;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills;
- Experience in dialogue processes between Government and civil society, and on consensus building;
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

INTERNATIONAL MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION (MRV) ADVISOR

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: International

Duration: 2 ½ years, fulltime.

Station: Calabar, with frequent assignments in Abuja

Objectives: The objective is to facilitate the development of a robust forest monitoring and reporting system in order to meet the needs at the national and international reporting requirement levels.

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

1. At CRS level:

- Undertake capacity needs assessment on forestry monitoring;
- Develop capacities for undertaking GHG inventory in forestry and land-use sector;
- Provide specialized training on forest monitoring to experts;
- Oversee programme to develop capacity for participatory forest monitoring;
- Oversee design and installation of GIS laboratory and full equipment;
- Oversee purchase and interpretation of satellite data imagery;
- Oversee and provide ongoing support to: (i) stratification process; (ii) design of the forest inventory; (iii) collection and harmonization of data; (iv) community based verification process and (v) establishing reference levels.

2. At federal level:

- Undertake capacity needs assessment on forestry monitoring;
- Develop capacities for undertaking GHG inventory in forestry and land-use sector;
- Provide training on forest monitoring to experts;
- Oversee programme to develop capacity for participatory forest monitoring;
- Develop an approach to determine nationwide approach to stratification;
- Oversee and collaborate with the on-line tools for MRV;
- Provide ongoing support to REDD+ Technical support to unit.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies:

- Masters degree or equivalent in a discipline closely related to Remote sensing, GIS, or forest management;
- Competent in forest information system development and information management, experience in capacity building, forest modelling and MRV implementation is preferable;
- A minimum of 10 years professional experience;
- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in international development programmes;
- Experience working in inter-cultural environments, with experience in Nigeria preferable;
- Good knowledge on climate change in general and REDD+ in particular, as well as UNFCCC/IPCC technical procedures and guidelines;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills;
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME OFFICER

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: National-level post

Duration: 2 ½ years, fulltime.

Station: Abuja, with regular travel to Calabar and throughout Nigeria

Objectives: The overall objective of the assignment is to ensure efficient and effective implementation of the Nigeria UN-REDD Programme.

Main Roles and Responsibilities (with regards to Outcomes 1 and 2):

- Organises regular meetings of the Advisory Council;
- Prepares and updates programme work plans, and submits for approval;
- Prepare and participate in quarterly work planning & progress reporting meetings with concerned parties;
- Ensures that all agreements with implementing agencies are prepared, negotiated and agreed upon.
- Helps drafts TORs for key inputs (i.e. personnel, sub-contracts, training, procurement) and submits these for approval;
- With respect to external programme implementing agencies/ sub-contractors: (i) Ensures that these agencies mobilize and deliver the inputs in accordance with their letters of agreement or contracts; and (ii), Provides overall supervision and/or coordination of their work to ensure the production of the expected outputs.
- Assumes direct responsibility for managing the programme budget by ensuring that:
 - Programme funds are made available when needed, and are disbursed properly;
 - Expenditures are in accordance with the programme document and/or existing programme work plan;
 - Accounting records and supporting documents are properly kept;
 - Required financial reports are prepared;
 - Financial operations are transparent and financial procedures/regulations for NEX projects are properly applied; and
 - S/he is ready to stand up to audits at any time.
- Assumes direct responsibility for managing the physical resources (e.g. vehicles, office equipment, furniture...) provided to the programme by UN agencies;
- Supervises the programme staff and local or international short-term experts/consultants working for the programme;
- Drafts programme progress reports of various types and the Final Programme Report as scheduled, and organizes review meetings and evaluation missions in coordination with UN agencies;
- Reports regularly to and keeps the Government and UN agencies' up-to-date on programme progress and problems.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- Post graduate degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Economics, or similar.
- At least five years experience in programme management;
- Significant experience working with government agencies;
- At least 5 years of working experience on conservation and resource management in Nigeria.
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.
- Good computer literacy and hands-on experience with data management and data analysis desired.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: national recruitment

Duration: 30 months, fulltime.

Station: Calabar with regular travel throughout CRS

Objectives: The overall objective of the assignment is to ensure a full and efficient participation in the development of the CRS REDD Strategy and its subsequent implementation.

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

- Undertake, in a participatory manner, full stakeholder analysis;
- Develop comprehensive stakeholder involvement plan, with indicators of progress;
- Develop gender strategy and oversee its implementation;
- Oversee and ensure active involvement of NGOs and CBOs in the programme strategy development and implementation;
- Support development and action of Stakeholder Forum, acting as secretary/coordinator;
- Undertake regular consultations with the broad stakeholder group, ensuring their increasing engagement and participation;
- Undertake regular visits to concerned communities, in particular to pilot projects, to develop engagement;
- Contribute to legal/policy reviews and make appropriate recommendations regarding stakeholder participation;
- Oversee activities to develop social and environmental safeguards;
- Oversee development of an appropriate FPIC process for REDD+ in CRS;
- Provide training on stakeholder engagement methods to programme team and other stakeholders.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- Post graduate qualification in social studies, communications, or related subject;
- At least five years experience on developing stakeholder participation in development processes;
- At least five years experience in internationally supported development projects;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (2 posts)

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: national recruitments

Duration: 30 months, fulltime.

Station: One in Abuja, one in Calabar

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

Provide financial and administrative support to ensure Programme's efficient implementation. The post in Abuja will focus on Outcomes 1 & 2 (and overall reporting); the post in Calabar will be responsible for Outcomes 3 & 4.

Administrative roles

- Provide necessary assistance in the operational management of the Programme;
- Draft correspondence on administrative and program matters;
- Undertake all preparation work for procurement of office equipment and support facilities as required;
- Undertake preparation for programme events, including workshops, meetings, study tours, trainings, etc. ;
- Logistical arrangements (e.g. visa, transportation, bookings) for Programme staff, consultants & guests;
- Be responsible for programme filing system;
- Prepare regular list of events for information sharing within programme staff and external;
- Take care of programme telephone, fax, and email system.

Planning tasks

- Participate in work planning & progress reporting meetings with the CTA and programme leaders;
- Prepare documentation to ensure flow of funds for programme implementation on a timely basis.

Accounting/ Reporting

- Set up accounting system, including reporting forms and filing system for the programme, in accordance with the Programme document and UN procedures;
- Maintain petty cash transactions. This includes writing of receipts, preparation of payment request form, receipt and disbursement of cash and clearance of advances;
- Prepare programme financial reports and submit for clearance;
- Enter financial transactions into the computerised accounting system;
- Reconcile all balance sheet accounts and keep a file of all completed reconciliation.

Control

- Check and ensure all expenditures of programme are in accordance with UN procedures;
- Check budget lines to ensure that all transactions are correctly booked to the correct budget lines;
- Ensure documentation relating to payments are duly approved by the National Programme Director;
- Ensure Petty Cash is reviewed and updated and records are kept up-to-date.

Inventory Register

- Maintain a proper inventory of programme assets register, including numbering, recording, and reporting;
- Maintain the inventory file to support purchases of all equipment/assets.

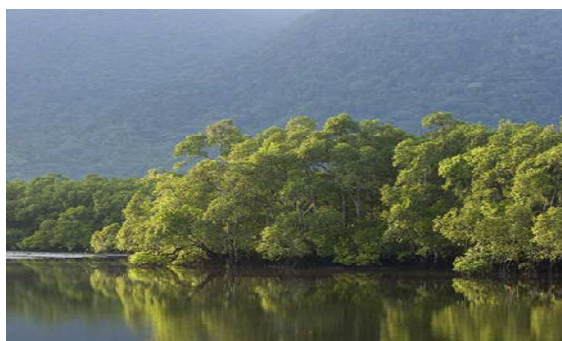
Qualifications, Experience and Competencies required

- University degree in accounting, finance or related fields;
- Solid experience of budgeting, planning and reporting on foreign funded projects;
- Good secretarial skills and good organizational capacity;
- Knowledge in administrative and accounting procedures of the Government;
- Good computer skills in common Word processing, spreadsheet (MS Excel), & accounting software;
- Appropriate English language skills, both spoken and written.

Annex 10. Leaflet on MRV in Nigeria



Forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria



REDD+ in Nigeria

Nigeria's rate of deforestation is one of the highest in the world and less than 10% of Nigeria's original forest remains. More than 50% of what is left as Tropical High Forest in Nigeria, is found in Cross River State. Deforestation and forest degradation reduce terrestrial carbon stocks and contribute to anthropogenic climate change. The REDD+ mitigation mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) would make it possible for developing countries to receive financial benefits for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation; forest conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+). As REDD+ is a result based mechanism, countries will be required to quantify their achievements in REDD+. Therefore, it is a key priority for Nigeria to establish robust and transparent forest monitoring systems.

Forest monitoring and MRV systems

REDD+ activities should be implemented in phases beginning with (1) readiness (2) results-based demonstration activities, and (3) evolving into results-based actions that should be fully **Measured, Reported and Verified (MRV)**. Nigeria is requested to develop a robust and **transparent national forest monitoring system** for the monitoring and reporting of the REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, sub-national monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, in accordance with national circumstances.

Key-issues in MRV for REDD+

Country driven process: each country has to establish an autonomous MRV system. The national MRV system is a crucial element of REDD+ implementation.

Learning-by-doing approach: the development of an MRV system has to be based on in-country human resources being involved in the MRV development process from the very beginning and gradually improving skills whilst progressing towards its full implementation.

Safeguards: the inclusion of the 'REDD+ Safeguards' in the monitoring system improves the consideration of biodiversity, governance and the involvement of local communities.

Consistency: an MRV system should provide estimates that are consistent across years. Under certain circumstances, estimates generated from different methodologies in different years can be considered consistent if they have been calculated in a transparent manner.

Transparency: all the data and the methodologies used in the MRV system should be clearly explained and appropriately documented, so that stakeholders can verify their correctness.

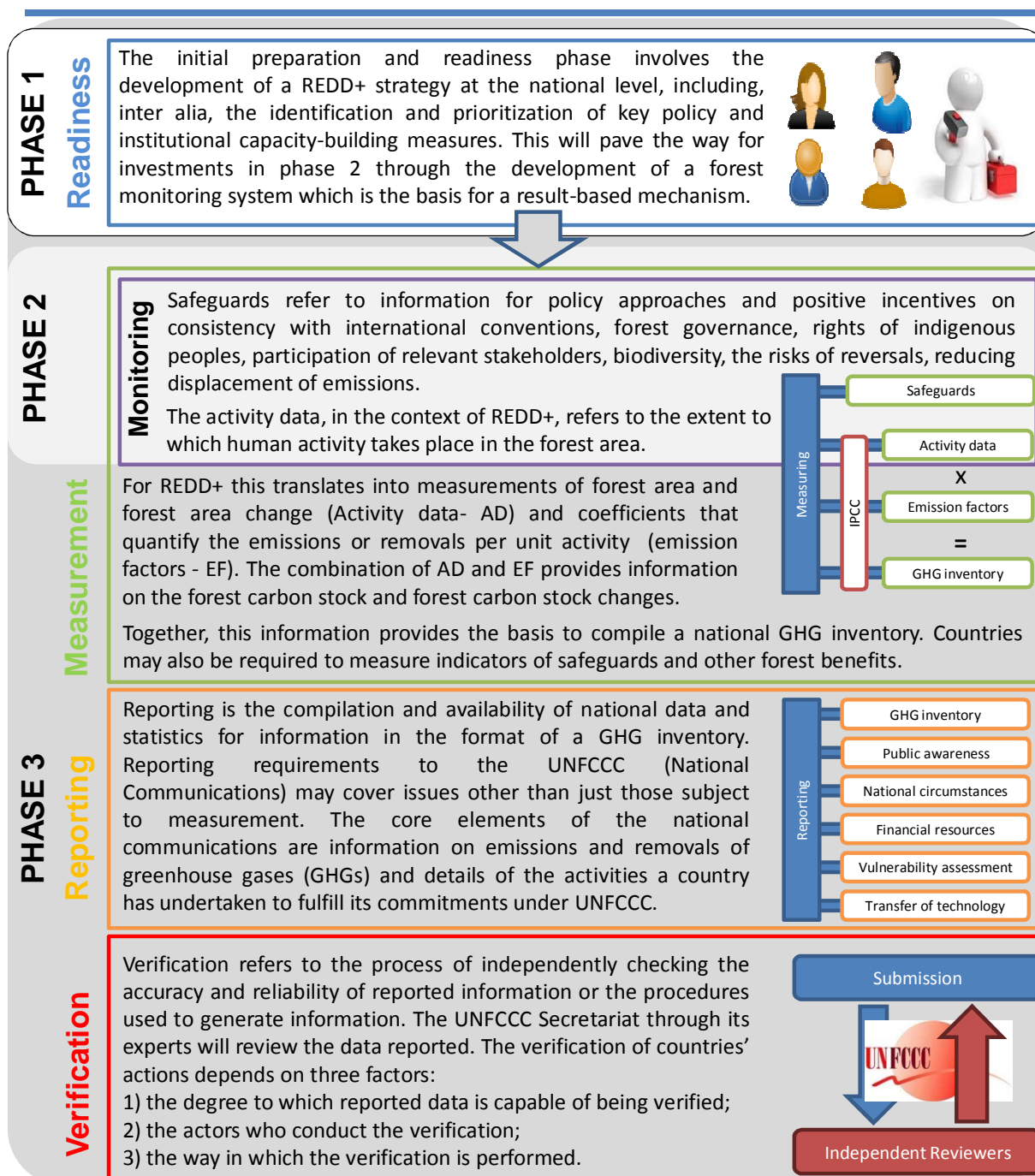
Comparability: estimates of emissions and removals should be comparable among Parties. For this purpose, Parties should follow the methodologies and standard formats provided by the IPCC and agreed within the UNFCCC for compiling and reporting inventories.

Conservative estimations: when completeness or accuracy of estimates cannot be achieved, the reduction of emissions should not be overestimated, or at least the risk of overestimation should be minimised.

Annex 11. The ABC of MRV: Forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria

The ABC of MRV

Forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria



The ABC of MRV

MRV and forest monitoring for REDD+ in Nigeria

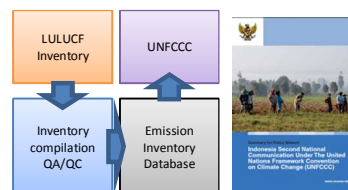
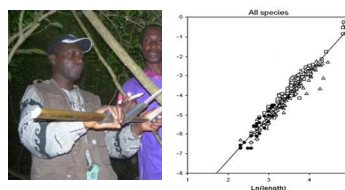
Satellite monitoring
system

x

Forest Inventory

=

GHG inventory



Measurement

Assessing the land area covered by the different forest classes. This is done with a satellite monitoring system. Measurements at different points in time are used to estimate forest area changes.

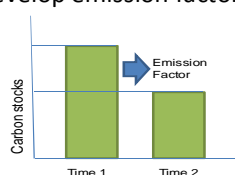
Assessing biomass, carbon stocks and emission factors. The data are obtained from a national forest inventory. Forest classification and sampling design improves the accuracy and the efficiency of the inventory.

Accounting all the greenhouse gasses. It is based on the data collected from the national forest inventory, the satellite monitoring systems and can be done using the templates developed by the UNFCCC.

Reporting

The data are stored and harmonized into a REDD+ database. The data on forest land area are used to develop matrices representing the changes between land uses and within the forest land area.

The data on carbon stocks and carbon stock changes are used to develop emission factors.



The data on land use changes and changes in forest uses are integrated with their respective emission factors to establish the GHG inventory. The data are used to report to UNFCCC.

Verification



The verification process concerns all the variables that were reported under REDD+. The verification can be done by several institutions including the civil society. All the data, including the satellite and national forest inventory data are made available in order to allow the verification of the GHG inventory. The different means of verification are: through interviews with key government officials, NGOs, forest communities, reports, media reports, training materials, etc.

Implementation plan for forest monitoring and MRV systems in Nigeria

Capacity building for MRV

The UN-REDD Programme will support the country of Nigeria in establishing a robust and transparent monitoring and MRV system. The basic elements for a national MRV system need to be developed in accordance with the guidelines under the Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

National and State Architecture for Monitoring and MRV Systems

In order for the Nigerian states to be able to implement REDD+, an MRV system architecture will be developed. This architecture will allow using the experiences from Cross River State to be replicated in a consistent way in other states. This provides a means to integrate sub-national monitoring systems into a national monitoring system, and enables Nigeria to provide results-based actions that can be fully measured, reported and verified. This architecture facilitates the integration of information from the forest communities, e.g. through the verification of results.

Designing forest inventories and field data access

The UN-REDD programme supports the development of and provides access to methodologies, manuals, databases, and software that can be used for an efficient forest inventory. This inventory is necessary for Nigeria and its states to develop the necessary data, to be in line with the UNFCCC decisions and the IPCC guidelines and guidance.

Reporting and Verification and GHG inventory

The data and information will be integrated into transparent state and national databases and systems to inform actions and decision-making to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. Transparency of the data will facilitate reporting the results in the second phase and the performances in the third phase.

Tools

In order to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and coordination of REDD+ initiatives and financial instruments, the UN-REDD Programme to develop a REDD+ database. The Database approach entails the development of a conceptual framework, computer software and functionality, the processes to collect, maintain and disseminate information, as well as in-depth analyses and reports.

For more information, please visit www.UN-REDD.org or contact the UN agencies FAO, UNDP or UNEP:

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Annex 12. Lessons learnt on REDD+ readiness management from Asia-Pacific region



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME
In Asia and the Pacific

KNOWLEDGE AND LESSONS

MANAGEMENT OF READINESS: NATIONAL REDD+ ROADMAP PROCESS



UN-REDD Asia-Pacific

Work on the National REDD Roadmap Process

Making progress towards REDD+ readiness involves activities on many issues, covering many different disciplines. This can appear a daunting task, and without careful planning, progress can be ineffective and inefficient. The UN-REDD Programme supports a structured approach to REDD+ readiness, which can help to establish the necessary partnerships required for REDD+ readiness.

A REDD+ Roadmap is a plan for how a national Government and key stakeholders, including development partners, would like to move forward with REDD+ readiness. To be effective, the Roadmap process should be led by the relevant Government agencies, and undertaken in consultation with development partners, REDD+ project developers, civil society and indigenous peoples groups. Forest carbon is generally a state asset and Government leadership on the issue, in accordance with the principle of national ownership, is critical. The Programme has been supporting such an approach in Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Papua New Guinea.

Key Steps in a REDD+ Roadmap Process

1. Establish a multi-agency Government coordination mechanism for development of the Roadmap. This mechanism may have a temporary mandate, and through consultation will determine an appropriate permanent mechanism for implementation of the Roadmap.
2. Establish consultation mechanisms between the Government agencies, civil society and development partners.
3. Provide initial training and capacity building to Government and civil society on REDD+ in order to increase general understanding of the key components of REDD+ Readiness and the main technical issues such as carbon emissions monitoring and verification and benefit sharing.
4. Establish agreement on the key components of REDD+ Readiness to include in the Roadmap. These fall into approximately the six components of REDD+ Readiness.
5. Undertake a legal review of the roles and responsibilities of different actors with respect to aspects of REDD+ readiness.
6. Through broad consultation identify existing laws, policies and programs that are relevant to REDD+ readiness, and identify how these can be harmonized with REDD+ readiness activities.
7. Through surveys and consultations develop an institutional map of the activities (existing and planned) of all stakeholders with respect to REDD+ Readiness.

Based on these initial steps, the Roadmap can be written. Roadmap activities could include initiation of new coordination bodies, establishment of planning processes, stakeholder consultation and engagement, policy studies, REDD+ strategy development, among others.

THE UN-REDD PROGRAMME

The UN-REDD Programme is the United Nations Collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), which builds on the convening power and expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Programme assists developing countries to prepare and implement their national REDD+ strategies and mechanisms to improve forest governance.

LESSONS LEARNED

ASSISTING NATIONAL REDD+ ROADMAP PROCESS IN ASIA- PACIFIC

Lesson 1: Development of REDD+ Readiness is primarily a political process

Although there are substantial technical aspects to REDD+ and technical questions that need to be resolved, the decisions made almost always have a political dimension. For example, development of a plan for MRV involves technical questions about the most appropriate methods a country should use. However, an MRV plan also involves political questions, such as who should be implementing MRV. It is important to recognise early the political dimensions of any REDD+ Readiness activity.

Lesson 2: REDD+ Readiness requires cross-sectoral coordination within Government

REDD+ Readiness requires coordination across multiple Government agencies, including forestry and environment authorities, land management authorities, finance ministries, sub-national government agencies, all of whom may have responsibility for some aspects of the process. In some countries it may be necessary to establish a core group of decision-makers, and then to bring in additional agencies as the implications of REDD+ become clear.

Lesson 3: REDD+ Readiness requires extensive consultation among all stakeholders

Many stakeholders have a high level of interest in REDD+, including government agencies, NGOs, civil society, private sector investors, indigenous peoples, and development partners. The Readiness process needs to establish both formal and informal mechanisms to ensure adequate consultation among all these stakeholders.

Lesson 4: REDD+ Readiness is more effective and efficient if harmonized with existing laws, policies and programs, rather than designing new policies and institutions

In Cambodia it has taken over 10 years to establish official recognition for community forests. Designing new policies for REDD+ might take a similar period of time, but REDD+ might be easily integrated into the existing community forestry program.

Lesson 5: Go slowly.

Support existing structures (rather than creating new ones), and build technical understanding amongst all stakeholders on key issues before making decisions.

Lesson 6: Develop an institutional map

This involves documenting the activities (existing or planned) of key stakeholders against REDD+ readiness priorities. This matrix can then be used to identify areas that are not currently receiving support, areas for further support, and areas where coordination between actors might be useful in order to achieve more effective results.



For more information, please visit www.UN-REDD.org or contact:

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UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



National Programme Document Revision table

Country: **NIGERIA**

Elaborated by Nigeria REDD+ Team & UN-REDD support team for Nigeria (September 2011)

Preliminary note by the authors: The draft *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme* (version 15/3/2011) received a number of comments and reviews, including the members of the UN-REDD Policy Board (during the last meeting in March 2011 and by e-mail subsequently) and the 3 members of the Independent Technical Review. Most of the received comments & reviews are overall positive and encouraging. Many of them concur and thus provided a clear advice for revising and finalising the programme document. A number of country-level review exercises took also place recently, namely a workshop on Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+ (held in Lagos on 20/5/2011) and a workshop on REDD+ safeguards (held in Abuja on 2-4/8/2011) – they have resulted in further improvements of the programme document and have already responded to the reviews received earlier.

A) Comments relevant to the document (revision & finalization) (*)

Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
1. Approach. The programme's two-folded approach (Federal + CRS) is considered an innovative aspect and to be well designed. The sub-national component focuses on the region of Nigeria with the highest conservation value forests and the largest relative amount of natural forest carbon stocks, working within a defined set of administrative-political boundaries under a unified civil authority (CRS Government). Using a 'front-runner state' which is relatively well forested as a pilot state is strategic since successes achieved could help galvanize national engagement in REDD+. The proposal by Nigeria to nominate one pilot state is remarkable and demonstrates a subtle sense of political sponsorship.	PB (PB6 meeting) PB/Norway ITR/HK ITR/JM ITR/KC	The team appreciates this positive comment, widely shared among reviewers, on the overall design and approach for REDD+ in Nigeria. No action is required.

(*) As per the recommendation of the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, the comments from the Secretariat, the independent technical review, and the Policy Board will be presented in two categories: (a) comments to be resolved in the document (revision and elaboration phase); and (b) comments relevant to the inception and implementation phase.

(**) GW: Global Witness, HK: Mr. Harrison Ochieng Kojwang (reviewer), ITR: Independent Technical Review (3 reviewers), JM: Mr. John Mason, KC: Mr. Ken Creighton, PB: Policy Board UN-REDD

Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
<p>2. Context. Nigeria has done extremely well to have prepared this document within the available timeframe. In fact the country should be recognized for the phenomenal uptake and progress it has made over the past 18 months with the national REDD program. No other country has made such dramatic progress in such a short period of time. If one considers that in September 2009 Nigeria did not have either forestry or REDD+ in its UNFCCC negotiating position, it is extraordinary what has been achieved in this short period of 18 months. One has to ask: “How many countries in the world could have made this level of progress on such a complicated issue as REDD within such a short period of time and have achieved such a high degree of consensus?”</p>	<p>ITR/JM PB/Norway</p>	<p>This comment confirms that Nigeria has adopted finely the philosophy of the UN-REDD Programme – namely to support and advance country REDD+ readiness proposals in a quick-start fashion. No action required. It may serve to explain why some aspects were not developed to the minor detail, because the Programme document is the basis and guide for advancing REDD+ readiness in Nigeria, and the implementation will use an adaptive management approach.</p>
<p>3. Degree of ownership of the programme. The programme ownership by both Cross River State and the Federal Government is well documented and demonstrated by the involvement of governmental stakeholders in the various planning meetings and workshops, as well as by stakeholder consultations and technical missions that are summarized in Annex 1. Validation efforts as shown in the preamble of the document confirm that. Annex 2 provides a useful <i>map</i> of the various stakeholder constituencies. Support has been strong from a broad range of civil society actors including NGOs, traditional rulers, communities and academics.</p>	<p>ITR/HK ITR/JM ITR/KC</p>	<p>These two comments are related. On the one hand, they commend the country ownership of the REDD+ readiness programme and the efforts for stakeholder engagement. At the same time, they indicate the long way ahead in terms of full stakeholder engagement. It is to be noted that stakeholder awareness & engagement has been augmented significantly since this comment was raised. A number of workshops, journal articles on REDD+, and training events have taken place in the period March-August 2011, including a new work stream on participatory governance assessment for REDD+ (see section 3.7 for details), a technical consultation on social & environmental safeguards for REDD+ that used the UN-REDD’s draft Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria (consultation held in August 2011 – see outcomes in section 3.7 and Annex 8), and a meeting in CRS of more than 70 stakeholders to discuss and address the comments received on the March 2011 draft (see Annex 4). Finally a REDD+ University, a major training event for some 100 participants from all stakeholder groups was prepared for 5-9 September 2011 but had to be postponed due to the tragic events in Nigeria in late August 2011.</p>
<p>4. Level of consultations and stakeholder engagement. Stakeholder consultations and engagement are noted, but much remains to be done to achieve a reasonable degree of stakeholder understanding of REDD+. It seems that consultation of local communities was limited by time, although community members in CRS were duly consulted and were able to sign off on the REDD+ document. Overall Nigeria’s stakeholder identification and engagement process for REDD+ has been impressive when one considers the time within the process occurred. Further awareness raising is needed. In general the consultations appear to have culminated into a broad agreement that Nigeria supports its participation in REDD+ and will use experiences in CRS to pilot REDD+ implementation. Evidence of public consultations and engagement are found across the programme document – reviewers consider there are good prospects for a cohesive and locally-based implementation dynamic.</p>		

(*) As per the recommendation of the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, the comments from the Secretariat, the independent technical review, and the Policy Board will be presented in two categories: (a) comments to be resolved in the document (revision and elaboration phase); and (b) comments relevant to the inception and implementation phase.

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Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
5. Furthering stakeholder engagement. The project document fails to elucidate a clear implementation plan and “schedule” for ensuring that civil society is not just “consulted” but that there are clear pathways and mechanisms for civil society to have substantive input on an on-going basis into implementation. There should also be some clear indication of the budgetary arrangements to ensure such participation. It is the opinion of reviewers that the intention of having significant public consultation and input is there but that the “mechanisms” of how that will be achieved in concrete and “verifiable” terms need to be more clearly described. It is not clear even at the CRS level that stakeholders have been characterized or grouped according to interests, power/influence, vulnerability and potential roles in implementing REDD+. Stakeholder profiles would have helped to clarify potential mechanisms for participation. While accepting that such will be done once funding is attained it is the kind of analysis that many countries interested in REDD+ have done and should equally apply to this proposal.		A work stream on Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+ (PGA/REDD+) was launched after the last UN-REDD Policy Board (i.e. after last version of programme document) in May 2011, with support from UNDP’s Oslo Governance Centre. It is envisaged in two phases: a preliminary phase with a focus on stakeholder assessment (June-December 2011) and an implementation one (from 2012 onwards). Further details on this new initiative have been integrated in sections 2.10 and 3.7 of the Programme document. In addition, Section 2.4 on stakeholders has been refined to explain that stakeholder identification and profiling will be undertaken, as necessary, during the programme’s inception.
6. Justification of programme. There is no attempt to provide strong justification for implementing REDD+ in Nigeria. From reading the document, possible justification could be: (i) high rate of deforestation and hence significant levels of preventable carbon emissions; (ii) saving the last remaining forest cover in Nigeria to safeguard other benefits (ecological, economic, cultural, biodiversity); (iii) significant opportunity for increasing carbon stocks in degraded forests, woodlands and grasslands; (iv) existing technical capacity to implement REDD+; and (v) Nigeria’s place as an influential voice on the international dialogue on forests and climate change.	ITR/HK	Section 3.1 further developed precisely along these lines. In addition, it is worth indicating that the National Afforestation Programme, already launched, has the ambitious target of increasing the country’s forest cover to 25% within the next 25 years.
7. Background information & data. There is no additional forest resource information besides broad estimates of forest cover and forest cover losses. No data on past inventories, timber or biomass. If some data exist, there should be comments on their quality and what useful experiences can be used to improve upon future data collection. In CRS, the pilot state, one would expect more detailed data on variables such as deforestation, forest cover, biomass data, timber volumes and other phenomena such as demographic trends and key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. However, this is also missing.	ITR/HK	Data exist but is rather fragmented and often outdated. The Programme document mentions some of the existing sources, and proposes specific actions to enhance forest and carbon information and data to sustain the readiness to the REDD+ mechanism (notably under outputs 3.3. and 3.4).

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Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
8. Drivers of deforestation. The description of drivers is still tentative, particularly with respect to the pilot state. The programme document should include greater detail in its analysis of the drivers of deforestation. In addition, a reviewer indicates there is no strategy or set of strategies proposed to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation – it seems that all the strategy development will be done during the readiness process. It is also suggested to elaborate further on the role that illegal trade plays as a driver of deforestation and forest degradation and how this is impacted by corruption and weak law enforcement.	ITR/HK ITR/JM PB/GW	The drivers of deforestation are known in general, for both Cross River State and the country in general. However, the document does not specify them not to undermine a necessary multi-stakeholder exercise to discuss them (based on better studies). Table 3 is precisely the result of a preliminary effort, during stakeholder consultation meetings, to identify and weight the different potential drivers (direct and indirect). Further assessment of the drivers is part of the REDD+ readiness exercise that this Programme will support.
9. Safeguards. Section 4.5 handles safeguards to be implemented in CRS. However it is not clear for some reviewers what safeguards we are talking about here – internationally or nationally defined? Should include a gap analysis of national level laws and regulations in this regards, and come up with recommendations for future needs. In addition, need to identify who will carry out the monitoring of safeguards.	PB/GW PB/Norway	Reference to UNFCCC's <i>Cancun Agreements</i> has been added across the Programme document, as this provides the international policy framework for safeguards. Reference to relevant national laws and regulations was discussed and has been added to the document. Initial multi-stakeholder training and discussion on safeguards for REDD+ was launched recently, in August 2011 (see new, Annex 8). Monitoring of safeguards is an activity to be addressed under Output 4.3 (see section 4.5 for further details).
10. Leakage risks. The selection of one pilot state increases the risk of displacement of deforestation and forest degradation to other states within the country. This is a risk that needs to be handled and seriously considered in the document. As it stands now, the document does not really discuss this potential problem well enough.	PB/Norway	This is a genuine risk and, in fact, the plan to expand REDD+ to other states will be significantly based on the objective of reducing the risk of displacement of deforestation and forest degradation from CRS to other states. This has been more clearly specified under Section 3.9, which further reflects this matter. In addition, Output 2.1 has as core activity on this question: "Assessment of intra-national displacement risks and measures" (see Table 6). Finally under Output 2.3, which aims at the strategy to expand REDD+ to other states, this question is specified more clearly (see section 4.3).

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Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
11. Mitigation actions. The strategy section makes no mention of potential mitigation actions against the key drivers of deforestation. Based on the description of drivers, it would be useful if some initial strategy options are proposed, for CRS.	ITR/HK	This exercise is part of the REDD+ readiness (i.e. the implementation of the Programme) and it would be precipitated to venture possible mitigation actions without due assessments and stakeholder dialogue. Indeed this work will be built from activities under several outputs, namely outputs 1.3, 2.1, 2.3, 3.3 and 4.1 – therefore there will be plenty of work and results in this domain.
12. Pilot projects. There is need of lessening the emphasis on establishing pilot “projects” with the limited funding available through UN-REDD at this stage. It is recommended to concentrate on creating the necessary enabling environment (implementation of “policies and measures” in UNFCCC’s parlance) to encourage private sector activity in qualifying REDD+ activities. It is recommended to strike a balance between enabling activities and pilots. Hence engage the private and public finance sectors in financing pilots to the extent possible. The funding allocated to pilots (US\$ 255,000) seems about right	ITR/KC	The slot devoted to what may be called “pilot projects” is rather limited: US\$ 155,000 for community initiatives plus some US\$ 155,000 to guide and coordinate the local REDD+ projects, which are likely to proliferate. This represents a limited and reasonable emphasis.
13. Budget and co-financing. So far, the stated outputs and the allocated budgets seem sufficient to effectively achieve the stated outputs. However a few outputs and sub-outputs seem to be under-budgeted, particularly at the national level. Outputs such as 2.1 and 3.4 appear to be under-estimates, given the size and heterogeneity of Nigeria’s land cover. If the required co-financing fails to materialize then the program will fall far short of achieving its goals. The general budget presented by “Outputs” in Table 2 seems well balanced and the allocation of funding among lead implementation agencies in Table 6 is well aligned with their respective lead responsibilities, which are consistent with the Programme Framework. On the cover page the Government needs to indicate the amount of co-financing it will commit and also indicate how much of this is in cash and how much “in kind”.	ITR/HK ITR/JM ITR/KC	Nigeria, being a vast country, very populous and with major development challenges, certainly needs big budgets for any endeavour, such as REDD+ readiness. The Programme was designed carefully to fit coherently to the available funds from UN-REDD (US\$ 4 million). The focus on one state will ensure results are achieved with available funds. When co-financing is clearly needed, this is stated in the document. Search of co-finance will be a primary activity once the programme starts (fund raising and donor relations is part of planned activities – see Output 2.3.). The Federal co-financing will vary from year to year depending on budget and financial planning, but seems secured as it has been already inserted in the draft of the forthcoming annual budget. Cross River State has already co-financed a number of preparatory activities during the design of this Programme, hence showing the willingness of co-financing along the implementation.

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Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
14. Institutional design at the national level. The national level institutional structures proposed by Nigeria are moving in the correct direction with establishment of the National Climate Change Commission (NCCC). It seems Nigeria has reviewed other countries struggles and resolved to address this issue head on. However the organogram of the institutional structures needs to be very clear and should appear in the main body of the document and not in the annexes. In addition, there is need for further elaboration on the mechanism and processes by which the National Advisory Council on REDD+ is to review, approve and provide support for REDD+ implementation. The membership of the National Advisory Council should be clarified, along with its level of autonomy and, then, the independence and transparency level of the monitoring system. This would also be useful with regard to the National Technical Committee on REDD+. Furthermore, the relationship between the National Advisory Council and the National Technical Committee is unclear. It is apparent they both have roles supporting REDD+ implementation and could potentially be tasked with assessment and monitoring. Providing a clearer picture of the relationship between these bodies would be constructive.	ITR/JM PB/GW PB/Norway	The institutional design for REDD+ readiness and for the implementation of this Programme is clearly articulated in Section 5, including key structures and bodies, their linkages and membership, the federal-state articulation, and human resources required (with draft Terms of Reference). Further details have been added in Section 5.4 ("Programme support mechanisms").
15. Institutional design at state level (CRS). A reviewer remarks that there is insufficient detail on the needed institutional arrangements at the state level. A useful addition should be a proposed implementation framework for CRS. This could include the needed legal and policy framework, key boards, institutions with clear mandates, mechanisms for inter-sector coordination, carbon registry, and conflict resolution procedures.	ITR/HK	See above in response to comment #15 – more explanation of institutional arrangements at the CRS level has been added, including the addition of a CRS Technical Committee on REDD+.
16. Forest definition. The definition of forests in Nigeria should be tackled in this document. This is urgently required to clarify what lands will be "REDDable" and what lands will not. All aspects of the document are dependent on this definition. Nigeria, due to its ecological diversity, may wish to explore whether it can utilize a range within its forest definition. The MRV section should clearly provide current forest definitions, proposed carbon pools, forest cover stratification and suggest a possible national or state-wide sampling scheme (e.g. a systematic grid). In addition, a list of carbon and non-carbon variables to be monitored should be proposed at this stage.	ITR/HK ITR/JM	This point was highlighted at National Validation Workshop. Nevertheless, it is part of the REDD+ readiness process to tackle this crucial matter – this is a core and rather initial activity under outputs 2.2. and 3.4.

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17. Forest monitoring and MRV systems. The is need for more detail into the MRV aspects. A reviewer highlights the MRV system is weak and poorly outlined in p. 31. The proposed MRV system does not appear to have capacity to monitor leakage across sub-national/state boundaries and yet if the program will focus on CRS primarily then monitoring for leakage will be important. Current capacities for inventory and GIS-RS are not explicitly stated. The MRV system proposed in section 2.8 remains generic and has no specific references or examples unique or descriptive of the Nigerian situation. In addition, no additional data and information that is relevant to MRV (except broad cover change) has been provided. The statements in Annex 4 are also quite general and make little reference to Nigeria's situation. No attempts have been made to define the most obvious carbon and non-carbon variables, other than above ground carbon that would be monitored under an MRV System.	ITR/HK ITR/JM	The forest cover and status and consequently the above ground carbon will be monitored in the Monitoring system in Phase II, while for the full MRV system, a NFI is needed in order to be able to address all carbon pools. See new fig. 4 added, explaining more in detail the different phases of the MRV system, clearly indicating which variables are monitored. Major capacity building events are scheduled both supported by FAO as well as other international institutions as INPE, Brazil.
18. MRV connexions across Federal-CRS levels. More coherence in approach between Federal and State level setups for MRV is necessary, and the most cost-efficient models to do so needs to be identified. Questioning whether presented setup for Cross River State (CRS) is an optimal model. Necessary with GIS laboratory to manage satellite images and aerial photos necessary at state level ? Would imply substantial costs if same approach applied nationally in all states?	PB/Norway	The design of the forest monitoring and MRV systems were carefully discussed and crafted to ensure a fair and feasible share of functions, labour and coordination between federal structures and CRS Section 3.5. is now fully developed, with illustrative figures on that matter of Federal-CRS connexions for MRV (see notably figures 6 to 8).
19. Reference levels. The development of a reference scenario or reference levels should provide more insight into how the data may be gathered and what factors are going to be considered.	ITR/HK	This is addressed in the section 2.9 with more detail now, following this comment.
20. Governance dimensions. The document has acknowledged concerns about a potential lack of transparency of REDD+ funds and briefly suggests a mechanism to address this issue. However, this is not discussed in sufficient detail. The proposal should elaborate further on the design of the suggested REDD+ database. How governance assessment and monitoring will be addressed would be beneficial. Fiscal transparency should receive greater attention in the document. Finally, NESREA and the Anti-Deforestation Task Force provide possible avenues to address the problems of weak law enforcement and corruption.	PB/GW	A full exercise of participatory governance assessment (PGA) has been launched after May 2011 as part of the preliminary work for REDD+ (it will continue during the Programme's implementation). Nigeria and Indonesia are the two leading countries on PGA for REDD+, which aims at enhancing many of these governance issues through a country-led effort. Sections 3.7 and 4.5 provide new, further details on these aspects (compared to previous version).

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21. The private sector. It is recommended to engage the investment & banking sector in the advisory bodies to the extent possible. The Standard Bank of Nigeria, for instance, has been a leader in providing capital for offset projects in other sectors through market leader project developers such as Ecosureties and is closely monitoring developments in REDD+. Much could be gained by having early up front input from the professional investment community.	ITR/KC	Engagement of the private sector is targeted in Output 1.2 and the importance was also raised in a recent Technical Consultation in August 2011. In addition, UNEP is leading major work in this area at the global level, which aims at linking with efforts in Nigeria once this REDD+ readiness programme starts.
22. Capacity needs. More specific statements on the capacity needs of CRS would also provide a good basis for systematic training programme that would be linked to national capacity development. In addition, the programme document should also include a specific assessment of the institutional capacity needed to strengthen law enforcement. In addition, a national level law and policy review would be recommended at national level, not only for CRS, as foreseen in the programme document.	ITR/HK PB/GW PB/Norway	This was discussed at recent technical consultations and the document now includes some more details about the types of training, and who will be targeted, for capacity building. In any case, outputs 1.2 and 1.3 contain capacity needs assessments (as well as financing some of the proposed actions that may emerge from such assessments).
23. Regional liaisons. The programme indicates the aim to foster regional liaisons. Nigeria's desire to take regional leadership on REDD+ through cooperation with ECOWAS is welcome. However, Nigeria should look into potential strategies for regional cooperation with bordering countries, notably Ghana.	PB/GW ITR/JM	Noted. In addition, Section 5.6 explores specifically "Potential regional-level implementation partners" (six of them are mentioned and briefly described).
24. Monitoring & Evaluation. The M&E section is weak, as indicators are sparse and there are no milestones. A reviewer proposes significant strengthening of this aspect.	ITR/JM	This has been further developed and completed in the current version – see Section 7.1 and Table 9.
25. Data management. The programme document seems not to mention on data ownership, repository and overall management. This is very important and should not be held in a single authority. The DRC has an admirable plan for how to handle these issues.	ITR/JM	The web-platform in Output 4.3 will serve this function and it will also promote transparency of information. National legislation and UN's best practice will apply.
26. Conformity of design with UN and UN-REDD principles and policies. The programme's design has largely followed the principles of the UN, including those referring to human rights, gender, environmental sustainability, results-based management and capacity development. In addition, it has also complied with UN-REDD requirements and policy guidance, such as on ownership and stakeholder engagement.	ITR/HK ITR/KC	Positive comment – the team appreciates it.

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27. Implementation risks. Improve analysis of risks as already discussed under section B paragraph 4.	ITR/HK	This has been conducted as part of the final revision of the document – see Section 7.2 and Table 10.
28. Investment phase. It seems like CRS will “allowed” to move to Phase 2 separately from national level readiness. Interesting idea, but according to acceptable standards?	PB/Norway	When Cross River State moves to phase 2 there will already exist a REDD+ blueprint at federal level (as developed under Outcomes 1 and 2). The Nigeria approach follows current UNFCCC agreements to allow for sub-national approaches on an interim basis. Nevertheless, Nigeria is not just pursuing a sub-national approach since it will simultaneously advance REDD+ readiness at federal level, which will provide policy and technical direction across the country and for all states willing to engage in REDD+ readiness.
29. Terms of Reference. The project document would benefit from an Annex that provides an indicative timetable for the approval of ToRs for the various entities described.	ITR/KC	The mentioned ToRs are a priority activity once the Programme is approved and starts implementation. In fact, the launching of the Programme will itself catalyse some changes in the national climate change entities.
30. Editorial remarks. The text would benefit from a reading by a skilled copy editor. However, the length is to be “about right” overall. A total document length, including annexes of between 100-150 pages is about “normal” in this type of proposal. In addition, it may be worthwhile to include the report “A Preliminary Assessment of the Context for REDD in Nigeria” (or a summary of its key points) as an annex to the proposal for ease of access by readers. A number of editorial revisions and additional data were proposed by a reviewer. The document would benefit from more explicit recognition of the participation of representatives of non-governmental entities in the drafting team.	ITR/JM ITR/KC	Document has been reviewed in terms of format and syntax. Although the team could have added more information, the current length of about 120 pages (including about 30 tables, figures and boxes, plus 12 annexes) is more than enough for what is meant to be a quick-start programme.

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Comments and recommendations by reviewers (March-April 2011)	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
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B) Comments relevant to the inception and implementation phase (*)

Comments and recommendations by reviewers	Source (**)	Response and explanation how it has been addressed
31. Funding. A key risk is delay in commitment and then payment of matching funds by the various agencies and entities involved or the diversion of funds received from UNREDD to unjustified activities that do not contribute directly to programme objectives and priorities. There is also a risk of delays in delivery of the technical support that is anticipated from the UN Agencies due to budgetary constraints or limited availability of qualified technical advisors. Concern is raised on the stated assumptions that the UN Agencies will mobilize additional resources for some technical support and capacity building, over and above what is being proposed from this UNREDD Grant.	ITR/KC	This has been duly captured among the risks and will be part of a smooth implementation with due monitoring, with adequate dialogue and cooperation among the core parties (UN agencies, Federal Government and CRS).
32. Social inclusion issues. As for gender issues and indigenous peoples, the project design appears to be consistent with UNREDD guidance documentation. However, this is one of those areas where “the proof is in the pudding” – therefore, participation, consultation and prior informed consent with regard to programme actions affecting these stakeholders needs to be monitored and documented on a regular basis during project implementation and should receive priority attention for verification by qualified specialists participating in programme review and “implementation assistance” missions.	ITR/KC	Regular UN-REDD missions, plus employment of UN guidelines and tools for social inclusion, will serve to prevent such risk.
33. Land tenure. A major challenge of REDD in Nigeria is that of land tenure (especially the 1978 land act). This issue must be addressed very early as it could undo all other aspects of progress if it is left status quo.	ITR/JM	This is well recognized and it is anticipated as core activity under outputs 1.3 (national level) and 3.3 (CRS).
34. Agricultural sector. Most drivers of deforestation are agriculture based. Need to cross over between REDD and agricultural carbon potential. Link strategies focused on agriculture with a NAMA program focused on agricultural drivers.	ITR/JM	The role of agriculture as a major driver of deforestation is recognised in the document. The country has expressed interest in “agricultural” carbon due to the vast degraded savannas it possesses.

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35. Expanding REDD+ into other states. Policies of other states may negate those in CRS unless there is a mechanism to initiate policy changes also in adjoining states. The principal concern with sub-national implementation of REDD+ is, of course, the risk of emissions displacement (also referred to as “leakage”). In particular we are concerned by the risk of illegal cross-border trade between Cross River State and the other states in Nigeria and with its neighbouring countries, such as Cameroon. Leakage is not adequately addressed in the National Programme Document. Threat of ‘leakage’ if REDD+ policies are applied only in one state as will be the case with concentrating in CRS.	ITR/HK PB/GW	The federal-state articulation was one of the core matters during the design and various sections address it. Certainly regular dialogue among authorities and REDD+ teams at federal, CRS and other states’ levels will be necessary during all RED+ readiness. The concerns about leakage risks were addressed in comment 10 above.
36. Implementation of safeguards. There is also need to pay careful attention to implementation of the safeguards for social and environmental (biodiversity) and indigenous peoples issues. Good performance may, in the future generate “premium” credits that could increase the revenues over that achieved by “commodity carbon” projects.	ITR/KC	Interesting and important point that has been fully embraced by the team. The safeguards section was further developed since the previous version thanks to a technical consultation in August 2011 and other efforts.

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