# U.N. COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME ON REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

## NATIONAL PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

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.**

Programme Duration: **2 ½ Years**
Anticipated start/end dates: **September 2012 – February 2015**
Fund Management Option(s): **Pass-Through**
Managing/Administrative Agent: **UNDP MPTF Office**

Total estimated budget (*): **US$ 4 m**

*Out of which:*

1. Funded Budget:  **US$ 4 m**
2. Unfunded budget:  -

(*) 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.

Sources of funded budget:
- 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

| U.N. organizations | National Coordinating Authorities |
|---|---|
| **Mr. Daouda Touré** <br> U.N. Resident Coordinator <br> & UNDP Resident Representative | **Honourable Minister Mrs Hadiza Ibrahim Mailafia** <br> Federal Minister of Environment |
| **Ms. Louise Lobisa Setshwaelo** <br> FAO Country Representative | **His Excellency Senator Liyel Imoke** <br> Governor of Cross River State |
| **Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw** <br> UNEP, Director, Division of Environmental Policy | |

# Table of Contents

# Programme design & drafting team

**UN-REDD Team**

**Josep A. Garí** [Team Leader] – Regional Advisor for Africa, UN-REDD Programme, UNDP (Nairobi)
**Julie Greenwalt** – Programme Officer, UN-REDD Programme, UNEP (Nairobi)
**Inge Jonckheere** – Forestry Officer, UN-REDD Programme, FAO (Rome)
**Matieu Henry** – Forestry Officer, UN-REDD Programme, FAO (Rome)
**Muyiwa Odele** – Environment Officer, UNDP-Nigeria (Abuja)
**Tunde Morakinyo** – Community forester & international advisor, ERM (London)
**Dennis Fenton** – International consultant, specialist on climate change and REDD+.
**Edward Kilawe** – Forestry Officer for Africa, FAO (Addis Ababa)

**Nigeria Federal team**

**Salisu Dahiru**, National REDD+ Coordinator, Federal Ministry of Environment
**Ochuko Odibo**, Formerly Special Assistant (Technical) to the Federal Minister of Environment
**Victor Fodeke,** Formerly Head, Special Climate Change Unit, Federal Ministry of Environment
**Samuel Adejuwon,** Head of Climate Change, Federal Ministry of Environment
**Ibrahim A. Adebayo**, Official, National REDD+ Secretariat
**Kingsley Nwawuba**, Official, National REDD+ Secretariat
**Richard Okibe**, formerly at the Special Climate Change Unit, Federal Ministry of Environment
**Hauwa Umar**, National REDD+ Secretariat
**Stephen Aluko**, Officer, Federal Department of Forestry
**Victor Nkom**, Climate Change consultant to the Federal Ministry of Environment
**Prince Lakan Fadina**, Member of the National Think Tank on Climate Change

**Cross River State's team**

**Odigha Odigha**, Chairman, Forestry Commission, Cross River State
**Bridget Nkor**, Head of Cartography/GIS and Mapping Unit, Forestry Commission
**Edu Effiom**, REDD+ Unit, Forestry Commission
**Augustine Ogogo**, Commissioner (Wildlife, Ecotourism & Reforestation), Forestry Commission
**Francis Bisong** – Dean of the Post Graduate School, University of Calabar
**Sylvanus Abua** – Community Forestry Expert and Consultant, Cross River State
**James Odey** – Development in Nigeria (DIN)
**Emmanuel Egbe** – Forestry Commission
**Innocent Ntunyang** – Commissioner (Conservation, Protection & Compliance), Forestry Commission

**International advisors & specialists**

**Janthomas Hiemstra** – Deputy Country Director (Programmes), UNDP-Nigeria (Abuja).
**Valerie Kapos** – Senior Programme Officer in Forest Biodiversity, UNEP/WCMC (Cambridge, UK)
**Tina Hageberg** – Programme Officer, Governance Assessments for UN-REDD, UNDP (Oslo).
**Marie Laberge** – Programme Specialist on Governance Assessments, UNDP (Dakar).
**Nina Kantcheva** – Stakeholder Engagement Specialist, UN-REDD Programme, UNDP (New York)
**Gayathri Sriskanthan** – Stakeholder Engagement Specialist, UN-REDD Programme, UNDP (New York)
**Fabien Monteils** – Chief Technical Advisor, UN-REDD Programme in the D.R Congo (Kinshasa).
**Leo Peskett** – Safeguards specialist, UN-REDD Programme, UNDP (London).

**Miscellaneous stakeholders**

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, appraisal and validation meetings, in both Abuja and Cross River State, is compiled in the Appendix I. Appreciation is also expressed for the 3 independent technical reviewers, for their useful comments and recommendations: Messrs. Ken Creighton, Harrison Kojwang and John Mason.

# List of main abbreviations and acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| **AD** | Activity Data |
| **CDM** | Clean Development Mechanism |
| **CERs** | Certified Emission Reductions |
| **CRNP** | Cross River National Park |
| **CRS** | Cross River State |
| **CRSFC** | Cross River State Forestry Commission |
| **CSO** | Civil society organization |
| **CTA** | Chief Technical Advisor |
| **DFID** | UK Department for International Development |
| **ECOWAS** | Economic Community of West African States |
| **EF** | Emission Factor |
| **FAO** | Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations |
| **FDF** | Federal Department of Forestry [Nigeria Government] |
| **FMC** | Forest Management Committees |
| **FMENV** | Federal Ministry of Environment |
| **FPIC** | Free, Prior and Informed Consent |
| **FRA** | Forest Resources Assessment |
| **GCF** | Climate Change and Forests |
| **GHG** | Greenhouse Gas |
| **GHG-I** | Greenhouse Gas emissions inventory |
| **GIS** | Geographic Information Systems |
| **GUG** | Good Urban Governance |
| **HACT** | Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers |
| **IPCC** | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change |
| **ILUA** | Integrated Land Use Assessment |
| **KWAI** | Katoomba West Africa Incubator |
| **LGA** | Local Government Authorities |
| **M & MRV** | Monitoring & Measurement, Reporting and Verification |
| **MRV** | Measurement, Reporting and Verification |
| **MPTF** | Multi-Partner Trust Fund |

| | |
|---|---|
| **NCCC** | National Climate Change Commission |
| **NESREA** | National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency |
| **NFI** | National Forest Inventory |
| **NGO** | Non-governmental organization |
| **NIM** | National Implementation Modality |
| **ODA** | Official development assistance |
| **PAM** | Planning of Policies and Measures |
| **PES** | Payment for Ecosystem Services Payment for Environmental Services |
| **PGA** | Participatory Governance Assessment |
| **PNI** | Pro-Natura International Nigeria |
| **QA** | Quality Assurance |
| **QC** | Quality Control |
| **REDD+** | Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation *plus* conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks |
| **REL/RL** | Reference Emission Level / Reference Level |
| **RL** | Reference Level |
| **SCCU** | Special Climate Change Unit |
| **SLMS** | Satellite Land monitoring system |
| **THF** | Tropical High Forest |
| **UNDP** | United Nations Development Programme |
| **UNEP** | United Nations Environment Programme |
| **UNDRIP** | United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples |
| **UNFCCC** | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| **UN-REDD** | United Nations Collaborative Programme on REDD+ |
| **US$** | United States' dollar |
| **WCMC** | World Conservation Monitoring Centre |
| **WCS** | Wildlife Conservation Society |

# 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** | **Mr. Daouda Toure** | **His Excellency Liyel Imoke** |
| Federal Minister of the Environment | U.N. Resident Coordinator | 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 Appendix I.

## 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]

NOTE: The signed version is in Appendix I. 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 also Appendix I.

# 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 simultaneously contributing to climate change mitigation globally and to enhancing community development locally. 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 2010-2011, 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 – i.e. the present *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme (2012-2014)* – which was first presented at the sixth UN-REDD Policy Board in March 2011, and subsequently approved at the seventh UN-REDD Policy Board in October 2011, with an allocation of US$ 4 million (around 650 million Naira). This Nigeria's REDD+ readiness proposal was publicly and internationally praised for its innovative approach.

In addition, as part of developing and finalising 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. Moreover, Nigeria has recently conducted a "REDD+ University" event, in Calabar (Cross River State), in March 2012, as part of the process of finalising the programme document, serving also as a capacity-building (more than 150 participants attended from Cross River State, other states and the federal structures) and providing the basis for the programme's public inception (the Press Release of this event is in <u>Annex 6</u>).

The present proposal represents the primary means for Nigeria to advance 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 *Cancun Agreements* on climate change from 2010.

The goal of this 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 a detailed synopsis of the entire Programme):

1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level (Federal).

2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared (Federal).

3. Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened (CRS).

4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State (CRS).

These outcomes are unfolded into 14 outputs and a broad set of core and indicative activities, all structured into a coherent and detailed framework, which is decoupled into both a Programme WorkPlan & Budget (Table 6, in Section 4) and a Programme Results & Monitoring Framework (Table 9, in Section 7). 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, which has been approved by the UN-REDD Programme's Policy Board (see budget details and share of U.N. agency responsibilities in tables 6-7 and in Annex 3). 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 mid 2012. The three UN-REDD agencies (namely FAO, UNDP and UNEP) are each responsible for funds passed through them from the UN-REDD Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF). The Programme will be implemented by two units: the national REDD+ Unit (under the Department of Climate Change, with technical linkages to the Federal Department of Forestry, in the Federal Ministry for Environment) and the Forestry Commission of Cross River State (which reports directly to a board and to the Governor of CRS). They will have management and implementation responsibilities for outcomes 1-2 and 3-4, respectively. The National Advisory Council on REDD+ serves as lead policy direction structure for the REDD+ process, as well as for this programme. 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. In CRS, their climate change council and a technical REDD+ committee will provide policy and technical advise to the activities implemented within the state. A Programme Steering Committee will be established between the Department of Climate Change (Federal Ministry of Environment), the Forestry Commission of Cross River State and the United Nations in Nigeria to provide the executive direction to the programme implementation (including review and approval of annual work plans and budgets, and annual reports) – observers from key stakeholder groups will also attend the Programme Steering Committee meetings. 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 a smooth implementation, to provide technical and policy advice of high quality, and to foster a 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 present *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme* has been developed with inputs from a range of Nigerian and international experts, development practitioners 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 was submitted for consideration for financial support by the UN-REDD Policy Board at its seventh meeting in October 2011, and the final comments raised then have been also incorporated in this proposal. Further improvements were integrated in the first semester of 2012, notably in terms of refining the implementation and monitoring arrangements. A local project appraisal committee and a national technical review meeting were held in August 2012, just prior to the signature, endorsing all revisions and improvements in the programme's design since UN-REDD Policy Board's approval. It is expected that the Programme will serve as a platform to mobilise more partners, alliances and funding for a full-fledge REDD+ work across all Nigeria.

### *Table 1.* Synopsis 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** | **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 M & 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 |

→ **WorkPlan & Budget:** Table 6 (Section 4).

→ **Budget Synthesis:** Table 7 (Section 4).

→ **Programme Results & Monitoring:** Table 9 (Section 7)**.**

→ **Detailed work plan & budget (according to U.N. budget categories):** Annex 3**.**

# 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 km$^2$. 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.

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

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**

Nigeria's overall deforestation rates and loss of primary forest has been dire for the past twenty years. Nigeria has lost more than 50% of its forest cover since 1990 and currently less than 10% of the country is forested (see Figure 3 below). Despite the massive loss of forest, Nigeria's deforestation rate continues to increase. According to FAO's 2010 Forest Resource Assessment (FRA), Nigeria's deforestation rate has increased from 2.7 % for 1990-2000 to 4.0 % for 2005-2010. A review of the latest FRA data by Maplecroft, a risk analysis company, identified Nigeria as having the highest deforestation in the world, with an accompanying rating of "extreme risk". Yet it should be noted that no National Forest Inventory has been undertaken since 1997.

**Figure 3. Forest area change in selected countries in the world (2000-2010)**



**Forest area**
2000-10, average annual change, %

% of country's land area, 2010

| | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.2 | – 0 + | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.8 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| China | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22 |
| Norway | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 33 |
| India | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 23 |
| Sweden | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 69 |
| United States | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 33 |
| Canada | | | | *nil* | | | | | | | | | | 34 |
| Russia | | | | *nil* | | | | | | | | | | 49 |
| Sudan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 29 |
| Peru | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 53 |
| Angola | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 47 |
| Colombia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 55 |
| Mexico | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 33 |
| Australia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 19 |
| Brazil | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 62 |
| Indonesia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 52 |
| Nigeria | –3.7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 |

Source: FAO

*Source:* FAO, republished by *The Economist* (2011)

Forest transition theory suggests forested countries go through four categories of forest cover (Figure 4). The status of a country along the "forest transition curve" has a significant impact on the types of REDD+ interventions that will be relevant. Consequently, it is also very relevant for shaping the National REDD+ Strategy. For example, countries with high forest cover and low deforestation rates (such as those in the Guyana Shield ecoregion) will focus on strategies on forest conservation and sustainable management, whereas countries with high forest cover and high deforestation rates will need to tackle the drivers of deforestation.

**Figure 4. Categories of forest transition**



*Source:* Adapted from Angelsen (2007)

Nigeria has a unique place on the forest transition curve. It now has a low overall forest cover, yet the deforestation rate remains very high. In other words, Nigeria's curve remains very steep and has not started to level out (Figure 5). Few countries share these characteristics, with perhaps the Atlantic Forest ecoregion in Latin America being a similar situation.

**Figure 5. Nigeria's Forest Transition Curve (a model)**

Meanwhile, Cross River State (CRS), in southeast Nigeria, contains much of Nigeria's remaining standing tropical forest. CRS has a population of almost 3 million people (2006) and covers an area of 23,074 km$^2$ (2,307,400 ha) Lowland rainforests occupy more than a third of the 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 less than 1 % of the CRS land area (11,376 ha). According to the *Preliminary Assessment of REDD+ in Nigeria (2010),* the deforestation rate in Cross River State is still extremely high (2.2 %), but is lower than the national average. In 2008, 26% of the State remained forested. The loss of forests is expected to have declined as a result of the recent moratorium on commercial logging, raising the prospect that Cross-River State has reached the bottom of its forest transition curve (Figure 6) and that a REDD+ mechanism would serve to consolidate such trend.

**Figure 6. Cross River State's Forest Transition Curve (a model)**



This variance between the situation in Cross River State and the country as a whole needs to be kept in mind when using Cross River State as a demonstration pilot for Nigeria's National REDD+ Strategy.

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.

**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)

## 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.

<u>Cross River State</u>

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. The implementation challenges and difficulties in achieving change from these initiatives have been analyzed and incorporated into the risk assessment for this Programme.

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.

<u>Sustainable forest management, climate change and payments for environmental services</u>

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) was passed by the National Assembly. It includes a substantial section on REDD+. The NCCC was 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 CRS, 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. <u>Annex 2</u> 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 (FMENV) 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 FMENV established the Special Climate Change Unit, which then became the Department of Climate Change, 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 particularly 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 considered 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 km$^2$. Similarly, grazing land is also expanding – its area increased from 18 % of Nigeria in 1976/78 to 20 % in 1993/95. Available data suggests these trends have continued into the present day. Agriculture is certainly a key driver of deforestation. It is possible that this could be made less extensive through the introduction of new technologies, but a lack of adequate extension services means that such an objective is difficult to achieve. This also means that communities are often practicing inefficient approaches and gaining fewer benefits.

Fuelwood contributes significantly to deforestation and degradation too, with around two thirds of the country relying on wood as a primary source of fuel, particularly for cooking. At the household level this can have significant impacts on health (due to particulates) and education (particularly for women and children, who usually collect wood).

There is also a loss of revenues from forests (e.g. timber fees) due to poorly designed policies, illegal logging and rent capture (a World Bank analysis indicates that four states subsidised the forest industry to the tune of US$ 6.5 million in 2003 through a failure to adjust their fees to their real levels and a failure to capture revenues lost through illegal logging). This reduces revenues in forest sector and therefore the overall capacity to implement and enforce policies.

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 have been the major deforestation drivers, followed by urban growth and domestic energy use. In the whole of Nigeria, 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 are important enablers of deforestation.

**Table 3. Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Nigeria and in Crs, as identified and rated 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

*Sources: Preliminary Assessment (2010); REDD+ validation workshop (Abuja, 2011).*

As can be determined from this brief analysis, the drivers of deforestation, despite identified, are poorly understood. This represents a crucial challenge for forest policy and forest management in the country, as well as for a REDD+ process, more so as Nigeria has one of the highest deforestation rates in the world. The accurate and in-depth assessment of the drivers of deforestation is a crucial basis for arresting deforestation and forest degradation (via feasible and equitable alternatives) and for advancing a REDD+ mechanism. Accordingly, the current Nigeria REDD+ programme will devote a substantive part of three outputs to this matter (outputs 2.1, 3.3 and 4.2); this represents one of the priorities of Nigeria's REDD+ process and of this programme.

## 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 former SCCU 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+**, under the leadership of the Minister for the Environment, is the Apex Governance body for the Nigeria REDD+ process. 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 FMEnv 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+ Unit**, within the Department of Climate Change (inside the FMEnv), is meant to provide the coordination and the management of the REDD+ readiness process at the federal level. It has been recently established as an evolution of the former National REDD+ Secretariat (which was originally created inside the Federal Department of Forestry, FMEnv, to jump-start the REDD+ domain). In December 2011, the FMEnv underwent an internal restructuring, partly to better respond to the climate change agenda, and hence the National REDD+ Secretariat became the National REDD+ Unit and placed under a new department, named the Department of Climate Change. This particular reform allows Nigeria to better address the cross-sectorial nature of REDD+. In essence, the role of the National REDD+ Unit 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 National REDD+ Unit is headed by the National REDD+ Coordinator, and for the moment has a few technicians drawn from the Forestry Department and the former Special Climate Change Unit. In essence, since 2009 the Federal Government has become an active participant in the UN-REDD Programme.

The **Cross River State**'s 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, under the leadership of the Governor and the oversight of the Chairman of the Forestry Commission, 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.*

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.

## 2.7. Key considerations on REDD+ based on UNFCCC Methodological Guidance and Modalities

Recent UNFCCC developments

The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC, in Copenhagen (2009), adopted decision 4/CP.15, which provides methodological guidance for REDD+. The agreed guidance requires countries to establish a "robust and transparent national forest monitoring system". The decision also lists several characteristics of such a system: uses a combination of remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches, provides estimates that are transparent, consistent, accurate, reducing uncertainties, are transparent and their results are available and suitable for review. Finally, decision 4/CP. 15 also requests developing country Parties to use the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance and guidelines, as a basis for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks and forest area changes.

At the UNFCCC COP16, 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 to develop: (1) a national strategy or action plan, (2) a national reference emission level/reference level (REL/RL), or as an interim measure, subnational RELs/RLs, (3) a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system (or subnational forest monitoring system as an interim measure), and (4) 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). Decision 1/CP.16 also requests REDD+ countries to implement these in a phased approach beginning with the development of national strategies or action plans, policies and measures, and capacity-building, followed by the implementation of national policies and measures and national strategies or action plans as well as results-based demonstration activities, and evolving into results-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified.

Parties then agreed at COP17 in Durban (2011), in decision 12/CP.17, on modalities for forest reference emission levels/reference levels (REL/RLs), as well as on guidelines for submission of REL/RL information to the UNFCCC. In addition, this decision provided guidance on safeguard information systems. For REL/RL modalities, a stepwise approach was agreed so that RELs/RLs could be improved over time. It was also agreed that RELs/RLs should be periodically updated, that any pools omitted from the scope of an REL/RL would need to be explained, and that subnational RELs/RLs can be used as an interim measure. For safeguard information systems (or SIS), it was agreed that these should be country-driven, implemented at a national level, and built on existing systems. The decision stated that an SIS should provide information on how all Cancun safeguards are addressed and respected. It was also agreed that reporting of summary information on how safeguards are being addressed and respected would take place periodically in National Communications. Based on the progress made at the recent intercessional meetings in Bonn (May 2012), it can be expected that there will be additional decisions on modalities for national forest monitoring systems, MRV for REDD, RELs/RLS, and guidance for safeguard information systems at the next COP (December 2012 in Doha, Qatar) and beyond.

This selection of UNFCCC decisions provides a guiding framework that REDD+ countries can follow as they start to develop systems for national forest monitoring, REDD+ MRV, and

safeguard information, establish reference levels, and plan results and performance-based REDD+ activities.

---

**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.

---

Decision 1/CP.16 (Cancun, 2010) also lists the 5 major REDD+ 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 7 below, indicates how this proposed programme for Nigeria fits in the approach. In essence, the 1st phase addresses **preparedness**, the 2nd phase focuses on **investments and policy reforms** aiming at developing a results-based mechanism, including demonstration activities, and the 3rd phase is the deployment of a **performance-based mechanism**.

**Table 4. Indicative phases for the establishment of a REDD+ mechanism**

| Phases | Main actions | Brief description |
|---|---|---|
| Phase 1 | Readiness | • Capacity building<br>• Stakeholder engagement and national dialogue<br>• Development of national strategies or action plans<br>• Identification of policies (reforms & new) and measures |
| Phase 2 | Policy measures, strategy implementation & results-based funding | • Implementation of national policies and measures<br>• Implementation of national strategies or action plans (investments)<br>• Implementation framework operational<br>• REL/RL" development<br>• Operational Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) for monitoring of demonstration activities<br>• Further capacity-building<br>• Technology development/transfer<br>• Results-based demonstration activities and investments |
| Phase 3 | Payments for verified performance | • Evolution into performance-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified |

**Figure 7. REDD+ readiness phases and the Nigeria REDD+ programme.**



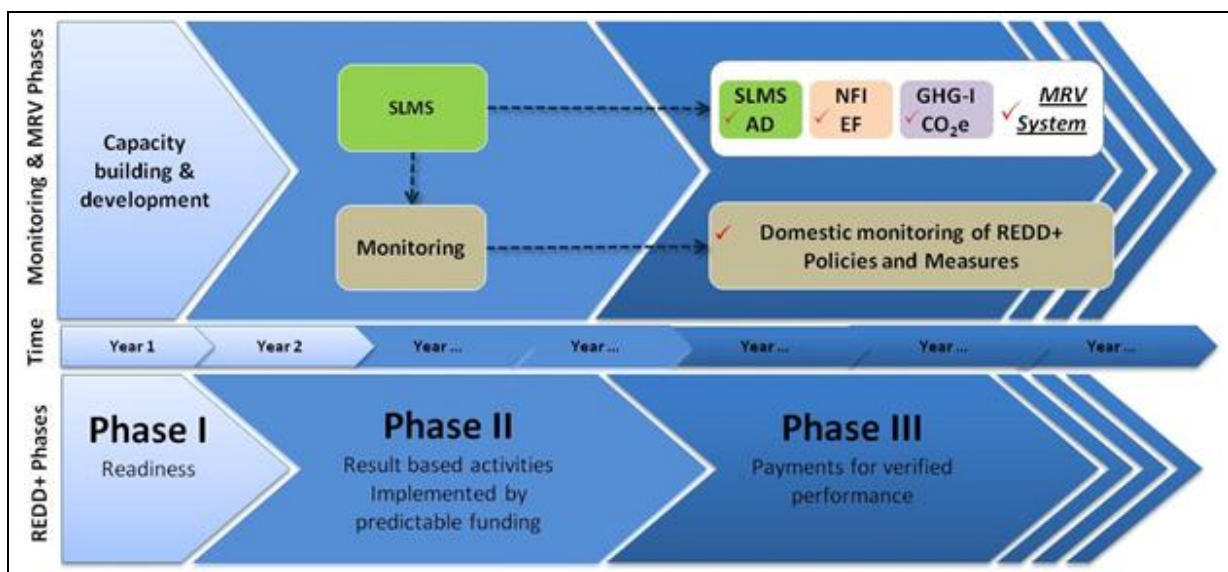Note: This graph has been used during stakeholder training & consultations in Nigeria.

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 measure, report and verify the necessary performance is being achieved in terms of emissions and removals. 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 8. 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". More detailed modalities for national forest monitoring systems have been discussed by Parties at COP-17 (2011) and in Bonn (May 2012), and it is expected there will be some level of agreement on such additional modalities at COP-18 in December 2012

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 $3^{rd}$ 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 $3^{rd}$ phase and allow for assessment of the performances. The three components of the MRV system can be defined as follows:

Measurement:

This 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 mainly into measurements of forest area and forest area change (AD) and forest carbon stock and forest carbon stock changes (EF). 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:

This implies the compilation and availability of national data and statistics for information in the format of a GHG inventory. Reporting requirements to the UNFCCC in the form of National Communications and biennial update reports 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) as well as details on the activities a country has undertaken to fulfil its commitments under UNFCCC.

Verification:

This refers to the process of independently checking the accuracy and reliability of reported information or the procedures used to generate information. There will be a process in place under the UNFCCC to review REDD+ data reported. According to decision 4/CP.15, the results of national forest monitoring systems should be made available and "suitable for review". This will likely be part of the review processes for National Communications and for biennial update reports. 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.

- **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.

According to IPCC guidance and guidelines, the basic equation to calculate the Emission estimates is: Emissions = AD * EF (Figure 9).

**Figure 9. 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, and reinforced in decision 12/CP.17, 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.

Though there is no a prescribed methodology for the establishment of reference levels, there are agreed modalities and guidance under the UNFCCC. 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 guided by the IPCC. This gives the individual countries, including Nigeria, the opportunity to establish a reference level that is adjusted to reflect its national circumstances (e.g. forest ecology and condition, socio-economic development, technological capacity, policy context). At the same time, however, according to the UNFCCC modalities, such a proposed REL/RL will need to be transparent, consistent, complete and accurate. It will also need to include details on data and assumptions on how national circumstances were taken into account. These proposed RELs/RLs will be subject to a technical assessment under the UNFCCC.

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 approaches to establish reference levels, both as submissions to the UNFCCC by Parties and observers and in publications in scientific literature. The proposed approaches and methodologies can be subdivided into the broad categories of: (i) retrospective reference emission levels based on historical observations of forest cover, and (ii) 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) (Huettner, 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 for activity data and possibly for the emission factor(s) as well. Given the availability of this ILUA inventory data, this allows a nationally (or sub-nationally) specific REL, without relying on international or external data on forest cover and biomass content. This will have higher credibility internationally, as it represents a Tier 2 level of reporting, according to IPCC, which is characterized by greater certainty than a Tier 1 based on global/regional default values. 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, and decision 4/CP.15 provides the guidance that countries should take into account historical data in the construction of RELs/RLs, so there needs to be a historical basis even if then adjusted for

national circumstances. Given that Nigeria has substantial data on which to base the retrospective REL, it is logical 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 modelling, 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 modelling, 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.

An important quality indicator of extrapolated mathematical models is variance. The variance in the data is that part of the observed phenomenon that cannot be "explained" by the mathematical model. This variance should be reduced to the extent possible. Most sources relevant literature and guidance documents recognize a variance under 10% to be acceptable.

*Establishing reference levels by forest strata*

Reference levels can be established for each of the forest strata, a form of 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.

## 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 to 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 environmental benefits, there are also risks related to the implementation of REDD+, so it 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+.

There are complex relationships between Nigeria's forests and livelihoods at the community level. These will need to be understood and carefully accounted for in the design of the REDD+ programme, both to ensure that REDD+ provides benefits for communities and mitigates risks, and to ensure that strategies are effective in addressing deforestation and degradation. Some of the key links between forests and livelihoods in Nigeria include:

- Land tenure laws do not formally recognise community tenure of land. This removes the incentive for villages to manage their land resources more effectively and potentially makes the implementation of REDD+ that directly involves communities more difficult. The rights of communities over the forest sector worsened following the Land Use Decree of 1978 (cf. the *Preliminary Assessment*). Any process of tenure reform will also need to be carefully managed under a REDD+ strategy, as there is a risk of loss of access by communities to forest products that are important for livelihoods; *e.g.* some studies have shown that income from NTFPs is almost 13% of the total annual household income (cf. Ezebilo, Eugene E., and Leif Mattsson. 2010. "Contribution of Non-timber Forest Products to Livelihoods of Communities in Southeast Nigeria." International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology 17 (3): 231–235. doi:10.1080/13504501003749992).

- Some protective policies such as those surrounding sacred groves exist. However, there is often conflict in communities between those involved in logging and those relying on NTFPs (cf. the *Preliminary Assessment*). There is a risk that similar power imbalances could arise in REDD+, particularly because of asymmetries of information between project developers and communities surrounding issues such as carbon contracting etc.

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 3.7) and design (Section 4.5).

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 commonly accepted as a particularly crucial and sensitive dimension for a REDD+ mechanism to be functional and credible, due to the complex needs of reporting on emissions reductions, addressing social & environmental risks, establishing and monitoring safeguard measures, duly managing REDD+ funds, setting up equitable benefit-sharing systems, implementing REDD+ strategies ensuring impact, and ensuring participation and stakeholder engagement in the entire process, among others. Governance is a broad topic that covers both governance of REDD+ systems (e.g. coordination in REDD+ implementation, accountability of REDD+ institutions, transparent management of REDD+ funds) and forest governance (including tenure, forest law compliance and enforcement, forest management) with cross cutting issues as diverse, although often interrelated, as coordination within and across different stakeholder groups, equity (including gender equity), efficiency and effectiveness, participation, and transparency and accountability, among others.

The characteristics of weak governance manifest where there are few accountability mechanisms, low levels of transparency, as well as non-participatory decision making processes. Under these conditions the potential for corruption, illegal and unplanned forest conversion and use, conflicts over land and forest ownership and access rights are high.

At the national and local level, converting existing forests into timber, plantations or agricultural uses represent possibilities for short term income for the private sector, governments as well as local communities. However, at an aggregated level and over time, the ongoing forest degradation and deforestation cause a loss of biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihoods. Adding to these challenges are the actors responsible for illegal and unplanned forest conversions.

One way of improving a country's governance may be to improve existing or develop systems for information sharing, which will affect the level of transparency and accountability in a positive direction given that the information is relevant and perceived as trustworthy, that capacity is developed to both demand and provide relevant updated information, and that the provision of information is institutionalized through the daily management of already existing institutions. The Cancun Agreements from the UNFCCC COP 16 meeting in Cancun in December 2010[3] addresses this directly by requesting "developing country Parties… to develop … [a] system for providing information on how safeguards referred to in annex I to this decision are being addressed and respected" when implementing REDD+.

To prioritize which governance interventions should be addressed first, and to do this prioritization in an effective manner, governments need to be able to provide reliable and trustworthy information not only on the national REDD+ process overall, but also specifically on how governance and social safeguards are promoted, addressed and respected. The mutual trust in how this information is prepared and the 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 currently supporting four countries in conducting PGAs for REDD, namely Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria and Viet Nam. 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 km$^2$ of its forest reserves for the creation of Cross River National park (CRNP). Furthermore the State has created Afi Mountain Wildlife Santuary (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. The effectiveness of this anti-deforestation programme is reflected in a number of official reports, and shown by the number of detentions, the fact that logging companies are leaving the state (this may however represent leakage, but the programme will support the rolling-out of REDD+ into other states, under output 2.3, to prevent this), and the recognition of the usefulness of the initiative within social circles in the state and in the local media.

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.

The broad 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 various missions since 2010. The first, scoping 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 various stakeholder workshops in Nigeria and they have been all addressed in the current proposal. In addition, each agency of the UN-REDD Programme (FAO, UNDP, and UNEP) has provided 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. 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. UN-REDD is active in two other two countries of Africa, namely Tanzania and Zambia. In Tanzania the programme is substantially advanced, but has often lacked a coherent linkage between the different work streams, while crucial REDD+ components, notably social & environmental safeguards, have been lagging with delays, undermining the credibility of the REDD+ readiness process. In Tanzania, a recent mid-term review has highlighted a number of issues and proposed operational recommendations, some of which were used in drafting Nigeria's REDD+ programme. In Zambia the programme started implementation in 2011, and there have been delays related mainly with the design of activities, their timely conduction and the depth of outputs – the presence of international advisors and the engagement of competent national professionals have proven good measures to advance implementation with quality and timely.

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*, 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; and 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 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.

Early lessons on the pilots of Participatory Governance Assessments for REDD+ (PGAs), shared at a South-South Exchange in Bogor, Indonesia (April 2012), demonstrated that ensuring sufficient human capacity to coordinate the PGA process and facilitate meetings and consultations between stakeholders is key to move forward. As such, a dedicated PGA coordinator is recommended. Indonesia stressed that ensuring strong buy-in from government is crucial, with sufficient time allocated for doing this. Ecuador stressed the need to integrate the PGA into other on-going processes on governance and safeguards to ensure coordination and increase the efficiency of the REDD+ process (the report of the PGA South-South Exchange is available at UN-REDD website: http://www.unredd.net).

Finally, a finding from REDD+ projects across the world is that experimenting with REDD+ activities in the field is a pragmatic way to examine REDD+ issues, to build operational capacities and to extract lessons for national REDD+ readinesy. Such field activities are also an excellent way to raise awareness and foster stakeholder engagement. The lessons learnt is that implementing REDD+ activities 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

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 time. This National 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. This suits the federal structure of Nigeria, as well as a good-practice consisting in exploring new development endeavours in one or a few states, prior to expanding them across the country (once models and lessons are extracted).

Furthermore, and based on ongoing REDD+ interest and work, a number of REDD+ projects and activities would be conducted 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-dependent 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 CRS 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 of deforestation. 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). A few states have already started to discuss REDD+, following the path set by CRS.

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

The design of the phases, namely in regards to REDD+ Readiness for the 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 performance (fully 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. For all components of the monitoring and MRV system there will be two-way communication between the CRS and the Federal Government. For the MRV system, the AD as interpreted, validated and disseminated in the state, will allow field validation for the national level, while the state-level Forest inventory will provide data to the national REDD+ database, the format provider for the state level. Finally, for the GHG inventory component of the MRV system, the determination of forest carbon stock change in the CRS will allow the verification of the national GHG inventory, which as it develops will eventually provide the assessment for the state level. In regards to the REDD+ safeguard information system, given that most of the start-up REDD+ activities will take place in CRS, the state level safeguard information system will provide data to develop a federal REDD+ information system. Like the MRV components, the data flow will be two-way as well, since the federal level will provide the format needed for the safeguards at state level (Figure 10).

**Figure 10. Overview of linkages in the MRV system between CRS and Federal level**

This proposed monitoring system applies a stepwise approach, both spatially and temporally. It will enable an evolutionary process towards a full, nationwide MRV system as well as a safeguard information system in Phase III, while also 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 Phase III reporting 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 11). 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 11. Proposed integrated approach to building both Monitoring & MRV systems in Nigeria and CRS**



When considering the forest monitoring system (Figure 12), it should integrate monitoring of the REDD+ activities at national, state and forest community level. The system will be developed at the national scale in order to both ensure the consistency across states as well as be used by the mandated national entity for reporting under the UNFCCC. The management and the interpretation of the necessary data could, however, be done at state level and fed into national, aggregated data. 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 12. 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 should establish a GHG inventory with known uncertainties on the estimations of carbon stock changes (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.

Initially, the MRV system in Nigeria aims for a Tier 2 level. Nevertheless, the current stepwise 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 CRS and national levels.

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

- 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 will be necessary for Nigeria to assess results and performance under the UNFCCC, in line with decision 12/CP.17 which outlines modalities for submission of information on RELs/RLs to the UNFCCC. While states can develop REL/RLs as an interim measure taking into consideration the national circumstances of Nigeria, sub-national REL/RLs will have to be integrated into national REL/RLs. In Nigeria, this interim subnational REL/RL approach will be taken, with an REL/RL first developed at state level, taking into consideration historical data as well as national and sub-national circumstances. 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+ (risks and multiple benefits)

Any REDD+ readiness programme needs to consider social & environmental impacts. Given the potentially large REDD+ revenue flows into the forest sector this could lead to environmental benefits (such as improved local environmental quality), economic benefits (such as income from employment and/or carbon payments) and social benefits (such as increased voice of vulnerable groups in decision making processes). However, there is also a risk that negative social and environmental impacts may occur. For example, as the value of standing forests increases, this could act as an incentive for more powerful elites to control such resources, undermining efforts towards more local level ownership, access and management. Among the possible adverse environmental impacts of REDD+ actions are loss of biodiversity through displacement of land use change to non-forest ecosystems or the establishment of exotic monoculture plantations, and impacts of pollutants from intensified agriculture. Maximising the opportunities from REDD+ and minimising the risks also has important links to the eventual effectiveness of the REDD+ strategy as it can increase stakeholder buy-in to the activities and therefore their long-term sustainability. The UNFCC has recognised this through the safeguards contained in its *Cancun Agreements* (see Box 3), which need to be promoted and supported by countries implementing REDD+.

Any work on REDD+ multiple benefits and safeguards needs to start with a good understanding of the social and environmental opportunities and risks linked both to the drivers of deforestation and to strategies combating them. Such understanding has to be developed in a participatory way, which requires effective consultation and awareness-raising. This can then be built on, through a multi-stakeholder process, with the development of REDD+ strategies that help to minimise risks and maximise benefits. Stakeholder participation activities under the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme will be guided by the joint FCPF and UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement. In addition to this, a national system for collecting and reporting information on these REDD+ strategies needs to be developed in order to ensure that they are functioning effectively and to help adapt strategies to changing circumstances.

UN-REDD, under its work stream on multiple benefits, is developing an approach which broadly follows these different steps and provides some more specific tools that can help to aid analysis at certain points. This work is guided by the UN-REDD *Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria*, which provide a framework for identifying key requirements for REDD+ implementation that maximises social and environmental benefits from REDD+ and minimises the risks. Nigeria has shown interest and willingness to employ the UN-REDD Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria, and the associated tools, to build its own approach to REDD+ safeguards and align its work with UN best practice.

This will help Nigeria to fulfil its requirements under the UNFCCC (Box 3), helping to ensure that REDD+ provides benefits and minimises risks. While these safeguards were internationally agreed upon, it will be important to interpret them in the specific Nigerian context and design national (and possibly state-level) approaches to safeguards accordingly.

---

**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.

---

Some work has already occurred in terms of understanding the social and environmental risks and opportunities linked to REDD+. Consultations, coupled with participatory training, on social & environmental safeguards for REDD+ have so far involved some stakeholders from government and civil society at both national and state levels. In particular, a Technical Consultation on Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria was held in August 2011, 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 – <u>Annex 5</u> describes the consultation. Stakeholders categorize potential risks under three categories: governance, social and environmental. The main findings of this process were as follows:

- <u>Governance issues</u>: sustainability of the REDD+ mechanism; 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.

- <u>Social issues</u>: potential conflicts between migrants and indigenous communities; the need for an equitable benefit-sharing mechanism; land tenure issues, especially with respect to the inadequacy of current laws to formally recognise community tenure and issues of gender and women's ownership of land; and the need for adequate involvement of stakeholders.

- <u>Environmental issues</u>: risks to endangered wildlife and their habitats from management interventions; balancing carbon storage with the need for agricultural land and the associated risk of displacing land use (grazing, agriculture, etc) to, and overuse of, non-forest ecosystems of importance; ensuring that ecosystem services other than carbon are valued and that REDD+ interventions do not reduce that value.

This work provides a good basis for further and more detailed work on understanding multiple benefits. However, effort will be needed to increase awareness around understanding what multiple benefits are in the REDD+ context and how they can be delivered through the eventual REDD+ strategy. Initial consultations have highlighted that while some country stakeholders are aware of the safeguards specified in the *Cancun Agreements*, a lack of awareness and understanding about safeguards and multiple benefits among the majority of stakeholders is a key challenge that will need to be addressed by the Programme. Such awareness and understanding is vital for planning and implementing safeguards, ensuring due engagement with stakeholders, particularly forest-dependent communities.

Little work has so far been carried out on developing approaches to maximise the benefits and minimise the risks from REDD+. It is envisaged that the work outlined in this Programme will provide a good basis for evaluating different strategy options for REDD+ beyond a perspective that just focuses on carbon. Pilot activities will be selected based on criteria such as attention to multiple benefits; efforts will be put into conducting robust evaluations that inform wider strategies. There has been little work to date on developing systems to provide information and report on safeguards. These need to be developed once social and environmental issues have been identified and prioritised, through a extensive multi-stakeholder process. In this sense, the capacity to implement policy reforms that consider multiple benefits is a concern. In this respect, the Federal Department of Forestry, the CRS's Forestry Commission and UNEP-WCMC have undertaken an initial assessment of capacity and opportunities for achieving multiple benefits. Further analyzing, assessing and managing these opportunities and identifying potential risks are priorities in developing REDD+ readiness in Nigeria and in ensuring that REDD+ implementation is consistent with the UNFCCC safeguards.

Nigeria will employ the **UN-REDD's Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC)**, and the associated tools, to help build its own approaches to REDD+ safeguards. The SEPC consist of a set of broad principles for REDD+, within which detailed criteria describe the important and indispensable issues to be considered in preparing for, and while implementing REDD+. The principles and criteria are coherent with, and draw from the broad guidance provided by the UNFCCC's *Cancun Agreements,* and emerge from a body of knowledge and literature on safeguards, standards and certification. At the same time, the SEPC reflect the UN-REDD Programme's responsibility to apply and foster in countries a human-rights based approach to its programming, upholding UN conventions and declarations, and applying the UN agencies' policies and procedures. The SEPC and its associated Benefits and Risks Tool (BeRT) can be used as a framework to identify and review potential benefits and risks and to develop strategies for addressing them.

Further support for safeguards implementation can be derived from application of spatial analysis and other tools (such as the Exploring Multiple Benefits Tool) to identify potential impacts of REDD+ activities in different locations. This can help to explore the implications of different approaches to both safeguard development and REDD+ implementation and to clarify outstanding issues, such as definitions.

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 has developed draft guidelines for FPIC which are currently being finalised, and these will be applied to the Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme. 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). For governments to be able to provide credible 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 is crucial. Nigeria finds the PGA to be a valuable process to build such information systems and to prepare the grounds for qualitative safeguards. The PGA will start out with a diagnostics of the state of governance systems and structures, to identify gaps as a basis for recommendations for improvements. The PGA in Nigeria also aim to provide information on prioritized governance issues and aspects at a regular level, which in turn can feed into the national safeguards information system.

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 (April to December 2012).

---

**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 a 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

After 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** | **Level** |
| 1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level | 1.1. The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide<br>1.2. Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced<br>1.3. Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established<br>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<br>2.2. National M & MRV framework designed<br>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<br>3.2. CRS stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained & engaged on REDD+<br>3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed<br>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<br>4.2. REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ phase 2 triggered]<br>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 (this is important to avoid risks of displacement of deforestation into other 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 serve to design and start implementing this strategy for replication of the experience from CRS across Nigeria's states, with a particular emphasis on preventing leakage. In essence, the entire Outcome 2 will lay the foundations for the expansion of REDD+ to other states across Nigeria, with support from output 4.3 in terms of providing best practice from CRS for REDD+ readiness.

The modalities for expanding the scope of REDD+ to other states will comprise of preliminary discussions with Government Authorities in the states that have indicated interest to participate in Nigeria's REDD Programme, following the adoption of the *Memorandum on REDD+ by the National Council on Environment* in September 2011, which called on all states in Nigeria to participate in REDD+ as means of saving the remaining forest estates, achieve forest conservation, and promote sustainable livelihoods. Clear interest has already been shown by Taraba, Ogun and Ondo states. During implementation of the programme, and as part of output 2.3, the national REDD+ Unit will conduct scoping missions to assess the capability for REDD+ in interested states, identify gaps and prepare roadmaps for them to enable joining the national REDD+ process.All these activities will be conducted in open and transparent manners, ensuring collective involvement and participation of forest dependent communities, NGOs/CBOs, including women groups, media, private sector, etc. right from the planning stages. In any case, it seems clear that many of the REDD+ activities to be done will, from day one, include states other than Cross River into the training and discussions, so to ensure a policy dynamic that avoids displacement of deforestation (for instance, at the recent REDD+ University, in Calabar, March 2012, official representatives and field practitioners from Akwa-Ibom, Delta, Jigawa, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Taraba states participated – this shows the clear state-level inclusiveness in the REDD+ process and the willingness of CRS to foster this). The criteria to select new participating states for intense

REDD+ support, once additional funding is mobilised, will be established under the studies and dialogue of output 2.3, but are likely to include as follows: political will; relevance to 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; extent of 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 essence, 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. This approach is consisted with ongoing UNFCCC negotiations for REDD+, as subnational approaches to REDD+ are acceptable (at least on an interim basis). The federal and decentralised structure of Nigeria fit perfectly in such terms, and will likely provide an innovative approach for other countries with similar structure or challenges to get inspired from.

**Figure 13: Showing phases and components of REDD approach in Nigeria.**

# 4. 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, a track record in community forest management and an engagement in forest conservation, aside from having a 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 up-scaling REDD+ across Nigeria, from the federal institutions to other interested states and forest areas. This is in line with the *Memorandum on REDD+* by the National Council on Environment, in September 2011, which called on all states in Nigeria to participate in REDD+. Under this outcome, a series of national assessments and scoping missions will be undertaken to design 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 will serve to: (i) foster new alliances, (ii) mobilise and channel new REDD+ readiness funding; and (iii) prevent risks of leakage of deforestation.

**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 operationalisation 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. Workplan & Budget

The **Workplan & Budget** 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. The **Results & Monitoring Framework** of the Programme is compiled in Table 9 (under Section 7). All these tables are mutually consistent.

## Table 6. Workplan & Budget 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 | • National REDD+ Secretariat equipped, trained and active (travel, meetings) in national climate change and development policies and planning.<br>• Personnel: CTA (international, 50%), National Programme Officer, Admin-Finance specialist.<br>• Meetings of the National Advisory Council on REDD+, the National REDD+ Technical Committee, and associated working groups organized.<br>• Support drafting & validation of a Presidential Order endorsing REDD+ and giving legal backing to the REDD+ committees and structures.<br>• 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 | • Civil society forum on REDD+ created and functional.<br>• Meetings and events to catalyse stakeholder engagement on REDD+.<br>• Training needs assessment. {UNEP}<br>• Information products (e.g. website, reports, leaflets). {UNEP}<br>• Public awareness campaign on REDD+. {UNEP}<br>• Focused training for interested stakeholders on REDD+ components.<br>• Awareness raising and engagement with relevant government officials (across ministries) & legislators.<br>• Private sector engagement – possible creation of a carbon investment platform.<br>• 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 | • 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).<br>• Analysis of issues related to Carbon rights and forest Carbon tenure and implications for benefit distribution<br>• Identification of legal modifications needed to facilitate REDD+ and limit risks of reversals in the long-term<br>• Assessment of options to strengthen national carbon governance & finance capacities. | | 85,000 | | 85,000 |
| 1.4. Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced | • Training on international climate policy and negotiations, with an emphasis on REDD+ (with other related UNDP initiatives).<br>• Creation and support of a task force for UNFCCC and REDD+ negotiations<br>• Support for Nigeria to take regional leadership on REDD+ (cooperation with ECOWAS).<br>• Promotion of South-South cooperation for REDD+. | | 80,000 | | 80,000 |

[ Table 6. Workplan & Budget ]

## 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 | • Assessment of deforestation drivers and challenges to forest governance, and potential responses at national level.<br>• Assessment of national circumstances for REDD+ including situations and roles of women and vulnerable groups (e.g. youth)<br>• Assessment of forest contribution to national sustainable development<br>• Assessment of intra-national displacement risks and measures.<br>• Preliminary design of the national REL framework | 95,000 | | | 95,000 |
| 2.2. National M & MRV framework designed<br><br>[in conjunction with Output 3.4] | • Capacities for developing a GHG inventory and reporting for international level<br>• Training on forest monitoring systems and GHG inventory – national forest monitoring system developed.<br>• Nationwide stratification of forests [in conjunction with CRS].<br>• Development of national MRV on-line platform [co-finance likely required].<br>• National software for GHG inventory [co-finance likely required].<br>• Technical support to the GHG inventory unit to develop the national report.<br>• International MRV advisor (50%). | 300,000 | | | 300,000 |
| 2.3. A Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states built | • Assessment of REDD+ potential across all Nigerian states.<br>• 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<br>• Development of preliminary national strategy for REDD+ readiness expansion in other states.<br>• Support to investment planning for REDD+ and a national low-carbon economy.<br>• Fund raising and donor liaison efforts. | | 90,000 | | 90,000 |

[ Table 6. Workplan and budget ]

## 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 | • CRS REDD+ Unit strengthened (*e.g.* office, vehicle, equipment, field travel, operational costs).<br>• Personnel: CTA (international, 50%, Calabar-based), stakeholder mobilisation specialist, Admin-Finance specialist, consultant support.<br>• Specialised training for CRS REDD+ Unit and CRSFC; attendance of workshops & conferences.<br>• 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+ | • Support to the CRS Stakeholder Forum on REDD+.<br>• Training (broad-based & specialised).<br>• Awareness raising for government officials, state legislators and local governments.<br>• Awareness raising, training & organizational strengthening for communities<br>• Participatory governance assessment | | 235,000 | | 235,000 |
| 3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed | • 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<br>• 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.<br>• Design of the REDD+ institutional/implementation framework & Drafting of a State Law on REDD+.<br>• Analysis of land tenure dimensions and carbon rights' issues [in conjunction with Output 1.3].<br>• Free, prior & informed consent (FPIC) for REDD+ and Recourse Mechanisms<br>• 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<br>• Participatory & cross-sector development/adoption of a REDD+ Strategy for CRS | | 270,000 | | 270,000 |
| 3.4. CRS forest monitoring system operational<br><br>[in conjunction with Output 2.2 and relevant Federal agencies] | • GIS laboratory & full equipment for forest monitoring [data to be shared with Federal Govn't]<br>• Satellite information management & interpretation / Specialised trainings.<br>• Support to the nationwide stratification of forests [in conjunction with Federal agencies]<br>• Design of the forest inventory and cost analysis (at state-level)<br>• Community-based verification and monitoring of forest cover.<br>• National guidelines for community forest management in development<br>• Collect and harmonise existing forest data (to be shared with federal government).<br>• Establishment of Reference Levels (based on forest coverage & socio-economic conditions).<br>• International MRV advisor (50%) | 662,000 | | | 662,000 |

[ Table 6. Workplan & Budget ]

OUTCOME 4. **REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State**

*Implementation level:* **CRS**

| Outputs | core / indicative activities | Estimated UN-REDD budget (US$) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | FAO | UNDP | UNEP | Total |
| 4.1. REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported | • Criteria & guidelines for the development of REDD+ pilot projects<br>• Technical support to REDD+ experimental initiatives and their stakeholders.<br>• Creation & administration of a fund to support community initiatives for REDD+ (aim: to foster and experiment alternatives to deforestation, local forest management & community empowerment) – *estimated budget: US$ 150,000.*<br>• 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] | • Analytical support for forest transformation and a transition to a low-carbon economy with sustainable livelihoods {UNEP}<br>• Preparation of investment plans and enabling programmes for REDD+ (transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient development path in CRS) {UNDP/UNEP}.<br>• Financial resource mobilization, donor visits & dialogue (aiming at catalysing global climate funds, donor support and philanthropic funding). {UNDP/UNEP}<br>• 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+ | • Establishment of a training & knowledge management centre (open for practical training on REDD+ readiness planning for other states and abroad).<br>• Knowledge management and dissemination of best practices of REDD+ readiness.<br>• REDD+ database developed [in conjunction with Output 2.2 and with FAO's inputs].<br>• Organising a major international REDD+ event.<br>• Design of social & environmental safeguards, including design of information system [in conjunction with Output 3.3] {UNDP/UNEP}<br>• Field-level testing and monitoring of social & environmental safeguards. {UNDP}<br>• 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]<br>• 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}<br>• 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. At present, there is no legal endorsement or mandate of REDD+, and national REDD+ structures are weak. 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. This will serve to further the REDD+ mechanism and to position REDD+ into national climate and development policies and strategies.

***Output 1.2 Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced.*** Based on a needs assessment, a set of training and communication plans and toolkits will be developed. These will be used as a basis to nurture a civil society forum on REDD+ and to conduct public awareness campaigns and a broad set of advocacy and training events. It is to be noted that the local project appraisal committee and final technical review meetings (August 2012) recommended that "awareness creation, advocacy and the roles of CSOs/Media should be stepped up as early REDD+ actions" (see Appendix I). In addition, focused training will be delivered to key stakeholders on specific aspects of REDD+, including the functioning of the REDD+ mechanism, forest carbon governance, reference levels, forest monitoring, safeguards and benefit-distribution systems. Analyses will be carried out to assess the effectiveness of stakeholder participation mechanisms that are currently in place, to identify activities needed to improve these mechanisms or to create new mechanisms, as necessary. This will also include a review of Programme management and decision making structures to ensure broad stakeholder representation in line with the guidance provided in the joint FCPF and UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement. A specific attention will be provided to the engagement of the private sector, which is a dynamic constituency in Nigeria and has already expressed eagerness for REDD+. In fact, the private sector is regarded as a crucial front of Nigeria's REDD+ process, since the country has a dynamic business community, has shown interest in carbon schemes (Nigeria is among the few African countries that have managed to engage in the CDM) and its business community is increasingly sensitive to the social & environmental corporate responsibilities. It is however important to define well the scope of engagement with the private sector, considering both financial institutions and companies that are currently engaged with the forest sector. It is clear that a specific work stream on private sector views and engagement in REDD+ is indispensable in Nigeria, and will be among the priority at start of implementation. For this, the programme will bring international expertise for the matter, drawing from UN experience (including incipient UN-REDD work, such as a draft "Private sector strategy for the UN REDD Programme: A Latin American and Caribbean regional outlook"), successful NGO-business alliances for forest conservation, and the international banking community. Regarding the communication plan, it will determine the most strategic interventions to disseminate key messages and 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 make REDD+ function, as well as a generic policy void on REDD+ that needs to be addressed. Some of these issues and barriers 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 first built the basic legal framework for REDD+ (in this sense, a key indicator of the Programme will be the drafting and promulgation of a *Presidential Order on REDD+,* ensuring a legal endorsement or REDD+ and its management structures). In addition, the forestry, economics, trade, carbon rights and tenure sectors will be also explored in legal terms, to ensure barriers and gaps are addressed. 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 of activities under this output is to strengthen Nigeria's role and engagement in the international community, particularly in West Africa (ECOWAS) and in South-South Cooperation. At present, no task force for REDD+ negotiations exists, and the country has a limited number of officials that understand and follow REDD+ negotiations. Activities will therefore 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. This is crucially needed as the country lacks an in-depth assessment of deforestation drivers, with reliable data, accurate analysis, field verifications and, most important, a cross-stakeholder consensus on why deforestation and forest degradation occur and how to successfully tackle it. Technical work under this output will include national surveys and mapping of deforestation drivers, including fuel-wood demand & supply dynamics, and the assessment of effectiveness of alternative/efficient energy sources (such as the Save 80 Stoves), among others. In this sense, there is a clear potential for private sector participation and investment in this domain. The data collected will provide the basis for the development of the national and state reference level and reference emission levels. Technical assessment work necessary for addressing the drivers of deforestation as well as expansion and replication of REDD+ to other States will be undertaken. This output will explore with particular attention the risks of leakage due to different paces of REDD+ in different states, and propose mitigation measures.

***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 monitoring system. 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. This will serve also to enhance the ability of Nigeria to report on GHG to the UNFCCC. 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 choice of REDD+ as the arrow head in Nigeria's road map towards developing a green economy is based on the recognition of the linkages between forest conservation and sustainable community livelihoods. Various strategies aiming to enhance successful REDD+ implementation would require new approaches to reducing the pressure on the country's dwindling forest resources through innovative energy regimes, climate-smart agriculture and technology innovations, among others. These would provide ample opportunities for investments in the "green economy" domain. 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 Workplan & Budget. The target under this output is that a team of REDD+ professionals is assembled and works in CRS by the end of the programme's implementation, leading the multifaceted dimensions of REDD+ (covering policy, stakeholder engagement and dialogue, technical, operational and monitoring functions alike).

***Output 3.2 CRS 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 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), forest-dependent and local communities, 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 the drafting, consultation and adoption of a full REDD+ Strategy for CRS (no REDD+ strategic work has been so far conducted, aside from the state policy to explore REDD+ as part of a broad *green development* effort). 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 reviews, 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, as part of building a safeguards system that meets the requirements of the UNFCCC, 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. Reference levels will also be established as part of this output. It will also cover an international MRV advisor with the responsibility of providing the support on MRV at federal and state level. This output is crucial as no forest monitoring system is currently in place, which impedes the Forestry Commission to demonstrate the positive impact of its policies and commitment to forest protection.

***Output 4.1 REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported.*** Currently, CRS has ideas for initiatives on REDD+, on a design phase, and due to weak knowledge and capacities there is a risk is of a dispersed set of REDD+ activities, with no coordination, coherence or criteria used. Accordingly, under this Output, the programme will provide technical support to the growing number of REDD+ pilot projects in CRS, as well as develop criteria and guidelines for REDD+ pilot projects to evolve under a common framework. Technical support will be given to pilot site stakeholders and design teams to ensure quality, coordination and coherence of interventions. 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 specifically 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].*** No REDD+ finance of significance is reaching the country or CRS (aside from the current UN-REDD programme); this is partly due to the need of due assessments, stakeholder dialogue and planning efforts (which the current programme will do across its different outputs). Accordingly the Programme will help 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. As highlighted in the description of output 1.2, engagement of the private sector in Nigeria will be key and will build on the solid business

community of Nigeria. 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 will also emphasize the linkages between forests and sustainable livelihoods, whose recognition is critical to enhancing community participation in REDD+. 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. It is intended, as target, that by the end of the programme, at least 5 states across Nigeria will have visited dedicatedly CRS to learn about REDD+ and to enable REDD+ policies and actions in their own territories.

## 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 4 for full details (and Appendix II for informative leaflets). In essence, the objectives are to manage the following elements at the national level on a permanent basis:

- the safeguards system,
- 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 Department of Climate Change (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 4 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 (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. 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 5) during which a clear will and commitment of Nigeria to lead on the building social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ was articulated. 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.

Nigeria is willing to use the UN-REDD *Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria,* and the associated tool, for the development of the national approach to REDD+ safeguards. In fact, a work stream on REDD+ safeguards has already started in Nigeria, with a team trained on the matter and starting discussions, and it has employed the mentioned UN-REDD principles and criteria document (in its advanced draft). This method will continue, making of Nigeria one of the pilot countries for the use of UN social & environmental principles and criteria in its own REDD+ policy process.

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 draw on a process for supporting countries on the development of REDD+ safeguards that UN-REDD is developing in other countries and applying to its safeguards work in general. The process involves a general set of steps, including:

1. Initial multi-stakeholder identification of social and environmental impacts of a future REDD+ system.

2. Country/State interpretation of safeguards and comparison with Cancun and other international initiatives (such as the UN-REDD Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC); REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards; and the World Bank safeguards).

3. Developing an understanding of existing safeguards enshrined in State policies and laws, and the extent to which these may satisfy the requirements of Cancun. Further processes may be needed to establish new policies and laws for respecting and supporting REDD+ safeguards.

4. Establishment of policies and procedures for managing both the development of a safeguards system and its operation.

5. Development of State-level indicators to determine how safeguards are being (or will be) addressed and respected.

6. Development of monitoring and reporting methodologies for collecting information on the indicators that have been defined.

7. Potential development of a recourse mechanism that helps to ensure that REDD+ is implemented effectively, including respecting the safeguards.

A work stream on REDD+ safeguards has already started in Nigeria, with a team trained on the matter and starting discussions. It has used the draft SEPC to guide its work and is willing to use this in further activities. This method will continue, making of Nigeria one of the pilot countries for the use of UN-REDD SEPC in its own REDD+ policy process.

This set of activities will need to be established and run through a best-practice multi-stakeholder process that ensures participation and independence. 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 in both the design process and in monitoring systems. The selection of demonstration activities will be based on criteria that include their attention to social and environmental impacts. In the design process, ex-ante impact assessment can be carried out through a number of methodologies that have been used by UN-REDD (such as multiple benefits mapping; participatory scenarios development etc.). This will be used to 'design in' effective approaches for ensuring social and environmental benefits and safeguard against potential risks. During project implementation, social and environmental impact monitoring will be carried out at each site – a process that is generally easier at the project level, but which is often neglected. Participatory monitoring approaches will be promoted and will serve as useful learning for monitoring approaches at the national level. Effort will be put into building procedures at the demonstration activity level based on best practice, which will provide valuable insights that can be used to adapt activities over time.

This learning in CRS (output 4.3) will also help to contribute to the development of scaled-up approaches at the national level. In this line, the criteria for pilot projects as well as the technical advice to be provided 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 5) 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 support implementation of safeguards and generate multiple benefits, 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

It is critical that gender issues are fully considered in the planning and implementation stages of the National Programme. 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. One of the first priorities is that all key stakeholders will receive gender training.

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

- Initial training of all key stakeholders on gender sensitive analysis and planning. Government staff and other facilitators, in particular, will be trained in gender sensitivity and gender issues;

- Promoting high level buy-in to gender dimensions in REDD+, particularly through engaging the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Women's groups;

- Gender differentiated analysis where possible in all early analysis that is carried out for designing REDD+ activities. Data and Information will be disaggregated by gender where possible, for example when determining how local people use the forest. UN-REDD's work on gender in other regions and global guidance that is being developed will be used to feed into this process where necessary;

- Consultation processes that ensure the participation of women, such as developing criteria for participant selection at meetings, supporting their attendance at consultation meetings and running meetings in a way that women can voice their concerns;

- Consideration of the needs of women in relation to the strategies used to reduce deforestation and degradation. For example, in many rural communities, women are responsible for providing the energy needs for the households, usually from firewood and/or charcoal. Options for introducing renewable or more efficient energy sources will be considered in order to both reduce the burden on women and also reduce deforestation and degradation;

- 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;

- M & MRV– it will be ensured that women have a role in MRV and monitoring systems;

- Establishment of management structures that ensure that women have a role and responsibility in the development and management of REDD+ at all levels;

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)

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. The joint FCPF and UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement with a focus on Indigenous Peoples and other Forest-Dependent Communities 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 has developed global draft Guidelines on FPIC which is currently being finalised. 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, conducted by the UN-REDD Programme, and the inputs received in this consultation have been incorporated into the Guidelines. 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.

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.

Grievance mechanisms

In order to ensure adequate feedback and accountability, a REDD+ mechanism shall encompass grievance mechanisms, to be established following these steps:

- A rapid assessment of existing formal or informal feedback and grievance mechanisms will be conducted, including an assessment of how existing mechanisms could be modified to ensure that the eventual mechanism is accessible, transparent, fair, affordable, and effective in responding to challenges in REDD+ implementation;

- A framework for the proposed grievance mechanism will be developed, including steps that will be taken to define the structure, functioning and governance of such a mechanism, taking into account customary grievance approaches and best practices where feasible;

- A process for information sharing and consultation on the proposed mechanism will be developed; and

- An outreach programme will be developed to ensure that stakeholders are aware of the mechanism and able to use it

The UN-REDD Programme is in the process of developing elaborated guidelines on national-level grievance mechanisms, which Nigeria can employ for the above-mentioned activities. The current proposal will contribute to multi-stakeholder discussions and preliminary design of grievance mechanisms for REDD+; co-funding will be required for a full-fledge establishment of grievance mechanisms.

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 UN-REDD Global Programme funds) and the second one will follow at some point in 2012 (financed from the present programme, under output 3.2).

Phase one of the PGA on REDD+ (from June to December 2012) 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 of the PGA (from early 2013 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<br>Output 1.3<br>Output 1.4<br>Output 2.1<br>Output 2.3 | Output 3.1<br>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.e.* quality, transparency and inclusiveness of REDD+ design & decision-making) | Output 1.2<br>Output 1.4 | Output 3.2<br>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<br>Output 2.1<br>Output 2.3 | Output 3.3<br>Output 4.1<br>Output 4.2<br>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.e. 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<br>Sections 4 & 5 | Output 3.1<br>Sections 4 & 5 |
| **(6) Monitoring and evaluation framework** | Due Programme monitoring and evaluation | Output 1.1<br>Section 7 | Output 3.1<br>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 (see Figure 14 below for detailed organisational chart). To the extent necessary, the UN agencies will participate in the existing coordination mechanisms to guide activities under this Programme.

**Figure 14. Overall management of the REDD+ readiness process in Nigeria**



The above chart reflects the REDD+ implementation arrangements at both federal and state level. For the state level, the organisational chart reflects the case of CRS (as pioneer REDD+ state in Nigeria); accordingly, as other states engage in REDD+, they will organise themselves and liaise with federal structures in a similar (analogous) way.

## 5.2. Programme's planning & policy

The overall planning & policy decision-making for Nigeria's REDD+ process will be provided by the **National Advisory Council on REDD+**, which will play three crucial functions: (i) to guide, monitor and review progress on the national REDD+ process, (ii) to ensure federal-state coordination on REDD+ matters; and (iii) to oversee the design and implementation of national REDD+ programmes and endeavours, such as the present UN-REDD Nigeria programme.

---

**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)
- Climate Change Department (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

---

In addition, a **UN-REDD Nigeria programme steering committee** will be established for the specific purpose of the annual management of the programme, namely the discussion and approval of both the annual reports and the annual work plans & budgets. It will be composed by the Minister of Environment (or head of the Department of Climate Change), the National REDD+ Coordinator, the Chairman of the CRS Forestry Commission, the UN Resident Coordinator, the UNDP country director (or deputy), the FAO Representative (or delegate), a UNEP representative, 2 representatives from civil society organisations (to be drawn from the respective federal and CRS stakeholder forums on REDD+) and the Programme's Chief Technical Advisor. Some members of the National Advisory Council, the National REDD+ Technical Committee, the Nigeria UN-REDD implementation team and the UN-REDD Programme (regional advisors) may participate, as necessary. This programme steering committee will normally meet once per year, but more if needed. It will be responsible for the overall coordination of the programme, the approval of annual work plans and budgets, and the overall monitoring (including taking management decisions to enhance implementation and impact, and solve problems). Decisions relating to this programme will be reached by consensus. Specific responsibilities will 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, state & 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

<u>Federal level</u>

At the federal level, government oversight is to be provided by the new Department of Climate Change, 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 part of the Department of Climate Change (formerly 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 that the programme payment and records are efficient and in line with required international standards.

Specific responsibilities of the Department of Climate Change, **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
- 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 at 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 (Table 6 above and Annex 3). An outline of Terms of Reference for each of these posts is found in Annex 7.

## 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. Its terms of reference are as follows:

  (i) Examine and make recommendations for the effective planning and implementation of programmes and activities of Nigeria REDD+ Initiative.
 (ii) Develop Roadmap for Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Framework and Strategy.
(iii) Identify and advise on institutional roles and mandates of relevant stakeholders for the implementation of REDD+ processes in Nigeria
 (iv) Coordinate national REDD+ activities and programmes, and how REDD+ can be integrated into National Development Programmes such as Vision 20-20-20.
  (v) Examine and recommend measures and programmes which will ensure awareness creation, education, training and institutional capacity building on REDD+ issues in Nigeria.
 (vi) Serve as liaison between respective REDD+ institutions, stakeholder groups, UN-REDD Agencies and Development Partners for effective planning and implementation of REDD+ activities in Nigeria.
(vii) Any other assignments that the Minister of Environment may decide to include from time to time.

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. It is to be noted that during the local project appraisal and technical review meetings (August 2012), participants highlighted the need, during implementation, of "strong functional linkage with the Department of Forestry" and that, to that effect, "Community Forest Management Working Group should be one of the technical working groups to be established (at Federal & CRS levels) to facilitate implementation of the project, with leadership domiciled in the Department of Forestry" (see Appendix I).

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

Nigeria's UN-REDD National Programme (NP) is a country-driven initiative that emerged from Nigeria's engagement with the UN-REDD Programme. Through the NP, Nigeria will therefore receive technical and policy implementation support from the UN-REDD agencies (namely FAO, UNDP and UNEP). The country is also exploring further co-financing sources and additional international partners, such as the FCPF, NCRC and green climate funds, to enhance its REDD+ readiness process and advance a *green development* path.

The implementation of the NP is primarily the responsibility of the Government, through both the National REDD+ Secretariat and the CRSFC. The UN-REDD agencies shall ensure country ownership and decision-making on all aspects of the Programme's implementation, with due respect to UN rules and procedures. The implementation, disbursement and reporting needs for the UN-REDD funds will follow rules and procedures of the UN agencies as applied to the UN-REDD Programme. Reports will be made public via the website established by the programme. A chief technical advisor (CTA) will be recruited through UN procedures CTA and recognised by the 3 agencies as their coordinator for the overall NP, even though s/he will be recruited by one of the agencies (i.e. UNDP). The CTA will also provide strategic, policy, management and planning guidance for the implementation of the NP and for the ensemble of the REDD+ process. 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 UN Country Team coordination and help ensuring the 3 agencies collaborate to deliver one integrated and joint NP.

Each UN agency will have technical and financial responsibilities, as per the outputs and activities specified in the Programme Results & Monitoring Framework (Section 7). UNDP will play a coordinating role of the Nigeria NP in view of its solid presence in the country, fostering a collegial cooperation among the agencies, as well as in terms of coordinating in-country meetings, engaging the UN RC's office, coordinating the UN agencies' focal points, liaising with the national counterpart, consolidating inputs to UN-REDD reports, and consolidating UN agencies' comments on NP products and outputs, among others.

On an international level, the main structures of the UN-REDD Programme are as follows (for more information see the UN-REDD Programme website: <www.un-redd.org>. See also the UN-REDD Workspace for eligible users: www.unredd.net):

- **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. **UN-REDD Secretariat:** It **i**s an inter-agency unit of the UN-REDD agencies (FAO, UNDP, and UNEP) designed to support the UN-REDD Policy Board and facilitate the coordination of the UN-REDD agencies. 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' Management 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 15: UN-REDD National internal management arrangements**

## 5.6. Potential regional-level partners for REDD+

A number of regional organisations are active in REDD+ in Nigeria and in West Africa, representing potential partners for the national REDD+ readiness process. 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 4.2 above. Funds are transferred to the three UN agencies at the Headquarters level. Each agency then uses its own policies and procedures to pass the funds to its country (or regional) offices. As a result, at the national level, UN-REDD NPs comprise up to three separate streams of funding. So while the UN-REDD Programme uses the "pass-through" modality for fund management at the global level, at the national level NPs are more akin to "parallel joint programs" (see the United Nations Development Group website for more details on the types of UN joint programs).

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). The UN-REDD agencies have recently endorsed a set of implementation principles for UN-REDD's national programmes, which seek to ensure coordination and to ease programme management from the perspective of the national counterparts – accordingly the UN agencies will follow the principles in implementing Nigeria's National Programme. 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. The NP execution modality, as determined by the HACT process in Nigeria, will be National Implementation Modality (NIM), which means that the country leads implementation, with support from the UN agencies.

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.

Fund management will follow the UN-REDD implementation principles for national programmes. In particular, each UN agency will abide by the application of the HACT in the country to determine the fund transfer modality to national counterparts, while 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 states that NIM is the execution modality to employ. At the CRS level, a micro-assessment of the Forestry Commission is planned by the UN Country Team in order to determine the implementation modality. Until such time, a risk-adverse modality will be used by all the UN-REDD agencies, such as direct payment, following direction from UN-Nigeria team.

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. Expected Results, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

## 7.1. Programme Results & Monitoring Framework

A integrated Programme Results & Monitoring Framework has been prepared, proposing indicators for the objective (two), the outcomes and each of the outputs (thus a total of 20 impact and progress indicators). Table 9 presents this integrated framework, including indicators, baseline, proposed target (with timeframe), means of verification, institutional responsibilities to track it, and the related risks.

A mid-term review and a final evaluation will be conducted in order to assess progress, impact, quality of outputs and fulfilment of objectives, as well as to extract lessons and identify best practice for the continuation of the REDD+ process and its expansion to other Nigerian states.

## 7.2. Risk assessment

The main risks for the implementation of the Programme and for the broad REDD+ readiness phase, as identified during the drafting and appraisal of this proposal, are as follows:

1. Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments 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. Risk of leakage (displacement of deforestation due to CRS activities)

6. Potential investors are too eager to get into REDD+, carbon finance and carbon trading, creating confusion.

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

## Table 9. Programme Results & Monitoring Framework

| Expected Results (outcomes and outputs) | Indicators | Baseline | Target (by end of programme, unless otherwise stated) | Means of verification | Main risks & assumptions *(linked to the risks table)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **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** | Level of investment in REDD+ in Nigeria | The present REDD+ readiness programme (US$ 4 million, from UN-REDD) is the only available funding for REDD+ at present in Nigeria. | Nigeria, with CRS and other states, mobilise at least US$ 20 million of additional REDD+ funding (i.e. 5 times more than what is mobilised with the current programme) | Reports from federal government, from CRS and from new REDD+ states; new development and investment programme documents (signed or indicating financial commitment); Final Evaluation. | Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines (#1) |
|  | Number of new states (after CRS) that are engaged in a REDD+ process (with stakeholders' awareness raised, and state REDD+ structures in place) | Only one state (CRS) is fully engaged in REDD+; a few other states have expressed interest but have made no institutional, cross-stakeholder or policy efforts for a REDD+ process. | At least 5 new states are formally engaged in a REDD+ process (with stakeholders' awareness raised, and state REDD+ coordination structures in place), using CRS's process as inspiration and model. |  |  |

| Expected Results (outcomes and outputs) | Indicators | Baseline | Target (by end of programme, unless otherwise stated) | Means of verification | Main risks & assumptions *(linked to the risks table)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Outcome 1. Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level** | Number of high-level and federal policies and planning processes changed due to the REDD+ analytical and dialogue work | The federal government of Nigeria is engaging in REDD+ as a gateway for promoting sustainable development and fostering a green economy, but few examples of a change of route exist | At least 4 new environmental, climate, agriculture and rural energy policy processes or strategies/plans are substantially reformed thanks to inputs from the national REDD+ process | Official documents; programme reports; media products | Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines (#1) |
| 1.1. The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide | Increased legal mandate & institutional recognition of REDD+ in Nigeria | Baseline: no official REDD+ legal endorsement or mandate, weak REDD+ structures | A Presidential Order on REDD+ is promulgated, by the implementation's mid-term stage, endorsing the REDD+ process and its management structures. | Official legal gazette, media products | Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines (#1) |
| 1.2. Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced | Federal multi-stakeholder REDD+ cluster (to sustain the REDD+ process at federal level) | The REDD+ constituency at federal level is relatively small, with minimal capacities and no regular stakeholder engagement structures in place. | A multi-stakeholder REDD+ cluster at federal level is created and fully functional by the implementation's mid-term, supporting regularly the national REDD+ process | Programme reports; stakeholder events' reports | |
| 1.3. Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established | Policy and legal context for a REDD+ mechanism | No policy or legal framework for text exists or has been assessed | Assessment of policy and legal needs for a REDD+ mechanism is conducted, including identification of new legal instruments and establishing clarity on carbon rights | Legal reviews, assessment reports, programme documents, policy drafts | Government agencies do not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively (#2) |

| Expected Results (outcomes and outputs) | Indicators | Baseline | Target (by end of programme, unless otherwise stated) | Means of verification | Main risks & assumptions *(linked to the risks table)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.4. Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced | Task force for REDD+ negotiations | No task force for REDD+ negotiations; country has a limited number of officials that understand and follow REDD+ negotiations | A task force for REDD+ negotiations is created and is functional, participating actively in international meetings and providing leadership to ECOWAS and African delegations in UNFCCC matters | FMEnv documents, reports from Nigeria participation at international REDD+ negotiations | Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines (#1) |
| **Outcome 2. Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared** | Endorsement of a preliminary national strategy on REDD+ across Nigeria's states | No strategy for REDD+ expansion in Nigeria available; no analysis of the options and viability of REDD+ across the different states | A first national strategy on REDD+ adopted by the federal government and stakeholders, providing specific analysis and guidance for new states to join REDD+ | Programme documents, Preliminary national strategy on REDD+ document | Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines (#1) |
| 2.1. National REDD+ challenges & potentials assessed | National assessment of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation | In-depth understanding of deforestation drivers across Nigeria is weak (some studies exist, but there is insufficient depth as required for REDD+) | A nationwide assessment of deforestation drivers is conducted, consulted and adopted at implementation's mid-term | Official reports, consultation meetings minutes, media | |
| 2.2. National M & MRV framework designed | GHG reporting to UNFCCC | GHG not reported with quality; weak national capacities on GHG reporting | Good-quality GHG report submitted to the UNFCCC (by end of Programme) | Nigeria communications & reports to the UNFCCC | Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion (#4) |
| 2.3. A Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states built | Understanding of differential conditions, options & challenges for REDD+ among different states | No systematic analysis exists for REDD+ across Nigeria | Federal government has a comprehensive and differentiate understanding of REDD+ challenges, options and potential across the different regions and states of the country | Programme and federal government reports | Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines (#1) |

| Expected Results (outcomes and outputs) | Indicators | Baseline | Target (by end of programme, unless otherwise stated) | Means of verification | Main risks & assumptions *(linked to the risks table)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3. Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened** | Ability of CRS to sustain the elaboration and adoption of the CRS REDD+ Strategy | No CRS REDD+ Strategy; in fact, no institutional and technical capacities available at present to build such a strategy | The CRS REDD+ Strategy is elaborated with in-depth technical analysis and in a participatory way, adopted by both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and recognised internationally as good practice | Assessments and studies, CRS policy documents, stakeholder surveys, international reports and communications, media products | Government agencies do not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively (#2) |
| 3.1. CRS REDD+ Unit fully functional and effective | Scope of REDD+ team in CRS | CRSFC has a REDD+ unit, but the team is reduced in size and skills | A team of REDD+ professionals is assembled and works in CRS by the end of the programme's implementation | Programme and CRSFC reports. | Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion (#4) |
| 3.2. CRS stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained & engaged on REDD+ | Stakeholder engagement exchanges on REDD+ related issues involving community and local stakeholders | Few initiatives, dispersed, no guidelines and criteria for REDD+ pilots | Community and local stakeholders exchange and coordinate on a regular basis on their REDD+ initiatives and experimentations, with at least 3 annual forums by the end of the programme | CRS reports, CSO bulletins, surveys, independent evaluations | REDD+ activities become unpopular with stakeholder groups in CRS (#3) |
| 3.3. CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed | Assessments and consultations conducted for constructing a REDD+ strategy | No assessments available (except a Preliminary Assessment prepared for the formulation of the current Programme); need of abundant and systematic consultations and field surveys for building the CRS REDD+ Strategy | A complete set of legal, technical and institutional assessments is conducted to inform the CRS REDD+ Strategy, and they are duly consulted in multi-stakeholder formats | Programme and CRSFC reports, consultation meetings' minutes | Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion (#4) |

| Expected Results (outcomes and outputs) | Indicators | Baseline | Target (by end of programme, unless otherwise stated) | Means of verification | Main risks & assumptions *(linked to the risks table)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3.4. CRS forest monitoring system operational | Monitoring system for CRS forests | No forest monitoring system in place. | CRS forests are well monitored via satellite and with community inputs (in time to trigger REDD+ phase 2) | CRS reports and publications, CSO bulletins | Programme inputs (funds, human resources, etc.) are not mobilized in a timely fashion (#4) |
| **Outcome 4. REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State** | Implementation of policies and measures to reduce deforestation | Cross River State is known for its environmental commitment, but no specific policies and measures (with associated monitoring of impacts) have been designed and implemented | A set of policies and measures to reduce deforestation are implemented, with associated (proxy) indicators for monitoring their deforestation reduction impact | Official CRS documents and reports; programme reports; Final Evaluation. | |
| 4.1. REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated & supported | Guidance for REDD+ pilots and initiatives | No technical guidance for REDD+ exists | A set of tools, criteria and procedures are established to frame and ensure coherence of REDD+ projects and initiatives across CRS | Programme documents, REDD+ tools and guidelines, online REDD+ registry | Potential investors are too eager to get into REDD+, carbon finance and carbon trading, creating confusion (#6) |
| 4.2. REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ phase 2 triggered] | Finance mobilised for forest investments in CRS. | Minimal REDD+ finance available, forest investments hard to mobilise. | At least US$ 15 million mobilised for forest investments & REDD+ phase 2 in CRS. | CRS policy and technical documents, programme documents, donor agreements | Potential investors are too eager to get into REDD+, carbon finance and carbon trading, creating confusion (#6) |
| 4.3. CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+ | Visits of states across Nigeria to Cross River State to learn from their REDD+ and climate policies and actions. | Cross River State is known for its environmental commitment, yet learning visits from other states have been minimal | At least 5 states across Nigeria visit dedicatedly CRS to learn about REDD+ and to enable REDD+ policies and actions | Programme and CRS FC reports, plus reports from state visits and events | Government agencies do not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively (#2) |

## Table 10. Programme's risk assessment

| | Description of risks | Assessment and levels of risks | Mitigation measures | Responsibilities |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Commitment of federal and/or CRS governments towards implementing REDD+ declines** | 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. This would impede REDD-readiness achievement, and the viability of REDD+ as an approach to climate change mitigation and forest conservation could be undermined.<br><br>Risk: low. 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. In addition, the fact that a growing number of states wish to join the REDD+ dynamic, will force the federal government to work cohesively and closely with them. Nigeria is increasingly present in international *fora* and advocating commitment for climate change. | • Several outputs of the programme are devoted explicitly to support management of REDD+ readiness, to conduct capacity building, to foster stakeholder engagement & dialogue, and to raise public awareness, all which will serve to maintaining and enhancing the political commitment reached so far (notably outputs 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2 and 4.1).<br>• The focus of the Programme on community and grassroots capacities and mobilisation will sustain political commitments (as shown by expected outputs 3. and 4.1).<br>• Global support for REDD+ and the importance of REDD+ in ongoing climate-change negotiations is a positive force to avoid this risk (output 1.4 will further reinforce Nigeria's engagement at regional and international levels).<br>• 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. | The UNRC and UN-REDD missions will monitor governmental 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. |
| 2 | **Government agencies do not cooperate and coordinate activities effectively** | Failure of federal and CRS agencies to cooperate would slow down and disrupt the Nigeria REDD+ process and the Programme's implementation.<br><br>Risk: medium. 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. In addition, Nigeria has a clear share of roles between federal government (i.e. overall policy direction, international | • Programme supports awareness raising and dialogue, as well as a fully participatory approach, to optimize broad engagement.<br>• The project uses and supports existing in-country coordination mechanisms.<br>• 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.<br>• Both federal and CRS governments rely on each other for | 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.<br><br>The National committees will oversee implementation and the coordination among crucial governmental structures. |

| | Description of risks | Assessment and levels of risks | Mitigation measures | Responsibilities |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | relations) and states (i.e. local policies and rules, investment planning and implementation), which suits well the dynamics of a REDD+ process | REDD+ readiness and hence are necessarily obliged to cooperate if they wish to succeed. Outputs 1.1 and 3.1 are explicitly devoted to ensure coordination within and between tiers of government in Nigeria. The *Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states* (to be built under output 2.3) is precisely devoted to define the federal-state arrangements for a nationwide REDD+ readiness. Furthermore, work on participatory governance assessment for REDD+ (which has already started and will continue as part of achievement of output 3.2) will serve to address this crucial governance dimension of REDD+ in the Nigeria public context. | |
| 3 | **REDD+ activities become unpopular with stakeholder groups in CRS** | There is a vast diversity of stakeholders in CRS, with many competing demands, and thus there is some danger that REDD+ may be unwelcome amongst some groups, or may even be perceived as a threat to local development.<br><br>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 this is a medium risk, since due implementation of the Programme with the transparency required will ensure broad stakeholder support. | • A broad participatory process will be conducted, following the process of preparing this proposal, and duly sustained under outputs 1.2, 2.1 and 3.2.<br>• The Programme devotes high attention to developing and respecting social and environmental safeguards (outputs 3.3 and 4.3), as well as to support participatory governance assessments for REDD+ (output 3.2).<br>• 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, which are anyway planned for under outputs 1.2 and 3.2. | 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** | 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.. | • The budget anticipates for the recruitment of a solid team to manage its implementation on an effective, coordinated and timely basis; this includes a chief technical advisor and probably another international specialist, and at least 4 technical specialists and admin-financial officials (outputs | The CTA of the programme will be responsible for supporting federal and state governments to access donor funds and climate finance opportunities. |

| | Description of risks | Assessment and levels of risks | Mitigation measures | Responsibilities |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Risk: <u>Medium</u> | 1.1 and 3.1). <br>• The Programme, through its coordination components, will work to facilitate dialogue with donor sources to both enhance the REDD+ process and expand it across other states within Nigeria (outputs 2.3 and 4.2 are particularly devoted to raise co-finance). <br>• A special effort will be conducted during programme implementation to mobilise climate finance. | |
| 5 | **Risk of leakage (displacement of deforestation due to CRS activities)** | Implementing REDD+ intensively in Cross River State, as the basis to set a model for REDD+, poses the risk of leakage (displacement of deforestation from this state to other states). <br><br>Risk: <u>Medium</u>. | • Stakeholder engagement and dialogue events will include other states in order to ensure that REDD+ is duly disseminated timely (output 1.2) – the March 2012 REDD+ University showed this clearly. In fact, other states are already entering REDD+ dynamics in response to the REDD+ process that federal government and CRS have launched with UN-REDD's engagement. <br>• A specific programme work stream is devoted to plan the expansion of REDD+ across Nigeria's states, hence mitigating the exposure of this risk (output 2.3). | Federal government and the REDD+ team should monitor risks of leakage and try to mobilise funding and support REDD+ readiness in other states as soon as possible. |
| 6 | **Potential investors are too eager to get into REDD+, carbon finance and carbon trading, creating confusion** | 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. <br><br>Risk: <u>Medium</u>. | • High attention will be paid to establishing a financial management system for REDD+ that meets highest international standard (under outputs 1.3 and 4.3). <br>• Involvement of UN in the management mechanism will reassure some investors. <br>• Capacity building activities will serve to channel the interests and pressures of the private sector (notably outputs 1.2 and 1.3). <br>• 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+. | The UN agency country offices and CTA will monitor any disturbance from the private sector. <br>The federal REDD+ Secretariat shall ensure adequate information and coordination with the private sector are in place. |

## 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 into a narrative report every six months, cleared by the programme managers (national REDD+ Coordinator and CRS Forestry Commission's Chairman) and then forwarded by the UN Resident Coordinator (or delegate) to the UN-REDD Secretariat. The UN-REDD Secretariat shall provide the Policy Board updates on the implementation progress of this National Programme every six months, based on information received from the UN Resident Coordinator. The UN Resident Coordinator will assist in ensuring the participating UN Organizations at the country level provide the necessary information. The UN-REDD Management Group shall also follow-up with the relevant officers and representatives of the participating UN Organizations to ensure the delivery of the report.

The Administrative Agent will provide regular updates on the financial status of the MPTF to the Policy Board, for review and action as appropriate. In accordance with the UN-REDD Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the participating UN Organizations in receipt of UN-REDD resources will be required to provide the Administrative Agent with the following statements and reports for each National Programme:

- National Programme Annual Narrative and Financial Report for each 12 months period ending 31st December each year (1st January – 31st December), as per the deadline agreed between the three Participating UN Organizations and the MPTF Office (a National Programme annual reporting template is available);

- National Programme Semi-Annual Narrative and Financial Reports for the six months period ending 30th June each year (1st January – 30th June), as per the deadline agreed between the three Participating UN Organizations and the MPTF Office (a National Programme semi-annual reporting template is available);

- A Final National Programme Narrative and Financial Report, after the completion of all National Programme activities financed from the UN-REDD MDTF, as per the deadline agreed between the three Participating UN Organizations and the MPTF Office (a National Programme final reporting template is available);

- A Final Certified National Programme Financial Statement, to be provided no later than 30th June of the year following the financial closing of Project activities.

The Administrative Agent shall prepare consolidated narrative progress and financial reports consisting of the reports referred to above submitted by each Participating UN Organization, and shall provide those consolidated reports to the UN-REDD Policy Board through the Secretariat. Subsequently, in accordance with the MoU and the Standard Administrative Agreement, the Administrative Agent will submit consolidated narrative and financial reports to all UN-REDD Programme donors. Agreed standard UNDG financial and progress reporting formats will be utilised. The Administrative Agent will also submit to donors a certified annual financial statement (Source and Use of Funds).

Upon closure, all National Programmes are required to undertake a final evaluation. The evaluation is undertaken to assess the programme performance, and determine outcomes and impacts stemming from the programme, including their sustainability. The evaluation has two primary objectives: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements,

and (ii) to promote learning, feedback and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among the participating UN Organizations and other partners. 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 Participating Organizations, and the safety and security of their staff, UN Participating Organizations 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. 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<br>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+<br>Presentation on REDD to EXCO by experts.<br>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 1st 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.<br>HE, Senator Liyel Imoke made a presentation requesting help/ collaboration from experts.<br>Received contact for UN-REDD, WB-FCPF and GCF. |
| October, 2009 | HE, the Governor led a State delegation to FMENV to meet the Minister for collaboration in Abuja. | REDD and Cross River State is captured in Nigeria's position, paper to COP15 talks.<br>Good understanding/relationship established between the FMENV 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.<br>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 Califonia, 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.<br>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<br>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.<br>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, and 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+<br>National REDD+ Secretariat<br>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<br>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<br>Institutional, capacity and technical readiness indicators assessed<br>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<br>Consultations with international stakeholders |
| January, 2011 | UN-REDD holds REDD Readiness proposal drafting meeting in Abuja and Calabar | Brainstorming of outline Results Framework<br>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 |
| 20th 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 |
| 31st January, 2011 | CRS REDD stakeholders forum held in Calabar | Discussion on the Nigeria REDD+ proposal workplan by government, NGO and community stakeholders<br>Formation of steering and drafting committees to assist in the preparation of the proposal and other REDD Readiness activities |
| 5th Feb 2011 | Review of 1st draft of Nigeria REDD+ Readiness proposal carried out in Calabar | First proposal draft reviewed by Federal, CRS government, NGO and community stakeholders<br>Submission of comments to drafting team |
| 14th – 23rd Feb 2011 | Second UN-REDD mission to Nigeria | Drafting of Nigeria REDD Readiness programme document<br>Stakeholders Appraisal workshop held in Calabar<br>National Validation workshop held in Abuja |
| 21st – 22nd 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." |

| DATE | EVENT AND LOCATION | RESULTS |
|---|---|---|
| 18-20 May 2011 | Workshop on Participatory Governance Assessments and their role in REDD+ (PGA/REDD+) – Lagos.<br><br>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 Annex 4 for participants (over 70). |
| 3-5 October 2011 | Oslo Governance Forum, Oslo (Norway) | Nigeria presents its PGA/REDD+ initiative. |
| 13-14 October 2011 | Seventh UN-REDD Policy Board | *Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme* presented formally, discussed by the UN-REDD Policy Board and approved with a budget of US$ 4 million. |
| 28 November to 9 December 2011 | UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (Durban) | Nigeria participates and informs of its forthcoming REDD+ readiness implementation |
| 19-21 March 2012 | Nigeria REDD+ University (Calabar, CRS) | *Conducted very successfully, with over 150 participants from all stakeholder groups and different Nigerian states, plus more than 20 speakers (several from abroad) – see Annex 9 for Press Release.* |
| Mid 2012 | Participatory Governance Assessment for REDD+ (PGA/REDD+) | *Initiative's design is refined, and launched.* |
| 8th August 2012 | Local project appraisal committee and final technical review meeting (Abuja) | *Final appraisal meetings prior to signature for the* Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme, *scheduled for end August 2012.* |

**Annex 2. 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+ |
| • Department of Climate Change (formerly Special Climate Change Unit)<br><br>• 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 |
| • 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 |
| 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. |
| Forest related Private Sector | Management of private forests; timber production; agro-forestry based ecosystem restoration. | Investment and Best practices for forest conservation and enhancement of Carbon stocks; Carbon projects. |
| 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 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 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 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-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 3. Detailed work plan and budget (according to U.N. budget categories)

| Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme (2012-2014) |||||||||
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

**Outcome 1.- Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level (*implementation: Federal level*)**

| Expected outputs | Planned Activities | Planned budget (USD) |||| | Participating UN Agencies |||
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Description | 2,012 | 2,013 | 2,014 | Total | FAO | UNDP | UNEP |
| **Output 1.1.- The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide** | • National REDD+ Secretariat equipped, trained and active (travel, meetings) in national climate change and development policies and planning.<br>• Personnel: CTA (international, 50%), National Programme Officer, Admin-Finance specialist.<br>• Meetings of the National Advisory Council on REDD+, the National REDD+ Technical Committee, and associated working groups organized.<br>• Support drafting & validation of a Presidential Order endorsing REDD+ and giving legal backing to the REDD+ committees and structures.<br>• FED-CRS management meetings & visits to CRS to ensure federal- state coordination. | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 60,000 | | 60,000 | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 50,000 | 80,000 | 80,000 | 210,000 | | 210,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 10,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 70,000 | | 70,000 | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 60,000 | | 60,000 | |
| | | **Total** | **100,000** | **150,000** | **150,000** | **400,000** | **0** | **400,000** | **0** |
| **Output 1.2.- Stakeholder engagement and public awareness on REDD+ enhanced** | • Civil society forum on REDD+ created and functional.<br>• Meetings and events to catalyse stakeholder engagement on REDD+.<br>• Training needs assessment. {UNEP}<br>• Information products (e.g. website, reports, leaflets). {UNEP}<br>• Public awareness campaign on REDD+. {UNEP}<br>• Focused training for interested stakeholders on REDD+ components.<br>• Awareness raising and engagement with relevant government officials (across ministries) & legislators.<br>• Private sector engagement – possible creation of a carbon investment platform.<br>• Media participation: Newspaper articles, CD/DVD, radio & TV programmes. | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 10,000 | 30,000 | 0 | 40,000 | | | 40,000 |
| | | Training of counterparts | 10,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 50,000 | | 50,000 | |
| | | Contracts | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 20,000 | | 20,000 | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 10,000 | 30,000 | 10,000 | 50,000 | | 10,000 | 40,000 |
| | | **Total** | **40,000** | **90,000** | **30,000** | **160,000** | **0** | **80,000** | **80,000** |
| **Output 1.3.- Policy, legal and institutional arrangements for REDD+ established** | • 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).<br>• Analysis of issues related to Carbon rights and forest Carbon tenure and implications for benefit distribution<br>• Identification of legal modifications needed to facilitate REDD+ and limit risks of reversals in the long-term<br>• Assessment of options to strengthen national carbon governance & finance capacities. | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 20,000 | 30,000 | 20,000 | 70,000 | | 70,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 15,000 | | 15,000 | |
| | | **Total** | **25,000** | **35,000** | **25,000** | **85,000** | **0** | **85,000** | **0** |
| **Output 1.4.- Nigeria's international engagement on REDD+ enhanced** | • Training on international climate policy and negotiations, with an emphasis on REDD+ (with other related UNDP initiatives).<br>• Creation and support of a task force for UNFCCC and REDD+ negotiations<br>• Support for Nigeria to take regional leadership on REDD+ (cooperation with ECOWAS).<br>• Promotion of South-South cooperation for REDD+. | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 10,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 | 35,000 | | 35,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 10,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 40,000 | | 40,000 | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 0 | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 | | 5,000 | |
| | | **Total** | **20,000** | **35,000** | **25,000** | **80,000** | **0** | **80,000** | **0** |
| **Outcome 1 sub-total** | | | **185,000** | **310,000** | **230,000** | **725,000** | **0** | **645,000** | **80,000** |

| Outcome 2.- Framework for REDD+ expansion across Nigeria prepared | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Expected outputs** | **Planned Activities** | | **Planned budget (USD)** | | | | | **Participating UN Agencies** | |
| | | **Description** | **2,012** | **2,013** | **2,014** | **Total** | **FAO** | **UNDP** | **UNEP** |
| **Output 2.1.- National REDD+ challenges & potential assessed** | • 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 | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 10,000 | 5,000 | 10,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 10,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | | |
| | | Contracts | 10,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | | |
| | | **Total** | **40,000** | **25,000** | **30,000** | **95,000** | **95,000** | **0** | **0** |
| **Output 2.2.- National MRV framework designed** | • 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%). | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 10,000 | 10,000 | 30,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 20,000 | 30,000 | 20,000 | 70,000 | 70,000 | | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 25,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | | |
| | | Contracts | 15,000 | 15,000 | 50,000 | 80,000 | 80,000 | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 15,000 | 25,000 | 10,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | | |
| | | **Total** | **85,000** | **95,000** | **120,000** | **300,000** | **300,000** | **0** | **0** |
| **Output 2.3.- A Preliminary National Strategy for expanding REDD+ across Nigeria's states built** | • 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. | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 10,000 | 15,000 | 5,000 | 30,000 | | 30,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 30,000 | | 30,000 | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 5,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 | 30,000 | | 30,000 | |
| | | **Total** | **25,000** | **40,000** | **25,000** | **90,000** | **0** | **90,000** | **0** |
| **Outcome 2 sub-total** | | | **150,000** | **160,000** | **175,000** | **485,000** | **395,000** | **90,000** | **0** |

| Outcome 3.- Institutional and technical capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State strengthened | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Expected outputs** | **Planned Activities** | **Planned budget (USD)** | | | | | **Participating UN Agencies** | | |
| | | **Description** | **2,012** | **2,013** | **2,014** | **Total** | **FAO** | **UNDP** | **UNEP** |
| **Output 3.1.- CRS REDD+ Unit fully functional and effective** | • CRS REDD+ Unit strengthened (e.g. office, vehicle, equipment, field travel, operational costs). <br> • Personnel: CTA (international, 50%, Calabar-based), stakeholder mobilisation specialist, Admin-Finance specialist, consultant support. <br> • Specialised training for CRS REDD+ Unit and CRSFC; attendance of workshops & conferences. <br> • Meetings of CRS REDD+ committees & associated working structures | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 30,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 50,000 | | 50,000 | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 90,000 | 140,000 | 140,000 | 370,000 | | 370,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 5,000 | 18,318 | 5,000 | 28,318 | | 28,318 | |
| | | **Total** | **125,000** | **168,318** | **155,000** | **448,318** | **0** | **448,318** | **0** |
| **Output 3.2.- CRS stakeholders, with emphasis on forest communities, trained and engaged on REDD+** | • Support to CRS Stakeholder Forum on REDD+. <br> • Training (broad-based & specialised). <br> • Awareness raising for government officials, state legislators and local governments. <br> • Awareness raising, training & organizational strengthening for communities <br> • Participatory governance assessment | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 60,000 | 120,000 | 55,000 | 235,000 | | 235,000 | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | **Total** | **60,000** | **120,000** | **55,000** | **235,000** | **0** | **235,000** | **0** |
| **Output 3.3.- CRS REDD+ Strategy is constructed** | • REDD+ Strategy building, including assessments (e.g. forest conservation/use, agriculture, energy, livelihoods, rural economy, biodiversity & ecosystem services, development issues, SEEDS & LEEDS, trad. knowledge and cultural practices) <br> • 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. <br> • Design of the REDD+ institutional/implementation framework <br> • Drafting of a State Law on REDD+. <br> • Analysis of land tenure dimensions and carbon rights' issues [with Output 1.3]. <br> • Free, prior & informed consent (FPIC) for REDD+ and Recourse Mechanisms <br> • 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 | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 20,000 | 80,000 | 50,000 | 150,000 | | 150,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 20,000 | 0 | 20,000 | | 20,000 | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 25,000 | 55,000 | 20,000 | 100,000 | | 100,000 | |
| | | **Total** | **45,000** | **155,000** | **70,000** | **270,000** | **0** | **270,000** | **0** |
| **Output 3.4.- CRS forest monitoring system operational** | • GIS laboratory & full equipment for forest monitoring [data to be shared with Federal Govn't] <br> • Satellite information management & interpretation / Specialised trainings. <br> • Support to the nationwide stratification of forests [with Federal agencies] <br> • Design of the forest inventory and cost analysis (at state-level) <br> • Community-based verification and monitoring of forest cover. <br> • National guidelines for community forest management in development <br> • Collect and harmonise existing forest data (to be shared with federal government). <br> • Establishment of Reference Levels (based on forest coverage & socio-economic conditions). <br> • International MRV advisor (50%) | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 50,000 | 70,000 | 50,000 | 170,000 | 170,000 | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 45,000 | 80,000 | 60,000 | 185,000 | 185,000 | | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 16,000 | 35,000 | 46,000 | 97,000 | 97,000 | | |
| | | Contracts | 30,000 | 50,000 | 30,000 | 110,000 | 110,000 | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 25,000 | 30,000 | 45,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | | |
| | | **Total** | **166,000** | **265,000** | **231,000** | **662,000** | **662,000** | **0** | **0** |
| **Outcome 3 sub-total** | | | **396,000** | **708,318** | **511,000** | **1,615,318** | **662,000** | **953,318** | **0** |

| Outcome 4.- REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Expected outputs** | **Planned Activities** | **Planned budget (USD)** | | | | | **Participating UN Agencies** | | |
| | | Description | 2,012 | 2,013 | 2,014 | Total | FAO | UNDP | UNEP |
| **Output 4.1.- REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well coordinated and supported** | • Criteria & guidelines for the development of REDD+ pilot projects<br>• Technical support to REDD+ experimental initiatives and their stakeholders.<br>• Creation & administration of a fund to support community initiatives for REDD+ (aim: to foster and experiment alternatives to deforestation, local forest management & community empowerment) – estimated budget: US$ 150,000.<br>• Establish a REDD+ registry and approval process (for enhanced coordination of pilot projects) | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 15,000 | 30,000 | 10,000 | 55,000 | | 55,000 | |
| | | Training of counterparts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 150,000 | | 150,000 | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 15,000 | 25,000 | 10,000 | 50,000 | | 50,000 | |
| | | **Total** | **30,000** | **130,000** | **95,000** | **255,000** | **0** | **255,000** | **0** |
| **Output 4.2.- REDD+ investments enabled [REDD+ phase 2 triggered]** | • Analytical support for forest transformation and a transition to a low-carbon economy with sustainable livelihoods {UNEP}<br>• Preparation of investment plans and enabling programmes for REDD+ (transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient development path in CRS) {UNDP/UNEP}.<br>• Financial resource mobilization, donor visits & dialogue (aiming at catalysing global climate funds, donor support and philanthropic funding). {UNDP/UNEP}<br>• Design of a financing mechanism for REDD+. {UNDP} | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 30,000 | 60,000 | 45,000 | 135,000 | | 60,000 | 75,000 |
| | | Training of counterparts | 10,000 | 50,000 | 10,000 | 70,000 | | | 70,000 |
| | | Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 5,000 | 15,000 | 33,000 | 53,000 | | 40,000 | 13,000 |
| | | **Total** | **45,000** | **125,000** | **88,000** | **258,000** | **0** | **100,000** | **158,000** |
| **Output 4.3.- CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+** | • Establishment of a training & knowledge management centre<br>• Knowledge management & dissemination of best practices of REDD+ readiness.<br>• REDD+ database developed [with Output 2.2 and with FAO's inputs].<br>• Organising a major international REDD+ event.<br>• Design of social & environmental safeguards, including design of information system [in conjunction with Output 3.3] {UNDP/UNEP}<br>• Field-level testing and monitoring of social & environmental safeguards. {UNDP}<br>• 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}<br>• Web-platform developed to allow transparency of data and results, and dissemination [with Outputs 2.2 & 3.4]. {UNEP, with FAO technical lead}<br>• Information, public awareness & training materials. {UNEP} | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 50,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 80,000 | | 80,000 | |
| | | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 30,000 | 50,000 | 35,000 | 115,000 | | 40,000 | 75,000 |
| | | Training of counterparts | 12,000 | 57,000 | 30,000 | 99,000 | | 55,000 | 44,000 |
| | | Contracts | 20,000 | 30,000 | 11,000 | 61,000 | | | 61,000 |
| | | Other Direct Costs | 5,000 | 25,000 | 15,000 | 45,000 | | 25,000 | 20,000 |
| | | **Total** | **117,000** | **177,000** | **106,000** | **400,000** | **0** | **200,000** | **200,000** |
| **Outcome 4 sub-total** | | | **192,000** | **432,000** | **289,000** | **913,000** | **0** | **555,000** | **358,000** |

| Total Programme cost (All outcomes) | | 2,012 | 2,013 | 2,014 | Total | FAO | UNDP | UNEP |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | |
| SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME COST | Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport | 165,000 | 130,000 | 130,000 | **425,000** | 235,000 | 190,000 | 0 |
| | Personnel (Staff, Consultants & Travel) | 360,000 | 645,000 | 485,000 | **1,490,000** | 280,000 | 1,020,000 | 190,000 |
| | Training of counterparts | 173,000 | 357,000 | 231,000 | **761,000** | 167,000 | 480,000 | 114,000 |
| | Contracts | 85,000 | 205,000 | 171,000 | **461,000** | 210,000 | 190,000 | 61,000 |
| | Other Direct Costs | 140,000 | 273,318 | 188,000 | **601,318** | 165,000 | 363,318 | 73,000 |
| | *Total* | *923,000* | *1,610,318* | *1,205,000* | *3,738,318* | *1,057,000* | *2,243,318* | *438,000* |
| Indirect costs (7%) | | 64,610 | 112,722 | 84,350 | 261,682 | 73,990 | 157,032 | 30,660 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 987,610 | 1,723,040 | 1,289,350 | 4,000,000 | 1,130,990 | 2,400,350 | 468,660 |

## Annex 4. 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 16). 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 16. Nigerian system for GHG inventory in the context of REDD+ activities**



At national level, the proposed design is composed of four main entities. The Department of Climate Change 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 Department of Climate Change 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 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.
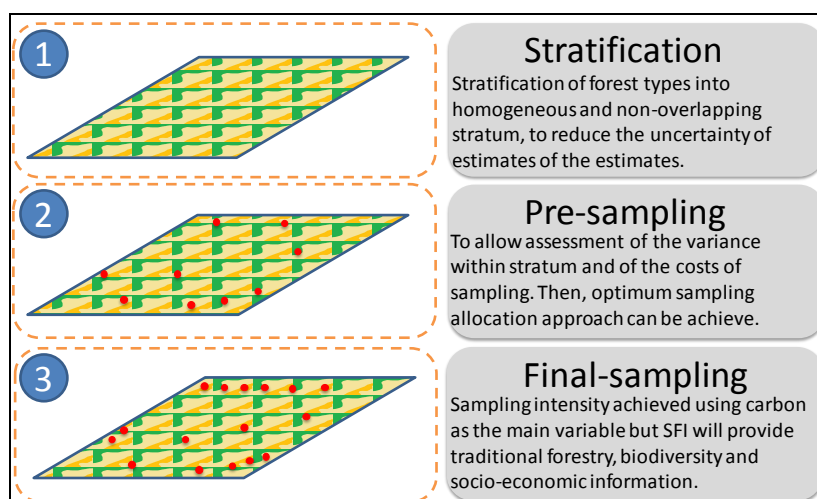
The State Forest Inventory

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 17): (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.

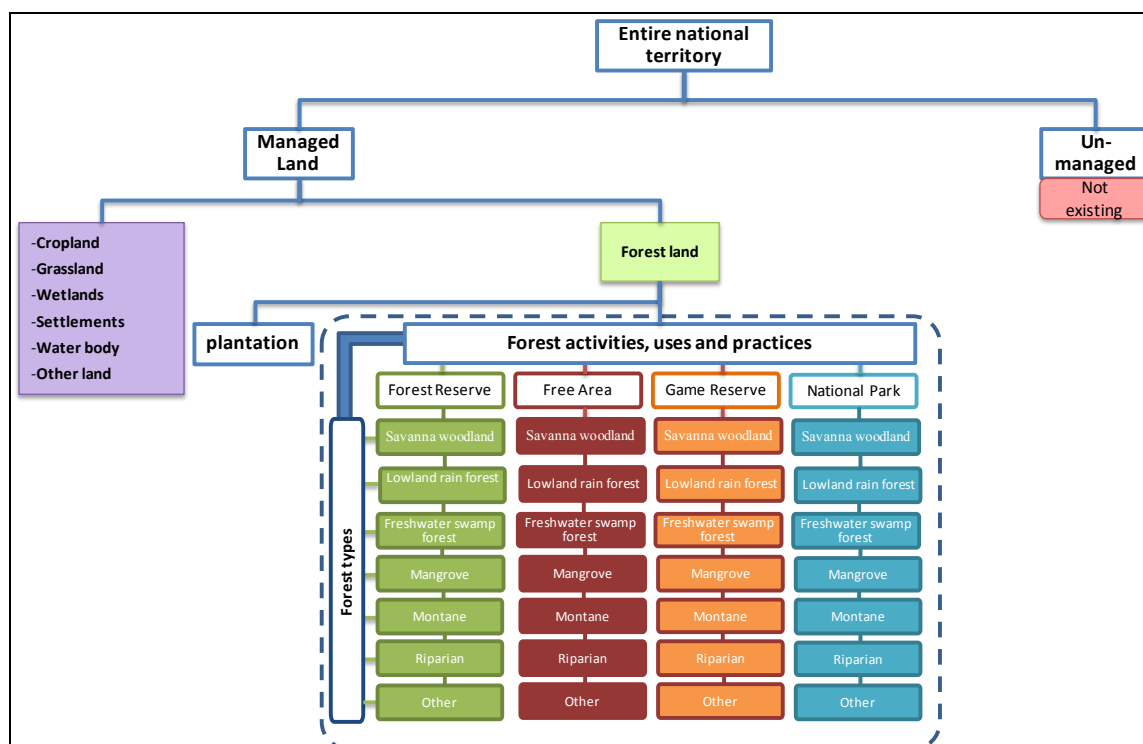**Figure 17. Three stage forest inventory**



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.

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.

**Figure 18. Potential Forest Land use classification/stratification system
for Nigeria's national territory, based on *Forest Resources Study* (1998)**



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 5. 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 6. Press Release of the Nigeria REDD+ University (March 2012)**

--- PRESS RELEASE ---

**Nigeria REDD+ University**

Calabar, 19-21 March 2012

**Cross River State**

Nigeria is organising the first national *REDD+ University* event, in Calabar, as a short course on the basics of REDD+ and its development dimensions. REDD+ is an environmental policy & financing mechanism, a part of the current international climate negotiations, linking forest conservation, climate change mitigation and green development modalities. The REDD+ University aims at fostering understanding, learning and stakeholder dialogue in Nigeria on the REDD+ mechanism and how to craft it.

The event has raised enormous interest among stakeholders. An unexpected audience, **around 150 participants**, are actually gathering in Calabar to learn and discuss REDD+. The REDD+ University will last **3 intense days** and will feature **more than 25 national and international speakers** from different Nigerian states as well as from DRC, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, the USA and Zambia. This event will build capacities in Nigeria for its REDD+ process. It will boast talks on technical and policy issues, presentations from projects that provide lessons and best practices in the domain, and sharing of REDD+ initiatives from other countries. Participants include federal and state officials, NGO practitioners, civil society organisations, representatives from forest-dependent communities in Cross River State, researchers, lecturers, students, extension workers, delegates from states interested in REDD+, journalists, and private sector entrepreneurs.

**REDD+** intends to reward countries for demonstrated efforts in forest conservation (i.e. for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, plus for enhancing carbon stocks, sustainable forest management and the multiple benefits of forests). REDD+ is a gateway for green development and economies, allowing countries to access climate funds. A few countries are engaged in REDD+, and Nigeria joined them in 2010. Nigeria envisions a two-track approach: establishing the basic federal capacities and conducting intense and demonstrative work in Cross River State (as pilot state, which other states interested in REDD+ may follow subsequently).

The event is organised by **Cross River State Forestry Commission**, in close liaison with the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National REDD+ Secretariat, and with the support of UN-REDD (a U.N. partnership for REDD+ by FAO, UNDP and UNEP). The event is hosted by the **University of Calabar**. It has been inaugurated by the Governor of Cross River State, **His Excellency Senator Liyel Imoke**, alongside the National REDD+ Coordinator, Mr. Salisu Dahiru, representing Her Excellency the Federal Minister of Environment, the Chairman of Cross River State's Forestry Commission, Mr. Odigha Odigha, the UNDP Deputy Country Director in Nigeria, Mr. Janthomas Hiemstra, and the UN-REDD Advisor for Africa, Mr. Josep Gari.

The REDD+ University is a preamble activity for the implementation of *Nigeria's REDD+ Readiness Programme*, which was approved by the last UN-REDD Policy Board with a budget allocation of US$ 4 million (around 650 million Naira). It will start full-fledge implementation within the next 2 months. The REDD+ University represents a public inception of this programme and to prepare the knowledge base for its implementation.

# Annex 7. Outline of Terms of Reference for key programme personnel

### CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR (CTA)

{Outline of ToR}

Scope: International post (UN recrutement)

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 7 ]

## INTERNATIONAL MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION (MRV) ADVISOR

{Outline of ToR}

<u>Scope</u>: International

<u>Duration</u>: 2 ½ years, fulltime.

<u>Station</u>: Calabar, with frequent assignments in Abuja

<u>Objectives</u>: 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.

<u>Main Roles and Responsibilities:</u>

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.

<u>Qualifications, Experience and Competencies</u>:

- 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.

- 118 -

[ Annex 7 ]

## 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 NIM 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 7 ]

## 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 and implement comprehensive stakeholder engagement 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 the creation of entry points to REDD+ decision-making structures for local community and indigenous peoples representatives, NGO and CBO representatives;
- 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, including analyses of the national legal framework to support FPIC;
- Oversee the development of grievance mechanisms for REDD+;
- Provide training on stakeholder engagement methods to programme team and other stakeholders;
- Support the application of the joint FCPF and UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement and the UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on FPIC.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- Post graduate qualification in social studies, communications, or related subject;
- At least four years relevant experience, including experience in developing stakeholder participation in development processesand in internationally supported development projects;
- Previous experience working with a broad range of stakeholders including with local communities, indigenous peoples and/or other civil society organisations;
- Knowledge of the livelihood issues related to deforestation and tropical forest management;
- Strong inter-personal skills, especially oral communication skills.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.

[ Annex 7 ]

## 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.

# APPENDIXES

[ separate files/documents ]

**Appendix I: Official records of the multi-stakeholder validation of the programme**

**Appendix II: Informative leaflets on forest monitoring and MRV for REDD+ in Nigeria**