

UN-REDD PROGRAMME



-----DRAFT REPORT-----

National Programme Annual Report

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
NIGERIA**

UN-REDD Programme

January to December 2015

In accordance with the decision of the Policy Board, hard copies of this document will not be printed to minimize the environmental impact of the UN-REDD Programme processes and contribute to climate neutrality. The UN-REDD Programme's meeting documents are available on the internet at: www.unredd.net or www.un-redd.org.

1. Annual Report for the UN-REDD National Programmes

The Annual Report for the National Programmes (NPs) highlights progress over the twelve month period ending 31 December (1 January-31 December). This progress is reported against the consolidated Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2015, as approved by the National Programme Steering Committee or Executive Board.

The report includes the following sections:

- 1) National Programme Identification;
- 2) Progress Reporting;
- 3)
Government & Non-Government Comments;
- 4) Results Matrix;
- 5) Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions;
- 6) Financial Delivery;
- 7) Adaptive management; and
- 8) Targeted Support.

The lead agency for each National Programme is responsible for coordinating inputs to the Annual Reports, and for ensuring all agency and counterpart perspectives have been collected - in particular government and civil society organizations. The reports are reviewed and vetted by the agency teams, who provide quality assurance and recommendations to the national teams on articulating results and on adjustments to be made. It therefore follows an iterative process which serves to enhance the quality of the reports and enable a meaningful assessment of progress and identification of key lessons regarding knowledge exchange.

The Annual Report for the National Programmes should be submitted to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat (un-redd@un-redd.org) as per timeline indicated below.

Annual Report timeline:

<i>Annual Report template sent to Country teams:</i>	<i>20 January 2016</i>
<i>Submission of first draft of the Annual Report:</i>	<i>26 February 2016</i>
<i>Secretariat revision sent back to Country:</i>	<i>4 March 2016</i>
<i>Submission of final Annual Report:</i>	<i>11 March 2016</i>
<i>Submission of final signed Annual Report:</i>	<i>25 March 2016</i>

2. National Programme Identification

Please identify the National Programme (NP) by completing the information requested below. The Government Counterpart and designated National Programme focal points of the Participating UN Organizations are asked to provide their electronic signatures below, prior to submission to the UN-REDD Secretariat.

National Programme Title	Nigeria REDD+ Readiness Programme
Implementing Partners ¹	Federal Ministry of Environment (Abuja) and Forestry Commission of Cross River State (Calabar)
Participating Organizations	

Project Timeline			
Programme Duration	4 years, 4 months	Original End Date ²	28.02.2015
NPD Signature Date	06.09.2012	No-Cost Extension	Yes
Date of First Fund Transfer ³	01.09.2012	Current End Date	31.12.2016

Financial Summary (USD) ⁴			
UN Agency	Approved Programme Budget ⁵	Amount Transferred ⁶	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2015 ⁷
FAO	[input text]	[input text]	[input text]
UNDP	[input text]	[input text]	[input text]
UNEP	[input text]	[input text]	[input text]
Indirect Support Cost (7%)	[input text]	[input text]	[input text]
Total	[input text]	[input text]	[input text]

Signatures from the designated UN organizations ⁸			Signature by the Government Counterpart
FAO	UNDP	UNEP	
[Signature]	[Signature]	[Signature]	[Signature]
Date and Name of Signatories in Full:			
[Date]	[Date]	[Date]	[Date]

1 Those organizations either sub-contracted by the Project Management Unit or those organizations officially identified in the National Programme Document (NPD) as responsible for implementing a defined aspect of the project.

2 The original end date as stated in the NPD.

3 As reflected on the MPTF Office Gateway <http://mptf.undp.org>.

4 The financial information reported should include indirect costs, M&E and other associated costs. The information on expenditure is unofficial. Official certified financial information is provided by the HQ of the Participating UN Organizations by 30 April and can be accessed on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/CCF00>).

5 The total budget for the entire duration of the Programme as specified in the signed Submission Form and NPD.

6 Amount transferred to the participating UN Organization from the UN-REDD Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

7 The sum of commitments and disbursement

8 Each UN organization is to nominate one or more focal points to sign the report. Please refer to the UN-REDD Programme Planning, Monitoring and Reporting Framework document for further guidance.

[Name]	[Name]	[Name]	[Name]
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3. Progress Reporting

This section aims to summarize the progress and identify key achievements of the NP during the reporting period. Additionally, the section aims to identify key challenges and solutions/ lessons that could be shared with other countries. These will be used as input to the UN-REDD consolidated annual report so please stick to the word limits.

3.1 Achievements

Please provide a description of key achievements made by the NP in relation to the 4 pillars of the Warsaw Framework and how the NP has supported those. [250 words for each pillar]

Background

The Programme Steering Committee (PSC)'s February request for a no-cost extension, from the original end date of February 28, 2015 to December 31, 2016, was approved with the proviso that a joint mission review the programme and make needed adjustments, particularly in light of implementation delays and a "perhaps too ambitious"⁹ design. In early May, just after the elections, a joint mission of UNEP, UNDP, and FAO Regional Technical Advisors (RTAs), National and State Coordinators, National MRV Specialist, and newly appointed Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) revised the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB 2015) to concentrate on establishing the Warsaw Framework's (WF) four pillars of REDD+ readiness, with a focus on the Cross River State (CRS) pilot, reducing the 14 outputs to 10 through clustering and/or reorientation while maintaining the original programme's four outcomes: two for improved institutional and technical capacity (Outcome 1 at national level and Outcome 3 in CRS), a framework for the expansion of REDD+ across Nigeria (Outcome 2), and REDD+ readiness demonstrated in CRS (Outcome 4). In addition, the mission held targeted capacity building meetings aimed at supporting the Nigeria team to re-orient the implementation of the NP around the four Warsaw Framework element.

Nonetheless, delays at both the national and state levels continued throughout the pre- and post-election periods and were just beginning to be overcome at the end of the year. After the review mission and the elections, REDD+ readiness planning and capacity development began to emphasize the four pillars, but REDD+ programme leaders did not begin to explore them together until the technical committees were reactivated in October and November.

National Strategy/Action Plan

Two analyses carried out in 2014 will strengthen understanding drivers of deforestation and related elements of strategy development and REDD-readiness: a Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) and a geospatial study on drivers of deforestation. "Final" review drafts were prepared in May and June, but further work is needed on conclusions and recommendations for both studies, and validation of findings for the study on drivers, before they can effectively contribute to strategy development.

The Technical Committees and working groups developed road map for developing a REDD+ Strategy for CRS and a national framework strategy for supporting REDD+ in other states. Comprehensive set of Terms of Reference for major analytical work to inform REDD+ Strategy development were drafted and recruitment of a team of consultants was initiated. Major stakeholder consultative processes to lay the grounds for strategy development were held during the course of the year including with the Federal and CRS REDD+ teams. Efforts were made to get the various teams to work towards visualizing and ultimately developing REDD+ strategies that establish the interlinkages between the strategy and the other WF Framework elements. Given that, part of FCPF resources are to support strategy development, consultations with FCPF have begun, to develop synergies between UN-REDD- and FCPF-supported activities and to delineate roles and

⁹ UN-REDD Nigeria Programme, Minutes of the Programme Steering Committee (PSC), held in Abuja on 12th February 2015

responsibilities clearly.

Safeguard Information System

The National Safeguards Working Group was reactivated in June and reorganised at a follow-up meeting in October to enable different stakeholders to work together to review policies and measures that could inform the development of the REDD+ Strategy for the pilot state of CRS. While awaiting strategy development, policy and regulatory instruments/initiatives relevant to REDD+ that are presently set forth in law, have been proposed by the new Governor, and/or were identified in the PGA have been identified. Working Group members have begun to practice applying benefit and risk assessment tools on some of these.

Some stakeholder groups have sent concerned feedback on proposed priority investment and enforcement initiatives for which little or no information has been made available, such as the “super highway”, the “green police”, and the anti-deforestation task force. For example, on the super highway see https://ng.boell.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2015/12/super_highway_open_letter.pdf.

Forest Reference Level/Forest Reference Emission Level (FRL/FREL)

The spatially-explicit study on drivers of deforestation in Cross-River State analyzed satellite images for three epochs (2000, 2007 and 2014), and activity data (AD) was obtained for land use/land cover conditions in the entire Cross River State. Furthermore, the on-going forest carbon inventory will provide improved estimates of emission factors (EF). A workshop is earmarked for early 2016 on the establishment of FRELs that will use the historical AD and EF data collected from these studies, as well as other ancillary data/information to produce a draft version of FRELs to be validated by end of 2016.

National Forest Monitoring System

The capacities of relevant stakeholders have been enhanced at Federal and State levels through a series of technical capacity building workshops including: (i) capacity building on image processing and interpretation of satellite imagery of **20** staffs; (ii) a forest carbon inventory data analysis training of **26** staffs and (iii) a GHG inventory training of **23** staffs for the LULUCF sector. On-going forest carbon inventory has established and collected data on **54** sample plots that will provide data for improved estimation of emission factors. These trainings, including establishment of Technical Working Groups constitute building blocks for the Forest Monitoring System to be put in place. The sampling design is on a 2014 land use map (produced during NASRDA Study) will be used as framework for the establishment of a Forest Monitoring System at Cross River State (CRS) before 2016 ending. The MRV Technical Working Group is in the process of acquiring most recent satellite data to embark on subsequent monitoring activities.

3.2 Challenges and solutions

Please provide a summary of the challenges faced and solutions put in place to address them. These could be of any nature, operational, good procedure, unsuccessful process that other countries could benefit from. [150 words]

Implementation delays continued throughout 2015, exacerbated by feeble collaboration between the national REDD+ Secretariat and (a) CRS Forestry Commission after the elections, and (b) the national Climate Change programme, including preparations for COP 21; and the need to further enhance synergies amongst various work streams supported by the three Agencies. The National Technical Committee agreed on December 16 that the Programme will benefit from the development and implementation of both a communication and stakeholder engagement strategies at both the National and CRS levels. Demonstrable political support for the programme triggered by effective consultations, stronger linkages and relationship building amongst various stakeholders across sectors and effective management of stakeholder interests and enhanced/sustained

participation in the programme implementation were identified as priority areas for the National Programme to achieve readiness. Following the elections of 2015, more time was required by the new government in CRS to fully understand and sustain previous momentum of political commitment to the programme. In response, the National Coordinator, UN RTAs, and CTA met with the CRS Governor and Deputy Governor in June, July, and October to continue to position REDD+ as a priority agenda in developmental processes. Nonetheless, despite broad affirmations of support, until the appointment of a new State Coordinator and the Commissioner of a new CRS Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry in late November, progress on REDD-readiness was focused on supporting overall refocusing of the programme, relevant stakeholder engagement meetings including revalidating the PGA, developing the CBR+ initiative, strengthening the Technical Committee and other Working Groups, conducting a knowledge management survey, advancing the work on safeguards, and forest measurement activities. Additional challenges are summarized in Section 8.1, including policies and measures misaligned with REDD+ approaches, and limited transparency, and limited dialog with stakeholders in decision-making.

4. Government & Non-Government Comments

This section provides the opportunity to capture government and civil society perspectives and provide additional or complementary information.

4.1 Government Comments

Government counterparts to provide their perspective and additional complementary information not included in the overall progress assessment. [500 words]

[input text]

4.2 Non-Government Comments

Civil society stakeholders to provide their perspective and additional complementary information (Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms). [500 words]

[input text]

5. Results Matrix

The results matrix aims to measure progress made in the reporting year against annual targets for outputs indicated in the annual work plan for the year. If the log frame has been amended following a mid-term review, this should be mentioned above the output table. For this section please provide:

- For each outcome, please provide the outcome title. The intention is to report whether the programme is on track towards meeting its target, not to assess if target has been met. Based on the previous annual report, please tick the box below each outcome and provide a short summary of progress made. If the country has not yet produced an annual report, do not tick any box.
- For each output, please provide the output title and a summary of the progress towards achieving the specific output. Please list each performance indicator, the associated baseline and expected annual target for the output for this reporting year and a short narrative indicating progress against this annual target or deviation from plans.

Outcome 1: Improved institutional and technical capacity at the national level			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
<p>Progress towards Outcome: The joint review mission in early May brought the members of the national REDD+ Secretariat together for a two-day retreat that re-focused the AWPB on achieving the four Warsaw Framework elements, with a focus in 2015 on the Cross River State pilot to feed into national-level REDD readiness and to “model” key elements for other states (strategy, interim state-level FMS, interim FRL, and initial safeguards for the strategies policies and measure(s). “Catching up” on pilot-state readiness is a necessary, though not sufficient, condition for national-level REDD-readiness. The drafting of a state strategy in 2015 and the start-up of complementary FCPF support will enable good progress in 2016.</p>			

Output 1.1: The REDD+ Secretariat is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness nationwide			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased legal mandate & institutional recognition of REDD+ in Nigeria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No official REDD+ legal endorsement or mandate, weak REDD+ structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) REDD+ integrated into Federal level institutional structures and policy processes. b) National REDD+ coordination unit functioning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Two CRS level stakeholder fora were held to prioritise actions and areas regarding strategy development, highlighting the need for both process and product to respect inclusiveness

			<p>to address CRS realities.</p> <p>b) Specifically, the National Safeguards Working Group was reorganized and led discussions to identify priority policies and measures to address drivers and barriers.</p> <p>c) A summary of governance issues and gap analysis of drivers study were equally highlighted by stakeholders and the Technical Committee to enable strategy development.</p>
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>The REDD+ secretariat continues to function as a small group of committed persons in the Federal Ministry of Environment (FME), who participate regularly in pilot activities in Cross River State, which serve to strengthen technical skills and supporting operations. Following the joint review mission, it was decided not to recruit a national programme officer. The Programme expanded to two new States of Nasarawa and Ondo; but much work is still required to engage with National stakeholders across all sectors. For the first time, the national budget has allocated funding explicitly for the REDD+ Secretariat. There is still a lot more to be done to integrate REDD+ into Federal level institutional structures and policy processes.</p>			
<p>Output 1.2: Stakeholder engagement, international engagement, and public awareness on REDD+</p>			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
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.	a) Engagement of stakeholders at the national level will focus on selected opportunities that have clear links to the pilot in Cross River State. A stakeholder	Selected stakeholder engagement after the May programme review included a stakeholder forum, a safeguards workshop, and training in interpretation of remotely-sensed

		<p>engagement plan, covering both federal and state levels, and a communication plan will be developed jointly. The communication plan will identify specific “messages” for selected specific stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Activities to support policy, legal, and institutional arrangements at the national level and engagement internationally have been included under this Output, through which collaboration will be explored as opportunities arise. To ensure focus on the four Warsaw Framework fundamentals, the Joint Review Mission’s revision of the AWPB eliminated separate outputs in these areas.</p>	<p>imagery. In addition, the National and State Coordinators, the CTA, and a member of the State House of Assembly attended workshops to help Nigeria prepare for participation in the COP in Paris in December through development of Nigeria’s INDCs.</p>
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Progress towards Output:

National Technical Committee meetings were held in October and December, and one National Stakeholder Forum in November. While the National REDD+ Secretariat remained a small group working to provide technical support for the Programme, the Technical Committee and Stakeholder Forum reflect the limited engagement and consultation with stakeholders. As much as the concentration of efforts in CRS is required as pilot state, effective engagement of stakeholders at the National level is equally relevant for the NP to achieve readiness. Stakeholder engagement will continue to be a priority area, but will now be guided by the sharper focus on the four WF foundations.

Outcome 2: Framework for the Expansion of REDD+ across Nigeria prepared			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
Progress towards Outcome:			

Output 2.1: National REDD+ challenges & potential assessed			
Output Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Progress Against Target
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.	The 2014 target of a first national strategy on REDD+ adopted by the federal government and stakeholders will not be met. Rather, the 2015 target is for Nigeria, through programme support, to develop specific analysis at the state level and selected analysis at the national level to inform a draft state-level strategy and guidance that will inform, in 2016, strategy development in new states and at the national level.	Actions towards conducting analytical work began in 2015 with stakeholders at both CRS and National levels contributing to the development of ToRs, and a recruitment process that was near completion. Several meetings with communities and Local Governments in CRS, and wider stake and National Stakeholder fora and Technical Committee meetings helped to form a common vision for the analytical studies, are relevant and will help to facilitate a participatory process to conduct the analysis and finalise strategies in 2016.
Progress towards Output: At various levels, the National and CRS Technical Committees are prepared to support the analytical studies and use the results as instruments to develop a			

CRS REDD+ Strategy that will inform the National level. Preliminary lists of qualified Local and International Consultants were compiled from over 800 applications. Information gaps from the PGA and drivers study have been identified to be addressed as part of the studies. A small committee has been established to review and finalize the PGA. The analytical work is expected to inform the framing of the national REDD+ Strategy through the development of a Policy Note. FCPF support was secured by the federal government to expand REDD+ to Nasarawa and Ondo States [see FCPF link to Feb document], which were selected following screening visits and review at the February Programme Steering Committee meeting. FCPF is expected to support analyses and related engagement but this is also yet to take off fully.

Output 2.2: National MRV framework designed

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
GHG reporting to UNFCCC	GHG not reported with quality; weak national capacities on GHG reporting	Training on forest carbon inventory data analysis through remotely-sensed imagery and training on GHG inventory.	Considerable progress was made towards achievement of the annual targets, with all technical workshops undertaken to enhance stakeholder capacities in forest carbon inventory data analysis and GHG Inventory.

Progress towards Output:

Considerable progress has been made towards the achievement of **Output 2.2** through:

1. A technical training on the National GHG-Inventory Reporting for LULUCF in Nigeria, conducted in October 2015, which resulted in (i) increased capacity of 23 technical staff from Departments of Forestry, Special Climate Change Unit, Drought & Desertification Amelioration in the Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigeria Air Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), and Cross River State Forestry Commission to undertake GHG Inventory reporting for the LULUCF following IPCC Guidelines (2006); (ii) the formation of a multi-stakeholder GHG Working Group to strengthen and support the GHG reporting in Nigeria;
2. A technical training workshop on National Forest (carbon) Inventory data analysis, conducted in November 2015, resulting in: (i) increased capacity of 26 participants from the Federal secretariat of REDD; Cross River State Forestry Commission (now Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry); Cross River National Parks; academia including university students from Calabar, Abuja, Ibadan, Lagos; Nigerian Conservation Foundation; and community representatives (REDD Pilot Site Coordinators) to undertake forest carbon inventory data processing and analysis for tree biomass and forest carbon assessments for estimation of emission factors; (ii) Constitution of National Forest Inventory Working Group expected to drive and provide the needed technical support required to generate accurate, reliable and verifiable Emission Factors (EFs).
3. The multi-stakeholder capacity enhancement of the MRV pillars and creation of Working Groups has also resulted in institutional strengthening and

collaborations/partnerships amongst the institutions from where the participants were drawn; as well as providing a pathway for data & information sharing and for the institutional arrangement for the NFMS in Nigeria.

4. Previous training workshops in 2014:

(i) on forest monitoring and MRV (January 2014) that enhanced the knowledge and understanding and practical capabilities of **49** technical staff (also drawn from CRSFC, Federal Ministry of Environment, Academia, NGO's and CSO's) on the IPCC good practices (GPG documents), the different pillars of MRV, understanding of different sampling techniques for forest carbon inventories, and the different techniques of image analysis. Practical classroom sessions on use of open source GIS (Quantum GIS) increased their capacities on image analysis of spatial (RS) data; while a field practical session increased their skills in undertaking plot establishment and data collection for carbon assessment from various carbon pools. Eventual analysis of the data, linked with the use of allometric equations increased their capacity on the estimation of emission factors.

(ii) on national forest carbon inventory and allometric equations (December 2014) increased knowledge and practical skills/capacity of **25** technical staff (drawn from CRSFC, Federal Ministry of Environment, Academia, NGO's and CSO's) to undertake forest carbon sampling for different carbon pools; to undertake tree sampling for data collection to develop allometric equations and on the use of open source statistical package (R-Software) for data analysis and development of allometric equations. Participants also enhanced their knowledge on the various stages of the design and execution of a forest carbon inventory, and on how to determine/decide on key carbon pools to sample.

Output 2.3: A Framework National Strategy for REDD+ across Nigeria's states developed

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
Understanding of differential conditions, options, and challenges for REDD+ among different states	No systematic analysis exists for REDD+ across Nigeria	Analyses in three key areas carried out, and informed by complementary studies in greater depth in the CRS pilot: (a) Stocktaking of financing, incentives, benefit sharing, and related financial considerations for REDD+ strategy development; (b) Private sector financing, investment, and engagement	Progress reached on CRS and National level institutional arrangements and local and international procurement for the UN-REDD analytic activities. The analytical work is expected to inform the framing of the national REDD+ Strategy through the development of a Policy Note. The development of the national REDD+ strategy is expected to be done in

		opportunities for REDD+ strategy development and implementation; and (c) Assessment of policy, legal and regulatory instruments for REDD+ Strategy development	partnership with FCPF. The planned two new states that will receive FCPF support and will build on Cross River State's experience have been designated: Nasarawa and Ondo.
Progress towards Output:			
Some of the basic building blocks for the national strategy for expanding REDD+ have been developed. Specific progress towards this output includes developing the Terms of Reference for the analytical work to inform the national strategy, initiating the recruitment process for various consultancies and, through the mid-year review, identifying the key outputs that are required for a framework national strategy and how this would be linked to the FCPF support to develop Nigeria's framework national REDD+ strategy.			

Outcome 3: Institutional and Technical Capacity for REDD+ in Cross River State			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place
Overall, implementation structures – Working Groups and Technical Committee were strengthened to begin relationship building, identify core issues and define process for the strategy development. Efforts at conducting analytical studies for the strategy was initiated and reached an advanced stage of recruiting international and national consultants. Priority/candidate policies and measures were identified for risks and benefits analysis to inform the strategy. Capacity building on GHG (training and equipment) and other MRV-related actions occurred while undertaking measurement of forest carbon stock, with 54 inventory plots completed within the reporting period.			

Output 3.1: CRS REDD+ Unit is effective at coordinating REDD+ readiness at State Level

<i>Output Indicators¹⁰</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target¹¹</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Committees and Working Groups in place. • REDD+ integrated into Climate Change technical committee. • State and National REDD+ coordination unit functioning well together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRSFC has a REDD+ unit, but the team is limited in size and skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) CRS state-designated members of the secretariat team actively engaged (ii) Technical Committee on climate change holds dialogue meetings within its institutional structures on REDD+ (iii) National REDD+ coordination unit has fully implemented the 2015-16 work plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) CRS REDD+ Unit functional. b) Technical Committee and Sub-Committees (Working Groups) reactivated and engaged. c) ToRs for Technical Committee and Working Groups reviewed and implemented to enable active participation and contribution to REDD readiness. • CRS and National REDD+ Secretariats jointly plan and implement relevant activities; and agree on areas for improved communication and collaboration.

Progress towards Output:

The major steps forward in 2015 were those taken towards greater inclusiveness and connectivity. With the reactivation of the Technical Committees (national and CRS), the programme is positioned to make significant progress on the WF milestones for strategy and safeguards. The knowledge and skills of 10 members of REDD+ Technical Committees and Working Groups were developed through their participation in the REDD+ Academy, which was hosted by the National Programme in CRS at the end of October. To further help achieve REDD-readiness, and to sustain it after the UN-funded staff leave by the end of 2016, the programme has recommended that the State designate individual staff from the full range of collaborating MDAs and other stakeholder entities to accompany particular aspects of the REDD+ Readiness process. These staff will assume increasing responsibility as capacity and experience grows, and should be able to advise the relevant interagency working groups or designated units by mid-2016. Increasingly, staff of CRS are getting involved

¹⁰ Proposed revisions of August 2015, as presented in the semi-annual report.

¹¹ Proposed

in the implementation of the readiness programme, which was hitherto not the case. Nonetheless, the connectivity of the REDD+ teams with policy and investment decision-makers required improvement. The new Commissioner of the Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry will help to keep CRS on track, sustain broad engagement, and enable deep consultations with stakeholders across sectors at all levels. In April, following completion of the Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) in 2014, the PGA's three "pilot site coordinators" were retained to ensure community-level perspective informs and contributes to REDD+ strategy and safeguard development, forest monitoring, and the CBR+ initiative. Following the completion of the PGA draft in May, it was decided to end the position of PGA Coordinator, who then left the programme at end of June. Following the change in the state government, all term-limited political appointees were relieved, included the Chairman of the Forestry Commission, who had been serving as State Coordinator since the beginning of the programme. In December, the CTA who assumed position at the end of February left at the end of his contract and has offered to support the programme remotely as may be determined.

Output 3.2: CRS REDD+ Strategy is developed

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
a) Analytical studies completed, documented, reviewed by stakeholders, and applied; b) Approach to safeguards developed for Cross River State; c) Draft REDD+ Strategy for Cross River State developed.	a. Weak institutional framework/arrangement to develop REDD+ Strategy; b. Lack of baseline information; c. Poor documentation and lack of access to existing data/information.	a) Finalise analytical studies (PGA; Drivers of Deforestation; Forest Valuation; Private Sector Financing; Financing, Incentives and Benefit Sharing; Assessment of policy, legal and regulatory instruments for REDD+; Technical Paper on Natural Resource Management & Sustainable Forest Management Initiatives of Relevance to REDD+ Strategy in CRS; etc.) to inform strategy development; b) Conduct risk/benefit analysis of Policies and Measures (as part of developing a Nigeria REDD+ approach to safeguards and SIS);	a) Initial drafts of PGA report have been reviewed by stakeholders, who have provided feedback/inputs. These are being incorporated into a final version, which will serve as a basis for the strategic analyses. b) The safeguards working group has been re-organised and is working to prioritise REDD+ relevant policies and measures. Initial potential PAMs have been validated in a Stakeholder Forum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reorganized CRS Technical Committee and Working Groups will contribute to more effective review of the strategic analyses

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Complete mapping of multiple benefits d) Prepare an Issues and Options report <p>Organize a meeting with senior Government officials and stakeholders on climate change and REDD+ to discuss emerging issues and options for REDD+ strategy</p>	<p>and will be essential to the development of the REDD+ Strategy.</p>
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>Actions towards strategy development progressed steadily but slowly. Some of the basic building blocks for the national strategy for expanding REDD+ have been developed. Specific progress towards this output includes developing the Terms of Reference for the analytical work to inform the national strategy, initiating the recruitment process for various consultancies and, through the mid-year review, identifying the key outputs that are required for a CRS strategy and how this would be linked to Nigeria’s framework national REDD+ strategy. The near completion of the PGA work, the re-activation of the technical committee and re-organization of technical working groups were part of efforts made to lay the foundation for the strategy development process. Nonetheless, considerable amount of time was used to build common understanding on the scope and approach (process) among the Technical Committee members and different Working Groups as well as the ability to link the various aspects of REDD+. Political transition slowed the pace towards strategy development and shifted team efforts towards clarifying the commitment to REDD+ principles regarding transparency in consultations and inclusive decision making, weak institutional linkages contributed to the delay and created communication gaps that slowed decision making on activity planning and implementation. Nonetheless, the time spent towards institutional and team-building, the REDD+ Academy in Calabar and other stakeholder events culminating in the reactivation of Technical Committees and clarification of their ToRs is worth noting. It is expected that with working structures reorganized and growing commitment across sectors (communities, government, civil society, academia and media) in especially CRS, progress on strategy will advance quickly to achieve REDD+ readiness. The gap in engagement with the private sector is notable, and is expected to be addressed in the analytical studies. Timely implementation of the analytical studies will determine to a large extent the pace of work on the Strategy in 2016.</p>			
<p>Output 3.3: CRS forest monitoring system operational</p>			

<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Monitoring system for CRS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No forest monitoring system in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure full equipment for forest inventory and monitoring; Develop & field-test Forest Carbon Inventory sampling design/methodology (with GCF project); Cross River State begin establishing genuine working relationships with key institutions concerned with land use/land cover management 	<p>Considerable progress was made towards the achievement of the annual targets, with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full forest carbon inventory equipment procured and delivered; 2. 54 sampling plots (out of 80) have been established and data collected; 3. 33 communities across 8 LGAs engaged & sensitized at CRS; 4. 93 community members were trained in sample plot establishment & data collection; 5. Draft standard operation manual (SOP) produced and being enriched with additional field experience.

Progress towards Output:

Considerable progress has been made towards achievement of **Output 3.3**, through:

1. Undertaking a spatially-explicit drivers of deforestation and forest degradation study for Cross River State (conducted by NASRDA contracted work), which resulted in (i) the generation of activity data (AD) for the AFOLU sector, including land cover change data for 2000, 2007, & 2014 epochs that constitutes inputs for the development of sub-national FRELS/FRLs; (ii) the identification and mapping of deforestation “hotspots” for closer forest monitoring; and (iii) the development of a geo-spatial database supplied to CRS Forestry Commission on a computer desktop loaded with Idrisi TerSet for image analysis.
2. Undertaking of a technical training workshop on the processing and analysis of satellite imagery for drivers of deforestation study (based on

NASRDA work) resulting in capacity building of **20** stakeholders capable of undertaking similar work during subsequent forest monitoring activities with minimal reliance on consultants. For instance, (i) CRS staffs are undertaking similar work on pilot community sites, forest reserves, and Local Government Areas; and (ii) the State MRV committee put in place will begin to review, integrate and analyze historic and real-time remote sensing and GIS data as a starting point for subsequent forest monitoring activities.

3. A preliminary forest carbon sampling framework, elaborated jointly by CRSFC and Winrock International within the GCF (Governors Climate Facility) funding, involved training and field data collection which increased the knowledge of CRSFC staff on the various stages of sampling design, while the practical field phase enhanced their capacity in forest carbon data collection. Further field work to collect complementary forest carbon inventory data is being undertaken using the newly procured forest inventory equipment (**54** sample plots so far out of **80** envisaged) in order to update the forest carbon stock database and improve on emission factor estimation at CRS.
4. The establishment of a functional Remote Sensing/GIS Laboratory, equipped with computer hardware and GIS software at CRSFC has greatly boosted the work/capacity of CRS MRV capacity building activities, especially on Remote Sensing image analysis with GIS; as well as their capacities to undertake spatial planning and analysis for multiple benefits; and is expected to sustain forest monitoring and MRV work through the development of spatial databases.
5. The above elements, plus some institutional arrangements for forest monitoring functions, will be consolidated and formalized in 2016 to put in place a forest monitoring system for Cross River State (CRS), Nigeria.

Outcome 4: REDD+ readiness demonstrated in Cross River State

<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome Achieved;	<input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieving this outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected minor delays	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expected significant delays
		<input type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrective measures in place

Progress towards Outcome:

Consultations with stakeholders to develop the CBR+ programme identified four priority themes, which were re-validated in a Stakeholder Forum in May. Responding to the call for concept note and proposal, civil society organisations – CBOs and NGOs responded from which 21 proposals were selected for final review by the SGP. Lack of information from the SGP regarding the progress, and weak links between the SGP and REDD+ at both National and CRS need to be addressed to enable CBR+ take off and implemented with meaningful impact on the ground.

Output 4.1: REDD+ experimental initiatives in the state well-coordinated and supported			
<i>Output Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
a. Country plan for CBR+ prepared and approved b. At least 30 concepts notes to implement CBR+ in communities developed and submitted for review to CRS REDD+ Unit c. One UNDP SGP Steering committee meeting held to approve CBR+ concept notes for further development d. Capacity building initiatives to help communities develop proposals carried out	a. No REDD+ experimental initiative on the ground; b. Available opportunities to learn and apply lessons from previous projects.	CBR+ initiatives implemented on the ground in REDD+ pilot communities	a) A country CBR+ has been developed and approved with the engagement of key stakeholders. b) After a couple of reviews, 21 proposals from CSOs were selected for final review before funding. The SGP is doing the final review and selection.
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>REDD+ is working in collaboration with the UNDP Small Grants Programme (SGP) to initiate CBR+ on-the-ground. Thirty-three civil society organisations (CSOs) submitted concept notes to implement CBR+ in 30 REDD+ pilot communities. The REDD+ Secretariat in Calabar facilitated assessment of these concept notes and submitted recommendations to the SGP to invite selected CSOs to submit technical proposals. Investment based on the planned analyses and REDD+ Strategy is not likely before 2016. In addition, partnership opportunities to support implementation of REDD+ related activities on the ground are being explored with UNDP-GEF.</p>			
Output 4.2: CRS established as a centre of excellence & learning on REDD+			
<i>Output Indicators¹²</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Annual Target</i>	<i>Progress Against Target</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Knowledge Products available and easily accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based Forest Management initiatives 	REDD+ data management	a. ToR for Knowledge management

¹²Proposed revisions of August 2015, as presented in the semi-annual report.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one other state visits CRS to begin collaboration and learn about REDD • Pilot site coordinators organize adaptive learning review of community based initiatives Working groups review initiatives and outputs relevant to their respective terms of reference 	<p>ongoing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some political awareness and will to support improved forest governance; • Poor/inadequate funding of institutions by CRS Government to be REDD-ready. • Limited sharing of data and experience across institutions. 	<p>system fully established and functional.</p>	<p>survey conducted and procurement for consultant initiated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Information, Education and Communication materials produced and disseminated c. MRV Unit established and functional, and data collection on-going to build accessible REDD+ knowledge base d. Working groups develop lessons learned that capture key experiences from the REDD+ process.
<p>Progress towards Output:</p> <p>The experience and capacity of selected communities in CRS to manage forests sustainably has been documented intermittently on an ad hoc basis, but lessons learned have not been synthesized for practical or widespread application, even for extending successful model within CRS. While some “out-scaling” to neighbouring communities has occurred, such scaling has not been well supported nor has learning generally been “up-scaled” into MDAs or across NGOs. Stakeholder consultations and capacity building process of CSOs for CBR+ reflected a deep need and willingness to support on-the-ground implementation of REDD+ relevant initiatives.</p>			

6. Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and Associated UNFCCC Decisions

This section aims to provide insight and to support a thought process into how countries are progressing against the framework of the convention, namely: 5.1) a National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan; 5.2) a Safeguards and Safeguards Information System; 5.3) a National Forest Reference Emission Level/National Forest Reference Level; and 5.4.) a National Forest Monitoring System. Only complete the sections that apply to the priorities identified for the country and mark as N/A any criteria that do not apply to the context of the country.

6.1 National Strategy or Action Plan

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): <input type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	
Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan (NS/AP) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words):	
<p>The NPD called for an ambitious set of analyses to understand the complexity of forest change and how to address its drivers, focused on CRS as lead pilot State. This analytic agenda was reduced to four priority (and a few supporting) analyses, for which terms of reference were prepared in July and recruitment began in October. Some of the basic building blocks for the national strategy development has been undertaken including capacity building and stakeholder consultative processes. Specific progress includes developing the Terms of Reference for the analytical work to inform the national strategy, initiating the recruitment process for various consultancies and, through the mid-year review, identifying the key outputs that are required for a CRS strategy and how this would be linked to Nigeria’s framework national REDD+ strategy. The reactivation of the CRS and National Technical Committees may enable progress on these analyses. Two earlier analyses identified drivers and await completion following feedback from UN-REDD advisors and CSO/community stakeholders. FCPF analyses may contribute to minimum essential analyses for the REDD+ Strategy.</p>	

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Does the country have a National Strategy or Action Plan (NS/AP) to achieve REDD+?		Not yet initiated	Drafts of the two analyses begun in 2014 (a Participatory Governance Assessment [PGA] and a geospatial analysis of land use/land cover change [the study on CRS “drivers of deforestation”]) were completed by mid-year. They require further consultation on conclusions and recommendations and, for the study on drivers, validation of findings, before they can effectively contribute to strategy development. Terms of reference (TORs) for a series of four additional analyses were developed in July to inform a CRS REDD+ strategy and a national framework strategy and policy guidance on how
	✓	Under design	
		Drafted, under deliberation	
		Adopted	
		Link to the NS/AP provided on the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Platform Info Hub	

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
		<p>Implementation in early stages</p> <p>Full implementation of NS/AP</p>	<p>support to additional States can be channelled. Preliminary analysis, planning, and engagement by Working Groups or reactivated Technical Committees has been proposed in a draft “road map” for strategy development. At the December national Technical Committee meeting, it was decided to review further the TORs before organizing local talent and experience to support the analytic teams or discussing coordination with FCPF-supported analysis.</p> <p>Analytic activities to support REDD+ Strategy development were delayed coordination/ communication issues regarding the analytic agenda and related recruitment prior to the appointment of a State Coordinator and reactivation of the Technical Committees. Analytic work is expected to start in early 2016. The development of the national REDD+ strategy is expected to be done in partnership with FCPF. (FCPF’s expected start-up of operations in September was slowed by new national financial procedures for programmes, which may delay the FCPF’s complementary analyses.)</p>
Degree of completeness of national REDD+ strategies and/or action plans.		The NS/AP identifies, assesses and prioritises the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation , as well as the barriers to the "plus" (+) ¹³ activities on the basis of robust analyses.	The geospatial analysis of land use/land cover change identified “hotspots” of deforestation. It did not assess the key stakeholders, policies, and measures driving forest change and influencing forest condition, i.e. that influence “investment” time, talent, resources, and decision-making ¹⁴ . Similarly, while the PGA contributed to understanding intra-community issues and the REDD+ programme’s contribution to community “awareness”, it did not explore the Forestry Commission’s role in forest governance or one of the most significant drivers of forest change, private investment. Both the outgoing Governor and State Coordinator noted that corporate and “big man” investors were beyond the power of communities and sometimes acted in collusion with government officials to drive deforestation. ¹⁵

¹³ Plus (+) activities within the context of REDD+ refer to conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks

¹⁴ Unresolved gaps and/or questions related to the analysis of drivers have been raised by stakeholders, including international CSOs and UNEP. Further analysis could relate changes, for example, to specific economic or livelihood drivers, e.g., smallholder subsistence farming, smallholder cash crop farming, fuelwood use, medium scale cash crop farming, corporate agricultural concessions, and the degree of relationship between logging and eventual forest conversion.

¹⁵ At the environmental “cluster” “handover” meeting with MDAs in May, the then Governor noted that the Forestry Commission did not have the capacity to manage sustainable logging in the face of “corporations [that] come in with so much money they can corrupt anyone.” The State Coordinator made similar observations in his handover report.

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
		<p>The NS/AP proposes a coherent and co-ordinated set of policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ that are proportionate to the drivers & barriers, results-oriented and feasible.</p>	<p>At the December 2015 PSC meeting, it was agreed to drop the national-level drivers study that the FAO had planned to carry out.</p> <p>Strategy development has just been initiated. However, the lead pilot state, CRS, has well-consulted policies and measures (PAMs) that, although appropriate to include in the REDD+ strategy, have not been implemented. Moreover, some stakeholders particularly from forest dependent communities and the Civil Society fear that CRS government is also implementing or proposing policies and measures like the super highway that do not address and/or may contribute to deforestation/degradation and/or discourage/undermine investment in “plus” activities.</p> <p>Existing PAMs strongly aligned with REDD+ principles include the Forestry Law of 2010 (as noted in the National Programme Document [NPD]) and Cross River National Park’s regulations on community resource use within the Park, e.g., the regulation for gathering of bush mango. The Forestry Law, in particular, provides for community-based forest management associations (or “committees”, FMCs), land use planning, afforestation, and enforcement through community enforcement officers in collaboration with government. However, the Forestry Law’s most significant provisions have not been implemented (and have no implementing regulations). Neither the CRS Law nor the CRNP regulations are well known.</p> <p>The NP is still in the process of developing a Strategy or Action Plan. While the process is ongoing, careful consideration is given to clearly identify and articulate both direct and indirect drivers and barriers, so as to propose “a coherent and coordinated set of policies and measures (PAMs) for REDD+ that are proportionate to the drivers & barriers, results-oriented and feasible”. Included in ongoing risks and benefits analysis of PAMs to inform the NS/AP are poorly analyzed and/or inadequately consulted PAMs that Government proposed, or have been implemented including the ban on logging and the anti-deforestation task force (which had been commended in the NPD)¹⁶, the proposed “Green Police”, revenue sharing arrangements,</p>

¹⁶ As the geospatial assessment of deforestation showed, the logging moratorium did not significantly reduce the rate of deforestation in Cross River State. Many stakeholders feel that its enforcement through an Anti-deforestation Task Force that worked in isolation from the Forestry Commission and communities may have helped increase illegal logging.

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
			agricultural concessions in or near forested areas, and a proposed “superhighway” through a designated REDD+ priority pilot area.
		The NS/AP relates to the scope and scale of the FREL/FRL, taking into account national circumstances.	The scope and scale of the FREL/FRL has not been determined yet. However, the current analytical work and the selection of the two new states, together with CRS, will enable the national framework strategy to address an ample range of national circumstances
		The NS/AP defines the institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation, including governance measures, participatory oversight and inter-sectoral coordination.	The national Technical Committee tried to reorganize itself in October and met again in December. At the end of November, a national stakeholder forum endeavored to bring together a significant range of stakeholders. It is anticipated that the discussions during the course of the four priority integrated strategic analyses will also explore and begin to strengthen institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation.
Degree to which the NS/AP incorporates principles of social inclusion and gender equality.		The NS/AP is developed through a multi-stakeholder, gender-responsive and participatory consultation and dialogue process.	<p>Broad engagement at the national level in 2015 was postponed until progress was made in the CRS pilot in October. With the reactivation of the Technical Committees (CRS in October and national in November), the programme can now begin to develop a strategy. A multi-stakeholder participatory consultation and dialogue process has been initiated among community and CSO stakeholders at the May and December Stakeholder Forums. Participatory consultation between these groups and the state’s policy and investment decision-makers, and particularly the private sector, is weak.</p> <p>Although private sector stakeholders have not yet been engaged significantly, some have participated in a Green Economy Working Group (GEWG) supported in collaboration with CUSO, which has begun a five-year green economic policy and youth employment initiative in CRS. However, the GEWG has not met since June.</p> <p>Consultation and dialogue between the CRS Forestry Commission and stakeholders from other</p>

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
			Government Ministries, communities, civil society and others was limited throughout most of the year. Participation of FC staff was limited in the May Forum but stronger in December. Similarly, FC engagement with communities had been weak; however, discussions in November with two forest-bearing communities explored ways for communities to contribute to strategy development, as well as collaboration on measurement, monitoring and enforcement, and benefit-sharing from extraction of salvage timber.
		The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ integrate gender-responsive actions.	The PGA identified gender disaggregated data through the governance mapping and analysis. This will ultimately inform the national REDD+ strategy and associated processes.
		The proposed policies and measures for REDD+ consider the realization of land and resource tenure rights (when relevant), as well as the development priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities as well as their development priorities.	Stakeholder Forum resolutions in both May and December called for consideration of customary land and resource rights and the development priorities of local communities. These resolutions await review and action by Working Groups, Technical Committees, and/or MDAs.
Degree of anchoring of the NS/AP in the national development policy and institutional fabric.		There is effective inter-ministerial coordination for REDD+ action.	Although Technical Committees were reactivated in October and November, in-depth dialog on key issues has just begun and will await the beginning of the analytic studies for the strategy. Some relevant Ministries are not yet represented on the Technical Committees. The present representation by technical staff has not helped significantly strengthen extremely limited inter-ministerial coordination on balancing “conservation” and “economic development” policy, e.g., regarding concessions or infrastructure investments.
		Endorsement of the NS/AP has been obtained at a high political level, beyond the agency or ministry that led the REDD+ readiness process.	This is yet to be achieved as strategy has not been developed. However, uncertainties about high-level commitment that has affected support for REDD+ structures and activities is likely to affect strategy development and potential endorsement. Even the outgoing Governor, at a handover meeting in May, said that he had grown disenchanted with the slow pace and complexity of the REDD+ process. The new Governor has expressed similar doubts. It is critical to engage the Governor at the inception of the strategic analyses to ensure that they include the key issues from the Governor’s perspective.

Indicator	✓	Qualifier (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
		REDD+ actions or targets are embedded in the national plan or policy for sustainable development.	The NS/AP is yet to be developed. On-going consultations plan to target the highest levels of policy making and implementation to mainstream REDD+ actions or targets in the national plan for sustainable development. Already, stakeholders are recommending a revision of Nigeria's INDC to reflect REDD+ actions.
		There is evidence that ministries/agencies outside the forest and environment sectors are committed to implementing REDD+ policies and measures.	As noted under the discussion of PAMs (see above), there is some evidence that MDAs are not committed to the transparency and changes from business as usual that REDD+ PAMs will require. This will require concerted effort on the part of national and state leaders to overcome.
		Financing arrangements to start implementing the NS/AP (or to channel results-based finance) are designed.	This is not yet in place. However, the study on financing, incentives and benefit sharing considerations for REDD+ Strategy development will inform the financing arrangements for the implementation of the NS/AP.

6.2 Safeguard Information System

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Programme; <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Support; <input type="checkbox"/> Other Source; <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Please provide a brief description of the progress being made in developing a Safeguard Information System (SIS) as well as the source of the support provided in this regard (100 words): The National Safeguards Working Group was reorganised in October to enable different stakeholders to work together to review policies and measures to be developed under the pilot state REDD+ Strategy. While awaiting strategy development, selected existing or planned policy and regulatory instruments/initiatives relevant to REDD+ are beginning to be assessed with regard to benefit and risk. Some stakeholder groups are requesting transparency on proposed priority investment and enforcement initiatives for which little or no information has been made available, such as the "super highway" and the anti-deforestation task force. The FCPF's SESA process may help strengthen transparency and safeguards.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification.
Does the country have a Safeguard	✓	No	With the reorganization of the Safeguards Working Group in October, the programme has begun to assess Safeguard
		SIS objectives determined	

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification.
Information System (SIS) that provides information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout implementation of REDD+ actions?		Safeguard information needs and structure determined.	information needs in anticipation of a REDD+ strategy. The Working Group has begun to identify kinds and sources of information but access to information and systems for sharing information are limited. The capacity to analyze and use of that data which has been accessed is limited.
		Existing information systems and sources assessed.	
		The SIS is designed, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources clearly articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	
		The SIS is functional, building on existing, together with any novel, information systems and sources that are clearly articulated in a national government-endorsed document.	
		Summary of information on REDD+ safeguards, informed by the SIS, has been submitted to UNFCCC.	
Degree of completeness of the design of a country approach to address the social and environmental safeguards for REDD+		Aligns with the NS/AP, covering the social and environmental benefits and risks of the policies & measures for REDD+ being considered by the countries.	The analyses on relevant areas of work have just been initiated
		Defines specific policies, laws and regulations (PLRs), as well as other measures, to address the identified benefits and risks.	The analyses on relevant areas of work have just been initiated
		Have institutional arrangements and/or capacities to implement those PLRs and to monitor the REDD+ safeguards.	The analyses on relevant areas of work have just been initiated
		Transparently provides information on how safeguards are respected and addressed.	Indications of how likely Nigeria is to develop a transparent system by the end of 2016 are ambiguous. While MDAs have demonstrated little interest, the new President and CRS Governor have both appealed for greater transparency and accountability. On the other hand, basic information on such safeguards-relevant activities remains inaccessible to date.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification.
			<p>For example, there is no clear standard practice requiring the CRS FC and the disbanded Anti-Deforestation Task Force to share relevant information on their oversight of forest resources (revenues, timber seizures, etc.); and requirements for other MDAs to make available information regarding infrastructure development plans and/or concessions that may impact forest areas are not respected.</p>

6.3 Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): National Programme; Targeted Support; Other Source; Not Applicable

The spatially-explicit study on drivers of deforestation in Cross-River State analyzed satellite images for three epochs (2000, 2007 and 2014), and activity data (AD) was obtained for land use/land cover conditions in the entire Cross River State. Furthermore, the on-going forest carbon inventory will provide improved estimates of emission factors (EF). A workshop is earmarked for early 2016 on the establishment of FRELs that will use the historical AD and EF data collected from these studies, as well as other ancillary data/information to produce a draft version of FRELs to be validated by end of 2016.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means/source of verification
Has the country established a FREL/FRL?		Not yet initiated	A workshop is earmarked for early 2016 on the establishment of FRELs that will use existing historical AD and EF data collected from various studies, as well as other ancillary data/information to produce a draft version of FRELs to be validated by end of 2016.
	✓	Capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced ¹⁷ construction phase	
		Submission drafted	
		Submitted to the UNFCCC	
Robustness of FREL/FRL submissions		Submission is transparent, complete, consistent and as much as possible accurate and allows reconstruction of the submitted FREL/FRL.	Nigeria is not yet at the stage of submitting a FRELs, but this could be possible towards end of 2016
		Includes pools and gases, and REDD+ activities (Scope) and justification for omitting significant pools and/or activities.	
		Justifies where the submission is inconsistent with previous versions of GHG inventory.	
		Includes details of the forest definition used and national circumstances.	
		Defines the geographic area covered by FREL/FRL	

¹⁷ FREL/FRL elements defined or at an advanced stage (scope, scale, forest definition, methodology and data compilation).

		(scale).	
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6.4 National Forest Monitoring System

Supported by (select all that apply and provide name of other source): National Programme; Targeted Support; Other Source; Not Applicable

The capacities of relevant stakeholders have been enhanced at Federal and State levels through a series of technical capacity building workshops including: (i) a forest monitoring and MRV for **49** stakeholders in 2014; (ii) a national forest carbon inventory and allometric equations training of 25 participants in 2014; (iii) capacity building on image processing and interpretation of satellite imagery of **20** staffs; (iv) a forest carbon inventory data analysis training of **26** staffs and (v) a GHG inventory training of **23** staff for the LULUCF sector. On-going forest carbon inventory has established and collected data on **54** sample plots that will provide data for improved estimation of emission factors. These trainings, including establishment of Technical Working Groups constitute building blocks for the Forest Monitoring System to be put in place. The sampling design is on a 2014 land use map (produced during NASRDA Study) will be used as framework for the establishment of a Forest Monitoring System at Cross River State (CRS) before 2016 ending. The MRV Technical Working Group is in the process of acquiring most recent satellite data to embark on subsequent monitoring activities.

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means of verification
Has the country established a FREL/FRL?		No	NFMS is in capacity building phase and has seen stakeholders trained in remote sensing applications for monitoring and for forest cover changes assessment. While FREL/FRL is in preliminary construction phase with the acquisition of historic Activity Data (AD) and with the on-going process of acquiring historic NFI data to estimate Emission Factors (EFs) back in time.
	✓	NFMS capacity building phase	
		Preliminary construction phase	
		Advanced ¹⁸ construction phase	
		NFMS generating preliminary information for monitoring and MRV	
		NFMS institutionalized and generating REDD+ monitoring and MRV (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory)	
Degree of completeness of the NFMS		NFMS includes a Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS)	The SLMS component of the NFMS is in place with the establishment of a functional Remote Sensing/GIS Laboratory, equipped with computer hardware and GIS software, peripherals and database of historic activity data (AD) and satellite imagery at CRS.

¹⁸ NFMS elements at an advanced stage (satellite land monitoring system, national forest inventory, greenhouse gas inventory).

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means of verification
in UN-REDD supported countries			Furthermore, training has been undertaken of 20 Federal and State technical staff, academia and NGOs who can undertake various spatial data analysis and interpretation. The laboratory is expected to sustain forest monitoring and MRV work through the development of spatial databases.
		NFMS includes a National Forest Inventory (NFI)	The NFI component of NFMS has also been established with technical training of 26 participants in allometric equation development and NFI data analysis; training of more than 90 local community members in forest carbon measurement; acquisition of modern forest (carbon) inventory equipment; and the establishment of 54 additional sample plots and collection of data therefrom to update the NFI database. Delivery notes, training and field reports are available for verifications.
		NFMS includes a National GHG Inventory (GHGi)	A technical training workshop on the National GHG-Inventory Reporting for LULUCF in Nigeria was undertaken in October 2015 resulting in (i) increased capacity of 23 technical staff from relevant ministerial departments and academia, who are now capable of producing the GHG_I reporting for the LULUCF based on the IPCC Guidelines (2006); (ii) the formation of the GHG working group to set the stage for on-going multi-stakeholder technical strengthening and support for the GHG reporting in Nigeria. Training reports are available for verifications. However, no GHG_I has been undertaken.
		The NFMS is suitable for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources, and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities;	Achievements in SLMS, NFI, and GHG-I as highlighted above, have provided the needed framework or building blocks needed to set up a monitoring systems to estimate anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removal by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities. The estimates can be done for historic epochs or real time
		The NFMS is consistent with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance and guidelines;	The NFMS is being developed in consistency with the various IPCC guidelines with respect to AD, EFs, and the GHG-I
		The NFMS enables the assessment of	The approach being adopted will enable assessment of different types of forest in Nigeria

Indicator	✓	Descriptor (select all that apply)	Please provide a short narrative describing the reason for selection as well as means of verification
		different types of forest in the country, including natural forest.	including natural forest. The deforestation study by NASRDA took into account 13 land use types in their stratifications, with an attempt to sub-divide the natural forest into tropical high forest, open forest, and montane forest.

7. Financial Delivery

In the table below, please provide information on expenditure for 2015 and the planned and **anticipated expenditure** for the year 2016. These are to be provided against the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for 2016 as approved by the PEB/NSC, meaning before any budget revisions were done. Anticipated expenditure by 31 December 2016 should indicate what would be realistically expended at the end of the year, and therefore provide a measure of deviation against the AWP.

Programme Outcome	UN Organization	Annual Expenditure for 2015 (as of 31 Dec 2015)	Planned Expenditure for 2016 ¹⁹	Final Expenditure for 2016
Outcome 1: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Sub-total				
Outcome 2: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Sub-total				
Outcome 3: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Sub-total				
Outcome 4: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Sub-total				
Outcome 5: [input text]	FAO			
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Sub-total				
Indirect Support Costs (7% GMS)	FAO			
	UNDP			
	UNEP			
Indirect Support Costs (Total)				
FAO (Total):				
UNDP (Total):				
UNEP (Total):				
Grand TOTAL:				

¹⁹As indicated in the 2016 annual work plan.

8. Adaptive management

Referring to the deviations and delays indicated in the results framework above and considering whether expenditures are on track, please provide a short narrative of delays encountered, the reasons for them and what action has been considered to alleviate their impact on the Programme. Please indicate if these have been discussed at the Programme Executive Board (PEB) or National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings, between the Programme Management Unit (PMU) and national counterparts and what measures have been proposed to overcome them.

8.1 Delays and Corrective Actions

What delays/obstacles were encountered at country level? [150 words]

Five obstacles were detailed in the August 2015 Semi-Annual Report. A sixth obstacle has been added that underlies all of them:

- **Over-ambitious programme** design was addressed by the joint review Mission's focus on the Warsaw pillars.
- **Reduced political will and sense of "ownership"** at higher political levels was addressed by meetings with the Governor and Deputy Governor, but did not result in unambiguous commitment to REDD+.
- **Limited cross-sectoral engagement and information sharing across MDAs** was addressed by the reactivation of the Technical Committees.
- **Policies and measures are still detached from REDD+ approaches.** Stakeholder concerns on key initiatives, including enforcement and the "superhighway" remain unaddressed with no relevant information on plans made available.
- **Limited transparency or accountability with regard to forest management and enforcement.** Transparency and accountability have not yet been addressed. Information remains tightly held, with occasional releases that have led to spirited discussion among stakeholders. **Limited commitment to inclusive engagement of stakeholders:** Developing and implementing national and state communications and stakeholder engagement strategies identified as measures to enable inclusiveness. National Stakeholder Forum recommended support for local community participation. December PSC meeting made commitment that the voice of CSO representative to the PSC will be taken seriously.

Have any of the delays/obstacles been raised and/or discussed at the Programme Steering Committee meetings? [150 words]

Yes; No

The February PSC meeting discussed the over-ambitious programme design and called for a joint mission review, which took place in May.

The December 15 PSC meeting discussed political will, cross-sectoral engagement, and inclusive engagement of stakeholders. Discussion on some issues was limited by absence of key present or proposed members, including UNDP, National Coordinator, and CSO representatives after the morning session, and World Bank and Ministry of Finance, and by the decision to table discussion on most implementation arrangements to the National Technical Committee meeting the following day.

The December 16 NTC meeting discussed political will and cross-sectoral engagement, especially disjunction between the nation's REDD+ and Climate Change initiatives.

The National, CRS, UN-REDD (UNDP, UNEP, and FAO) REDD+ Review meeting of May, July and November discussed all six obstacles and made specific recommendations including for designation of a State Coordinator, focusing of TORs of working groups, establishing strong linkages between the WF elements, preparation of a REDD+ strategy, and other actions critical to progress on REDD-

readiness.

What are the delays/obstacles anticipated in terms of their impact on the NP? [150 words]

- Reduced political will led to weak leadership of the pilot state programme and a programme “disconnect” with the higher political levels, with implementing officials demonstrating little understanding and sometimes active resistance to programme principles. This was a major obstacle to progress on the strategy and the pace of and collaboration on forest measurement, which was delayed into 2016.
- Limited cross-sectoral engagement hindered progress on REDD+ strategy, collaboration on forest measurement, engagement with the private sector, and achievement at COP 21.
- Policies and measures detached from REDD+ approaches, limited transparency or accountability, and weak inclusivity has impacted on programme delivery and may damage programme credibility and reduced stakeholder support.

The above impacts make it unlikely that Nigeria will achieve REDD+ readiness by the end of 2016, without compromising the broad engagement and ownership required for true “readiness”.

How are these delays/obstacles being addressed? [150 words]

- **Over-ambitious programme** design was addressed by the joint review Mission’s focus on the Warsaw pillars.
- **Reduced political will and sense of “ownership”** at higher political levels was addressed by meetings with the Governor and Deputy Governor, but did not result in unambiguous commitment to REDD+.
- **Limited cross-sectoral engagement and information sharing across MDAs** was addressed by the reactivation of the Technical Committees and improved collaboration between National and State level teams.
- **Policies and measures are still detached from REDD+ approaches.** Stakeholder concerns on key initiatives, including enforcement and the “superhighway” remain unaddressed with no relevant information on plans made available.
- **Limited transparency or accountability with regard to forest management and enforcement.** Transparency and accountability have not yet been addressed. Information remains tightly held, with occasional releases that have led to spirited discussion among stakeholders.
- **Limited commitment to inclusive engagement of stakeholders.** Developing and implementing national and state communications and stakeholder engagement strategies identified as measures to enable inclusiveness. National Stakeholder Forum recommended support for local community participation. December PSC meeting made commitment that the voice of CSO representative to the PSC will be taken seriously.

8.2 Opportunities and Partnerships

Over the reporting period, have any opportunities that were not foreseen in the design of the programme been identified to help advance efforts on REDD+? [150 words]

At the February PSC meeting, the role of FCPF in strengthening collaboration in Nigeria’s REDD readiness programme was further explored. The FCPF offers additional support for the rigorous analysis, the disciplined institutional transformation such as the President and the Governor have voiced support for, and the international perspective needed to ensure that Nigeria’s readiness pillars meet the expectations of national stakeholders and international standards and expectations that will enable investment.

Both the UN and the World Bank’s portfolios are large enough to leverage the deeper transformations so manifestly desired by the Nigeria people at the last elections and so elusive thus far to the REDD+ programme. For example, the World Bank’s NEWMAP programme is active in CRS and has a national budget 50 times that of Nigeria’s REDD-readiness programme. Nigeria’s REDD

readiness programme needs to find ways to fully utilize the advantages and opportunities of the partnerships and funding by the UN agencies and the World Bank to more strongly and explicitly align resources to issues around REDD+. Partnership with the GCF and Nigeria Conservation working in collaboration with Forestry Commission supported carbon measurement, and can also be further explored.

How are these opportunities being incorporated into the work of the NP? [150 words]

While these opportunities and partnerships have been identified and being explored, there still remains a lot to be done to incorporate these into the work of the NP. For example, while the Government manages and implements both UN-REDD and FCPF, it is yet to foster the needed programmatic synergies between the two programmes, even in terms of how various analytics would feed into one another. Consultations with the World Bank on working together still remains to be fully actualized.

9. Targeted Support

If the country has received Targeted Support during the reporting period, please provide a narrative of how this was complementary to the NP, and how it has contributed to furthering the readiness process in country.

Summary of Targeted Support: [100 words]
Not applicable