



Project Information Document/ Identification/Concept Stage (PID)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 23-Mar-2021 | Report No: PIDC238875



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)	Environmental and Social Risk Classification	Project Name
P175928		Moderate	ASIA-PACIFIC FCPF CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT ON REDD+
Region	Country	Date PID Prepared	Estimated Date of Approval
OTHER	Multi-Regional	23-Mar-2021	
Financing Instrument	Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency	
Investment Project Financing	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba)	ASIA NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND BIORESOURCES (ANSAB), INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION (TEBTEBBA)	

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PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)

SUMMARY

Total Project Cost	0.92
Total Financing	0.92
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

Non-World Bank Group Financing

Trust Funds	0.92
The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility – Readiness Fund	0.92



B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

1. Deforestation and forest degradation are the second leading cause of global warming, responsible for about fifteen percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, which makes the loss and depletion of forests a key issue for climate change. Eighty percent of the Earth's above-ground terrestrial carbon and forty percent of below-ground terrestrial carbon is in forests. Given the large contribution of deforestation and forest degradation to global emissions, combating both has been identified as one of the most cost-effective ways to lower emissions.

2. There is a consensus in the global community that the issue of deforestation and forest degradation must be effectively tackled as it would otherwise limit the options available to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, greenhouse gas concentrations, and ensure increases in temperature to acceptable levels. Any reduction in the rate of deforestation and forest degradation has the benefit of avoiding a significant source of carbon emissions and reducing other environmental and social problems associated with deforestation.

In addition to mitigating climate change, stopping deforestation and forest degradation and supporting sustainable forest management also conserves water resources, prevents flooding, reduces run-off, controls soil erosion, reduces river siltation, protects fisheries and investments in hydropower facilities, preserves biodiversity, enhances livelihoods, and preserves cultures and traditions. A new study carried out by Stanford University suggests that deforestation could lead to a rise in the occurrence of diseases like COVID-19. Its findings suggest that when forests are cleared for agricultural use, the chances for transmission of zoonotic, or animal-to-human diseases, increase. Forests can also be an important source for the economic recovery of communities if managed sustainably.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

The REDD+ concept

4. REDD+ was first considered by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 11th Conference of the Parties (COP11) in Montreal in December 2005. Five years later in Cancun, COP16 parties agreed that "developing countries could contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conserving forest carbon stocks; sustaining management of forests; and enhancing forest carbon stocks." This became known as the REDD+ Agenda.

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

5. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) was launched in 2007 as a result of a strong interest of developing countries in REDD, and a clear demand from both industrialized and developing country governments for a mechanism which would help forested countries reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and conduct demonstration activities to show how REDD could be implemented. Decisions taken at COP13 during that year in Bali specifically invited parties to further strengthen and



support ongoing REDD efforts, support capacity building, provide technical assistance, and address the institutional needs of developing countries. The FCPF has since become the largest actor in the REDD+ domain, working with 47 developing countries across Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, along with 17 donors, which have made contributions and commitments totaling US\$1.3 billion. The FCPF supports REDD+ efforts through two complementary funds: The *Readiness Fund* helps countries set up the building blocks to implement REDD+. This includes designing national REDD+ strategies, developing reference emission levels, designing measurement, reporting, and verification systems, and setting up national REDD+ management arrangements, including proper environmental and social safeguards. The *Carbon Fund* was set up to pilot results-based payments to countries once they advance through REDD+ readiness and implementation, meet requirements for payments, and achieve verified Emission Reductions (ER) in their forest and broader land-use sectors.

The FCPF Capacity Building Program

6. The UNFCCC COP16 decision on REDD+ called for the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples^[1] (IPs) and civil society, and the need to respect their traditional knowledge and rights. IPs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have been recognized as key stakeholders given their close relationship with, and dependence on forested lands and resources worldwide and due to their long history of adapting to climatic variability and ecosystem changes. However, the level of participation of IPs communities and CSOs in national REDD+ processes and international decision making had often been low due to insufficient understanding of the issues, lack of resources to increase the level of understanding, and weak communication between IPs and civil society representatives and national and international REDD+ functions.

7. A series of regional dialogues between the FCPF and IPs and civil society representatives, which took place after the FCPF was formed, resulted in a request to support forest-dependent IPs and CSOs in building their capacity to engage in REDD+ activities. Consequently, the FCPF Capacity Building Program (CBP) was established to provide forest-dependent IPs, southern civil society, and local communities with information, knowledge, and awareness on REDD+. Phase 1 of the CBP (2008-2015) funded 27 projects in the Africa, Latin American and Caribbean, and Asia-Pacific regions and two global projects, which supported awareness raising workshops, publication of training manuals, and capacity building activities. Proposals for capacity building activities were processed through the World Bank's procurement vendor system whereby selected IPs and CSOs were contracted as consultants to carry out specific capacity building activities. During this phase, forest-dependent communities in the regions were engaged in national REDD+ planning and formulation and played an active role in partnering with governments to implement consultation activities. Strengthened consultation and participation also helped to publicize and increase the understanding of forest-dependent IPs and CSOs' views and potential contributions to the REDD+ system design and implementation. Phase 2 of the CBP (2016-2019/20) financed REDD+ capacity building for IPs, CSOs, and local communities through small Recipient Executed Trust Funds (SRETFs) with four prominent IPs organizations and three prominent CSOs in the three regions channeling sub-grants for competitively selected sub-projects in eligible FCPF countries and developing regional knowledge products such as studies, workshops, and south-south exchanges. Two of the Africa SRETFs closed on December 31, 2019 after completing their



projects successfully. The SRETF for IPs in Central Africa, the IPs-centered project in Asia-Pacific, and the two projects in Latin America and Caribbean are scheduled to close toward the end of calendar year 2020.

8. The projects in Asia-Pacific, implemented by the Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba, P153585) and Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB, P153588), respectively, have demonstrate satisfactory achievement of set targets. These include national capacity building sub-projects to IPs, civil society, and local communities in the targeted FCPF countries, and an abundance of regional knowledge activities developed and disseminated. The progress toward achieving the Project Development Objective (PDO) of strengthening the knowledge of beneficiaries of REDD+ Readiness at the national level and knowledge exchange at the regional level, and the overall implementation progress of both projects have been consistently rated satisfactory, and their disbursement rates are expected to reach 100% at completion. The projects have been implemented in compliance with safeguard policies and legal covenants, and they successfully managed grievance redress mechanisms.

Challenges, good practices, and lessons learned from the FCPF CBP

9. In 2019, the World Bank Social Global Practice conducted regional dialogues with IPs' organizations (IPOs) and CSOs which participated in the two CBP phases, to serve as platforms to jointly draw lessons and highlight challenges and success stories (the full report is available here). The dialogues showed that despite the achievements of the two CBP phases, the engagement of IPs and other forest-dependent communities in REDD+ processes still faced some challenges. The main challenges in Asia-Pacific were identified as limited budgets, short implementation periods of capacity building activities, and lengthy administrative and approval procedures of funds. Another cited difficulty was the need to translate REDD+ concepts and terminologies into easily understood terms. Factors, which in some cases had prevented the meaningful participation of beneficiaries, were migration of women and youth to work outside their communities, inaccessibility of communities, low literacy levels, unfavorable weather conditions, and cultural and language barriers. Finally, implementing organizations had to manage beneficiaries' expectations from the sub-projects, which supported only awareness and capacity building and did not directly finance income generating actions. From the points of view of Tebtebba and ANSAB as implementing entities, a challenge was to find acceptable proposals from all eligible countries. Finally, IPO representatives from Fiji believed that a distinctive mechanism should be designed to address the REDD+-related capacity needs of IPs in the Pacific Islands. Due to the limited scope of REDD+ activities in the Pacific (namely Fiji and Vanuatu with Vanuatu readiness closing in 2021), this proposal would not be feasible to fulfill.

10. Stakeholders further identified the following barriers to equal participation of women in REDD+-related decision making which should be addressed further by donors and governments: (i) deep-seated cultural barriers, including traditional gender roles, (ii) confinement to non-economic activities inside women's homes, (iii) limited mobilization, access to social services, education and literacy rates, (iv) undervalued and undercompensated labor-intensive forestry-related tasks, (v) limited knowledge of women of their rights, laws and policies related to REDD+, (vi) lack of skills and confidence to effectively participate in community



activities, (vii) insufficient internalization of existing policies by institutions working on forestry and REDD+ in planning and policy making, (viii) insufficient safeguards, and (ix) elite capture by powerful women leaders.

11. **Good implementation practices were highlighted, including:**

i) *Creation of spaces and opportunities for women's participation and inclusion and breaking of barriers.* For example, in Vietnam, the sub-grantee International Center for Tropical Highland Ecosystems Research (ICTHER) supported the institutionalization of the Adaptive Collaborative Management Approach (ACMA), where at least two representatives from villages covered by the Forest Management Council were elected as members of the Council, one of whom was a woman. In Nepal, women have participated in the Community Forest Executive Committee and in Leasehold Forests User Groups, although their participation level has been lesser than men. A Report (2019) on Mainstreaming Gender into Fiji's REDD+ and ERP funded by the FCPF project managed by Tebtebba highlighted twelve action points to mainstream gender in REDD+ and ERP, underlining participatory approaches to ERP implementation, gender responsiveness in ERP management, and involvement of women in policy processes and decisions. These action points were included in Fiji's ERPD and accepted in the Carbon Fund in July 2019.

ii) *Building of capacities for effective participation in REDD+ processes.* Capacity building activities on ACMA, benefit sharing, carbon accounting, carbon stock assessment, forest management and monitoring and resource mapping, including use of GPS and Terra-I, were conducted. There were series of multi-stakeholder consultations conducted by Vietnam's PanNature among forest owners and LC in Huong Nguyen Province to enhance partnership towards sustainable landscape. Furthermore, sub-national and national consultation workshops were carried out to discuss benefit sharing mechanisms and design environmental and social safeguards. With the assistance of ICTHER in Ta Long Commune, Dakrong District, a Forest Management Council was established and is now operational in managing existing forest resources. This, combined with forest allocations to additional Self-Governing Groups (SGGs), is where the model of 'Inter-community landscape and customary governance-based forest management' was piloted by Vietnam's Hoa Binh Cooperative with the assistance of CERDA.

iii) *Generation of partnerships.* The projects generated and strengthened collaboration, networking, and partnerships between and among LC, CSOs, IPs and IPOs (including women IPOs), the private sector, and respective governments. In Bhutan, Vietnam, Fiji, and Vanuatu, consultations with the governments during the planning phase of the sub-projects resulted in increased collaboration with local stakeholders, including women. For instance, the Ministries of Forest (responsible for REDD+ implementation) and iTaukei in Fiji assisted Grace Trifam Ministry to select the forest beneficiary communities for capacity building on REDD+. Vanuatu Foresters Association had a similar experience, where relevant government institutions and NGOs were consulted for site selection prior to implementation. Sub-projects' workshops and training programs were carried out in collaboration with REDD+-related government agencies, which provided technical assistance and input by serving as resource persons. In Bhutan, the Royal Society for Protection of Nature implemented activities on awareness raising activities on climate change and REDD+ in collaboration with the Department of Forest and Park Services and its related offices/agencies. Similarly, Bhutan's Tarayana Foundation worked in partnership with the Watershed Management Division and Social Forestry Extension



Division of the Department. CSOs and IPOs became more engaged in national REDD+ platforms. Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities became an IPs member in the ERPD Drafting Committee, ensuring that the ERPD's GAP and safeguard instruments resulted in positive impacts on the country's IPs. In Vietnam, space was created for CSO participation in REDD+ processes at the national level and a REDD+ network was created to reach out to relevant REDD+ stakeholders and seek their input.

iv) *Livelihood options broadened.* Women's livelihood options were broadened as a result of forest-related livelihood initiatives introduced by sub-projects. ICTHER in Vietnam demonstrated that their REDD+ sub-project created livelihoods. It conducted training on producing compost and provided small amounts of money to 10 households to start gardening. In Nepal, promoting private forestry as one of the government's interventions provided women with access to capital, skills, and networks to become successful entrepreneurs and earn additional income.

v) *More organized communities.* Communities reached by the sub-projects became more organized and capable to realize their common goals. Hoa Binh Cooperative reported that in Nhu Xuan District, Thanh Hoa Province, ethnic minorities who benefited from capacity building activities were organized into 22 SGGs and were formed into two cooperatives. Obtaining legal land use rights status strengthened the SGGs in pursuing forests and livelihood-related activities.

12. The following lessons learned were drawn from the Asia-Pacific regional dialogue:

- i. Collaboration and networking of LC, IPs, CSOs and governments are essential for REDD+ to succeed.
- ii. Promoting the participation of women in REDD+ requires concerted actions from all stakeholders. These actions should begin with the formulation of legal frameworks for social inclusion, policies and gender plans and strategies.
- iii. Appreciating women's diversity can help to address the issues of gender mainstreaming and women participation and inclusion in REDD+. Ethnic, cultural, and geographical sensitivity of REDD+ interventions should respond to women's diverse conditions and status.
- iv. Gender mainstreaming in REDD+ is an ongoing process which should be endorsed by all stakeholders. Males and females should be continuously sensitized to champion inclusion initiatives at the local and national levels.
- v. Access to resources, information, and capacity building activities is a requisite to full and effective participation of forest-dependent IPs, LC and CSOs, including women in decision making processes. Training on managing nurseries and carbon accounting allow communities to become more effective partners in REDD+ implementation.
- vi. The translation of REDD+ concepts, simplification of training materials, and delivery of capacity building activities into local languages are key to increasing awareness and knowledge of LC members.
- vii. National laws and policies on land tenure and forestry, which consider the forest rights of IPs, including women, are instrumental to strengthening their engagement in REDD+.
- viii. REDD+ can open opportunities for livelihood diversification, including marketing of non-timber forest products.



- ix. Recognition of, and support for indigenous knowledge and traditional governance, particularly in forest management, can be a vital contribution of IPs to REDD+ implementation.
- x. A rights-based approach in sub-project implementation is effective in asserting self-determination of forest-dependent communities over their land, territories, and resources.

13. These challenges and good practices have informed the scope of support and implementation structure of the proposed project, which also reflects lessons learned from the FCPF CBP phase 1 and 2.

[1] The definition of Indigenous Peoples is based on the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework and Standards.

Relationship to CPF

Global priorities

14. The project will contribute to the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10** of Reduced Inequalities and SDG 13 of Climate Action, and it directly reflects the **Paris Agreement's (2015)** acknowledgement that: (i) Parties should, when taking actions to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of IPs, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity; by ensuring scaled-up collaborations and partnerships cultivated among IPs, civil society and governments; and (ii) that adaptation action should follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant socioeconomic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate.

15. The project is consistent with the **World Bank Group Strategy (2013)** and the twin goals of ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity that cannot be achieved without addressing climate change and securing ecosystem integrity. The project fulfills the strategy's premise of creating an inclusive society, not only in terms of economic welfare but also in terms of the voice and empowerment of all groups, including traditionally marginalized groups, such as ethnic minorities and indigenous populations, in decision-making processes. The project further fulfills the vision of the **World Bank Environment Strategy 2012 – 2022 (2012)** on low-emission development strategies and innovative finance, calling for cross-region and cross-sector work to find innovative carbon finance and climate finance solutions to help countries adopt low emission paths to development and improve resource efficiency. The project is also relevant to the **World Bank Group Climate Change Action plan (2016)**, which identifies groups vulnerable to climate change as requiring targeted action including through the REDD+ readiness process.

16. The project is aligned with the objectives of **ESS 7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities**, namely (i) ensuring that the development process fosters full



respect for the human rights, dignity, aspirations, identity, culture, and natural resource-based livelihoods of IPs; (ii) promoting sustainable development benefits and opportunities for IPs in a manner that is accessible, culturally appropriate and inclusive; (iii) improving project design and promoting local support by establishing and maintaining an ongoing relationship based on meaningful consultation with the IPs affected by a project throughout the project's life cycle; and (iv) recognizing, respecting and preserving the culture, knowledge, and practices of IPs, and providing them with an opportunity to adapt to changing conditions in a manner and in a timeframe acceptable to them.

17. **The World Bank Groups' Policy Response to COVID-19 (June 2020)** calls to ensuring that vulnerable groups are included in the health response due to the, often disproportionate, toll epidemics have on them. Similarly, a World Bank Issues Note on Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities in the COVID-19 Pandemic (April 2020), identified a need to strengthen IPs and ethnic minorities through short, medium, and long-term measures. Identified short-term actions, namely training on COVID-19 protocols, and provision of health information and government guidance in accessible formats and languages, will be implemented by the project alongside and in connection to REDD+ related support. In the medium and long-term, the project will continue to generate permanent dialogue platforms to enhance IPs, ethnic minorities, and civil society leaders' direct engagement with governments, on both REDD+, pandemic mitigation, and related issues. The World Bank has recently contracted Tebtebba to assess and consult with indigenous communities on the impacts of COVID-19 and related mitigation measures, and to identify their priorities for relief and recovery support for livelihoods, food security, and health. The results of the assessment and consultations will be used to inform the World Bank Group's COVID-19 economic recovery operations and to mobilize additional funding from other multilateral and bilateral sources for their communities.

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Regional priorities

18. The project is consistent with the East Asia-Pacific (EAP) and South Asia regions' strategies. EAP's priority areas of enhancing resilience and sustainability and fostering inclusion will be supported by working with countries and partners to enhance resilience of IPs, civil society, and local communities to climate change, and making sure countries' long-term growth includes marginalized communities. SAR's focus on fostering resilience to climate change and promoting regional integration will be similarly reinforced while engaging stakeholders in the REDD+ dialogue within and across the SAR and EAP regions. Importantly, although the capacity building project is small at scale, it will support large Carbon Fund investment in the FCPF countries in Asia-Pacific. Among these countries are Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, and Vietnam. The project will be critical in safeguarding these investments in three of the five countries: Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam, and supporting the regions' efforts to protect communities against COVID-19 and spur economic recovery. These three countries will be the focus of the project due to the government's strong interest and endorsement of the program.

National priorities



19. The project will finance country-level activities, which are fully aligned with, and contribute to, countries' economic recovery efforts, respective REDD strategies and programs, and to the implementation of countries' partnership strategies with the World Bank Group.

20. *In Fiji*, the 2017 Systematic Country Diagnostic identifies Focus Area 3: Building Resilience, with attention to climate resilience, fiscal resilience, and social protection. The Fiji National REDD+ Program was launched in 2009, aiming to implement the National REDD+ Policy (2011). The Policy has the overall objective of enhancing the national forest-based carbon balance by (i) supporting and strengthening initiatives that address the drivers of forest-based carbon emissions; and (ii) encouraging the drivers of forest-based carbon sinks. The Government of Fiji recognized the importance of setting up a transparent and multi-stakeholder governance structure for REDD+ at the national level early on in the REDD+ process. The REDD+ Policy places strong emphasis on the need to raise awareness and communicate effectively to relevant stakeholders to ensure free and transparent flow of information between and among government, industry, CSOs, faith-based organizations, local communities, and landowners. These principles are seen as critical to ensuring that the Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) principles are adhered to when informing indigenous landowners, other ethnic groups, and marginalized and vulnerable groups about REDD+ and their necessary involvement and participation in REDD+. Fiji is near completion of its readiness program and it has a final draft ERPD. It is expected to sign an emission reduction purchase agreement with the World Bank in 2020.

21. *In Nepal*, the FY19-23 Country Partnership Framework (CPF) prioritizes inclusion and diversity, with the WBG working to achieve greater inclusion for the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized groups, with greater resilience against climate change, natural disasters, and other exogenous shocks. Nepal has been participating in REDD+ since 2008. Its REDD+ readiness, process, and results are guided by a number of frameworks, including the Constitution of Nepal (2015), Forest Policy (2015), Forestry Sector Strategy (2016), Nationally Determined Contribution (2016), National REDD+ Strategy (2018), and Readiness Preparation Proposal (2010). The vision of Nepal's National REDD+ Strategy is 'enhanced carbon and non-carbon benefits of forest ecosystems contributing to the prosperity of the people of Nepal'. The Government of Nepal looks to fulfill this vision by reducing GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and by undertaking sustainable management of forests aligning with effective fair and equitable benefit sharing with IPs, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis, poor, and other marginalized groups, while adopting appropriate social and environmental safeguards. REDD+ implementation is supported by a stakeholder forum, which engages a wide range of stakeholders in the entire REDD+ process. Nepal is near completion of its readiness program and it has an advanced draft ERPD. It is also expected to sign an emission reduction purchase agreement with the World Bank in 2020.

22. *In Vietnam*, the CPF for FY18-22 has the relevant priority areas of enabling inclusive growth, investing in people and knowledge, and ensuring environmental sustainability and resilience. The project further reinforces the WBG's strategic shift in Vietnam toward poverty reduction amongst ethnic minorities, through livelihood and income generation activities. Vietnam was one of the first countries to receive approval for a Readiness Project Identification Note (R-PIN) under the FCPF. Since 2009, many activities have been implemented in the country to get the country ready for the future REDD+ mechanism. In 2010, the government established the National REDD+ Network and REDD+ Working Group to create awareness of the



REDD+ mechanism and built capacity at national and provincial levels to coordinate activities by ministries, other international agencies, and organizations. Vietnam has completed its readiness program and has designed an ERPD, which aims to provide incentives for the government to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation while contributing to sustainable management of the forests and communities' livelihoods. The government will be signing the emission reduction purchase agreement with the World Bank in 2020 to implement the ERPD.

C. Project Development Objective(s)

Proposed Development Objective(s)

Strengthen the engagement of targeted forest-dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision making at the country and regional levels.

Key Results

23. The following PDO-Level Indicators will be used to measure the achievement of the PDO:

- i. Participation of direct project beneficiaries in formulation and implementation of REDD+ strategies and actions (number, disaggregated by IPs/CSOs and gender)
- ii. Participation of direct project beneficiaries in Emission Reduction Programs and Benefit Sharing Programs (number, disaggregated by IPs/CSOs and gender).
- iii. Beneficiaries who feel project investments reflected their needs (percentage, disaggregated by IPs/CSOs/gender) (Core Sector Indicator, Participation and Civic Engagement)

24. Increased participation under PDO indicators 1 and 2 will be measured against country-specific baselines, which will be established during project preparation in the 3 countries. PDO Indicator 3 will evaluate beneficiaries' satisfaction from project support.

D. Preliminary Description

Activities/Components

25. The Asia-Pacific FCPF Capacity Building Project on REDD+ will be financed through a US\$920,000 Recipient-Executed Trust Fund/small IPF from the FCPF CBP, and implemented by Tebtebba and ANSAB, based in the Philippines and Nepal, respectively, through financing agreements with each organization. Tebtebba will channel resources to, and supervise, sub-projects for IPs in the three participating countries, (Fiji, Nepal, Vietnam) while ANSAB will do the same for civil society and local communities in the three



countries. Regional activities will be carried out jointly by both organizations. Project-financed activities will be grouped into three components as follows:

26. Component 1: National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising. Component 1 will support REDD+ capacity building and awareness raising sub-projects for forest-dependent IPs, ethnic minorities, civil society, and their representative organizations and networks in 3 FCPF countries: Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam. Sub-projects will implement as pilots key elements of REDD+, such as safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring, and carbon accounting. In Nepal, Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines will be developed as part of the sub-project. Reflecting feedback from the regional dialogue, all sub-projects will:

- Be discussed and agreed with the beneficiary communities to ensure that they address communities' specific needs, and mechanisms will be put in place to ensure the engagement of women and youth in the planning and execution of the sub-projects.
- Be planned and carried out in collaboration with REDD+-related government agencies to ensure alignment with governments' REDD+ and COVID response programs. All sub-projects will follow closely national and local guidelines for community outreach.
- Provide spaces for women's participation by partnering with women-led and women-focused IPOs/CSOs, facilitating women-only fora in appropriate settings which recognize women's diversity and needs, incorporating information of particular relevance to women, such as women rights, laws and policies related to REDD+, and adjusting knowledge materials to existing literacy levels and spoken languages.
- Offer communities training for non-timber/alternative livelihoods.

27. Sub-projects will be financed through a sub-grant mechanism: Tebtebba and ANSAB will issue calls for proposals to IPOs and CSOs in the three countries using agreed procedures and templates, and screen applicants and their proposals based on a set of criteria, including applicants' legal status, experience and capacities, and proposals' alignment with countries' REDD+ and COVID-19 response priorities, their participatory approach, and expected impacts. The screened proposals will be reviewed by a forum of independent experts who will ensure activities' technical soundness. Following the signing of sub-grant agreements between Tebtebba/ANSAB and the selected entities, the two organizations will monitor sub-projects' implementation and provide technical and operational support as needed to the IPOs/CSOs.

28. In response to lessons learned from the previous phases, two sub-projects per country (one for IPs/ethnic minorities and one for CSOs) will be financed to allow larger budgets than those allocated in previous phases (around US\$100,00 per sub-project). Sub-projects' implementation periods will be longer and the approval process will be given a shorter timeframe while ensuring eligibility and technical soundness of proposals. The sub-projects are expected to support an increased participation of IPs and CSO representatives in



formulation and implementation of the countries' REDD+ strategies and actions, and in the implementation of the countries' ERPs and benefit sharing programs.

29. Sub-projects will be designed and implemented in close collaboration with governments' ERP implementing units to ensure that funded activities support governments' efforts for awareness raising and participation of IPs, CSOs, and local communities as part of the safeguards implementation of ERPs as well the implementation of community-based livelihood activities.

30. **Component 2: Regional Exchange and Sharing of Lessons Learned.** Component 2 will finance a launch workshop at the beginning of the project and once sub-projects have been signed, and a lessons-learned workshop after the closing of sub projects. The launch workshop will introduce the selected IPOs and CSOs to the project management teams in Tebtebba and ANSAB, respectively; provide training on sub-project fiduciary management; expose IPOs and CSOs to COVID-19 information sources which could be further utilized during outreach to communities; and allow selected entities to network as a basis for exchange during sub-projects' implementation. The lessons-learned workshop will help identify good practices and lessons learned from implementation and further strengthen the collaboration between the IPOs and the CSOs. Both gatherings will enhance the regional dialogue on REDD+, and include relevant discussion topics such as the connection between the REDD+ agenda and disease mitigation, mechanisms for delivering fast and effective response to communities at the onset of a pandemic, the economics of REDD+, and good practices for negotiations and advocacy. The workshops will be carried out by Tebtebba and ANSAB jointly and will be executed in tandem with ongoing regional fora to the extent possible to ensure cost savings and to leverage on the good collaboration fostered between the two organizations during the previous FCPF CBP phase. Remote discussions may be organized in case of continued social gathering restrictions. Synergies and linkages with other regional REDD+ actors, such as private sector Corporate Social Responsibility entities, foundations, bilateral donors, as well as governments, will be encouraged by inviting relevant representatives to participate in the regional workshops.

31. **Component 3: Management, M&E, and Reporting.** This component will finance the overhead costs of secretariats within Tebtebba and ANSAB, which will manage the project, including their respective sub-projects, and the joint workshops. Each secretariat will carry out planning (preparation of annual work plans and budgets), procurement, financial management, environmental and social standard assurance, M&E, and reporting for its respective activities. This component will also finance annual audits of the project accounts by external auditors and any costs related to the execution of grievance redress mechanisms. The managements of Tebtebba and ANSAB will meet on a semi-annual basis (physically or remotely, as allowed) to ensure coordination between the two organizations, evaluate progress, and resolve bottlenecks as needed. Each organization will be assisted by a regional advisory committee composed of prominent technical specialists from Fiji, Nepal, and Vietnam which will provide technical advice to Tebtebba and ANSAB on the quality of proposed sub-projects, support the organizations' grievance redress mechanisms, and contribute technical support to participants in the regional workshops



Environmental and Social Standards Relevance

E. Relevant Standards

ESS Standards

Relevance

ESS 1	Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	Relevant
ESS 10	Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	Relevant
ESS 2	Labor and Working Conditions	Relevant
ESS 3	Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	Not Currently Relevant
ESS 4	Community Health and Safety	Relevant
ESS 5	Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement	Not Currently Relevant
ESS 6	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	Relevant
ESS 7	Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities	Relevant
ESS 8	Cultural Heritage	Relevant
ESS 9	Financial Intermediaries	Not Currently Relevant

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Legal Operational Policies

Safeguard Policies

Triggered

Explanation (Optional)

Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50

No

Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60

No

Summary of Screening of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

The project will have no physical footprint as all the activities to be financed will fall under "Type 3: Strengthening Borrower Capacity" technical assistance (TA) with minimal risk for potential environmental impacts. Potential social risks such as elite capture, ineffective communication, consultation gaps and/or lack of inclusion or representation will be mitigated by (i) ensuring that capacity building and awareness raising programs are consistent with the ESF and incorporate appropriate E&S objectives; (ii) ensuring that activities are widely consulted with the key stakeholders and have the broad support of their main beneficiaries; and (iii) promoting transparency and public information disclosure. The REDD+ awareness raising, capacity building and knowledge sharing activities will be designed considering the principles of the relevant Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), especially ESS1, 2, 6, 7, 8 and 10. Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the project will also provide a platform for addressing the knowledge gap of IPs and local



communities on its implications through local organizations knowledgeable and sensitive to the cultural needs of the participating IPs.

CONTACT POINT

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