

**PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID)
IDENTIFICATION/CONCEPT STAGE**

Report No.: PIDC16664

Project Name	
Region	OTHER
Country	World
Lending Instrument	IPF
Project ID	P153588
Borrower Name	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB)
Implementing Agency	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB)
Environment Category	C - Not Required
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Initiation Note Review Decision	The review did authorize the preparation to continue

I. Introduction and Context

Country Context

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The FCPF, which became operational in June 2008, is a global partnership focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, promoting forest carbon stock conservation, furthering the sustainable management of forests, and enhancing forest carbon stocks (known as the REDD+ agenda). A REDD+ Country Participant is a developing country located in a subtropical or tropical area that has signed a Participation Agreement to participate in the FCPF Readiness Fund. Forty-seven (47) developing countries that have been selected to join the FCPF (including eleven in EAP and SAR) are expected to undertake activities that lay the foundation for sustainable forest management and sustainable land use management. REDD+ thus presents an opportunity to assist countries to undertake a participatory national forest and land use planning exercise to mitigate the impacts of deforestation and forest degradation, including from developments in other sectors (such as agriculture, infrastructure, and energy).

FCPF-Capacity Building on REDD+ for Civil Society Organizations and Local Communities in EAP and SAR Project (P153588). Activities under this project complement activities financed by grants under the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Fund. Under the Readiness Fund, the FCPF has created a framework and processes for REDD+ Readiness, which help countries prepare for future systems of positive incentives for REDD+. Concrete activities under Readiness include the development of Reference Levels, the development of a REDD+ strategy, the design of monitoring systems for reporting and verification, the establishment of REDD+ national management arrangements, and the identification of social and environmental impacts associated with REDD+. During the implementation of these activities, concerted efforts have been

made to ensure the active engagement and participation of relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations (CSOs) and local communities (LC). The activities under the proposed project aim at building the capacity of CSOs and LC to participate more meaningfully in this REDD+ processes at the national level, including REDD+ Strategy development.

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Sectoral and Institutional Context

A series of regional dialogues between the FCPF and civil society representatives that had taken place since the establishment of the FCPF resulted in a request of CSOs and LC to build their capacity to engage in REDD+ activities at the national and regional levels. The FCPF has organized regional dialogues in Africa, Latin America and Asia over the past three years, where forest-dependent indigenous peoples (IPs), southern civil society and LC representatives requested a regional and national capacity building program to enhance their knowledge on climate change and the technicalities of REDD+ to enable them to play a more meaningful role in the REDD+ Readiness process in their respective countries. In Asia-Pacific, the dialogue highlighted the specific need to address the issues of customary land ownership, carbon rights, benefit-sharing and forest governance during capacity building activities. Capacity and participation needs of women and ➤(youth have been recognized as requiring affirmative action across the board. ➤(

The dialogues also acknowledged that efforts to enhance southern civil society and LC ➤(s understanding of REDD+ required strategic and systematic plan of actions and funding. Consequently, a Global Action Plan was issued, that provided a roadmap for the engagement of CSOs and LC in the FCPF, and the FCPF Capacity Building Program (CBP) was established to provide forest-dependent IPs, southern civil society and LC ➤(with information, knowledge and ➤(awareness on REDD+. The program was conceived to be a demand-driven one, in which forest-dependent IPs and ➤(Southern CSOs were to make proposals to the FCPF based on their needs. The FCPF CBP, therefore, complements FCPF Readiness Grants by increasing the capacity and raising the awareness of IPs, CSOs and LC on REDD+ related aspects.

➤(CBP Phase I (2008-2015) funded 29 activities in Asia, Latin America and Africa (including two global projects), with a total allocation of over US\$1.7 million, supporting awareness-raising workshops, publication of training manuals and capacity building activities. Proposals for capacity building activities were processed through the World Bank ➤(s general corporate procurement system where IPs and CSOs were contracted as consultants to carry out specific activities. During this phase, forest-dependent communities in Africa, LAC and Asia were engaged in national REDD+ planning and formulation and played an active role in partnering with governments to implement consultation activities. See Annex 2 for a preliminary list of lessons learned from CBP Phase I.

CBP Phase II (the framework for the proposed project). In moving forward with the FCPF CBP, and in line with the Bank ➤(s Operational Policy/Bank Procedure (OP/BP) 10.00, Investment Project Financing, projects under Phase II of the CPB are to be implemented in accordance to the World Bank ➤(s Procedure for Small Recipient-Executed Trust Fund Grants. During this phase, six grants will be provided to recipient organizations (see Table 1 below). Through six individual SRETFs, each organization is expected to be responsible for selecting and supporting capacity building activities within their regions and targeted communities, and conduct several regional knowledge dissemination activities as well. See Figure 1 below for the CBP Phase II institutional arrangements.



Relationship to CAS/CPS/CPF

7. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of Parties in Cancun (UNFCCC COP 16, 2010). The call of the UNFCCC COP16 for full and effective participation of civil society and LC, and the need to respect traditional knowledge and rights, are the guiding principles of the project. While the FCPF is different in origin, life span and funding arrangements from the UNFCCC, it nonetheless endeavors to align with the emerging policy guidance of the Convention, and to inform the UNFCCC negotiations through lessons emerging from country-led implementation of REDD+ programs.

8. The project is consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG13 of taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, SDG15 on protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, and SDG16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

9. Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (established in 2007). The project is a key mechanism to fulfilling the FCPF strategic objective of assisting eligible REDD+ Countries in their efforts to achieve Emission Reductions (ER) from deforestation and/or forest degradation by providing them with financial and technical assistance in building their capacity to benefit from possible future systems of positive incentives for REDD+.

10. World Bank Group Strategy (2013). The concept of "civic engagement" received more emphasis in 2013, when the World Bank Group hosted a conference with CIVICUS (an international civil society alliance) and InterAction (NGOs alliance) to highlight the value of engaging with citizens for effective development. The World Bank corporate change process later adopted the recommendation to scale up engagement with citizens for improved results in World Bank operations. The project responds to the decision to engage more systematically with citizens and beneficiaries and integrate citizen voices in development programs as a key accelerator to achieve results. The project is further aligned with the World Bank Group Strategy 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 in decision-making processes.

11. The project fulfills the vision of the Bank's 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; and the World Bank Group Forest Action Plan FY16-20 (2016) under the crosscutting theme of Climate Change and Resilience by working on innovative solutions for forest-based mitigation to climate change. The project is also directly associated with the second crosscutting theme of Rights and Participation by establishing strong platforms that foster enhanced participation of various stakeholders.

12. World Bank strategies for East Asia and the Pacific, and South Asia regions. The project is aligned with the EAP region's strategic focus on inclusion and empowerment; and on climate

change and disaster risk management, which are considered critical to reducing poverty and building shared prosperity across the region. It is also aligned with the SAR Strategy of promoting regional and global integration, enhancing social inclusion, and climate and environment management to help countries prevent disasters and improve their readiness. In line with the two regional strategies, project-funded activities are expected to strengthen the capacity of CSOs and LC to benefit from and participate in REDD+ processes, enhance regional integration and cooperation by disseminating good practices and lessons learned.

II. Project Development Objective(s)

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The proposed objective of the project is to strengthen: (i) the knowledge of targeted southern civil society organizations and local communities of REDD+ Readiness at the national level; and (ii) knowledge exchange at the regional level

Key Results

The following indicators are proposed:

- i. Share of target beneficiaries with knowledge score of 3 or more on REDD+ and related issues
- ii. National knowledge exchange products disseminated in appropriate languages
- iii. Regional knowledge exchange products disseminated in appropriate languages and accessible formats
- iv. Meetings held between CSO and LC representatives and national REDD+ decision making entities
- v. Direct project beneficiaries, of which female (Core Indicator)

Information for the above indicators will be aggregated and analyzed by ANSAB from meeting summaries, reports of CSOs carrying out capacity building and awareness raising activities, and records of CSO participation in national and regional activities. For the first indicator in specific, all defined direct beneficiaries will receive a pre-defined short questionnaire (a half pager) that will record their perceptions of their level of knowledge on a defined list of subjects. The forms will be filled by the beneficiaries after a training workshop/program and collected and analyzed by ANSAB with support from the World Bank. The World Bank team in collaboration with ANSAB will also explore the option of evaluating the change in the number of CSO representatives in national REDD+ Readiness processes during the course of the project. Since this potential impact will go beyond the PDO, any shown results will be considered an added value of the project.

III. Preliminary Description

Concept Description

T17. The proposed project will finance the CBP Phase II for CSOs and LC in Asia and the Pacific for a total of US\$298,532. The selected Recipient Organization for this project is Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), based in Nepal. Beneficiaries of regional exchange activities (under Component 2) will be CSOs and LCs in the eleven FCPF eligible countries in Asia and the Pacific, namely Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR,

►(Nepal, Pakistan, Papua ►(New ►(Guinea, Thailand, ►(Vanuatu and Vietnam. ►(Of the ►(eleven countries, only CSOs from Bhutan, Fiji, Pakistan, ►(Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Vietnam will be eligible to ►(participate in national-level activities (under Component 1). These countries are prioritized because:►(

- i. Their respective governments have signed Readiness Grant Agreements with the FCPF and started with the implementation of readiness (as confirmed by a Bank mission), thereby allowing the project to reinforce their REDD+ Readiness efforts ;
 - ii. They are not beneficiaries of the Global Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities project of the FIP ; and
 - iii. They are not beneficiaries of FCPF Capacity Building Phase 1 funds.
18. The project will finance the following three components:

Component 1: National Capacity Building and Awareness Raising (Approx. US\$179,119)
Eligible countries: Bhutan, Fiji, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Vietnam

19. Component 1 will support capacity building and awareness raising activities for CSOs and LC through sub-projects or consultancies (depending on the recipient►(s administrative capacity), with focus on women and youth. The options of issuing an open call for proposals and directly approaching potential recipients will be considered by ANSAB depending on the availability of qualified CSOs in each country; ANSAB may also communicate with national REDD+ platforms (where these exist) to seek proposals. The design and choice of sub-projects/consultancies will be informed by the key principle of gender balance (actively seeking a balance between female and male beneficiaries), and understanding of infrastructural constraints within communities►(territories, especially those related to means and forms of communication. Capacity building activities will also be considered in view of past and present REDD+ capacity building programs in the region and elsewhere, and the use of existing manuals, training material, and other tools. The available budget is expected to support one sub-project/consultancy per country, and letters of consent will be sought from countries►(ministries of finance before activities are approved by the Bank in order to ensure alignment with countries►(wider engagement with the World Bank on climate change, REDD+ and forestry.

Component 2: Regional Level Activities and Dissemination of Project results (Approx. US\$89,560)
Eligible countries: Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, ►(Indonesia, Lao PDR, ►(Nepal, Pakistan, Papua ►(New ►(Guinea, Thailand, ►(Vanuatu and Vietnam

20. The focus of Component 2 funding will be the design and implementation of a regional platform for information exchange and knowledge sharing between CSOs and LC in all eleven FCPF member countries, to be implemented by ANSAB using existing materials to the extent possible. This will be done by carrying out a regional learning and exchange workshop which will serve to: (i) disseminate available REDD+ knowledge products, including deliverables of Phase I of the CBP; (ii) discuss the relevance of traditional knowledge and practices for climate change and REDD+ strategies; (iii) give stage to most recent advances in various climate change processes in the region and globally; and (iv) raise participants►(awareness of the project. ANSAB will also

review its regional communication strategy and enhance it to serve the needs of the project, e.g., by developing a REDD+ webpage with knowledge products adjusted to CSO needs, and with project-related information. The Bank team will provide ongoing technical support to ANSAB's communication efforts with participating countries and regionally.

Component 3: Management and Administration (Approx. US\$29,853)

21. This component will finance the incremental management costs incurred by ANSAB during the implementation of the project. Project management will include procurement, financial management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and reporting, and preparation of annual work plans and budgets acceptable to the World Bank. This component will also finance an audit of the project account by an external auditor and any costs related to the execution of a grievance redress mechanism

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IV. Safeguard Policies that Might Apply

Safeguard Policies Triggered by the Project	Yes	No	TBD
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01		x	
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04		x	
Forests OP/BP 4.36		x	
Pest Management OP 4.09		x	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11		x	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10		x	
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12		x	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37		x	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50		x	
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60		x	

V. Financing (in USD Million)

Total Project Cost:	0.298532	Total Bank Financing:	0
Financing Gap:	0		
Financing Source			Amount
Readiness Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility			0.298532

VI. Contact point

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