

REDD+ Partnership

Adopted, May 27, 2010

This document expresses the intent of the governments (hereinafter referred to as “Partners”) present at the Oslo Climate and Forest Conference on 27 May 2010¹ to provide a voluntary, non-legally binding framework for the interim REDD+² Partnership, within which the Partners may develop and implement collaborative REDD+ efforts. Any country wanting to contribute to REDD+ actions or support is welcome to join our Partnership.

1. Background

REDD+ could play a crucial role in pursuing the ultimate objective of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and in holding the increase in global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Considerable progress was made on these issues prior to and at COP 15, including the Copenhagen Accord and Decision 4/CP.15 on methodologies for REDD+, the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) on REDD+, as well as through Decisions 1/CP.13 (Bali Action Plan) and 2/CP.13. At a ministerial meeting in Paris in March 2010, further political momentum was gained when about fifty countries called for a REDD+ partnership to be formalized at the Oslo Climate and Forest Conference.

The work of the Partnership should not prejudice but support and contribute to the UNFCCC process. The Partnership would be replaced by a future UNFCCC mechanism including REDD+. The Partners reaffirm their intent to help establish such a mechanism and to enable the mobilization of financial and technical resources from developed countries in order to scale up the implementation of REDD+ actions. The Partners underline the importance of the ongoing UNFCCC negotiations on finance, as well as the efforts of the Advisory Group on Finance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in this context. The Partners also recognize the importance of existing multilateral and bilateral initiatives on REDD+.

2. Objective

The core objective of the Partnership is to contribute to the global battle against climate change by serving as an interim platform for the Partners to scale up REDD+ actions and finance, and to that end to take immediate action, including improving the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and coordination of REDD+ initiatives and financial instruments, to facilitate among other things knowledge transfer, capacity enhancement, mitigation actions and technology development and transfer.

3. Partner Contributions

We recognize the critical need to work productively together and with a wide range of non-governmental stakeholders to achieve our shared objective under the Partnership while supporting sustainable livelihoods, providing biodiversity benefits and promoting sustainable development. Accordingly, we are determined to build sustainable and robust REDD+ capacity, including for national monitoring systems in developing countries, by effectively

¹ The Partners are listed in Appendix 1

² Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries according to Bali Action Plan (1/CP.13).

channeling financial and technical support to effective REDD+ actions, including results-based payments, in accordance with the Partnership principles. We will seek to identify drivers of deforestation and forest degradation resulting in emissions and the means to address these. We recognize the short, medium and long-term need to provide positive incentives to REDD+ actions.

The developed country Partners among us intend to provide scaled up funding for readiness and capacity strengthening as well as for supporting implementation of REDD+ plans and actions, including demonstration activities and payments for results. In the margins of COP 15, six donor countries dedicated USD 3.5 billion as initial public finance over the 2010 to 2012 period, as a component of their collective commitment of fast start finance under the Copenhagen Accord, to initiate an effort of slowing, halting and eventually reversing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, while also expressing their willingness to scale up financing for REDD+ thereafter, as appropriate, in line with opportunities and the delivery of results.

Since then, further pledges of support have been made, including at the ministerial meeting on REDD+ in Paris in March 2010 and at the Oslo Climate and Forest conference in May 2010. The total pledges on 27 May 2010 stand at 4.0 billion USD.³

The developing country Partners among us are already planning and implementing REDD+ actions, including through South-South cooperation. Developing country Partners now intend, supported by appropriate and scaled up financial and technical support, and taking into account national circumstances, to develop REDD+ strategies, build the required capacity and create the enabling environment for REDD+, establish robust and transparent national monitoring systems, prepare and implement REDD+ actions and demonstration activities, and provide for the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, including indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society, in the design and implementation of REDD+, and build capacity in this regard.

4. Principles of the Partnership

In their actions under the Partnership, the efforts of the Partners are to:

- Be focused on support for developing country Partners' capacity building and performance based REDD+ efforts, based on individual national circumstances.
- Be consistent with Decisions 2.CP13 and 4.CP15 and any future COP decision on this matter, as well as guided by the ongoing work of the AWG-LCA on REDD+.
- Be inclusive of all committed countries as well as representatives of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples, local communities, civil society and the private sector.
- Provide transparency around REDD+ financing, actions and results.
- Focus on coordinated delivery of scaled up REDD+ financing, including coordination of international support at the country level, to seek to close gaps, avoid overlaps and maximize effective delivery of actions and support.

³ These come from Australia (USD 120m), Denmark (USD 10m (2010 only)), Finland (USD 21m), France (USD 330m), Germany (at least USD 438m), Japan (USD 500m), Norway (at least USD 1,000m), Slovenia (USD 2.5m), Spain (USD 27m), Sweden (USD 63m), United Kingdom (USD 450m) and the United States (USD 1,000m). An exchange rate of 1.24 USD/EUR has been used. Some of these pledges include loans as well as grants. More details will be made available through the emerging REDD+ database.

- Consider information on financing presented in the context of the ongoing UNFCCC negotiations, as well as in the Advisory Group on Finance.
- Exchange lessons learned and transfer knowledge through discussion and presentation of our REDD+ initiatives.
- Seek to ensure the economic, social and environmental sustainability and integrity of our REDD+ efforts and to enhance social and environmental benefits.
- Promote and support the safeguards provided by the AWG-LCA's draft decision text on REDD+, adjusted by any UNFCCC COP Decision on this matter, as well as existing programmatic safeguards, where relevant.

To this end, the Partners are to take operational measures listed in Annex II.

5. Organization of the Partnership

To work towards achieving its objectives, the Partnership is to meet regularly at senior official or political level depending on the issues at hand, with technical level meetings to address specific issues as appropriate.

Meetings will be co-chaired by one developing and one developed country Partner representative respectively, both selected for non-renewable terms through an inclusive and transparent selection process.

The co-chairs will report to the Partnership, and be responsible for soliciting and communicating Partner views, tasking secretariat services based on guidance from the partnership, and proposing meeting agendas to the partners for approval. When appropriate, co-chairs may draw support from the former and upcoming co-chairs.

We are to draw on the knowledge and expertise of The Facility Management Team of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the UN REDD Programme Team for the provision of secretariat services for the partnership, under oversight of the co-chairs on behalf of the partner countries. Their tasks should include designing and maintaining the voluntary REDD+ coordination database, organizing partnership meetings, and providing on request from the Partners related analyses, reports and papers, providing logistical support. These services should be independent of the normal functioning of the FCPF and UNREDD programme and of their respective organizations. Additional resources are to be provided to them for this purpose. Specific tasks could also be undertaken by particular countries and other organizations if agreed by the Partnership.

We are to promote inclusiveness and transparency through the participation of a representative group of stakeholders – including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and the private sector – as observers to the Partnership. We are also to seek timely and significant feedback on REDD+ financing, actions and results from relevant stakeholders.

Appendix I: The REDD+ Partners

The REDD+ Partnership is open to all countries willing to support or undertake REDD+ actions. Interested countries may contact one of the co-chairs to join our Partnership.

As of May 27, 2010, the Partnership included the following 58 Partner countries:

Angola, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Laos, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States and Vietnam.

Appendix II: Operational Measures

Consistent with the above, the Partners decide to immediately initiate the following list of measures, which could in the future be expanded by the Partners as appropriate:

- Establish a voluntary, publicly available REDD+ Database of REDD+ financing, actions and results, to improve the transparency and coordination of REDD+ actions and support. The Facility Management Team of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the UN REDD Programme Team are jointly requested to expeditiously propose a design for the database, in collaboration with Partner countries and other stakeholders, for deliberation at our next Partnership meeting, ensuring continuity with and building on the initial data collection effort launched by Australia, France and Papua New Guinea.
- Initiate efforts to identify and analyze gaps and overlaps in financing and take steps to address them.
- Share lessons on our REDD+ initiatives and share best practices regarding significant REDD+ actions and financing, practical experiences regarding safeguards, multi-stakeholders consultations and benefit sharing mechanisms.
- Promote and facilitate cooperation among Partners including South-South partnerships and regional REDD+ networks as well as among multilateral and bilateral REDD+ initiatives. Take the necessary measures to ensure that the REDD+ Partnership is transparent and allows relevant stakeholders to comment in a timely way.
- Prepare and agree a detailed forward work program for the Partnership, taking into consideration comments submitted by stakeholders on the interim REDD+ partnership. The program will include the following elements:
 - Workshops and formalized information exchanges to share lessons learned and best practices.
 - Facilitate discussion on the effectiveness of REDD+ initiatives and formulate concrete recommendations for targeted improvements to multilateral initiatives.
 - Proposed schedule of future partnership meetings.
 - Determine the duration of the term for the co-chairs as well as specifying their role and method of selection.
 - Modalities for stakeholder participation in our efforts (stakeholders are invited to make proposal for such modalities in advance of the next meeting).
 - Development of guidelines and modalities for:
 - The provision of secretariat services for the partnership by the FCPF FMT and UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, under oversight of the co-chairs on behalf of the partner countries (as described in Section 5); and
 - Determining any specific tasks (as described in section 5) that could be undertaken by particular countries and other organisations for the Partnership, if agreed by the Partnership.
 - Consider proposals to effectively mobilize, deploy and facilitate enabling institutions, where relevant, in developing countries to better channel finance and technology for REDD+ actions.