



LIBERIA



Liberia Forest Sector Project : Challenges & Lessons Learned

Jurisdictional Integrated Landscape Programs

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JULY 20, 2015

Liberia Foreign Minister and Norway Minister of Environment signed forest agreement whilst Norway Prime Minister looks on



Norway-Liberia announced Partnership

- ❖ **Liberia & Norway on September 23, 2014 signed an agreement to provide the Government of Liberia up to \$150 M by 2020**
- Deal calls for Sustainable agricultural & low carbon development
- Facilitate green growth through the development of a deforestation free agriculture sector
- Minister Ngafuan and Prime Minister Solberg lauded the partnership and said that the partnership consolidates Liberia's decision to embark on a green, sustainable development path
- The partnership complements the FCPF supported REDD+ Readiness Activities and provides funding for the Investment phase
- Norway will provide additional \$25M for demonstrating forest conservation in highly productive agricultural landscapes around agricultural, mining and forestry concessions using the landscape approach

Liberia's Foreign Minister answers questions from a Norwegian journalist as FDA Director Harrison S. Karnwea, Sr and Abu Kamara from Liberian Permanent Mission at the UN look on



Phases for implementation of the Partnership

- ✓ The Partnership will be organized in three phases:
- **Phase 1 - Preparation** – starts in 2014 with ensuring the improvement of forest governance, institutions set up and frameworks and institutions mobilized and tasked with supporting REDD+ development
- **Phase 2: Transformation** – will be initiated in January 2015 with a shared aspiration to complete it by the end of 2020
- **Phase 3: Contributions for Verified Emission Reductions** – Liberia receives annual contributions for independently verified national emission reductions

Challenges

- ✓ Delays in preparation of the Project Concept Note (PCN)
- ✓ Delays in adhering to timelines set during negotiations
- ✓ Costly and high level bureaucracy at the level of the World Bank Trustee of the fund
- ✓ Managing expectations of local and forested communities
- ✓ Continues negative campaign from loggers
- ✓

World Bank Team visits Liberia June 17-30, 2015 to prepare the Project Concept Note



Lessons Learned

- ✓ Sustaining consultation with all stakeholders, especially CSO's and private sector helps move the process forward
- ✓ Provision of immediate incentives and sources of alternative livelihoods is cardinal to conserving the forest
- ✓ To fully address the drivers of deforestation, payments for environmental services must be linked to conservation activities (Conservation Agreements, Sustainable Agriculture, etc.)
- ✓ It is possible for forest countries to be paid for environmental services while developing suitable monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system and building capacity from within the institutions and structures already in place

Engagement with CSOs and key stakeholders

- ✓ Several REDD Technical Working Group meetings held to continue engagement/consultation
- ✓ CSO's continue to be engaged through out the process- prior to signing the LOI, comments received by CSO's on the PCN...
- ✓ A two-day SESA National Validation workshop brought together 71 participants to validate the work plan and the consultation and participation plan
- ✓ Six case studies were recently conducted nationwide where community people were engaged to obtain their perspectives on the key issues related to REDD+
- ✓ Metria-Geoville's workshop with stakeholders to agree on technical specifications for forest and land cover mapping
- ✓ PCI Media-FFI engaged stakeholders on communication strategy



Thank You

