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UGANDA NATIONAL REDD+ SECRETARIAT
FOREST SECTOR SUPPORT DEPARTMENT,
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT.
Plot 10/20 spring Road; Tel: +256 414347085,
Email: mwe@mwe.go.ug;
ps@mwe.go.ug, www.mwe.go.ug

The handbook includes content adapted from several REDD+ studies conducted in Uganda, the ideas developed during the REDD Preparedness Proposal (R-PP) process.

About the guide

This guide has been developed to provide information and guidance on how to conduct radio talk-shows on Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+), and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in Uganda.

REDD+ is an international framework designed to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries and to reduce global emissions resulting from the same, through creating a financial value and incentive based mechanism for the protection of carbon stored in forests. Uganda is one of the countries to implement REDD+ actvities, with funding from development partners that include the FCPF through World Bank, UN-REDD and the Austrian Development Corporation. The '+' in REDD signifies additional initiatives to be undertaken in order to conserve forests, sustainably manage forests; and enhance forest carbon stocks.

During the preparation of the REDD+ Preparedness Proposal (R-PP), a Consultation and Participation (C&P) plan was developed. Embedded in the C&P was a communication action plan that detailed the need for information, education, communication and awareness about REDD+ amongst the different stakeholders. One of the proposals therein is to rollout radio programs to popularize REDD+ ahead of consultations leading to the development of the National REDD+ Strategy. The choice for radio was largely based on presence and coverage across the country (with availability of FM Radio stations almost in every district).

Aware that not many actors are conversant with REDD+, and therefore would find difficulties in communicating REDD+ on radio, this guide has been developed to provide guidance on the content and messages to be delivered through radio programing. Its specific objective is to communicate to stakeholders on Uganda's preparations and outcomes for 'becoming' ready for REDD+. This guide therefore seeks to unpack the complexity surrounding REDD+ in Uganda, facilitate the exchange of views on the current status of REDD+ programmes and prepare stakeholders for REDD+ consultations and later implementation.

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Talk Show 1: *What is REDD+?*

Objective: Create awareness about REDD+ in Uganda.

Materials:
Recent publications on REDD+ in Uganda which include the proposed strategic options, benefit sharing arrangements, feedback and grievances redress mechanisms, Forest Reference and Emission Levels among others.

Time: One hour.

Procedure:
The radio talk show will be guided by a radio presenter. The presenter MUST have read through this theme and internalized it before the radio talk show. The show should be aired at a time appropriate for all listener categories. It is advisable that it is a live talk-show to allow a question and answer session (interactive show)

A panel of experts on forestry should be constituted to include among others a forest officer (from the district local government), a member of CSO conversant with forestry and/or REDD+, representative of the REDD+ Secretariat (where possible), a political leader.

Result:
By the end of the Radio Talk-show, the audience should be able to understand what REDD+ stands for, the stages involved in REDD+, the implementation mechanism among other things.

Talk-show flow/content:

The Radio presenter introduces the topic of discussion, funding agency, panelists and guides the show by asking the following questions:

Presenter:
What is REDD+?

Panelist:
REDD+ refers to Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries (including Uganda). The plus sign added on REDD emphasizes the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries. It is an incentive-based mechanism that has been under negotiation by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2005, with the objective of mitigating climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by enhancing forest management in developing countries.

Presenter:
***What does* REDD+ seek to achieve in Uganda?**

Panelist:
REDD+ programmes seek to address deforestation i.e. the clearance and/or removal of a forest or stand of trees and thereafter converting it to a non-forest land use. Examples of deforestation include conversion of forestland to agricultural/subsistence farms (maize, cassava, sorghum cotton, tobacco and other crops), ranches, or urban use (settlement). The most concentrated deforestation in Uganda currently occurs in tropical rainforest patches mainly located on privately owned land, though deforestation has also taken place in forest plantations.

Presenter:
How bad is deforestation in Uganda?

Panelist:
Uganda is currently facing continuous and alarming reduction in forest cover, which has decreased from 24% in the 1990s, to 18% in 2005. Recent statistics show a decrease of approximately 9% by 2015 (NFA, 2015). Today, the deforestation rate stands at 200,000 hectares per year according to the National Forestry Authority. The greatest proportion of this loss is on private land, which is under the supervision of District Local Governments, and private and community owners. The country has experienced a net loss of 2.6 million hectares of forests on private land, which translates into 86% forest cover loss in the last 25 years (NFA, 2015). This calls for a concerted effort amongst all stakeholders to be able to reverse the escalating loss in forest cover.

Presenter:
What are the drivers for this level of deforestation?

Panelist:
There are a number of drivers leading to deforestation and these include:

i. Expansion/encroachment of small-holder agriculture into forests and bush-lands
ii. Un-sustainable wood-fuel extraction (charcoal and firewood)
iii. Un-sustainable timber harvesting
iv. Large-scale commercial agriculture
v. Livestock free-grazing
vi. Wood harvesting conducted by refugees
vii. Wild fires
viii. Artisanal mining operations and oil extraction among others.

Ugandans need to address the above drivers in order to revert the rate of deforestation in the country.

In addition to the drivers, there is need

to address the underlying causes such as:

i. Population growth - leading to increased demand for forest products but also for more land to grow crops;
ii. Economic growth and technological advancement (we are easily and quickly transacting in products than before);
iii. Poverty - where the population looks to forests as a source of livelihoods.
iv. Insecure tenure - the population is in suspense over the ownership of forests and trees.
v. Governance - the mandates, roles and responsibility to manage forests are abused leading to poor governance of the sector.
vi. Culture - especially when we culturally believe that forests are given/provided by nature.

Presenter:

Forest degradation is the other issue addressed by REDD+. How is it different from deforestation?

Panelist:

Forest degradation is the reduction of the capacity of a forest (due to change in forest structure/function of the stand) to provide goods and services such as wood, food, habitat, water, non-timber forest products, carbon storage and other protective socio-economic and cultural values. Degradation is caused by disturbances, which vary in extent, severity, quality, origin and frequency. Some causes are natural (by fire, storm, drought, pest, disease) or human induced (charcoal burning, excessive logging, excessive fuel wood collection, shifting cultivation, hunting and overgrazing). Degradation can result in a decrease in tree cover, changes in their structure or a reduction in the number of species that can be found there. Degradation also affects the other forms of life (biodiversity) that are found in the forest. Rivers, stream and other forms of water system dry up and hence the forest can no longer provide such services.

Presenter:

So, how will REDD work for Uganda?

Panelist:

The principle underlying REDD+ is that, since carbon dioxide is emitted when forests are degraded or destroyed, reducing the rate of deforestation or forest degradation would result in less carbon dioxide emitted. But it also means more carbon will be removed from the atmosphere by the standing trees. The deal is that industrialized countries support developing countries to keep their forests standing so that

these forests continue absorbing green house gases (especially carbon dioxide) from the atmosphere. Incentives will be provided for maintaining the forests. This will increase value for forests in addition to services they provide.

REDD+ is more than monetary incentives. It also has non-monetary benefits. REDD+ requires the cooperation of many stakeholders; Local farmers, national governments, corporate institutions and civil society organizations will need to cooperate. REDD+ will ensure the needs of local communities and indigenous people are fully respected.

Presenter:

Since REDD+ is a new approach, how is it being rolled out?

Panelist:

There are three phases of REDD+ rollout and these are:

1. The Readiness Phase – Uganda is undertaking the designing of strategies and action plans to reduce emissions with relevant stakeholders, building capacity for the implementation of REDD+, working on applicable policies and measures and designing demonstration activities.

2. Implementation phase - During the second phase of REDD+, national strategies, policies and action plans proposed will be tested and implemented. Some of these may include, additional capacity building, technological development and transfer and piloting results based demonstration activities like Payment for Ecosystem Services.

3. Result based actions phase – in the third stage, the actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation will be supported at the national level and the result of these actions are fully measured, reported and also verified. The mechanisms for measuring, reporting and verification of the carbon stocks at each stage are now being discussed and will soon be agreed on.

Presenter:

Which stakeholders will be involved in this process?

Panelist:

Participatory structures have been set up across the country and being consulted on a number of aspects relating to REDD+. Key among the stakeholders that will be involved are:

- Forest users such as indigenous people,
- Forest dependent communities,
- Forest land owners,
- Civil society organizations,
- Government agencies,

- Project developers and,
- Investors among others

Presenter:
Lastly, what are the likely benefits from REDD+ activities?

Panelist:
REDD+ will provide benefits that are linked to the protection of threatened areas of forests, and sustainable forest resources management.

Apart from direct payments for carbon sequestered by forest, REDD+ will result into other social, environmental, economic and governance benefits.

Social Benefits will include:
- Increased production and income generation by forest adjacent communities and development of a diversity of sources of income,
- Recognition and empowerment of local communities and other stakeholders to manage their resources,
- Enhanced food security,
- Promoting products from sustainably managed forests, and
- Preservation of traditional livelihoods and culture.

The environmental benefits include:
- Conservation of biodiversity in forests,
- Protection of ecosystem services provided by forests including water, erosion and pollution control.

The economic or direct monetary benefits will include:
- Cash
- Economic flow - on benefits from tourism
- Tax incentives
- Access to credit on preferential terms
- Salaries and allowances

The governance benefits will include:
- Establishing secure forest/land tenure for forest owners for example for community forests, and
- Increased transparency and local participation in forest management policies or systems.

Conclusion

Presenter: We have come to the end of the talk show during which we talked about REDD+, what it is, what it aims to achieve, how it will be rolled out, the stakeholders that will be involved and the benefits (including monetary, social, environmental and governance benefits). We hope this brings clarity on some of the concerns that you have been having on REDD+ process in Uganda.

Key message

REDD+ will:

- *address the escalating deforestation in Uganda*
- *address forest degradation and therefore change in quality of forests*
- *enhance carbon stocks - the amount of carbon stored in the (Uganda's) forest, mainly in living biomass for which Uganda will receive incentives to protect.*
- *bring together different actors such as indigenous people, forest dependant communities, forest land owners,civil society organizations, government agencies, project developers and investors in a bid to improve forest management in the country.*
- *will bring monetary, social, environmental and governance benefits to the forest sector.*

Let us embrace REDD+ in Uganda.

Talk Show 2: *Proposed strategies to address Deforestation and forest Degradation*

Objective: This talk-show is intended to provide clarity on the strategic options that have been proposed as part of the National REDD+ Strategy.

Materials needed for this show: The consultants report on Strategic Options will form a key source of information for this talk show.

Time: This talk show should last no more than one hour.

Procedure: The Presenter will remind the audience about the previous show that introduced REDD+ and provide a link into the discussions for this talk show. The show is intended to be an interactive one. The presenter will ask questions to panelists (team of experts on REDD+) but open the show to the listeners that will be accorded an opportunity to call-in.

Results: At the end of the show, the audience should understand the proposed strategic options. They should also know how to get involved in the next phase of REDD+ activities and programs.

Talk-show content:

Presenter:

The actual planning process for REDD+ is detailed enough and the public is yarning to know what the priorities/options are. What are these options?

Panelist:

Through a consultative process, a number of options have been designed aimed at addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Once progress is attained on these options, then we should be able to reduce emissions, accumulate carbon stock and enhance removal of greenhouse gases particularly carbon dioxide. So far eight priority strategic options have been put together and these are:

- Climate smart agriculture approaches (such as agro-forestry);
- Sustainable fuelwood and charcoal use (bio-energy woodlots, community poles/timber plantations, bio-energy woodlots);
- Large-scale commercial timber plantations;

- Rehabilitation of natural forests in the landscape;
- Energy efficient cooking stoves; and,
- Integrated wildfire management (in timber plantations, woodlands, bushlands and grasslands).

Presenter: **What are the key activities under strategic option one on climate smart agriculture?**

Panelist: The intention of this strategic option is to reduce agricultural expansion to forests through sustainable intensification on already cultivated land and thereby to produce a major mitigation effect. The three major approaches are:

- ***The Sustainable Land Management/Use and Agro-forestry Practices***

Approximately 45% of all farming households are already adopting these practices, which means that this sub-option targets the remaining 55% of farming households in the country. This means in practice that some 2,382,357 farming households should be incorporated in this activity within this programme.

On average, each household will have 1.12 ha of farmland totaling 2,382,357 ha of farmland with this first sub-option. The investment need just USD 5 for the purchase of some 60 tree seedlings for each farm household.

The tree seedlings should be for fruit trees (for food and nutrition), fodder trees (for animal raring), fuel wood and construction wood species (for construction and firewood).

- ***Rainwater harvesting with collection tank and drip irrigation***

The aim is to enable the utilization of rainwater to prolong the two crop cultivation seasons in Uganda, Rainwater will be stored for times when rainfall is not sufficient in crop cultivation season. Rainwater will be collected from the house roof from where it will be piped into a closed storage tank in the ground. The water can then be distributed to crop fields and vegetable gardens through drip irrigation. The same water will be used to provide livestock with drinking water.

- ***Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables***

The Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables is expected to be established by about 15% of the wealthiest farming households. A greenhouse covers only 20x8 metres or 160 m2 of space but

produces vegetables through out the year. This can be implemented alongside the options mentioned earlier. Each participating household needs plastic sheath or shade-nets to cover of the greenhouse.

Presenter: **Tell us about the second option on livestock management.**

Panelist: The aim of this option is to reduce the impact of livestock on deforestation and forest degradation, and lower methane emissions from the cattle population by proposing the enforcement of three different pathways:

- ***Fodder trees and stall-feeding***

Zero-grazing and stall-feeding is an appropriate management system where farmers own very small plots of land. Stall-feeding is especially suitable for dairy cattle. Milk may be used at home or used to make dairy products to be sold. Zero-grazing farms feed dairy cattle on elephant grass, forage legumes, fodder trees and agro-industrial by-products

- ***Change to exotic cattle varieties and crossbreeding***

Improving the genetic potential, providing proper nutrition and ensuring animal health are recommended approaches to improve animal productivity and reducing GHG emission intensity. Positive aspects include higher lifetime production of crossbreds, increased household income, creation of employment, improvement of nutritional situation, reduction of herd sizes due to increased performance of individual animals and integration of traditional producers into agro-industrial systems

- ***Reduction of excess free-grazing of traditional livestock***

Reduction of herd size increases feed availability and productivity of individual animals and the total herd. This in turn lowers CH4 emission intensity. Accordingly, cross-breeding increases animal productivity and decreases the need for pasture, and thus further reduce GHG emissions per unit of livestock product.

Presenter: **Uganda's biggest problem is around fuel wood and (commercial) charcoal use. What are the plans to address fuel wood and charcoal use?**

Panelist: The option provides one of the greatest opportunities to reduce emissions while fostering significant sustainable development benefits. Access to energy is an important indicator when analyzing of poverty as it has a critical and immediate impact on the health and nutrition of households. Scarcity of fuelwood drives people to opt to less nutritious fast cooking foods,

instead of beans and peas, for example. The three interlinked interventions are proposed:

- ***Small-holder tree planting and community bio-energy woodlots***

Most local communities collect the firewood from their own farms, neighbouring woodlands and forests without paying any fees. The effort here will be to encourage communities to grow trees for bio-energy. Potential tree species for charcoal production include Markhamia lutea, Acacia polycantha and hybrid clonal Eucalyptus.

- ***Small-holder and community poles and timber plantations***

This will involve promotion of on-farm plantation forestry to include carbon forestry (where farmers grow trees to benefit from selling carbon credits). Communities will be encouraged to grow trees for poles and timber, to be able to meet their demands as well as fighting poverty.

- ***Improved charcoal kilns linked to bio-energy woodlots***

Here charcoal producers will be introduced to efficient mechanisms for charcoal production. We need sustainability in charcoal production. This requires energy efficient kilns that result into low methane emissions.

Presenter: **What plans do we have for large-scale commercial timber plantations?**

Panelist: This option includes promoting responsible investments in large-scale commercial transmission pole and timber plantations. The option is for commercial pole and timber growers and has got no agroforestry practices incorporated. The three sub-options are the following:

- ***Commercial eucalypt transmission pole and timber plantations;***

This will involve doubling the current effort to produce transmission poles, with off-cuts being sold for timber as well as fuel wood. Members of the Uganda Timber Growers Association are currently engaged in medium to large scale eucalyptus plantation establishment for construction as well as transmission poles. This effort should be doubled.

- ***Commercial pine pole and sawlog plantation;***

This option will also produce more wood products than what is currently being produced. The new products will again stem from selling even small pieces of wood as small poles, fuelwood or charcoal. It is anticipated that this sub-option could be carried out on around

30,000 ha besides already established pine sawlog timber plantations.

- ***Improved charcoal kilns linked to plantation sites.***

A key observation from the past is that once timber or poles are harvested and sold, the off-cuts are left behind as waste. This option will aim to introduce and link efficient charcoal production with plantations.

Presenter: **We seem to be concentrating on plantation establishment these days. Will REDD help us with rehabilitation of natural forests?**

Panelist: Within REDD+, there is a proposed strategic option to restore or rehabilitate natural forests within the context of climate-smart landscape. This wil be done as follows:

- ***Area closures of deforested areas for natural forest regeneration;***

The main form of restoration and rehabilitation practices that will promoted under REDD+ include protecting the area through enclosure to allow natural regeneration or assisted regeneration. Tree species regenerate on their own through seeds, coppice regrowth and root suckers. This is cheaper and less technically tedious compared to plantation establishment.

- ***Protected natural forest management (i.e. national parks and forest reserves);***

This will support Uganda Wildlife Authority (Parks), the National Forestry Authority (Central Forest Reserves) and the District Forest Services (Local Forest Reserve) to improve management of the Protected Areas.

- ***Devolution of forest management through PFM and similar set-ups;***

This is about building partnerships with forest adjacent communities, to be able to collect non-timber forest products from forest areas near their home but in turn take care of the forests near their villages. Such communities should be mandated to protect those natural forests near their homes. The arrangement needs to be supervised by the NFA, District Forest Services and UWA foresters under collaborative forest management.

- ***Traditional/customary forest management practices;***

Government will work with communities with tenure rights defined under customary ownership of forest by enhancing their registration and declaration but also offering advisory/

technical services to enhance regeneration, enrichment planting and sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products. Customary forest rights exist under communal land tenure systems in Northern Uganda but also where forests originally on public land have been handed over to communities to manage.

Presenter: **Is it true that improving rural electrification and renewable energy solution is part of the proposed strategies, and if so, how will this work?**

Panelist: Yes, currently there is need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development. There are three main possible kinds of renewable energy forms which need to be mentioned as potential parts of a national REDD+ strategy and forthcoming scheme incorporating rural electrification. These electricity forms are the following:

- ***Off- or on-grid small or mini-hydropower plants;***

Off-grid small and micro hydroprojects are an ideal alternative to grid electricity in remote villages that do not have grid connectivity. Such distributed energy systems provide reliable electricity, because outages or interruptions to electricity supply can be quickly identified and corrected.

- ***Wood-fired gasification plants;***

The proposal is to promote wood gasification that could provide electricity for basic community services by planting less than 10 ha of new Short Rotation Coppices (SRCs). This could save 50-67% of the Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions produced by traditional diesel based electricity generators.

- ***Solar photovoltaic (PV) power plants or systems***

The proposal is to tap into solar energy that is high all over the year, even during the rainy seasons. Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems will be promoted for supply of basic electricity in rural institutions and households, including areas not connected to the grid.

Presenter: **The process of REDD+ intends to promote efficient cooking especially at households in the villages. How do you intend to do that?**

Panelist: Strategic option 7 deals with energy efficient cooking stoves. This strategic option promotes Clean Cooking Solutions through improved fuelwood, charcoal stoves, and fuel switching to biogas, a modern clean form of energy.

Three sub-options are proposed here:

- ***Energy efficient fuelwood stoves***

The target is to have households, educational institutions, restaurants and cafeterias, hospitals, prisons, industries and other similar entities use Energy Efficient Stoves.

- ***Improved charcoal stoves***

This option is similar to Energy Efficient Stoves but seeks to target charcoal users to purchase and use Improved Charcoal Stoves.

- ***Biogas stoves***

Efforts will be directed towards promoting biogas stoves, which are rather difficult in operation and require frequent maintenance. These will target cattle and pig farms (with lots of cow dung and pig manure) and municipal dumping sites which have a lot of organic household waste).

Presenter:

How does the option on fires management relate with REDD+?

Panelist:

This strategic option aims to address wildfires through integrated community-based fire management.

Collaborative Forest Management is expected to help in preventing and fighting forest fires, through:

- planting green-fire belts along the forest boundary
- education of local communities on the dangers of fire and fire management especially during the dry seasons
- formation of fire volunteer squads
- development and enforcement of by-laws to protect fire and sanctioning forest offenders.

Presenter:

Do we as a country have resources to achieve each of these strategic options?

Panelist:

An investment plan is concurrently being developed. Investment Models have been developed for each of the strategic options. It is these that REDD+ will invest in to reduce greenhouse gasses and accumulate carbon credits.

Talk Show 3: *Benefit Sharing Approaches*

Objective: This talk-show is intended to provide clarity on Benefit Sharing Arrangements proposed under the National REDD+ Strategy.

Materials needed for this show: The information brief on benefit sharing mechanisms will guide the show.

Time: This talk show should last no more than one hour.

Procedure: The Presenter will remind the audiences about the previous shows on the meaning of REDD+ and the proposed Strategic Options. The presenter will then provide a link into the discussions for this talk show. This show is intended to be an interactive show. The presenter will ask questions to panelists (team of experts on REDD+) but open the show to the listeners that will be accorded an opportunity to call-in.

Results: At the end of the show, the audience should be knowing the proposed mechanisms for BSA.

Talk show content:

Presenter:
What is BSA in context of REDD+?

Panelist:
Benefit sharing is allocating, administering, and providing benefits to multiple actors for REDD+ activities or results through some form of positive incentive, opportunity, payment, or other compensation – whether financial or non-monetary. Such arrangements are typically structured through negotiated contracts - as is the case for payments for ecosystem services and/or centrally managed funds. This is similar to the case in forestry fund. However, sharing the benefits adequately and equitably may affect efficiency and effectiveness thereby hindering attaining REDD+ BSA objective.

Presenter:
What benefits are we talking about?

Panelist:
We have the following types of benefits:

a) Monetary benefits

- Cash
- Economic flow - on benefits from tourism
- Tax incentives
- Access to credit on preferential terms
- Salaries and allowances

b) Direct benefits (non-monetary)

- Capacity building, training, extension (governance, bookkeeping, nursery and plantation management, environmental management plans)
- Community infrastructure like schools, clinics
- Legal access to fuel wood and non-timber forest products
- Rent-free land for commercial plantations
- Alternative livelihoods (community nurseries, Shea-nuts, beekeeping, coffee, timber, fuel wood, fruit, carbon credits)
- Support for acquiring communal and freehold
- land title
- Community nurseries
- Ecological restoration and monitoring of priority habitat
- Land-use plan; improved land/ forest-tenure
- Improved market access and business networks

c) Indirect Benefits (non-monetary)

- Reforestation of degraded areas, reduced flood, drought and landslide risk
- Improved resilience to seasonal variations
- Health benefits, cleaner air from more efficient cook stoves
- Improved water quality and quantity
- Decreased human/wildlife conflict
- Increased support for biodiversity conservation
- Improved working relationships (including trans-boundary)
- Improved working conditions for employees
- Travel opportunities to share knowledge and experiences
- Pride, prestige and social status.

Presenter:

How will these benefits be shared?

Panelist:

Some of the proposals include:

- Integrating and mainstreaming REDD+ into sectoral/district plans and budgets into national multi-sectoral rural development programs.
- The Payment for Environment Services Contract
- The REDD+ fund and/or National Tree Fund Arrangement,
- The Conditional Grant Fiscal Transfer System from Central Government

(details of these options are in the consultants report)

Presenter:

What are the arrangements for implementing BSA?

Panelist:

Some of the proposals include:

- Establish and strengthen an inter-ministerial national steering committee to enhance coordination and joint action among the relevant ministries
- Integrate REDD+ as a major strategy into a National Climate Change and Resilience drive in NDP II.
- Create a dedicated unit managing the "conditional grant REDD+ funding arrangement".
- Strengthen the capacity of MOLG to ensure effective supervision and subsequently functional cooperation between the sub national and centre.

Objective: This talk-show is intended to guide arrangements for feedback and grievance redress mechanisms for the the successful implementation of REDD+ Strategy.

Talk Show 4: *Feed back and Grievance Redress Meechanism*

Materials needed for this show:
The information brief on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism.
Time: This talk show should last no more than one hour.

Procedure: The Presenter will remind the audiences about the previous shows on the meaning of REDD+ and the proposed Strategic Options. The presenter will then provide a link into the discussions for this talk show. This show is intended to be an interactive show. The presenter will ask questions to panelists (team of experts on REDD+) but open the show to the listeners that will be accorded an opportunity to call-in.

Results: At the end of the show, the audience should be knowing the proposed mechanisms for feed back and grievance redress.

Presenter:
Do we anticipate grievances and conflict during REDD+ implementation?

Panelist:
Yes of course. The existing and potential conflicts include among others:

- Conflict over the boundaries of forest reserves, conservation areas and national parks
- Conflict over the authenticity of some of the land titles
- Conflict over revenue sharing
- Conflict over the selective application of the law by the authorities
- Conflict due wildlife/forest conservation, restricted exploitation of natural resources and the search for livelihoods for local communities
- Conflict over the type of trees to plant in the forest
- Conflict over land use
- Conflict between the local government and the clans
- Conflict over migration of peoples from the south-western region and Rwanda
- Conflict over the use of chemicals to control weeds
- Conflict over CFM benefit/revenue sharing
- Conflict over land/forest/tree tenure insecurity under CFM arrangements

Presenter:
So, what mechanisms are in place to detect, prevent and minimize the escalation of

conflict and grievances

Panelist:

REDD+ will depend on mechanisms to detect, prevent and minimise conflicts and these include:

- The Police Force
- The Local Councils (LCs) and other area politicians
- The Office of the President
- The Judiciary
- Collaborative Forest Management (CFM)
- Collaborative Resources Management (CRM)
- Forest Management Plan
- Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)
- Traditional/and or cultural leaders
- Religious leaders
- Family and clan systems
- Opinion leaders.

Presenter:

This means for REDD+ to be successful, there is need for stakeholder engagement. How will this be attained?

Panelist:

A key component of effective stakeholder engagement and consultation is free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

Free: From coercion, intimidation or manipulation

Prior: All relevant information to make a decision

Informed: Before any authorization or commencement of activities, with time for consideration

Consent: A collective "Yes" or "No" through a decision-making process of choice.

Stakeholder engagement in Uganda is a pre-requisite for sustainable development and particularly for the REDD+ process. The national requirements for Consultation & Participation as provided for in the 1995 constitution (as amended in 2005), the National Decentralization Policy, Forestry Policy, the Local Government Environment Management frameworks and the national R-PP.

The UNFCCC requirements for "full and effective participation", as intended in the relevant UNFCCC Decisions; The need for effective stakeholders' engagement; with emphasis on the participation of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Forest Dependent Communities; the need for building the capacity of the structures for "full and effective participation", as intended in the UNFCCC Decisions;

Talk Show 5: *Forest Reference and Emission Levels*

Objective: This talk-show is intended to provide guidance on what Uganda has submitted as Forest Reference Emission Levels.

Materials needed for this show: The information brief on Forest Reference and Emission will guide the show.

Time: This talk show should last no more than one hour.

Procedure: The Presenter will remind the audiences about the previous shows on the meaning of REDD+, the proposed Strategic Options, Benefit Sharing Arrangements, Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanisms and how these relate to the Forest Reference and Emission Level. The presenter will ask questions to panelists (team of experts on REDD+) but open the show to the listeners for a call-in interaction.

Results: At the end of the show, the audience should know Uganda's proposed forest reference emission levels.

Presenter:

What is the meaning of forest reference and emission levels (FREL)?

Panelist:

REDD+ has defined FREL/FRLs as "benchmarks for assessing each country's performance in implementing REDD+ activities". The UN-REDD further interprets FRELs as gross emissions from deforestation or degradation and this is solely for activities that "reduce emissions" from deforestation and from forest degradation.

The UN-REDD interprets FRL as net emissions and removals and this includes activities from the "+" that can "enhance forest carbon stocks".

Presenter:

What are the building blocks of FRELs?

Panelist:

The National Climate Change Advisory Committee has endorsed the following building blocks: forest definitions, scale of coverage, scope of activities, scope of gases, scope of pools and construction methodology.

Forest definition: A minimum area of 1 Ha, minimum crown cover of 30% of

trees able to attain a height of 4 metres and above.
Scale: National scale (covering the forest estate managed at national level)
Scope of activities: Deforestation, Degradation, Sustainable Management of Forests, Conservation
Scope of gases: Carbon dioxide (CO_2).
Scope of gases: Above Ground Biomass, Below Ground Biomass.
Construction methodology: Historical average based on 15 Year reference period (2000-2015) and five year rolling average.

Presenter:
What are the real figures attached to these building blocks? What is the carbon we are emitting and/or removing?

Panelist:
The definition of a forest is 1 hectare as provided above. Only national level managed forests are considered. Under these, we have agreed activities. Based on that the component parts of the Ugandan FRL are:

Deforestation - emitting 8.15 million tCO_2/ year,
Degradation - emitting 821,415 tCO_2/ year,
Conservation - removing 699,000 tCO_2/year
Sustainable Management of Forest - removing 225,219 tCO_2/ year.

This sums to an overall FRL of **8.05 million tCO_2/year.**

Presenter: **Do we have the capacity to capture data and keeping monitoring decreases or increases based on the overall submitted FRL?**

Panelist: The capacity is examplified by the the National Biomass Study (Forest Department 2002, and NFA 2009) which form the historical database. These studies relied on using a combination of mapping land use/ land cover and forest inventory. The studies assigned biomass stock values to certain land use/land cover classes, which were then mapped out to estimate their extent.

In addition, Uganda has been undertaking forest inventories such as the Exploratory Inventory (EI), Integrated Stock Survey and Mapping Inventories (ISSMI) and Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) in plantations and natural forests.
These form the required capacity to monitor the net of emissions and removal of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Presenter:
How about land use and land cover mapping? Any capacity in monitoring changes through modern mapping technologies?

Panelist:
Uganda has produced national land use land cover maps for the years 1990, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015. The legend of all maps contains 13 main land use and land classes, five of which are forest types. These contain data at sub-strata level in terms of biomass stock (low/medium/high), bush type, and wetness (normal, seasonally wet, permanently wet) which inform data collection.

Presenter:
Do we have the capacity to assess Forest Area Cover change?

Panelist:
With the current satellite images, we are capable of assessing forest transitions and attribute that to REDD+ activities. It is possible to report on how much of forest has remained forest, how much forest has become non-forest and how much non-forest has become forest for all the management options under private land, forests managed under UWA and those managed under NFA.

Presenter:
Do you think Uganda will remove any carbon from the atmosphere?

Panelist:
We have to struggle as a country to demonstrate that we can. Yes we should.

Presenter:
Opens lines for callers. Panelists respond accordingly.

Radio Spot Message 1: *About REDD+ in Uganda*

Objective: This spot message aims at providing information about REDD+ in Uganda.
Time: It should be not more than 45 Seconds
Procedure: It will be voiced and availed to identified radio stations in different parts of the country. It will also be translated into local language. It will run as a conversation between the LCI Chairman and two members of the community.
Results: It should create a level of awareness about REDD+ in the country.

Spot message

Chairman: Have you heard about a program called REDD+ that Government of Uganda is pursuing to improve management of forests while removing bad gases that cause climate change from the atmosphere?

Member: No. I have not heard about it. What is REDD+.
Chairman: REDD refers to Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries (including Uganda). The plus sign adds the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

Member Two: I have also heard that REDD+ is about providing "incentives" for forest protection and it will be critical in supporting communities, protecting/conserving biodiversity and combating climate change. The incentives are for a variety of beneficiaries including individual land owners/forest owners that maintain reasonable carbon stock stored in their forests. The incentives are 'result-based', generating income from protecting forests as opposed to destroying them.

Chairman: Yes! REDD+ requires that we protect forests instead of destroying them. The forests accumulate carbon credits against which we receive incentives to preserve forests and attract viable development funding.

Chairman: It is important that we embrace this new program because it covers actions such as promotion of climate smart agriculture to reduce encroachment on

forest, improved livestock management to reduce overgrazing, sustainable fuelwood and charcoal use, commercial timber plantations, rehabilitation of natural forest, renewable energy solutions, energy efficient stoves and wildfire management among others.

For more information about REDD+ contact the UGANDA NATIONAL REDD+ SECRETARIAT, FOREST SECTOR SUPPORT DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT. +256 414347085, Email: mwe@mwe.go.ug; ps@mwe.go.ug

Outro: This message is brought to you by the Ministry of Water and Environment, with funding support from the World Bank, UN-REDD, Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Austrian Development Cooperation.

Radio Spot Message II: *The REDD+ process in Uganda*

Objective: This spot message is aimed at providing information about REDD+ process in Uganda.
Time: It should be not more than 45 Seconds
Procedure: It will be voiced as a public announcement. It will also be translated into local language.
Results: It should create a level of awareness about REDD+ process in the country.

Spot message

Fellow Ugandans, the country is preparing a National REDD+ Strategy that will see Uganda contribute to Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation. Through this initiative, we will enhance conservation, sustainable management of forests, and accumulate forest carbon stocks that will earn the country incentives to further protect our forests. The process is in phases:

1. In the **Readiness Phase**, we are designing strategies and action plans to reduce emissions, building capacity for the implementation of REDD+, working on applicable policies and measures and designing demonstration activities.

2. In the **Implementation phase**, we will test and implement national strategies, policies and action plans. Some of these may include, additional capacity building, technological development and transfer and piloting results based demonstration activities like Payment for Ecosystem Services.

3. In the **Result-based Actions phase**, the actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation will be supported at the national level and the result of these actions will be measured, reported and also verified.

There are on-going studies and consultations on the different strategic options to be undertaken under REDD+. Initial ideas have been shaped around climate smart agriculture to reduce encroachment on forest, improved livestock management to reduce overgrazing, sustainable fuelwood and charcoal use, commercial timber plantations, rehabilitation of natural forest, renewable energy solutions, energy efficient stoves and wildfire management among others. As a Ugandan, you are invited to contribute views and ideas on the proposed strategic options.

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Radio Spot Message III: *Deforestation and forest Degradation*

Objective: This spot message is aimed at warning the public about the escalating rate of deforestation and forest degradation that REDD+ seeks to address.
Time: It should be not more than 45 Seconds
Procedure: It will be voiced as a debate during a district local government council meeting, with the Speaker taking a centre stage.
Results: A level of understanding about the different drivers of deforestation will be created and awareness about the different proposal for action created.

Spot message

Speaker: Order, order, order please
Secretary for Production: Mr. Speaker sir, recent reports by the National Forestry Authority have indicated that the rate of deforestation stands at 200,000 hectares per year for the entire country. When I look at our district, the rate should be even worse. This august house needs to take action or else our people will continue to suffer with the changing trends in weather and climate. I therefore move a motion that this council discusses the causes and plans for remedial actions.
Councilor I: Seconded
Councilor II: Seconded
Speaker: May I request the District Chairperson to make his submission first.
District Chair: Mr. Speaker Sir, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are enormous. Key among these are encroachment of small-holder agriculture into forests and bush-lands, unsustainable wood-fuel extraction (charcoal and firewood), unsustainable timber harvesting, large-scale commercial agriculture and wild fires among others.

Woman councilor: Mr. Speaker Sir, we should also add the underlying causes which include population growth (we need more land to grow crops), economic growth (the demand for wood is now high), poverty (meaning that we depend much on forest resources and poor management and administration of forestry institutions.

Speaker: I see a need for us to embrace the REDD+ program that is designed by the central government to curb the escalating levels of deforestation and forest degradation. Those in support say Ayee, to the contrary NO.
All councilors: Ayee Ayee Ayee
Speaker: This council has resolved to embrace REDD+
For more information about REDD+ contact the UGANDA NATIONAL REDD+ SECRETARIAT, FOREST SECTOR SUPPORT DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT. +256 414347085, Email: mwe@mwe.go.ug; ps@mwe.go.ug

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Radio Spot Message IV: *REDD+ Strategic Options*

Objective: This spot message is aimed at raising awareness about the proposed strategic options to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.
Time: It should be not more than 45 Seconds
Procedure: It will be voiced as a public announcement.
Results: An understanding of what is planned under REDD+ will be created.

Spot message

Voice 1: The Ministry of Water and Environment wishes to inform the public that there is an alarming rate of deforestation and forest degradation across the country and that this needs immediate action if Uganda is to remain sufficiently forested, ecologically stable, and economically prosperous.
Voice 2: Uganda will soon implement a REDD+ program, that in part, aims to attain prosperity. The program, requires us to:

- Consider climate smart agriculture (integrating trees with agricultural crops);

- Use energy saving cook stoves and establish woodlots, community poles/ timber plantations to sustain our wood demands;
- Establish large-scale commercial timber plantations to meet construction demands
- Rehabilitate natural forests through enrichment planting and farmer managed natural regeneration; and,
- Integrate wildfire management (in timber plantations, woodlands, bush lands, grasslands and subsistence agricultural crops).

Voice 3: The future of Uganda's forests is in the hands of every Ugandan. Ugandans need to rally behind every effort to reduce deforestation and forest degradation if Uganda is to attain a sufficiently forested, ecologically stable and economically prosperous country.

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