

Bangladesh Forest Investment Program
FIP Investment Plan Preparation
Terms of Reference for First Joint Mission
January 4-12, 2017

Objectives

1. Bangladesh is one of the newly selected countries to benefit from the Forest Investment Program (FIP) of the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs). The first Joint Mission of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and the World Bank (IBRD) will be held during January 4-12, 2017. The overall objective of this mission is to support the GoB in preparing its FIP Investment Plan (FIP IP). The mission will be led by the GoB, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD). The mission will take stock of current activities in the forestry sector and develop a road map for preparation of the Investment Plan (IP). This Joint Mission will produce an Aide Memoire outlining the issues, process, key findings and recommendations and a draft outline of the Plan.

Introductions, Background and Country Context

2. The CIF is a financing mechanism designed to initiate transformational change toward low-carbon and climate-resilient development through scaled-up financing. The FIP,¹ is a \$785 million funding window of the CIF. The FIP supports developing countries' efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and promote sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+). The FIP provides up-front financing for reforms and public and private investments identified through national REDD readiness strategy development and programs, while taking into account opportunities to help them adapt to the impacts of climate change on forests and to contribute to multiple benefits such as biodiversity conservation, protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, poverty reduction and rural livelihoods enhancements.

3. The FIP finances efforts to address the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation and to overcome barriers that have hindered past efforts (FIP Design Document). The FIP complements other REDD+ financing mechanisms, including Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme). The FIP Investment Planning process also offers the Government of Bangladesh an opportunity to prepare for, access and leverage other emerging climate finance opportunities, notably the Green Climate Fund.² Since 2009, the FIP has been active in eight pilot countries and in 2015 was expanded to support 15 additional countries including, Bangladesh.³ The GoB is now initiating the investment planning process in collaboration with the World Bank. This investment

¹ <http://www-cif.climateinvestmentfunds.org/fund/forest-investment-program>

² (<http://news.gcfund.org/>)

³ <http://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/meetingdocuments/archived/fip>

planning process will build on and integrate with the ongoing national Forestry and REDD+ processes.

Bangladesh's Expression of Interest for the FIP

4. In March 2015, GoB submitted an Expression of Interest to the FIP Sub-Committee. This Expression of Interest provided a description of the country and sector context, forest-related climate change mitigation potential, drivers of deforestation and potential investments needed to address those, as well as the potential to generate enhanced development co-benefits, as required by FIP. In this context, the FIP investment planning process will identify priority opportunities to finance efforts to address the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation and to overcome barriers that have hindered past efforts through targeted investments.

Vision and Institutional Arrangements for FIP

5. Over the last two decades, Bangladesh has implemented a number of successful projects in natural resource management and climate resilient afforestation using multiple sources of financing, notable among which is the Bangladesh Climate Resilient Participatory Afforestation and Reforestation Project (CRPARP) with support from the World Bank. The GoB is developing a Forestry Sector Master Plan and National Forest Policy as part of this project. Bangladesh has also been a UN REDD+ partner country since 2010 and has made progress on its national REDD+ Readiness Roadmap. In partnership with UNDP and FAO the Bangladesh Forest Department has made progress on key elements of the roadmap -a monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) Action Plan, capacity building for forest monitoring, an assessment of REDD+ corruption risks, and development of nationally-appropriate social safeguards. The country has also developed a national REDD plus Roadmap.⁴

6. The Government's vision for preparation of the FIP IP is consistent with the FIP guidance concerning Government ownership and leadership, as well as the FIP's interest in strategic leverage and transformation toward more climate positive outcomes. The lead ministry for FIP in Bangladesh, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has responsibilities for forests, conservation and environment. The Government has ambitious plans for improving and accelerating rural development, market access and green economy outcomes for the benefit of people and the environment. The FIP investment planning process will build on and integrate with the GoB's ongoing effort to prioritize key investment needs in the forest and related sectors within a national level landscape framework. In this context, broad level planning processes have taken place leading to prioritized investments in several key areas, including support from Development Partners.

7. The GoB recognizes the need to continue the engagement and communication with stakeholder institutions, civil society groups and community groups about the REDD+ process

⁴ <http://www.unredd.net/documents/un-redd-partner-countries-181/asia-the-pacific-333/a-p-partner-countries/bangladesh-712/implementation-technical-including-tors-1523/redd-roadmap-1598/7048-bangla-roadmap-1-2-7048.html>

and the FIP investment planning process. In support of the FIP process, additional preparatory activities are being undertaken to ensure that it is anchored in an inclusive and participatory process. An ongoing dialogue has been established with key government agencies, civil society, donor agencies, think tanks and other relevant stakeholders.

Institutional Arrangements

8. The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and its agencies are the central apex body of the Government of Bangladesh responsible for the policy, planning and administration of all forestry and environment-related issues and development programs. They are the custodian of country's environment and ensures its protection and development through the development and implementation of appropriate laws and regulations. Key agencies under MoEF are the Department of Environment, Forest Department, Bangladesh Forest Research Institute, Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation, Bangladesh National Herbarium and Bangladesh Climate Change Trust. The MoEF will be the lead ministry and Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) will be the nodal agency coordinating the FIP IP preparation and its implementation.

9. Other key government institutions with a stake in the Environment, Forests and Climate Change sectors include: the Finance Division and the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance (the latter being the National Designated Authority for the Green Climate Fund); the General Economic Division of the Planning Commission; the Ministry of Agriculture; the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock; the Ministry of Water Resources; the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief; the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs; and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

10. BFD has established a Project Management Unit, to manage the FIP preparation and implementation. An Additional Secretary, MOEF has been appointed as the National Focal Point for FIP. The FIP Focal Point will be responsible for coordinating the FIP investment planning process and organizing technical missions and consultations, assisted by the World Bank. This technical/institutional arrangement will ensure efficient coordination across various REDD+ investments in Bangladesh.

Scope of Work of the Joint Mission

11. The Bangladesh FIP Joint Mission will assist the GoB team in discussing and agreeing on the scope and direction of the Investment Plan building on ongoing broad-based consultations with key stakeholders, and assessing potential investment options that support the Government's strategic development strategies. Activities during the Joint Mission will build on the Forestry Sector Master Plan, National Forest Policy and Country Investment Plan preparation processes and consist of the following main sets of tasks:

- a) Discussing and defining priority areas (geographic, thematic, etc.) for investment as they emerge from the Forestry Sector Master Plan, National Forest Policy and Country Investment Plan preparation processes (technical, social, environmental, policy and contextual information compiled in the strategy and related other documents). Developing, discussing and refining more specific investment project concepts that can support the GoB in implementation of the Forestry Sector Master Plan, National Forest Policy and Country investment Plan priorities. These elements may be developed in more detail following the Joint Mission.
- b) Discussing and defining implementation arrangements for investment projects, as well as mechanisms for institutional coordination of FIP related interventions (including mechanisms for collaboration with development partners, the private sector, etc.). This would also include discussion on securing potential funds from sources other than the FIP, in particular from the IDA and the GCF.

12. Discussions will continue after the Joint Mission regarding the need for an additional mission and consultations to review and validate the draft FIP Investment Plan to be produced following the Joint Mission.

Stakeholder Dialogue

13. Development of the FIP IP requires broad stakeholder participation to ensure program understanding, ownership and implementation support by the government, national stakeholders and development partners. The FIP process will engage with civil society before, during and after the Joint Mission, as noted above. Some of the key groups to be invited to join the FIP planning discussion include:

- a) Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society Organizations engaged in developing the Forestry Sector Master Plan and National Forest Policy.
- b) Universities and think tanks active on topics related to landscapes, forests and rural development and transformation
- c) Private Sector representatives and associations, particularly those in areas targeted for intervention under the GoB's priority programs

Coordination with Development Partners

14. Development Partners active in the field of the climate change, environment and forests have been meeting on a regular basis to share information and to participate in policy dialogues. Consultations with Development Partners toward harmonization of investments in support of FIP will be undertaken. Specific meetings and discussions will be scheduled during the FIP mission. The Investment Plan will include an inventory of partner financed projects and opportunities for collaboration and synergy during implementation.

Joint Mission Outputs

15. The output of the Joint Mission will include two elements: a) an *Aide Memoire* outlining the issues, process, key findings and recommendations of the mission, and b) a *draft outline of the Investment Plan including components/investment options*. This draft will consolidate background information, the outcomes of the consultations prior and during the Joint Mission, and tentative concepts for investment programs to be further developed. The Aide Memoire will provide a tentative schedule with roles and responsibilities for completing key elements of the draft Investment Plan with a time frame that allows for the GoB to present the Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee for review and endorsement in May/June 2017. The Joint Mission will brief senior GoB officials at a kick off and closing meeting.

Joint Mission Composition

16. The joint mission will be led by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and will include the following (this list may be refined pending availability and need for specific forms of expertise):

Table: FIP Joint Mission members

Name	Institution	Expertise	Location
Government of Bangladesh			
Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed	MoEF	Secretary	Dhaka
Mr. Abdullah Al Mohsin Chowdhury	MoEF	Additional Sec	Dhaka
Md. Yunus Ali	BFD	CCF	Dhaka
Mr. Uttam Saha	BFD	CF	Dhaka
World Bank			
Ms Madhavi Pillai	WB	Task Team Leader	Washington DC
Ms Nadia Sharmin	WB	Sr. Environment Specialist	Dhaka
Mr. Istiak Sobhan	WB	Environment Specialist	Dhaka
Mr. N.H. Ravindranath	WB	Climate Change Consultant	Bangalore
Mr. Jagjeet Singh Sareen	WB	Sr. Climate Policy Officer	Washington DC
Ms. Andrea Kutter	WB	Sr. Operations Officer	Washington DC
Janet Bably Halder	WB	Program Assistant	Dhaka
Poonam Rohatgi	WB	Program Assistant	Washington DC

Mission Draft Agenda/Schedule

17. The Joint Mission for FIP preparation will take place from January 4-12, 2017. The overall organization of activities for the Joint Mission is as follows (with specifics to be worked out in discussion among the GoB, the WB, partners and invitees):

Tentative schedule of meetings, 4-12, January 2017

Day	Morning	Key persons required for the meeting	Afternoon	Key persons required for the meeting
4 Jan	Kick-off and planning meeting	Md. Yunus Ali, CCF, BFD FIP Focal point in BFD	Technical discussions on Investment Plan (Stock-taking and preparation for FIP multi-stakeholder meetings)	Md. Yunus Ali, CCF, BFD FIP Focal point in BFD, technical team members, consultants, World Bank team
5 Jan	Technical discussions on Investment Plan and proposals as linked to Forestry Sector Master Plan and National Forest Policy			Md. Yunus Ali, CCF, FIP Focal point in BFD, World Bank team
8Jan	High-level launch of stakeholder consultations with various line-ministries, development partners, CSOs, private sector and think tanks	Honorable Mr. Anwar Hossain Manju, Minister, MoEF Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Secretary, MoEF	Inter-ministerial consultations to discuss drivers of deforestation and identify mitigation measures and priorities for the FIP Investment Plan	Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Secretary, MoEF; Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture; Additional Sec, MoF-ERD; Additional Sec, MoF, UN Division-GCF-NDA;CCF, BFD, other key senior officials from relevant line ministries
9 Jan	Consultations with stakeholder groups in appropriate formats and venues on coordination towards reduced deforestation	FAO; UNDP; USAID; KfW; GIZ; Norway; other development partners	Consultations with stakeholder groups in appropriate formats and venues (NGOs, CSOs, think tanks, academia)	CCF, BFD FIP Focal point in BFD; other relevant NGOs, CSOs and academia
10 Jan	Discussions on Investment Plan including allocation of resources toward key priorities	[Additional] Sec, MoEF; Md. Yunus Ali, CCF, BFD FIP Focal point in BFD	Discussion of institutional and implementation arrangements, and social and environmental issues and mitigations, including potential safeguards implications	CCF, BFD FIP Focal point in BFD
11 Jan	Discussion on timeline for further preparation	[Additional] Sec, MoEF; Md. Yunus Ali, CCF, BFD;		

Day	Morning	Key persons required for the meeting	Afternoon	Key persons required for the meeting
	Wrap up meeting with GoB	FIP Focal point in BFD		
12 Jan	Wrap up with CMU	Team	Wrap up with MOEF	Secretary MOEF; Additional Secretary MOEF and FIP Focal Point; CCF, BFD; World Bank team

7. Contacts (Government and the WB)

Government of Bangladesh

Mr. Abdullah Al Mohsin Chowdhury
 Additional Secretary, MOEF

World Bank

Ms Madhavi Pillai
 Task Team Leader