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	• Add a budget and schedule for Component 4b on Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts and Governance

GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES FOR ADDRESSING DEFORESTATION DRIVERS
To what extent does the R-PP consider key forest governance challenges for achieving REDD+?

	Land and forest tenure
-	*Discusses the situation regarding land and forest tenure, including for indigenous peoples*
-	*Considers the capacity of judicial and non-judicial systems to resolve conflicts and uphold the rights of citizens*
	Links identified governance challenges to proposed REDD+ strategy options and implementation framework

The R-PP does not provide a thorough discussion of the current situation regarding forest tenure, or propose strategies for strengthening forest tenure security. The state is presumed to own all land that is not registered (p.73). Due to the cost and complexity of registration, most communities practice customary tenure rights without formal recognition by the government (p. 73). The R-PP states that under REDD+, the government should facilitate the recognition of customary rights, but does not suggest how this might be accomplished. It does note that the Agriculture and Livestock Code is currently being reformed to facilitate community access to land and streamline the registration process. However, the code also includes provisions for underexploited land to be consolidated under the public domain (p.74), which may have negative consequences for community lands not currently under productive use. The R-PP notes that a new REDD+ law could enhance recognition of community rights and proposes a study to understand existing weaknesses of the legal framework with respect to land tenure (p.74;83). The CTREDD also has a thematic group on tenure, although no information is provided on the type of work the group will do.

Recommendation:
- Provide a thorough discussion of the tenure situation on the ground, including barriers and strategies for achieving tenure security for forest communities

	Forest Management
+	*Discusses the ability of forest agencies to plan and implement forest management activities*
	Considers the role of non-government stakeholders, including communities, in forest management
+	*Links identified governance challenges to proposed REDD+ strategy options and implementation framework*

The R-PP provides a relatively thorough discussion of forest management activities and challenges in CAR. According to the R-PP, lack of human and financial resources within the government currently pose major challenges for sustainable management of forests and present an obstacle for REDD+ implementation (p.47). One of the proposed REDD+ strategy options is to build government capacity on forestry at all levels (p.70).

The R-PP also broadly acknowledges a role for communities in forest management, although it does not provide a clear description of existing community forestry arrangements in law and in practice. The R-PP does state that communities face obstacles such as lack of access to information, lack of employment opportunities in logging operations, and forest fee systems that do not deliver benefits (p.48). Similarly, the R-PP notes that civil society in CAR lack tools to effectively engage on forestry issues (p.70). Proposed REDD+ strategy options include efforts to strengthen participatory forest management approaches by promoting community involvement in forest planning activities, improving community access to revenues from forest taxes and fees, developing alternative income generating activities, and building civil society capacity on forestry (p.66-67; 70). The R-PP does not elaborate more detailed strategies or approaches for achieving these objectives.

Recommendation:
- Provide a more thorough discussion of the legal framework for community forest management and the situation of community forest management in practice

	Forest Law Enforcement
+	*Discusses the ability of law enforcement bodies to effectively enforce forest laws*
-	*Discusses efforts to combat corruption*
	Links identified governance challenges to proposed REDD+ strategy options and implementation framework

The R-PP identifies illegal hunting, illegal harvesting, and nonpayment of taxes as key challenges facing forest law enforcement in CAR, which are partly resulting from weak law enforcement capacity (p. 47). According to the R-PP, law

(+) – The R-PP or NPD has, in our view, discussed the issue in some detail and/or has provided a process for further investigation of the issue.
( ) – The R-PP or NPD has mentioned the issue but not discussed it in detail and has not provided concrete next steps.
(–) – The issue has not been identified or discussed in the R-PP or NPD.

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enforcement entities lack sufficient numbers of trained field staff; for example, there are only 26 forest rangers in the country to perform field inspections (p.47). The R-PP notes that recently implemented transparency measures for timber permit allocation have reduced illegality and corruption (p.46), and that the establishment of an independent observer as part of the FLEGT VPA process has provided some additional oversight for the forest sector. However, the R-PP does not identify a potential role for the independent observer in REDD+ implementation. REDD+ strategy option 4.2 proposes some capacity building measures, including training of forest rangers (p. 69). However, the R-PP does not propose additional measures to address the range of law enforcement challenges identified or to reduce instances of corruption.

Recommendations:
- Clarify the mandate of the FLEGT Independent Observer and how this entity could be involved in REDD+
- Consider additional REDD+ strategy options to address identified law enforcement challenges

Other Forest Governance Issues Relevant for REDD+

| + | *Discusses other forest governance issues that are relevant for REDD+* |
| + | *Links identified governance challenges to proposed REDD+ strategy and implementation framework* |

The R-PP identifies weak governance as a major challenge facing CAR's forest sector. In particular, the R-PP cites lack of institutional capacity and financial resources as underlying factors contributing to forest loss (p.16). Noting that capacity issues pose a major barrier to successful REDD+ implementation, proposed REDD+ strategies include "institutional and governance strengthening" (p.68). Proposed activities include improved training for forest rangers and dedicated capacity building programs for government administration in charge of assessing environmental impacts and collecting forest taxes (p.69)

Recommendation:
- Conduct a capacity needs assessment in order to refine proposed capacity building activities

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[i] Documented page numbers are from the final French Version of the R-PP, which can be accessed online at:
http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/fcp/sites/forestcarbonpartnership.org/files/Documents/PDF/Sep2011/RPP_RCA_Soumission_Septembre_28_2011.pdf

(**+**) – *The R-PP or NPD has, in our view, discussed the issue in some detail and/or has provided a process for further investigation of the issue.*

(▮) – *The R-PP or NPD has mentioned the issue but not discussed it in detail and has not provided concrete next steps.*

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