



The Voluntary REDD+ Database: Lessons learned

VRD Team, REDD+ Partnership
Expert Meeting on Information Hub
2 September 2014
Bonn, Germany



Outline

- 1) Background
- 2) Scope of the VRD
- 3) Data collection
- 4) Challenges in data collection
- 5) VRD website



Background

- An initiative of the REDD+ Partnership, launched in 2010 (before Cancun Agreements)
- Built on initial assessment of REDD+ finance conducted by Australia, France and Papua New Guinea in 2010.
- Aims
 - improve transparency around REDD+ finance, in the context of FSF
 - support efforts to identify and analyse gaps and overlaps in REDD+ financing
 - help share experiences on REDD+



<http://reddplusdatabase.org/>



Scope of the VRD

- Diversity of funding sources
- Different funding types
- Tracks finance for all REDD+ Phases, from readiness to implementation and results-based
- All funding Stages (Pledges to Disbursements)
- Starting year 2006 ...extends to 2020
- Standardized reporting format
- Voluntary reports from both funders and recipients

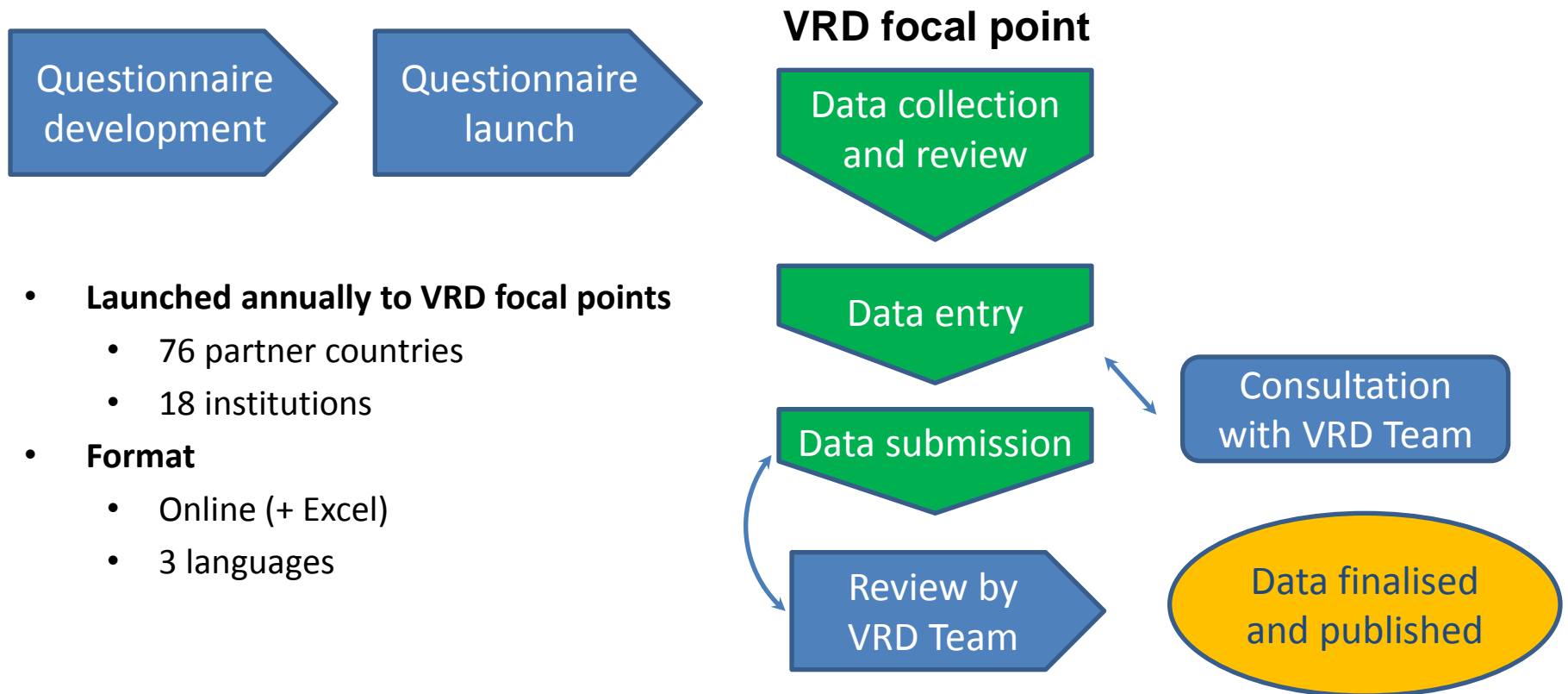


Operation

- Data reported voluntarily by Partnership countries and institutions
- Design and management by the Programme Team (PT) of the UN-REDD Programme following on-going guidance of the REDD+ Partnership
 - Data collection & management
 - Web Interface
 - Data analysis & communication
 - Linkages with related initiatives



Data Collection and Management: Voluntary reporting process





Data Collection: Questionnaire development, launch and reporting round

2010 Aug - Nov
Data entry of Oslo survey information
Launch of the VRD

2012 March-April
Completion of data collection exercise

2012 July
Launch of 2nd Q.

2013 May-Jul. Develop of Q.

2014 Feb. Data collection completed

2011 March
Launch of 1st Q.

2012 May-July
Develop of online Q.

2012 Nov.
Data collection completed
2012 Dec.
1st Analytic Report

2013 August
Launch of 3rd Q.



Type of data collected

- Core reporting unit 'arrangements'
- One funder and one recipient by arrangement
- Fields of the questionnaire

Mandatory: flow; name; years; title; commitment

Non-mandatory: disbursements; funder/recipient, financing type; REDD+ phases; types of action; beneficiary countries; description; additional notes; beneficiary countries; FSF finance

<p>Arrangement parties</p> <p>Outgoing funding to Cameroon</p> <p>Time period</p> <p>2010-2013</p> <p>Financing types</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant <p>Financing status</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2010</th> <th>2011</th> <th>2012</th> <th>2013</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Contribution</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.42</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disbursements</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.42</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Amounts in millions of USD.</i></p>		2010	2011	2012	2013	Contribution	-	0.42	-	-	Disbursements	-	0.42	-	-	<p>Title</p> <p>Support for eco-certification of forest concessions in Central Africa (ECOFORAF)</p> <p>Fast Start Finance</p> <p>This arrangement is considered part of your Fast Start Finance package</p> <p>Data quality</p> <p>The contribution values contain estimates</p>
	2010	2011	2012	2013												
Contribution	-	0.42	-	-												
Disbursements	-	0.42	-	-												
<p>Description</p> <p>Support to the promotion of certification systems for wood products from all stakeholders (institutions, producers, buyers, consumers).</p> <p>This project is supported by the French government and implemented through the French facility for global environment (FFEM).</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>Promotion of ecocertification in the African timber industry</p> <p>Additional notes</p> <p>One to many arrangement involving Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon.</p>	<p>REDD+ phases</p> <p>Click to specify REDD+ phases</p> <p>Types of actions to be undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder consultations & engagement • Sectoral transformation • Governance • Multiple benefits: social & environmental benefits of REDD+ • Demonstration/pilot activities • Capacity building and local awareness <p>Beneficiary countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cameroon 															



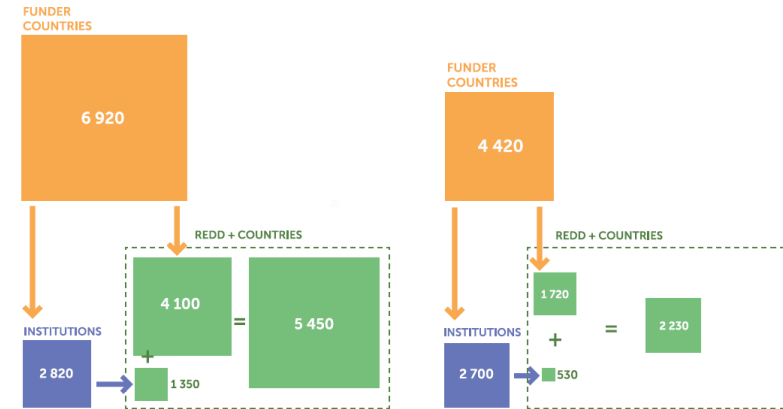
Data Collection: Challenges

- Identification of VRD focal points
- Focal points availability
- Reported difficulties in data sourcing
- Reported difficulties in internet access
- Ensure clear and harmonized understanding of the categories/entries of the VRD
- Implications to overall quality of dataset when changes to scope of data collection are implemented each year
- Difficulties in using a standard data collection format
- Working towards consistency between reports from funders and recipients



Addressing discrepancies

- Liaising between funder and recipient Focal Points
- Capacity building workshops;
- Collaborating with other REDD+ funding tracking institutions



Funders

Recipients



Outgoing funding to REDD+ countries as reported by funder countries.



Incoming funding to REDD+ countries as reported by recipients.

REDD+ country reported on arrangement

1 174

1 541

REDD+ country did not report arrangement but reported to the database

1 510



REDD+ did not report to database at all

1 376



Reported by REDD+ countries but not by funders



176





VRD website

<http://reddplusdatabase.org/>

The screenshot shows the 'Overview' page of the Voluntary REDD+ Database. At the top, there is a navigation menu with 'Overview', 'Countries', 'Institutions', and 'About'. Below the menu, there are tabs for 'Introduction', 'Graphs & Stats', 'Arrangements list', and 'FSF report'. A legend indicates that orange circles represent 'Funding' and green circles represent 'Receiving'. A world map displays various colored circles of different sizes, representing financial contributions. Below the map, there is a text box that reads: 'Funders (orange) and recipients (green) of REDD+ financial contributions, as reported by funders. Click on the circles above to view REDD+ financing provided/received for a given country.' To the right of the map, there are buttons for 'View information reported by Funders' and 'Recipients'. Below the map, there is a section titled 'Welcome to the Voluntary REDD+ Database' with a brief description of the database's purpose. To the right of this text is a flow diagram showing 'Funder Countries' (with a value of \$2,798) and 'Institutions' (with a value of \$1,358) leading to 'REDD+ Countries' (with a value of \$4,108). Below the flow diagram, there is a note: 'Bilateral and institutional financial contributions to REDD+ countries, as reported by funders.' At the bottom of the page, there is a summary of the data currently held: 16 Funder Countries, 40 REDD+ Countries, 15 Institutions, and 0 Private Sector Entities.

- First coordinated attempt at transparency of REDD+ finance via public website
- Components:
 - information reported by funders
 - Information reported by recipients
 - Global overview and information by country & institution
 - Arrangements list
 - Graphs and stats
 - Maps
 - FSF report
 - Data download function



Summary

1. Online reporting is efficient, although limitations in accessibility require flexible process
2. Process of communication with individual country/institution is useful for encouraging data submission
3. Quality Assurance process essential
4. Dedicated resources and capacity to administer the platform is crucial



Thank you!