

September 24, 2013

Comments from United States on Approval: FIP Ghana Project Engaging Local Communities in REDD+/enhancement of Carbon stock

Dear Patricia,

We appreciate the opportunity to review the *Ghana- Engaging Local Communities in REDD+/Enhancement of Carbon Stocks* project submitted by the Government of Ghana and the ADF.

We support approval of this interesting project, but would appreciate answers to the questions below.

1. With respect to the establishment of tree plantations under Component 1, we would appreciate more information on the definition of “degraded,” as well as how degraded lands will be identified and selected for plantation development. Also, we note the reference to “clearance of plantation plots” in Annex B.9 and would appreciate further information on how determinations on whether to pursue clearance, versus enrichment, of degraded forest areas will be made in order to avoid negative impacts on biodiversity.

2. We note in Annex B.9 reference to “provision of credit facilities and a development fund for communities” under Component 3. We would appreciate more information on how, through what institution(s), on what terms, and to whom (communities or individuals?) credit will be provided, as well as more information on the development fund.

Thank you once again.

Sincerely,

Katie Berg

U.S. Treasury Department