

This template for reports and accounts is to be used by organisations with agreements with Norad under the Climate and Forest Initiative funding scheme for civil society.

This template must be used for the **final report** and correspond with the signed agreement and the latest approved Project Document. The final report for the whole agreement period (2013-2015) should include results on a higher level in the results chain than previous reports (please see figure below). The final report should give a description of **achieved outcomes in terms of effects on target groups, and explain how these outcomes are expected to contribute to the intended impact.**

In cases where outcome cannot be documented by the end of the agreement period, substantial evidence of outputs should be presented with an explanation on how these will lead to the desired outcome and when.

The report should not exceed 15 pages, and please remember to submit the common indicators separately (if already submitted in March and there are no changes, you may refer to this).

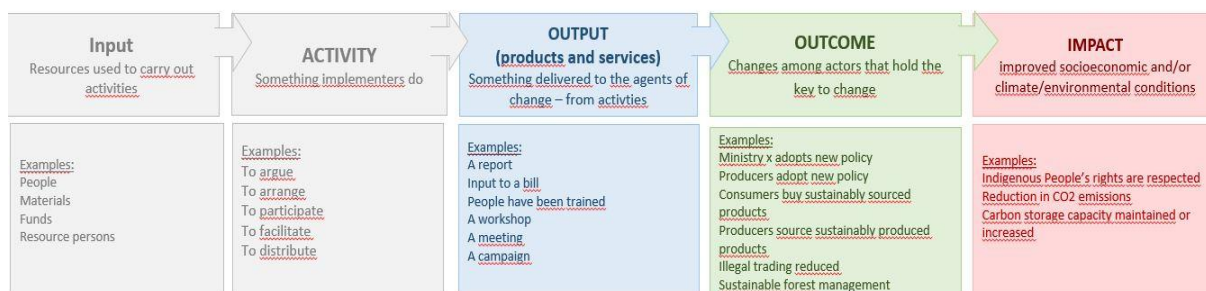
The deadline for delivering the report is 1 June 2016, unless you have agreed otherwise with your desk officer. Please submit the report electronically to postmottak@norad.no, and Cc your desk officer.

1. General Project Information:

- 1.1 Name of recipient organization: International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
- 1.2 Reporting year/s: July 2013 – March 2016
- 1.3 Agreement Number: COD – 13/0002
- 1.4 Name of project: Improving Forest Governance through Independent Monitoring in the Democratic Republic of Congo 2013-2015
- 1.5 Country and region in the(se) country if applicable: Democratic Republic of the
- 1.6 Congo Total financial support to the project from Norad: **NOK 13,921,799**
- 1.7 Thematic area: Independent Monitoring

2 Please describe the project’s progress for the whole grant period

Result chain:



With reference to the Result Chain as illustrated above, NORAD requires reporting on the effect on target groups (outcomes) for this final report. If possible, we also highly appreciate reporting that reflect any results at impact level. Please remember to relate the reporting to the baselines.

The impact of the consortium contributed to a more inclusive REDD+ planning with a stronger civil society oversight of REDD+ opportunities, needs, and actual implementation, and stronger civil society participation in safeguard implementation. Civil societies were able to access data both through the Moabi DRC platform as well through consortium meetings and map clinics. Through the reporting system on Moabi DRC they were able to write their own stories related and publish them on the Moabi DRC platform. The consortium also illustrated that government agencies, civil society, companies, and research organizations, could share a common data platform, sharing both official and unofficial data together. This enabled the first ever REDD+ Risk map analysis, highlighting the risks to REDD+ areas from emerging land uses to be published. The platform has also brought the first open system to DRC, with the most comprehensive land use planning data available in the country. This is precedent is now been explored by Ethiopian and Liberian REDD+ processes as an approach for replication. Moabi lobbying on gender rights and REDD+ also lead to the inclusion of gender safeguards in the Decree on the Approval Process for REDD + projects, requiring all REDD+ projects to have identified potential adverse impacts of REDD+ upon women inside proposed project areas.

Monitoring work conducted by the project, support independent forest actors to identify and report Illegal and unsustainable activities such as the expansion of artisanal logging and encroachment of oil palm into indigenous territories. The Moabi DRC platform gave these actors a new tool to document and publishes their monitoring reports. In terms of impacts, Moabi reports lead to one palm oil company, Feronia, to disclose all of its concession boundaries and land titles publicly for the first time. It also identified the risk of conversion of 30,000 hectares intact forest in the oil palm concession boundary, the company said they would not clear for oil palm. In terms of demand countries, the project engaged the UK government’s Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) and German Development Bank (KfW) who had financed in Feronia to require stronger adherence to safeguards and to participate in Moabi. The documentation of logging roads coupled with logging concession data has supported the identification of potential violations of the law by timber companies. This has lead to a new partnership with Global Forest Watch and Vizzuality to build a global logging road monitoring system. This platform is now used by forest monitoring organizations such as Global Witness to identify logging violations in DRC. By providing evidence of violations, this data will strengthen EU regulations such as the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Initiative (FLEGT) and EU Timber Regulation as well as the US Lacey Act.

Reporting of results: The achievements should be documented (for example by data on indicators or examples).

2.1 Please repeat the **project's target group(s)** and the baseline for the target group at the **start** of the project (from the approved project document).

Civil society

Civil society needs more capacity, better tools, and incentives to become more effective advocates on REDD+ and strong social and environmental safeguards. First, this requires access and the means to access the appropriate information. Groups need access to REDD+ project data, including carbon data, driver information, financial disclosures, contact details, and intended beneficiaries. Civil society groups also need to coordinate better by sharing data, agreeing on data standards and collection methodologies, and forming partnerships with groups working on separate but related topics. As methods, geographies, and markets overlap, groups working on REDD+ and FLEGT, in particular, need to work more closely together. Beyond REDD+, civil society also requires information on land ownership and planned development projects. When grievances occur, civil society needs the means to file complaints to the appropriate authorities without fear of retribution. The media also need access to reliable information and sources to write accurate stories on REDD+ and other land use processes in DRC.

DRC government

Addressing drivers of deforestation at the country level in an efficient manner while contributing to the sustainable development of the country is possible but requires a transversal and integrated development strategy maximizing “no-regret” measures. In the absence of a comprehensive land use planning strategy and in order to develop one, it is essential to have a wide vision over sectoral strategies and planning data. This can prove difficult even among various public institutions, in a context where control of data is power.

As part of the REDD+ process, the Government of DRC is developing a set of institutional tools aiming at transparency through the generation and public sharing of information on the web (national REDD registry, national forest monitoring system). But it also acknowledges the need to complement these tools with other independent tools and mechanisms, such as the MOABI 2.0, in order to gather information that does not circulate freely within its institutions as well as information out of its reach. This is particularly necessary for REDD+ implementation on the ground as well as regarding drivers of deforestation (land uses, infrastructures, etc.).

Demand countries

Both the EU and US have developed policy instruments that can help slow deforestation and support REDD+ (Lacey Act, FLEGT, etc.) and the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission are responsible for enacting stronger safeguards related to Chinese foreign investment. Demand country government departments responsible for monitoring investment flows or regulators overseeing enforce domestics need spatially verifiable information of the source of these materials and actors involved. This will provide a first look on potential compliance issues related to imported timber and other regulated commodities sourced in DRC.

2.2 Please repeat the project's **desired impact** (from the approved project document).

The consortium will provide unprecedented transparency on the actors, causes, and responses to deforestation in DRC. First, it will increase independent oversight and scrutiny of resource decisions, particularly related to REDD+, and empower various stakeholders, and especially the local ones, to have their voice and the issues they raise heard at the national and international levels. Second,

Moabi DRC will provide access to information on planned and informal drivers of deforestation on a single platform and will be able to identify potential cases of leakage resulting from REDD+ activities. Third, it will build data sharing and operational links between FLEGT and the Lacey Act, which have both sectorial and geographic overlaps with many DRC REDD+ pilot projects. Fourth, DRC civil society and media will have access to better information and deforestation analysis, strengthening their understanding of drivers and improving their cases for response. This will lead to more efficient and effective REDD+ planning with a better oversight of REDD+ opportunities, needs, and actual implementation, and strengthen investor and institutional confidence in the DRC REDD+ process.

Together these outcomes will contribute to a new paradigm of collaboration and transparency between the actors who will determine the fate of DRC's rainforest. By bringing together both official and unofficial sources on the platform, illegal and unsustainable activities will be identified, analyzed and addressed, minimizing their impact. This will be accomplished by data collected by the consortium directly feeding into the evidence collected by the independent forest observers. For example, illegal logging inside a REDD+ project area will be photographed, documented, and mapped using a mobile device by a citizen monitor. The data will be sent directly to Moabi for validation and then shared globally to all actors involved whether they are located in Kinshasa, Kisangani or Beijing. Ministries involved in land use planning and allocation will be part of a consortium with civil society members to discuss the tradeoffs between roads and mines versus high carbon forest and community landholdings. Lastly, the consortium will be a clear demonstration of DRC's commitment to making REDD+ work and planning a sustainable future for their forests.

2.3 Is the project still relevant for the desired impact? (Yes/No) If No, please give a short explanation.

Yes, an independent monitor is deemed a critical component of the REDD+ and the FLEGT program in DRC. Moabi DRC is a grievance and redress mechanism for REDD+ in DRC and continues to feature in the national REDD+ strategy and the DRC Emissions Reduction –Program Document (ERPD). Moabi DRC inclusion on the Safeguard Working Group led to strengthened design of safeguard information system plans in the Emissions Reduction Program Document. The REDD+ Coordination Unit participate in the Moabi DRC consortium and asked Moabi DRC to participate in the safeguard information system working group, making the Moabi DRC Field Manager the working group secretary. This led to Moabi DRC's inclusion in the ERPD including specific language on the importance of an independent observer in the process.

The project's intended output of identifying conflicts between REDD+ and other land uses such as extractive industries such as mining, hydrocarbon and industrial agriculture has only increased in relevance. The risk work has identified multiple overlaps between REDD+ project areas and extractive industries and industrial agriculture. The project has also identified that reference levels adopted by projects such as Jadora, Mambase, and ERA-WWC have not factored these drivers into their emissions scenarios. This means that the methods used by REDD+ project proponents such as improved firewood collection will not achieve deforestation targets against drivers such as industrial agriculture expansion. This serious problem has been discussed at consortium meetings and acknowledged by project proponents. Ensuring that reference levels reflect actual realities means the project's work is still highly relevant if REDD+ is to meet its emissions reduction goals.

The failure of the REDD+ proponents – government, private sector, and large NGOs- to identify these competing land use drivers with REDD+ objectives, demonstrates the need for an independent platform such as Moabi. It is the only platform that successfully brings together official and unofficial data on one platform, performs impartial analysis, and disseminates results. Other platform such as the National Forest Monitoring System has a much narrower set of available data. Likewise the WRI-supported Forest Atlas of Ministry of Environment only contains a limited amount of official data and in many cases, such as road projects, dams, and REDD+ zones, does not host data

from ministries that do not support REDD+. As a result, Moabi's independent role is critical to building the most comprehensive data base.

The continuing growth of the Moabi DRC consortium from 20 to up to 70 participants illustrates the impact the project has had in building stakeholder support for an independent platform. The growing consortium is reflected in the number of civil society map stories on the platform as well as the number of map layers available, which has made the Moabi one of the most important sources for information on drivers in DRC with the most comprehensive drivers' database. This independent and open publishing model demonstrates the need for civil society to have a platform to comment on the process, share their own stories, and access up to date data. Civil society stories have targeted the plight of indigenous people from logging, FPIC limits of a REDD+ project planning, and the expansion of industrial agriculture. These stories would not have been published if Moabi DRC did not exist.

2.4 Main outcome(s).

a) Please repeat the project's planned outcome(s) (effect on project's target group(s), beneficiary (-ies)) (from the approved project document).

Outcome A –Regular and transparent civil society participation in land use planning

(a) The collaboration will be derived from all actors focused on local civil society organizations. It will include groups, specifically working on REDD+ at both a national, provincial and project level. Groups with field teams mapping community land tenure will be prioritized for agreeing on data sharing standards and piloting the mobile mapping system. The Consortium will also target government ministries responsible for natural resource coordination including the Ministries of Environment, Infrastructure, Mines, Energy, Hydrocarbon, CN-REDD, ICCN).

(b) All actors will contribute to a desired new state of transparency and cooperation on REDD+ and natural resource use planning and allocation through a DRC Forest Governance Consortium. Local civil society organizations will develop a common dataset of community land tenure and share it with the consortium partners. They will also build the first registry of all civil society organizations working on REDD+ in DRC and coordinate efforts to map informal and illegal clearance across multiple sectors (e.g., artisanal mining and logging).

(c) This new desired state will be indicated by a measurable increase in data shared and the number of responses to identified resource conflict. Civil society groups will collaborate to build a comprehensive national dataset of land tenure inside REDD+ project areas.

(d) The Consortium will be sustained through building a strong institutional role, a local network of partners, and a sustainable funding model. This means ensuring that our in country partners have the technical capacity to manage the consortium activities, build the partner network and have sufficient funding to run the project activities after the project. The funding model will be for the primary consortium members to contribute funding to the partner organizations, particularly REDD+ actors and donors. The software will be developed open source and will scale as an independent entity that will make the technology available to other regions and sectors.

b) Outcome B - Continuous and regular field monitoring through collaborative mapping

(a) Moabi's intended users will range from GIS specialists in government cadastral departments to local communities mapping their customary land. The platform needs to be designed to be simple to use for those with little to no GIS experience yet capable of responding to the needs of specialist users.

(b) For the first time, Moabi will bring together a diverse group of actors operating on different sectors and scales together on the same platform. Civil society will be able to comment directly on

planned land use activities from REDD+ projects to oil exploration blocks. Field monitors will also be able to validate land use and communicate potentially violations using mobile tools.

(c) Moabi's impact will be indicated by the quantity and quality of driver data available, the number of users from key sectors, and outcomes from data use. It will host a comprehensive database of planned land uses, particularly those overlapping REDD+ project areas, which is regularly updated by experts.

(d) Moabi will be sustained beyond the life of the project by being designed, built, and maintained in collaboration between international and DRC-based developers and information contributors. It will use open source software familiar to DRC developers who will be consulted throughout the design stages.

Outcome C – Strengthened REDD+ and Natural Resource planning, specifically with reference levels

(a) Analytical products ranging from dynamic land cover maps, agricultural suitability products to spatial predictions of REDD+ policy impacts were to be shared widely with REDD+ implementing authorities in DRC and internationally in cooperation with the REDD-PAC project.

(b) More spatially accurate DRC reference scenarios were expected to give REDD+ investors greater confidence in the national REDD+ market and add precision to identifying potential REDD+ project areas. Government scientists were also expected to have access to datasets and analysis to coordinate institutional responses to deforestation and REDD+ implementation

(c) The success of the analytical outputs were planned to be measured by citations in peer reviewed papers, presentations at academic conferences, and reference in policy briefs. Results were also to complement ongoing deforestation mapping work being undertaken by research institutions by providing an additional social and economic layer of intelligence to deforestation hotspots. This was expected to add context to these mapping efforts and support greater precision to predictive deforestation models by determining the pattern and extent of deforestation associated with different sectors (e.g., artisanal gold mining, illegal logging, etc.)

(d) The project's analytical contribution was to be sustained by the network of scientists built by the consortium and using the Moabi platform.

c) Please report on all outcomes from the project document: Refer to table

i. What changes have been achieved with reference to the baseline?

Over the course of the project, we have strengthened the capacity of DRC civil society to conduct independent forest monitoring methodology for REDD+ and other related topics. Bi-annual consortium meetings, regular working group meetings and 4 monthly mapping clinics have brought an unprecedented amount of new driver data into the public domain including oil and gas blocks, indigenous people's reserves, and REDD+ program zones, and agricultural concessions. Bi-annual meetings were deemed sufficient rather than quarterly due to the creation of working groups which met between consortium meetings. The project's independence and impartiality has made it a vital civil society institution and the first port of call for many organizations such as Global Witness, the World Bank Extractives Department, and REDD+ project proponents looking for comprehensive and up to date data on deforestation drivers and the REDD+ process. The project also initiated the first REDD+ independent monitoring methodology in DRC and built an open source collaborative mapping platform for sharing results.

Outcome A –Regular and transparent civil society participation in land use planning

(a) Civil society participation in land use planning has been improved in a number of ways. Since the first bi-annual consortium meeting (Feb 2014), the number of members have grown from 23 to 70 participants. OSFAC runs all consortium meetings as well as data management and training. Project activities such as land use studies (e.g.. REDD+ Risk and map competitions are discussed and agreed at the consortium meeting with results reported back to the consortium. This ensures results are validated by the data providers and GIS experts can weigh in on the spatial analytical techniques deployed. The project built new tools to aid civil society report issues affecting the forest and communities they represent. For example, the development of map stories - regarding natural resource monitoring topics in DRC - are published on the Moabi DRC site (<http://rdc.moabi.org/reports/fr>). Map stories were designed to help built context around maps. It gave map makers the tools to write descriptions of their maps and place them into broader land use planning context. Almost 50 civil society map stories were published over the course of the project. Some examples are linked here:

Report on women's capacity building workshop on social and environmental safeguards for REDD +
http://rdc.moabi.org/rapport-sur-l-atelier-de-renforcement-des-capacites-des-femmes-sur-les-sauvegardes-sociales-et-environnementales-de-la-redd/fr/#9/-4.4943/15.7736&layers=moabi_redd_projects

Mission to Report on Forest Illegalities

http://rdc.moabi.org/rapport-de-mission-sur-la-collecte-des-informations-sur-les-illegalites-forestieres/fr/#7/-3.640/19.660&layers=moabi_logging

Report on the independent monitoring mission and evaluation of the Agreement between the Siforco and surrounding communities

http://rdc.moabi.org/rapport-sur-la-mission-de-suivi-independant-et-evaluation-de-l-accord-entre-la-siforco-et-les-communaut-es-riveraines/fr/#9/2.4243/23.9207&layers=moabi_era_education_projects

(b) The project contributed in many ways to the to strengthening transparency and cooperation. First, it has produced an annual REDD+ risk map in 2014 and 2015 highlighting overlaps between REDD+ and competing land uses. Data was contributed by all major land use agencies in DRC such as the Ministry of Environment, Mines, and Hydrocarbon. This helped foster stronger consultations between the requisite ministries and the REDD+ process as exhibited by Moabi DRC's risk maps use at a World Bank-facilitated meeting on extractives and REDD+. Moabi DRC portal hosted common datasets on community land tenure for three REDD+ projects – EcoMakala, WWC-ERA, and WWF Mai Ndombe with all information made available to consortium partners. Maps of formal and informal clearance were also made through platform. In 2014, the project displayed forest loss data from 2000-2014 from the University of Maryland indicating both formal and informal patterns of forest clearance. This agriculture study identified clearance from industrial scale clearance (<http://maindombe.maphubs.com/story/9/Industrial-agriculture-rapidly-expands-across-the-Democratic-Republic-of-the-Congo>)

(c) There are 20 data layers on Moabi DRC (rdc.moabi.org) including three datasets of community land tenure that were not publically available or downloadable prior to the project.

<http://rdc.moabi.org/data/en/>

(d) The consortium is now embedded with OSFAC and they are actively seeking funding to continue consortium activities. OSFAC host the Moabi DRC coordinator and manage all of the data onto the Moabi DRC platform as well as organize all consortium meetings and working groups. The consortium has a strong institutional role as the primary source for up to date deforestation drivers and REDD+ data on DRC. Moabi DRC is recognized both in the national strategy and the Emissions Reduction Program Document (ERPD) as a potential safeguard information system. Independent

monitoring organizations and donors such as the World Bank Extractives Team rely upon Moabi DRC as the most reliable and up to date source on driver data in the country. This was why they asked Moabi DRC to advise on extractives and REDD+ safeguard study and Global Witness uses the tree cover loss and logging road data to plan independent monitoring. The consortium ensures that we have regularly updated data, often before data is published on official platform such as the “cadastre miniere”. ‘MapHubs’ (as described in detail in Outcome B), is a new mapping technology built by the project to make mapping easier and more managed, allows users to search by attribute such as the name of a logging company or an investor in a mine.

A funding model was developed by Moabi, Inc. The model split Moabi into 2 components: the software development fell under the auspices of Moabi Inc. and a non-profit organization was dedicated to fundraising Moabi DRC activities and supporting broad forest transparency efforts in DRC, the Congo Basin and further afield. Moabi, the non-profit organization was founded in December 2014 and appointed a four person board, Dr Anne Claus, Jonathan Cook, Leo Bottrill, and Jonathan Randall. Since inception, Moabi has already helped implementation of a number of natural resource monitoring related projects such as the Carter Center Congo Mines (congomines.org) and the award winning Logging Roads (loggingoads.org) project with Global Forest Watch. It has advised the forthcoming UNEP MAP-X platform, and submitted numerous grant proposals including an unsuccessful one to NICFI for 2016-2020 funding round. The nonprofit board and its partners in DRC OGF and OSFAC are actively seeking funds to continue the consortium and development of the REDD+ Safeguard Information System that this project has demonstrated in practice. The organization has been contracted by WRI to continue implementing the Logging Roads project until September 2016.

The software which will underpin the updated Moabi DRC website will be split into a separate company registered in the US. A company model was deemed more appropriate for software development as the platform had multiple applications beyond DRC REDD+ and driver monitoring. Software needs a more flexible funding model than the grant driven non profit model and needs attract top developer talent to support innovative software mapping systems. The goal was to establish an open source collaborative mapping alternative to ArcGIS online and other proprietary platforms, specifically designed for functioning in local bandwidth environments and individuals with little to no GIS knowledge. The beta version of the company’s software is called MapHubs (maphubs.com).

Outcome B - Continuous and regular field monitoring through collaborative mapping

(a) Moabi is the only platform that hosts civil society, government and private sector, and research data on a platform. To facilitate transparency and data sharing, the project built an open source mapping system that uses cutting edge vector tile mapping technology to render maps in low bandwidth environments like DRC. The technology - called MapHubs makes it easy for GIS specialists and non-specialists to share data, make maps, and tell stories. MapHubs is replacing the older mapping system within the Moabi DRC site, so all data is managed and uploaded by OSFAC and consortium members. In two months since its launch, MapHubs holds more than 40 layers for DRC and 230 globally. A number of open source smartphone tools were tested. The IIASA-supported GeoODK technology was used by OGF to collect and manage safeguard grievance data from REDD+ project areas. In partnership with the European Forest Institute (EFI), the project also conducted joint tool testing with Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Initiative (IMFLEG).

Continuous and regular field monitoring was established by the project in one REDD+ project and missions were conducted to three more project areas. In total, 23 monitoring missions were led or financed directly by the project, bringing a new level of transparency and oversight to REDD+ project implementation. This included all REDD+ pilot projects in the Mai Ndombe jurisdiction, Jadora, and EcoMakala. 10 missions were held to ERA Wildlife Works to develop the IMREDD methodology. This was documented by the Global Canopy Programme Compass project

(<http://forestcompass.org/how/digital-technologies/moabi-drc>). The missions were included in the ERPD document and the government's safeguard strategy.

(b) A REDD+ community monitoring approach was established in the Wildlife Works run ERA project involving local community members. Results have been shared with CNREDD and Safeguards working group. It resulted in a joint mission between CNREDD and Moabi to help mediate community grievances regarding the ERA REDD+ project. These discussions led to Moabi DRC inclusion in the ERPD document as a proposed safeguard monitoring system, which was tentatively approved by the World Bank FCFP in June 2016. Government agencies participation in consortium increased over the life of the project with new agencies such as the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Hydrocarbons and Ministry of Agriculture all agreed to participate. This resulted in Moabi DRC being the first platform to host a map of agriculture concessions, oil blocks, and planned dams in the country. This has supported detailed mapping such as the recently released Science Pos Congo Power Hub (<http://congopower.maphubs.com/>), which provides detailed maps, company, and finance information on planned dams, power centers, and associated infrastructure. Dams are potentially a major future driver of deforestation.

(c) Moabi was the first platform to determine that there were multiple overlaps between REDD+ and extractive industries. This analysis led to a World Bank-facilitated dialogue, with key government extractive departments. The work is designed to support the development of extractives safeguards and REDD+. It was also the first platform to highlight the rapid rise of industrial agriculture in the region. The project exceeded expectations by not only permitting commenting but also providing a means for civil society to produce their own narratives through the report writing tool.

Moabi DRC website is a source of REDD+ related data for other groups from government agencies, civil society, and the donor community. Data is shared on other platforms such as Global Forest Watch and Mapping for Rights and used in IIASA modeling research. The platform also published a comprehensive analysis of overlaps with REDD+ projects.

(d) The project activities will be maintained by three partner organizations. Moabi DRC. was established in 2015 as a Washington DC based non-profit to continue supporting independent monitoring in the Congo Basin, primarily focused on DRC. During the project, Moabi received small grants from WRI Global Forest Watch, UNEP, EFI, and the Carter Center for technology development and support related to natural resource monitoring in DRC. 5 staff from OGF and OSFAC received the necessary skills to organize and conduct field monitoring as well as establish and train community independent observers. They have also been recognized as an independent monitor in the Main Ndombe ERPD submitted to the World Bank FCPF. OSFAC will continue to be responsible for the maintenance of the consortium and data management as well as platform training. To fund this activity, OSFAC has included Moabi in a pending grant proposal with USAID and both Moabi, Inc. and OGF has applied for several grants including to the European Commission. All grants are pending. OGF will be responsible for maintaining the field monitoring activity in Mai Ndombe ER Program. They have obtained the requisite skills to organize meetings, manage data, and conduct technical training courses in data uploading and editing, map story making, and OpenStreetMap editing tools.

Outcome C – Strengthened REDD+ and Natural Resource planning, specifically with reference levels

(a) A number of analytical products were derived from the project. IIASA prepared a palm oil suitability map illustrating the geophysical suitability of oil palm in the DRC as new oil palm projects could be a main threat to DRC forests in the coming years. The map was shared with multiple other research institutions such as Yale University and supported further research into determining the location of existing concessions. This map was also included into GLOBIOM in order to improve the model predictions of future deforestation in the DRC. The maps of future deforestation have been

produced for a business as usual scenario (without changes in current policies) and a scenario with improved crop yields. This should help better planning of REDD+ activities –including estimating the reference levels- and general land use planning in DRC. Moreover, using the mining data which was available on Moabi platform, we have carried an analysis on the impacts of mining on deforestation in the DRC. Although at national level, the impact is small, we show that local impacts are significant and can be as much as three times higher than the national average in the range of 10km distance of the mines.

Link to the map on Maphubs: <http://maphubs.com/layer/info/449/Projected-deforestation-in-DRC-2011-2030-Base-Scenario>

(b) A variety of REDD+ risk mapping was performed by the project. Moabi DRC published two REDD+ Risk studies, a study on active palm oil concessions in DRC and a compiled a new time stamped Logging Roads data for the whole Congo Basin, including DRC. This data is displayed on multiple platforms such as Global Forest Watch. Government GIS specialists from the driver related ministries now regularly provide spatial data to the Moabi platform. The REDD+ Risk analysis identified a significant increase in artisanal logging permits in the Forest Investment Program project area.

(c) The success of the analytical outputs were planned to be measured by citations in peer reviewed papers, presentations at academic conferences, and reference in policy briefs. Results were also to complement ongoing deforestation mapping work being undertaken by research institutions by providing an additional social and economic layer of intelligence to deforestation hotspots. This was expected to add context to these mapping efforts and support greater precision to predictive deforestation models by determining the pattern and extent of deforestation associated with different sectors (e.g., artisanal gold mining, illegal logging, etc.)

(d) Moabi DRC is considered the most comprehensive spatial data platform in DRC. It is used by policy analysts from the Open Society Fellows, IIASA scientists, and REDD+ project proponents. The map competition attracted GIS analysts from all over the country with winning entries from scientists the University of Kinshasa. The oil palm suitability map received multiple download requests from researchers at Yale School of Forestry University, Proforest, and other research organizations and consultancies.

- ii. Please report on the **key indicators** used to document that the desired change has occurred.
Indicator 1: Consortium of civil society formed with increased and/or strengthened interactions between civil society members

Five consortium meetings were held with up to 70 participants. This included the following: OSFAC, OGF, WRI, Réseau Ressources Naturelles, CAPID, CAGDFT, Ministry of Hydrocarbons, Cadastre Miniere, Rainforest Foundation Norway, IIASA, COGRENAT, RENOVATION, REDD Coordination Unit, CAMAD, LINAPYCO, Fondation Maman Yahuma, FAO, REPALEF, WWF / Carbon Mapping, IGC, Group de Travail REDD, and Cellule Infrastructure. The project has developed the capacity of OSFAC and OGF to both implement the consortium meetings and run independent monitoring tools and methodologies. In addition to the consortium meetings, several consortium working groups have been formed to develop the REDD+ work, advice on the independent monitoring methodology and implement the mapping competition and funding facility for local civil society. Two mapping competitions (<http://rdc.moabi.org/2015-Map-Competition-Winners/en/>) were held and five civil society monitoring grants were made to local groups conducting independent monitoring missions. The goal of the program was to assess local NGO capacity to conduct independent forest monitoring and give them resources to conduct monitoring missions to REDD+ project pilot areas. The winners were OSAPY, SOS, Nature, Reseau CREF, CEDN, and CEA – all DRC based NGOs. Further information is available here: <http://rdc.moabi.org/funding-facility/fr/>. The organizations conducted monitoring missions to REDD+ project areas such as the

Jadora REDD+ pilot project, which are published here (<https://maphubs.com/user/HERKAS2015/story/15/Evaluation-des-Activites-du-Projet-REDD-JADORA>).

Indicator 2: Number and quality of driver datasets

The number and quality of driver datasets significantly improved. Through the REDD+ Risk working group, the project obtained the most recent mining permit database, industrial agricultural concessions, hydrocarbon blocks, indigenous peoples territories, forest cover and loss, and the dam data.. This has supported research by agricultural suitability research by IIASA (<http://rdc.moabi.org/palm-oil-boom/en>) and REDD+ and extractive industry conflict research by World Bank and Moabi (http://rdc.moabi.org/redd_risk/en). Moabi is also the first platform to publish the actual concession boundaries Canadian-based oil palm company called Feronia through an agreement with the company In October, the project was also able to obtain a series of REDD+ project layers from the ERA, WWF EcoMakala and Mai Ndombe projects – the most advanced REDD+ pilot project in DRC. It also has the CARPE, Forest Investment Program, and REDD+ pilot projects, making Moabi the only platform currently that has access to this data, which is critical to independent REDD+ monitoring.

Indicator 3: Number of civil society specialist receiving mapping training

The project organized 3 technical training programs in using Moabi DRC and basic GIS data preparation for uploading the data. In February 2014, a community mapping training program was organized in conjunction with University College London's Extreme Citizen Science program. 10 local civil society staff (including staff from OSFAC and OGF), were trained over one week in community mapping theory, methodology and tools. A practical field exercise was also organized to Ingende in Equateur province where two different smartphone applications were tested with local Baka communities. The results are published <http://rdc.moabi.org/community-mapping/en/#5/-3.952/22.324&layers>. In 2015-16, additional trainings were organized through monthly map clinics for consortium members who were attended by between 5 to 10 participants a month. Additional OpenStreetMap training was organized for Logging Roads mapping. Community mapping training was also organized.

Indicator 4: Number of organizations participating in local network

There are 20 local observers from 20 villages covering the entire 300,000 hectares Mai Ndombe ERA project area. From mid 2014 until the end of 2015, they project funded and trained one Focal Point from local civil society who is based in Inongo., The focal point made one visit to field observers once every 6 weeks. He records their grievances and safeguard information using the GeoODK app. When he returns to Inongo, he transmits this data to the Moabi GIS coordinator and the data is loaded on Moabi DRC. This field work is no longer ongoing due to the end of the project and the lack of additional funding.

Indicator 5: Number of individual data points collected by community monitors of grievances, community land use, illegal activity

In 2015-2016, the community monitors did not collect grievance data as part of the REDD+ independent monitoring methodology. They collected baseline information in November and December 2014. This was aided by the Focal Point in Inongo with support from the OGF monitor collected these results and they were filed in the independent monitoring report submitted to the CNREDD authority in July 2015. The report leads to official independent monitoring mission in partnership with the National REDD+ Coordination Unit representative to mediate grievances. The project also conducted monitoring missions to the WWF Mai Ndombe project and the South Kwamouth project. Grievances were recorded and filed. After review from the independent

monitoring group, the results were collated into a combined report. OGF and our focal point were however able to test smartphones and over 3 missions in 2014, monitors collected anecdotal information grievances and illegality.

Indicator 6: Funding Facility established and managed by OGF and OSFAC with support from advisory board

The funding facility coordinator was finally recruited in May 2015 and selected the advisory committee and defined the criteria for selecting grant recipients. Five local NGOs received grants to implement REDD+ related monitoring missions, (<https://maphubs.com/user/HERKAS2015/story/15/Evaluation-des-Activites-du-Projet-REDD-JADORA>)

Indicator 7: A paper to be published on the role independent forest monitoring can play in reducing deforestation

This report was written in July 2015 and is to be published in July 2016. It took almost over a year to obtain the sufficient data for monitoring from Wildlife Works, which delayed on the ground monitoring. Efforts were further hampered by the lack of direction from the National REDD+ Coordination Unit regarding the role of the grievance monitor. The final report has been delayed due to disagreements with the ERA Wildlife Works project regarding the report results.

- iii. Please reflect on whether targets that were originally set have been achieved, and what project outputs were key to achieving them. If relevant reflect on why outputs delivered as planned did not help meet the targets

Despite significant funding cuts, the project adapted the program to achieve project outputs and reach targets audiences. The project has built the most comprehensive driver database in the DRC, supported by a broad and independent consortium. Through partnership with OGF and FLAG, the project strengthened technical and institutional linkages between FLEG and REDD+ through joint field missions and tool testing. OGF now have the capacity to organize and conduct independent REDD+ monitoring missions as well as the training to use mapping tools to display their results (<http://ogfhub.maphubs.com/>). OSFAC also received training to organize consortium meetings, manage data on the Moabi DRC platform, and publish REDD+ risk studies as well as organize the mapping competitions and the funding facility. All Moabi activities are embedded within the OSFAC and OGF with software development managed by Moabi, Incorporated. The project also developed a fast, responsive mapping platform that made it simple for local and international organizations to view mapping data on drivers and REDD+ process. Consortium members received training in using the Moabi DRC platform as evidenced by the more than 50 civil society monitoring field reports on the platform (<http://rdc.moabi.org/reports/fr/>).

- iv. If outcomes are not yet achieved, please explain why, and in addition, how the outputs will lead to the desired outcome and when.

All outcomes of the project were achieved with the exception of sustaining continuous forest monitoring. This is largely a consequence of the delays to the approval of the Emissions Reduction Program Document and National Strategy for REDD+ in Mai Ndombe and DRC, respectively. With the tentative approval of the ERPD for Mai Ndombe, Moabi's and its institutional role is stated in the document with a corresponding budget. Assuming the budget is approved and suitable mechanism created, the continuous monitoring outcome can be sustained. This will also hinge on Moabi's recognition within the Central African Forest Initiative process. OSFAC and OGF are both committed to continuing forest monitoring and supporting Moabi DRC and both submitted funding applications to continue Moabi DRC related activities. Moabi, Inc is also implementing the logging

roads initiative which is monitoring logging roads in DRC and across the region using satellite detection and OpenStreetMap technology.

v. Are the outcomes expected to be sustainable?

Moabi DRC is the only platform with the institutional independence, functional technology and official recognition to monitor REDD+ on the ground in DRC. It has trained staff, functioning and widely used technology, and is supported by a broad spectrum of REDD+ stakeholders. The entire program can operate on a basic budget of \$130K per year - a fraction of the costs of the National Forest Monitoring System and proprietary based technologies used by other organizations. This is sustainable once there is a funding mechanism available for Moabi DRC to apply. This role has been outlined in the tentatively approved Emissions Reduction Program Document. This will need to be allocated to Moabi DRC to fulfill this mission, Acceptance of the ER-Program would potentially release sufficient funds from ER-Program donors to support continued field monitoring activities and platform development. A budget was submitted to the FCPF and Norad Advisor to Central Africa. We are waiting for a response.

As the sustainability plan illustrates, the Moabi institutional and technical design are sustainable with relatively little funding. Continuously monitoring is embedded in the OGF's program and they have the requisite skills and expertise to continue running IMREDD missions and setting up new community monitoring programs. OSFAC also have the capability to run the consortium and handle data and content management for Moabi DRC. Moabi.org in Washington DC is responsible for supporting fundraising on behalf of the OSFAC and OGF's DRC contributions to Moabi as well as managing the mobile and mapping technology that allows supports the Moabi DRC platform.

2.5 Are there any internal and/ or external factors that have affected the project in any significant way?

For external factors, the continued political instability in DRC has caused delays to delivering activities as well as uncertainty for sustaining activities during 2016, which is an election year. The drop in the Norwegian Kroner had a significant impact on the number of activities such as the conference. The changing institutional structures around REDD+ also had an impact on the project. During the project, the Forest Investment Program, CARPE, and Central African Forest Initiative all began, in addition, to the ER-Program in Mai Ndombe and the REDD+ National Strategy. The significance of these emerging initiatives was poorly communicated by the government and donor community to project implementers as well as creating programmatic overlap and redundancies. Moabi is the only platform that mapped the different program jurisdictional overlaps. Refer to map: <http://maphubs.com/user/maphubs/map/160>

2.6

a) Please specify deviations from plans.

A few activities were reduced due to funding cuts or because of delays in implementation. The major activity cut was the international conference due to be held at IIASA. This was due to the fall in the NOK which forced us to reduce activities. The conference was not deemed essential to the core outputs of the project, namely the data consortium, IMREDD methodology development, and driver monitoring. There were also changes to the number of activities and their quantity such as a reduction in number of civil society grants from 10 to 5 and only 2 rather than 3 posters competitions. The late start to the project also affected the number of activities that could be undertaken. Funding cuts also meant a reduction the size of the funding facility, the number of field missions, and the cancellation of the conference.

b) Please provide a short assessment of the risks occurred

(A) The project did not have a problem getting partners to share data with the exception of one international civil society organization who refused to share community mapping data with Moabi or any other platform.

(B) Sufficient incentives were found for encouraging participation by building Moabi DRC as publishing platform and provide bespoke maps for certain data providers such as the Ministry of Mines.

(Bb) Phones were sourced that we affordable and functional and Moabi DRC's platform has evolved to the point where it many technical tasks such as map tile creation and data management can be managed directly in country by OSFAC

(c) While 3G internet speeds have improved significantly over the course of the project, internet through DSL has got worse. Many blame the government crack down on internet providers during the on going constitutional crisis in the country.

(Ca) Moabi did source useful data for modelling purposes such as the mining permit database and the agriculture concessions.

(Aa) Moabi did succeed in obtaining community mapping data by working directly with the organizations that collect the data such as DGPA, WWC-ERA, and WWF. Moabi DRC is the only platform that has this data on one platform. It also formed a close partnership with National Forest Monitoring System though their funding uncertainty is also mirrored by Moabi's.

(Ba) Moabi DRC was designed to be very simple to use. Making map stories, editing cartography and attributes, required no coding or GIS knowledge.

(Cb) MOABI's role as an independent monitoring platform has generated interest from other forest countries such as Cameroon, Peru, Indonesia, and Liberia.

Funding DRC civil society presents risks.. Few organizations have strong administrative procedures and substantial experience managing contracts. This is why the project was based in two respected national NGOs, OGF and OSFAC with strong administrative and technical reputations. With the funding facility, we had over 70 applicants, but it was challenging to find 5 that could deliver the requisite monitoring work. This illustrates a broader challenge supporting DRC organizations. They have uncertain funding streams and frequently lose their best staff to international organizations, creating a talent vacuum. Project mitigated this risk by selecting a respected funding facility coordinator who formed an expert board to select and manage funding recipients. This is one of the reasons why the project has strong support among civil society organizations.

2.7 **Cross cutting concerns.** Please report on whether the project has had any effect (positive or negative) on

a) Corruption

The community monitoring program in the ERA project also helps reduce the potential for corruption. It provides independent scrutiny of REDD+ investment and a means of cross checking whether reported community compensation amounts correspond with actual expenses. The joint Logging Roads with Global Forest Watch was partially support by this grant, has helped forest monitoring NGOs identify potential violations by logging companies exceeding their management plans. The tool needs further refinement but it already provides a critical tool for

identifying rule breaking logging companies and has been used by such anti corruption organization as the Environmental Investigation Agency and Global Witness to identify violations such cutting outside of agreed concession boundaries.

b) Gender equality

In partnership with the World Resources Institute, the project conducted a study of how gender inequality in REDD+ decision affects women living inside REDD+ project areas. The project explored how women are marginalized in REDD+ decision making yet are directly affected by deforestation (e.g., the distance traveled for firewood collection, etc.) The study was conducted in October 2015. Results were presented at a Gender and REDD+ conference organized by Rights and Resources Institute held in Kinshasa in the first week of June 2016.

c) Respect for human rights

Moabi role grievance and redress mechanism has been stated in the governments EPRD. The role of an independent monitor will indirectly guard the human rights of communities involved in the REDD+ process. As REDD+ can potentially impact communities access to natural resources, their free prior and informed consent is vital. By developing a novel community monitoring approach that collects grievances directly from communities, the project is pioneering a new approach to collect and verify whether communities' rights are being respected.

2.9 Lessons learned. For final report, please summarize lessons learned for the whole agreement period. Both internal and external factors are relevant. What could have been done differently? How can lessons learned be incorporated in future plans? We are interested in learning based on positive and negative experiences.

The project's division between four different organizations has proved challenging. The project was operating between OGF, OSFAC, establishing an operating organization, and managed by a research institution based in Austria. This has caused delays in both contracting and reporting, which affected output delivery. In retrospect, implementing a complex project at the same as time as trying to establish a locally based sustainable independent monitoring institution, was perhaps too ambitious. The pressures of trying to establish a project without a dedicated institution in place, hiring a team, building new software, and sustaining operations in effectively 2.5 years was always going to be challenging. But despite setbacks and multiple challenges the project has managed to deliver against all outputs, there are trained DRC civil society partners, a cutting edge mapping platform that is widely considered the benchmark for mapping systems in the region, and an institutional role defined in the REDD+ program.

3 Case/success story

3.1 Please see separate format for the result example, max 2 pages

Separate document.

4 Project's accounts for last year:

4.1 The accounts must relate to the approved budget for the year in question. All deviations (positive and/ or negative) must be clearly shown and explained.

Budget narrative (2013-2016)

The budget cuts which were implemented in 2014/2015 due to the decreased value of the NOK against the USD had an impact on the level of project activities throughout. The final value of the reported expenses was 82% of the original budget. Personnel costs and the travel costs, both in DRC as well as in Austria/US, followed the general pattern of the budget cuts. Consultant fees were reduced since not as many services were required for the platform development as expected. A shift of medium took place within the communications budget, which resulted in reduced the spending for video and print advertising, but an increase in service fees. Hardware was higher because of the number of laptops and smartphones needed to perform the data analysis and run and build the Moabi DRC platform in house. Additional field equipment was needed such as a digital camera, solar charger, and replacement batteries. There were also the inevitable breakages that come with operating computer hardware in a moist, rugged, forest environment.

The platform development team decided to develop the Moabi DRC system in house rather than subcontract a company to build it. Hiring third party companies to build software for projects is the expedient option for grant driven projects but given, this project's aim of self sustaining operations, it was decided that a core team be hired to build the platform and ensure all knowledge of the platform stays in house. This was achieved but resulted in higher hardware and software procurement costs.

To house the development team, an office space was required that could accommodate up to three developers working at a time along with the project leader and admin assistant. An unfurnished office space was rented that required office furniture. Overall for equipment purchases the weight of costs moved from Austria/US towards the field, mainly due to the vehicle procurement to service OGF. The vehicle was deemed essential by the Field Manager and Project Leader due to security concerns traveling by local transport in Kinshasa.

The major categories of budget changes were grants and workshops/trainings. The reduced spending on grants, which was also concentrated on the latter half of the project, reflects the NGO landscape in DRC. The project partners were not able to identify enough civil society actors who would have been able to work with grants in a sustainable manner and report back adequately. The grant scheme also suffered from the postponed announcements and postponed field trips, where possibly more target groups/recipients could have been identified. Field trips were postponed due to delays obtaining permission and data from the target project, Wildlife Works Carbon's Era project. The costs for workshops/training were lower due to two reasons: expected venue costs were covered under operational costs (rents) and the number of workshops was reduced. Meetings were supplemented by working group meetings that convened either at OSFAC or WWF's meeting rooms, which did not incur room rental costs. In DRC, the Moabi trainings were postponed due to the late start of the project and subsequent launch of the platform itself, and the international workshop, planned at IIASA premises towards the end of the project, was cancelled due to the reduction in available funds because of NOK devaluation.

The category of "operational costs" was changed for the first Implementation Plan (2014) and the former "audit costs" category was changed to audit & operational costs. This category originally only included audit fees, and therefore in comparison to the original budget appears overspent.

Attachments: Audited accounts and completed form from the accountant for last year's accounts. Only after a contract expires should unspent funds be returned to Norad.

Date: 25 July 2016

Signature: 

Attachments: Reporting Table, Case study, Audit certificate, Signed finance report, Handover declarations, Cover letter / Sustainability plan