



Introduction

Togo submitted its 1st forest reference level (FRL) in 2020 and successfully completed the technical assessment process for the FRL. Furthermore, Readiness Package (R-Package) prepared by Togo was accepted by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility in 2021. Togo entered the REDD+ implementation phase. This article describes Togo's REDD+ success story to establish its 1st FRL.

Togo provided the information in this article to the secretariat, as a snapshot of REDD+ implementation in the country for the celebration of the 10-years anniversary of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+.

REDD+ history in Togo

Preparation for REDD+ (2008–2014)

REDD+ in Togo originated from a workshop in 2008 to inform forest stakeholders about REDD+. In 2011, Togo received support from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to develop its National REDD+ Strategy. It also contributed to building the capacities of forest stakeholders and forming a national multi-REDD+ stakeholder group. In 2012, this group created a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to get support from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).

Next year, in 2013, Togo's R-PP was accepted at the 16th Meeting of the Participants Committee and Togo became a member of the FCPF. In 2014, Togo signed the agreement with the FCPF, and received a grant of USD 3.8 million.

Readiness phase (2015–2021)

During the readiness phase of Togo's REDD+, UN-REDD programme and GIZ played important roles in the development.

- UN-REDD programme
Its support allowed Togo to set up national REDD+ management, organize consultation with stakeholders and develop safeguard tools, a forest reference level (FRL) and National Forest Monitoring System.
- GIZ
Togo was able to develop the first National Forest Inventory under GIZ supervision and guidance.

As a result, in 2020, Togo submitted its 1st reference level corresponding to 729,520 tCO₂eq/year for the reference period 2003–2018.

As the end of the readiness phase in Togo, Togo developed a FCPF Readiness Package (R-Package) and National REDD+ Strategy. R-Package was accepted by FCPF in 2021.¹

¹ Available at https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/r-package_du_togo_version_finale_14.09.2021_english_final_0.pdf.

One of the key milestones in the readiness phase in Togo was the development of the National Forest Monitoring System² which was mainly implemented by locals. As part of the system's establishment, the national government took ownership. Also, a Safeguard Information System was in place during the readiness phase.

Main challenges

One of the main challenges Togo faced during the preparation for REDD+ was the involvement of all stakeholders including civil societies which consisted of a variety of NGOs.

To address it, Togo structured and strengthened the platform of civil societies and private sectors, which resulted in improved transparency in REDD+ activities in Togo.

Another challenge was the non-operationalization of the National Commission for Sustainable Development (la commission nationale de développement durable). Instead of the commission, National REDD+ Coordination (la coordination nationale REDD+) established the prefectural sustainable development commissions (les commissions préfectorales de développement durable) who were responsible for the consultations at the local level.

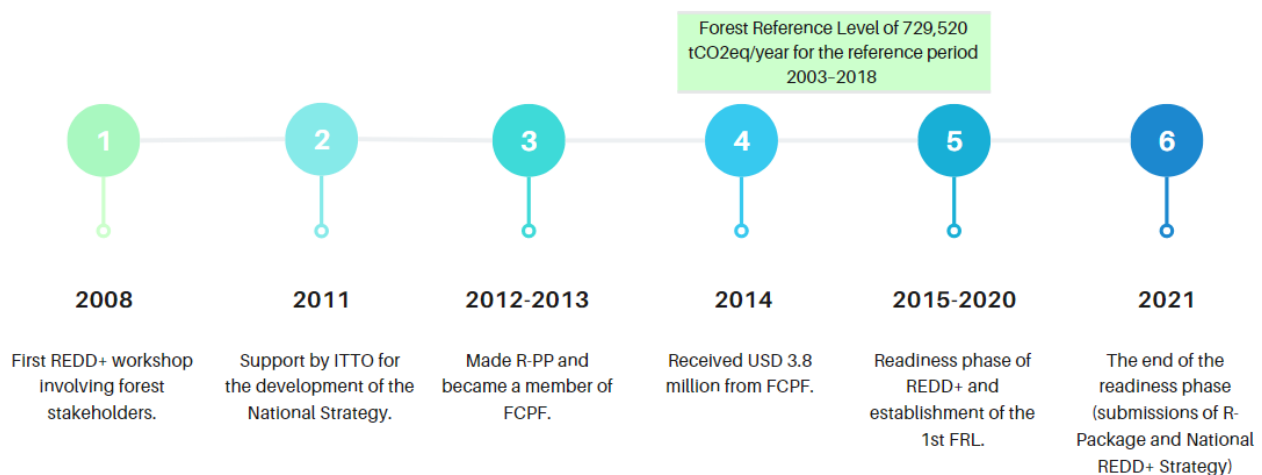


Figure 1 REDD+ history in Togo

Key stakeholders

The Figure 4 shows the major stakeholders. Vulnerable groups such as farmers, women and youth were also involved in the pilot projects (e.g., raising awareness of improved stoves and reforestation activities). Today, women continue to act on behalf of the vulnerability group. For civil societies and private sectors, capacity building took place.



Figure 2 Participation of women in REDD+ (provided by Togo government)

² Available at <https://ogardi.github.io/SNSF-Togo/index.html>.



Figure 3 Communication with local communities (provided by Togo government)

Support received

As mentioned above, Togo received funding from the FCPF and technical support from UN-REDD and GNZ during the preparation for REDD+. After the readiness phase started, other partners offered support for REDD+ in Togo (Table 1).

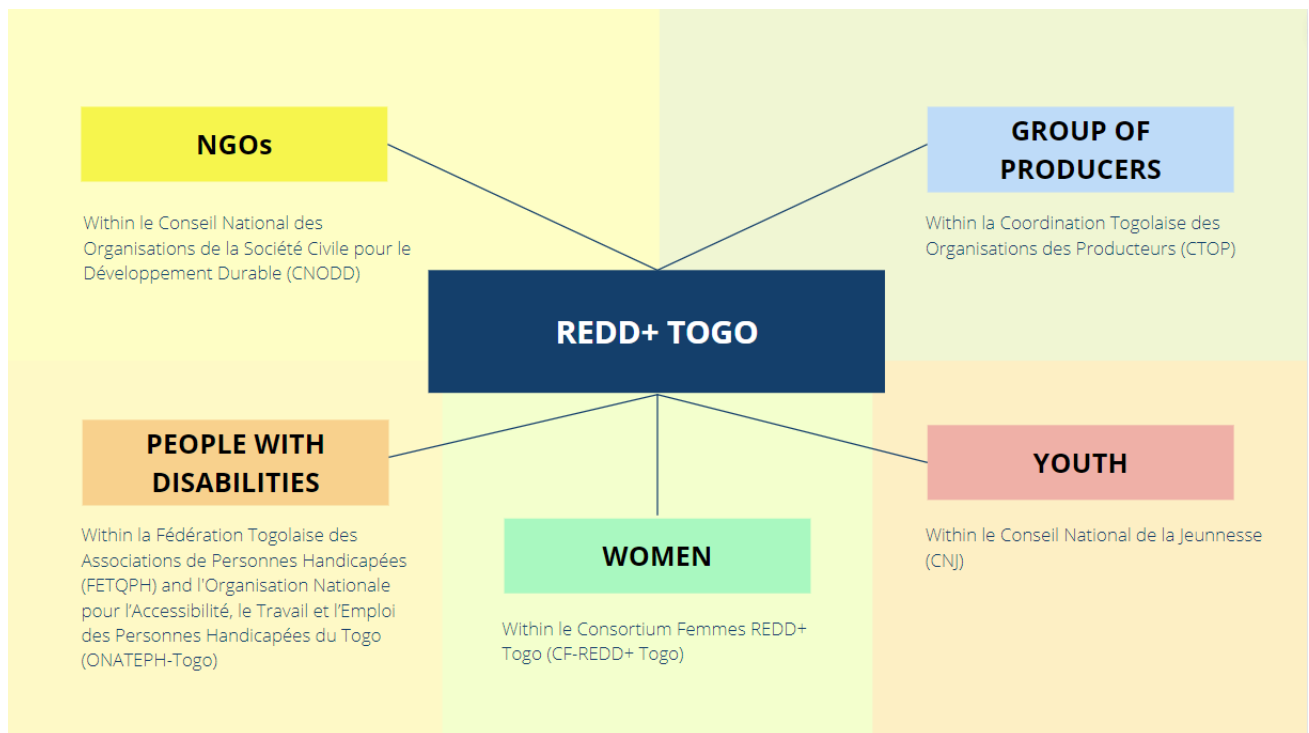


Figure 4 REDD+ stakeholders in Togo

Table 1 International cooperation Togo has received

Partner	Support Received
EU	Le Programme d'appui à la lutte contre le changement climatique au Togo-AMCC++ ³
FCPF, UN-REDD, GNZ	Support during the preparation phase including financial support
GEF/FAO	Le projet Renforcement de la résilience au changement climatique des communautés côtières du Togo
GEF, UNDP	Le projet de gestion durable des terres et des écosystèmes semi-arides du Nord du Togo ⁴
UNEP	L'Initiative de renforcement de capacité pour la transparence climat ⁵
World Bank, GEF	Le Projet d'investissement de résilience des zones côtières en Afrique de l'Ouest ⁶



Figure 5 Field survey (provided by Togo government)



Figure 6 Training on satellite image analysis (provided by Togo government)

Links to other reports

REDD+ efforts in Togo greatly improved data and information availability. These data were utilized to establish the 4th National Communication ⁷ and the Biennial Update Report. ⁸ REDD+ data contributes to other projects and programmes underway in Togo.

For more information, see [Togo's country page](#) on the REDD+ Web Platform.

³ <https://environnement.gouv.tg/projet/programme-dappui-a-la-lutte-contre-le-changement-climatique-palcc/>.

⁴ <https://environnement.gouv.tg/le-projet-de-gestion-durable-des-terres-et-des-ecosystemes-semi-arides-du-nord-du-togo-a-ete-officiellement-lance/>.

⁵ [https://environnement.gouv.tg/projet/projet-dinitiative-de-renforcement-de-capacites-pour-la-transparence-cibt/#:~:text=COP27-,PROJET%20D'INITIATIVE%20DE%20RENFORCEMENT,CAPACITES%20POUR%20LA%20TRANSPARENCE%20\(CBIT\)&text=Lanc%C3%A9%20officiellement%20le%2025%20mars.010%20267%20de%20dollars%20US.](https://environnement.gouv.tg/projet/projet-dinitiative-de-renforcement-de-capacites-pour-la-transparence-cibt/#:~:text=COP27-,PROJET%20D'INITIATIVE%20DE%20RENFORCEMENT,CAPACITES%20POUR%20LA%20TRANSPARENCE%20(CBIT)&text=Lanc%C3%A9%20officiellement%20le%2025%20mars.010%20267%20de%20dollars%20US.)

⁶ <https://environnement.gouv.tg/projet/projet-dinvestissement-de-resilience-des-zones-cotieres-en-afrique-de-louest-waca-resip/>.

⁷ Available at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/QUATRIEME%20COMMUNICATION%20%20NATIONALE%20DU%20TOGO%20SUR%20LES%20CHANGEMENTS%20CLIMATIQUES.pdf>.

⁸ Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/BUR2_TOGO_2021.pdf.