

Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

**Lao People's Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for
Sustainable Forest Management and
REDD+ Promotion Project**

Project Completion Report

September 2015

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.

GE
JR
15-143

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Map of project areas



Lao P.D.R



Luang Prabang

Vientiane Capital

802411AI (C00140) 7-03

List of acronyms

ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
CliPAD	Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation Project
C/P	Counter Part
DDMCC	Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change
DFRM	Department of Forest Resource Management
DOF	Department of Forestry
DPS	Detailed Planning Survey
ER-PIN	Emission Reductions Program Idea Note
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FIPD	Forest Inventory and Planning Division
FPP	Forest Preservation Program
FREL	Forest Reference Emission Level
FRL	Forest Reference Level
FS2020	Forest Strategy 2020
FSCAP	Forest Sector Capacity Development Project
FSSWG	Forest Sub-Sector Working Group
JCC	Joint Coordinating Committee
JCM	Joint Crediting Mechanism
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JIRCAS	Japan International Research Center of Agricultural Science
LEAF	Lowering Emission from Asia's Forest
LENS2	Second Lao Environment and Social Project
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
NSEDP	National Socio-Economic Development Plan
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NFIS	The Capacity Development Project for Establishing National Forest Information System for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
NRESWG	Natural Resources and Environment Sector Working Group
NRTF	National REDD Task Force
PAFO	Provincial Agriculture and Forest Office
PAREDD	Participatory Land-use and Management for Reducing Deforestation
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PDM	Project Design Matrix
PEFC	Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification
PFRM	Provincial Forest Resource Management Section
PO	Plan of Operation
PONRE	Provincial Office of Natural Resources and Environment
ProFLEGT	Support to the Lao EU-FLEGT process
R/D	Record of Discussion
RECOFTC	The Center of People and Forests

REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and the role of conservation of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
RTIM	Round Table Implementation Meeting
SUFORD SU	Sustainable Forest and Rural Development Scale Up (Project)
TFT	The Forest Trust
TOR	Terms of Reference
TWG	Technical Working Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-REDD	United Nations REDD Programme
WG	Working Group

Summary

Project title

Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Promotion Project -Preparation Phase (F-PREP)-

Project duration

December 2014 – September 2015 (9 months)

Experts

Name	Position title	Assignment period	Organization
Noriyoshi KITAMURA	Chief Advisor Forestry Policy / REDD+	Total 4MM	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.
Eiji EGASHIRA	Deputy Chief Advisor SFM/ Project Coordinator	Total 5MM	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.

Equipment provided

F-PREP continued to use the project office room and equipment of the Forestry Sector Capacity Development (FSCAP), therefore, no additional equipment were procured.

Summary of activities and outputs

The F-PREP is designed as the 9 months preparation phase of the 5 years and 10 months project. The activities and outputs are summarized below.

Activities	Outputs
① Work plan development and consultation	After consultation with JICA and Lao counterparts, the work plan was endorsed and submitted to JICA on 16th December 2014. Held constant exchange of information and consultation with other development partners, continuously looked into and analyzed forestry sector information, and reflected the results into the scope of the Implementation Phase and other support undertaken. Played a pro-active role on the application process of Lao government to the FCPF Carbon Fund, from concept building to ER-PIN development.
② Facilitate FSSWG activities	Facilitated the quarterly delivery of the FSSWG meetings (1 st – 3 rd quarter of year 2015) Provided analytical insights to the discussion, coordinated the inputs from development partners, and participated in the preparatory meetings for the RTIM
③ Identify response measures and processes to FS 2020	Analyzed the relationship between FS2020 and other higher-level policies, such as the NRE sector strategy,

<p>review results including FS 2020 revision</p>	<p>agricultural sector strategy, national REDD+ strategy, national land policy, northern upland development strategy. Priority actions and future options were identified, and then submitted to the counterparts as a recommendation.</p> <p>DFRM and DOF plan to develop a new sector strategy which targets 2025 and visions toward 2030. Accordingly, support to the revision is agreed to be the scope of the Output 1 of the Implementation Phase.</p>
<p>④ Assist Detailed Planning Survey (DPS) of the Implementation Phase</p>	<p>The DPS was conducted in March 2015, and F-PREP supported both JICA and Lao side on its preparation, in-country survey (in Laos) and follow-up. After the DPS, F-PREP continued to follow up on the results, signing of the R/D (signed on 1st July 2015), and facilitate commencement of the Implementation Phase.</p> <p>Build partnership between the LENS2 project and Implementation Phase in Luang Prabang.</p>
<p>⑤ Survey trends of forestry policies/REDD+, and impacts of sector restructuring</p>	<p>This activity was canceled since the necessity was low.</p>
<p>⑥ Capacity building of the counterparts</p>	<p>One day meeting in Luang Prabang to introduce about REDD+, the Carbon Fund proposal, JICA's Implementation Phase. "NFMS technical workshop" and "International forestry governance training (English training)" organized in Vientiane. Supported the participation of counterpart to the 12th FCPF Carbon Fund meeting (CF12) in Paris.</p>
<p>⑦ Progress reporting</p>	<p>Submitted to JICA and Lao counterparts (English, Lao) in March 2015.</p>
<p>⑧ Final reporting</p>	<p>This report submitted in September 2015.</p>

Chapter 1. Outline of the Project

Chapter 1. Outline of the project

1.1 Background

In the 1940s, forest cover of Laos was estimated at more than 70%. The figure has dropped to 47% in 1989, and further down to 40% in 2010, mainly caused by changes in land use, such as development of hydro powers, minings, and industrial plantations. The government of Lao PDR (GoL) has formulated the "Forestry Strategy to the year 2020" (FS2020) with the goal to restore the forest cover rate to 70 percent. In addition, recognizing Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) as an opportunity for enhancing forest governance, financial revenue, and livelihoods of the rural communities, the GoL has established the National REDD+ Task Force (NRTF) and working on REDD+ preparedness.

In order to promote forest conservation and REDD+, capacity of the sector agencies on policy development and implementation need to be further strengthened. Institutional reform in 2011 saw Department of Forest Resource Management (DFRM) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) adopting the administration of conservation forests and national biodiversity conservation areas (NBCAs), while the Department of Forestry (DOF) of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) continue to administer production forests. This has resulted in lack of sufficient capacity and consistency of the government to administer forest conservation as a whole. Also, the decentralization policy in the recent years requires Provincial Agriculture and Forest Offices (PAFOs) and District Agriculture and Forestry Offices (DAFOs) to be responsible for the forest conservation in province and district levels, therefore, capacity building of the local level agencies is in urgent need.

Furthermore, although REDD+ requires accurate information of forest resources, for example through satellite image analysis, GoL is still insufficient in its capacity to analyze and administer REDD+ related data, and human resources to accumulate and analyze are also in shortage, which makes the country yet ready to fully realize forest conservation through REDD+.

Up to now, JICA has been supporting the GoL under its Technical Cooperation scheme, to develop a land and forest management system in Luang Prabang province through "Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation in Lao PDR" (PAREDD), strengthen policy development and implementation of forestry sector through Forestry Sector Capacity Development Project" (FSCAP), and organize data on forest dynamics at national level through "Project on Capacity Development to Establish National Forest Information System for Promoting Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+" (NFIS). In addition, the two Grant Aid projects funded by the Japanese government, namely "The Programme for Forest Information Management" (FIM) and "Forest Preservation Program" (FPP) has also been implemented.

As a way to further utilize the outcomes of this series of support to realize sustainable forest management (SFM) and REDD+, the GoL has requested "Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Promotion Project" (Project) to the Government of Japan, and the both sides agreed to implement the project from December 2014.

This work plan sets out the tasks of the detailed planning phase (Preparation Phase: F-PREP) of the Project, which will continue the policy support activities of the FSCAP, compile information on forest resources, REDD+ and other forestry policies, participatory forest resources management, and assist the Detailed Planning Survey (DPS) of the Project which is schedule in 2015.

1.2 Project purpose and outputs

Following the tentative Record of Discussions (R/D) exchanged between JICA and the GoL authorities on 16 September, 2014, the outline of the Project is agreed (Table 1-1).

Table 1-1: Outline of the Project

<p>【Overall Goal】 Sustainable forest management throughout the forest in the Lao PDR is achieved.</p>
<p>【Project Purpose】 Capacity of the government of the Lao PDR for development and implementation of policies of sustainable forest management and REDD+ implementation is strengthened.</p>
<p>【Outputs】 - 【Activities】</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity of the central government for development and implementation of policies for sustainable forest management is strengthened. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Support the development of legislations and policies 1.2. Provide training opportunities 1.3. Promote coordination of forestry policies and projects 2. National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is established. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Develop National Forest Monitoring System 2.2. Develop National MRV System 3. Capacity for operation and management of REDD+ mechanism including Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) is developed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Develop and implement REDD+ policies and tasks at national level 3.2. Support national focal point for UNFCCC and JCM in terms of REDD+ 4. Capacity of a province for operation and management of REDD+ mechanisms including JCM is developed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Develop REDD+ implementation framework in Luan Prabang Province 4.2. Develop REDD+ implementation framework at sub-national level 4.3. Acquire, apply and utilize forest resource information for REDD+

(1) Role of the F-PREP and contents of the Implementation phase

The Project expects to commence its activities (**Implementation phase**) from late 2015, after the detailed contents are agreed in the upcoming DPS, with its aim to correspond to the support needs in forestry policies (including REDD+), forest resource information management, and so on, both at national and provincial levels. The **F-PREP** will collect and compile relevant information, and coordinate with the GoL side in order to facilitate the DPS scheduled in early 2015. The **F-PREP** will also succeed the FSSWG secretariat function which FSCAP played over the past years, through continued facilitation of the remaining tasks from the 6th FSSWG, responding to new tasks, coordination between the GoL and the donor community, and donor harmonization. Moreover, following the recommendations from the Forest Strategy 2020 Review (FS2020 Review) on the need of developing a new strategy, the **F-PREP** will identify a suitable way forward through sector analysis and dialogues with MONRE and MAF, and support the related authorities to implement the identified steps. The overall vision and the sequence from the **F-PREP** to the **Implementation Phase** are shown in Figure 1-1 below.

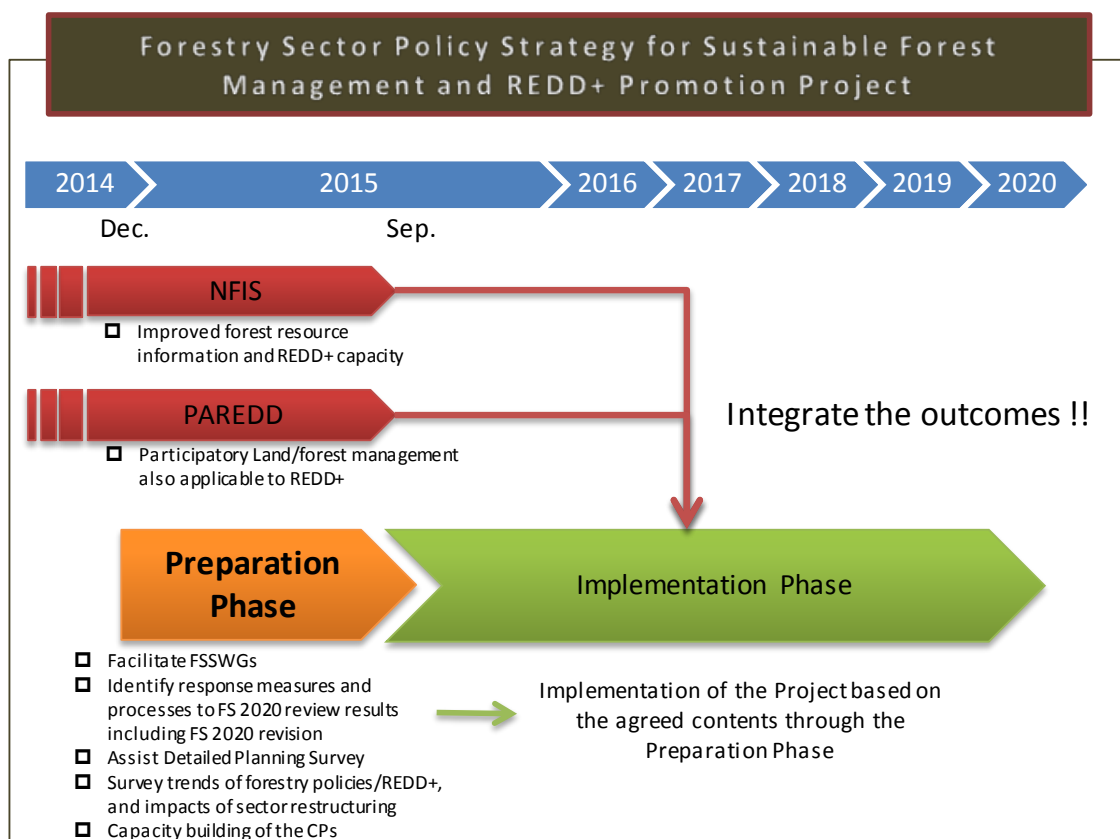


Figure 1-1: Overview of the Project and the role of F-PREP and Implementation Phase

(2) Objectives of the F-PREP

The **F-PREP** will succeed the policy support activities of FSCAP, and compile information on forest resources, REDD+ and other forestry sector policies, participatory forest resource management in order to facilitate the DPS scheduled in 2015.

(3) Outline of the F-PREP activities

- 1) Work plan development and consultation
- 2) Facilitate FSSWG activities
- 3) Identify response measures and processes to FS 2020 review results including FS 2020 revision
- 4) Assist Detailed Planning Survey (DPS) of the Implementation Phase
- 5) Survey trends of forestry policies/REDD+, and impacts of sector restructuring
- 6) Capacity building of the counterparts
- 7) Progress reporting
- 8) Final reporting

1.3 Flow chart of tasks and steps

The flow chart of tasks, steps and methods are shown in Figure 1-2 below:.

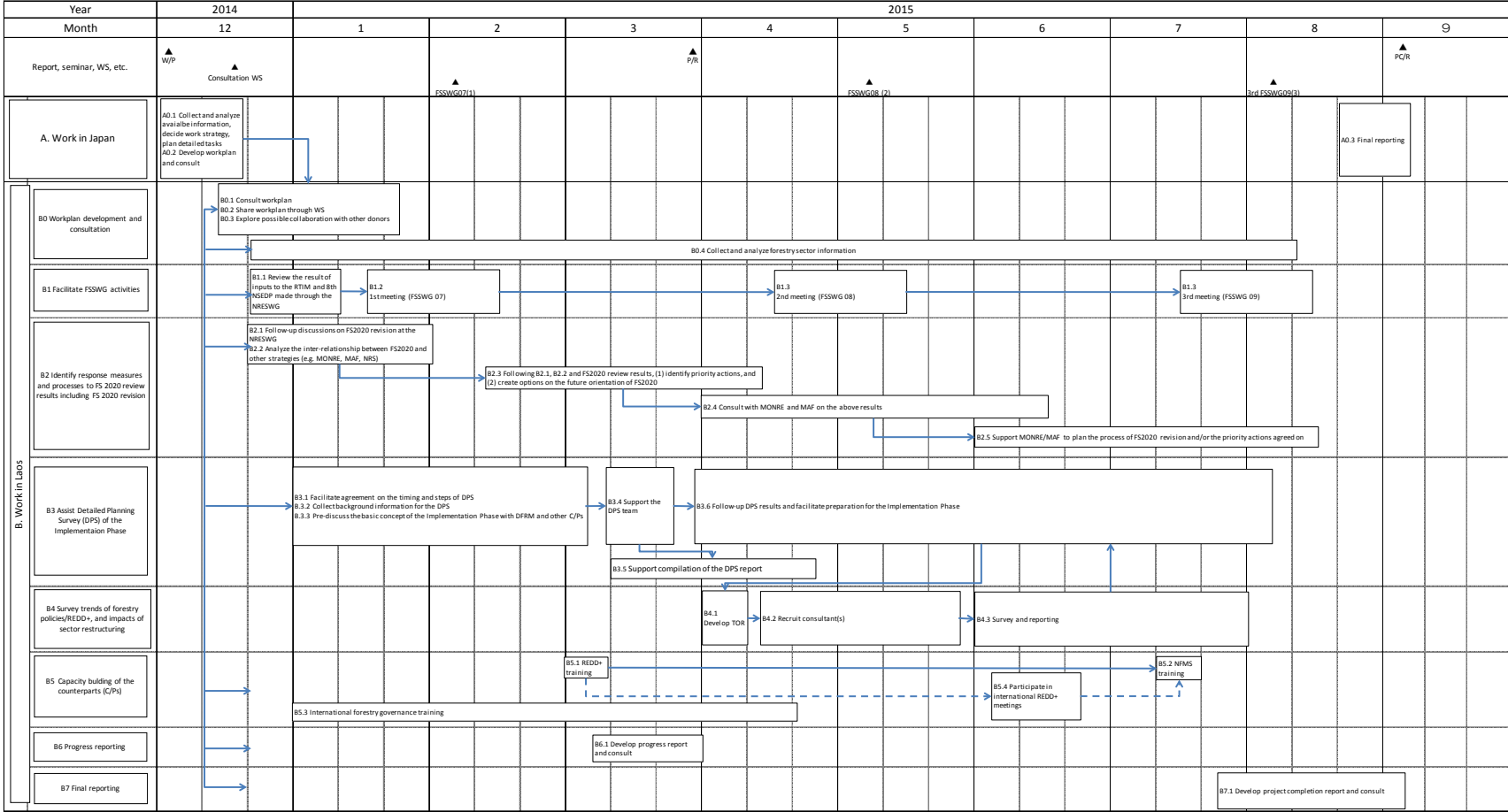


Figure 1-2: Flow chart of activities

Chapter 2. Activities conducted by the experts and outputs

Chapter 2. Activities conducted by the experts and outputs

2.1 Work schedule

The Project has developed its work plan based on the Terms of References (ToR) given by JICA, and has been carrying out the activities as shown in Figure 2-1 below.

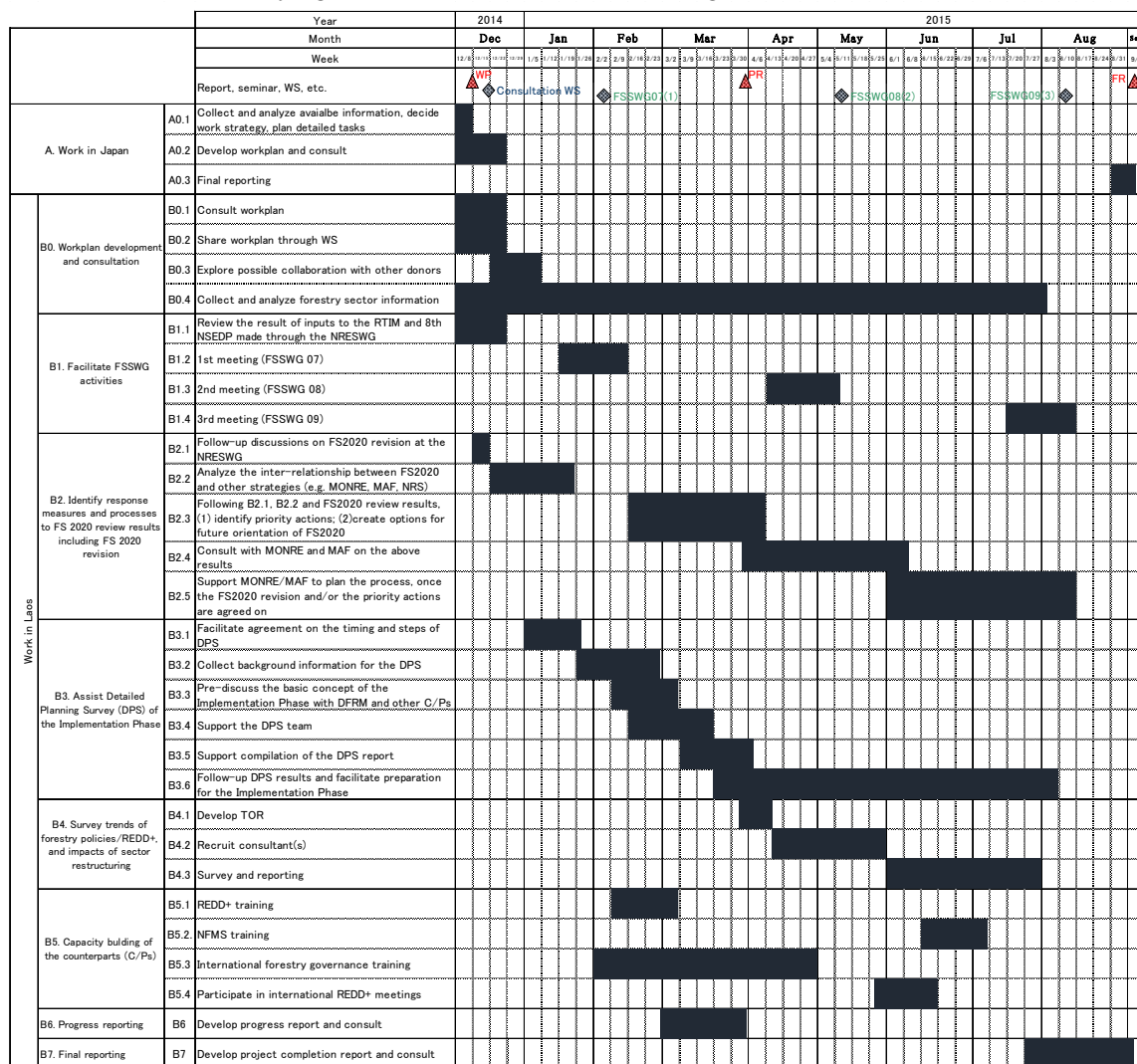


Figure 2-1: Work schedule

2.2 Results of inputs

Experts

Name	Position title	Assignment period	Organization
Noriyoshi KITAMURA	Chief Advisor Forestry Policy / REDD+	Total 4MM	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.
Eiji EGASHIRA	Deputy Chief Advisor SFM/ Project Coordinator	Total 5MM	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.

Assignment schedule of the experts and the result is shown in Figure 2-2 below.

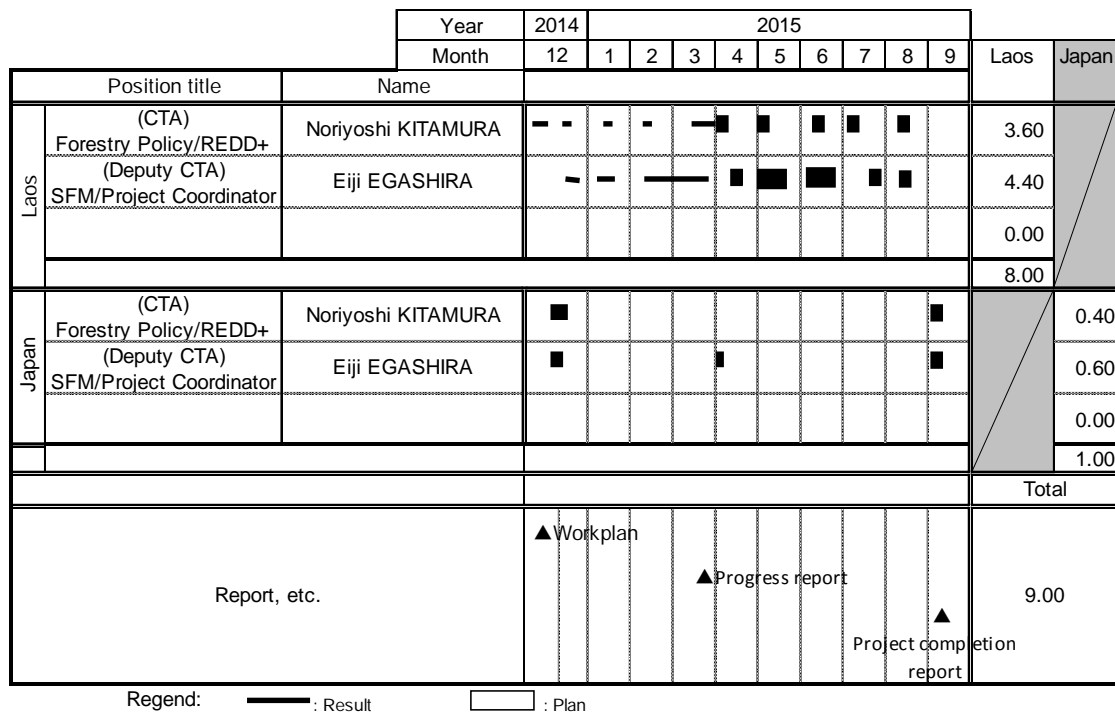


Figure 2-2: Assignment schedule

Equipment provided

F-PREP continued to use the project office room and equipment of the Forestry Sector Capacity Development (FSCAP) project, therefore, no additional equipment were procured.

2.3 Results of planned tasks and review

Results and review of the activities are described below. The deliverables already submitted through the Progress Report (2015 March) are omitted.

2.3.1 Work in Japan

A0 Work in Japan

Tasks

- A0.1 Collect and analyze available information, decide work strategy, plan detailed tasks**
- A0.2 Develop work plan and consult**
- A0.3 Final reporting**

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

(A0.1)

The Project collected and analyzed available information, clarified the overall concept and the work strategy, and planned the detailed tasks to be implemented. Prior to development of the work plan, the Project held pre-consultations with related persons on the Japanese side, Lao side and development partners.

(A0.2)

The draft work plan was developed following above A0.1 and then reviewed and discussed in the pre-launching meeting held at JICA Headquarters on 16th December 2014 with the attendance of the relevant departments of JICA. The draft work plan was endorsed with some notes for further consideration, and submitted to JICA.

(A0.3)

Final reporting to be scheduled in September after the submission of the final report.

Deliverables

Work plan (2014 December)

2.3.2 Work in Lao P.D.R

B0 Work plan development and consultation

Tasks

- B0.1 Consult work plan**
- B0.2 Share the work plan through a WS**
- B0.3 Explore possible collaboration with other donors**
- B0.4 Collect and analyze forestry sector information**

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

(B0.1)

The draft work plan was reviewed and discussed in the Project Kick-off Meeting in Vientiane on 2014/12/10 with the attendance of DFRM, DOF and JICA Laos. The draft work plan was endorsed with some points for further consideration, and recorded into the Minutes of Meetings (M/M). The work plan was also presented to any key persons who did not participate in the Kick-off Workshop (i.e. Director General of DFRM, Director General of DOF, Embassy of Japan in Laos).

(B0.2) (B0.3)

The Project hosted a meeting with key development partners on 2015/01/14 in order to share the background, present the work plan, and discuss main areas for coordination/harmonization. Apart from this meeting, separate meetings were held with the CliPAD Technical Component, the CliPAD Financial Component, ProFLEGT, SUFORD-SU, FCPF Readiness Support Program, WB, UNDP, British Embassy, UN-REDD/FAO, ACIAR (consultant), The Forest Trust (TFT), Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), SNV, etc., in order to enhance mutual understanding and explore possibility of collaboration.

Table 2-1 below summarizes the information of other development partners and projects which have more possibility to collaborate in the **Implementation Phase**:

Table 2-1: Possibility of development partners and projects to collaborate

Outputs 1, 2, 3 Central level	
Name	Area of collaboration
CliPAD	REDD+ policies at the central level, coordination, capacity building. Provincial level REDD+ (Houaphanh province).
FCPF Readiness Support Program	REDD+ policies at the central level (e.g. National REDD+ Strategy, Safeguard, FREL/FRL)
ProFLEGT	Forestry policies, particularly related to timber legality
SUFORD-SU	Forestry policies, particularly related to Production Forest areas and Village Forests.
Output 4 Luang Prabang province	
Name	Area of collaboration
LENS2 (proposed)	Capacity building of PONRE-PFRM, support participatory management of Protection Forest
FCPF Carbon Fund (proposed)	A consolidated planning and implementation by the 6 northern provinces including Luang Prabang in order to access result-based financing.
Ministry of Environment, Japan JCM-REDD+ Demonstration Study	JCM-REDD+ in a targeted village cluster in Phongsaydistrict Also includes indirect support, for instance, to enhance understanding of the Lao side on JCM
FIP/SUFORD-SU Additional Financing (proposed)	Support to Production Forest areas and Village Forests, forest landscape planning

Although the Implementation Phase will support REDD+ readiness of the province, no field-level interventions or provision of incentives are planned. Therefore, collaboration with other projects and funding sources were explored. The FCPF Carbon Fund (CF) is one such possibility. In this regard, the **F-PREP** supported DFRM and DOF on developing the Early Idea and also the concept note (ER-PIN) together with some other development partners. This includes designing of the project concept, some elements which are

particularly relevant to JICA's support, such as information on forest area change, FREL/FRL, forest monitoring, emission reductions and removal potential. The **F-PREP** also supported the delivery of provincial consultations, including logistics support, preparation of presentations, and facilitation of the meeting in the ER-PIN development phase for the FCPF Carbon Fund.

(B0.4)

Throughout the project period, **F-PREP** continuously looked into and analyzed forestry sector information through communication with other development partners as described in above B0.2 and B0.3. In addition, unofficial meetings were held with WB experts and the Chief Technical Advisors of SUFORD-SU, CliPAD, ProFLEGT before the FSSWG meeting to consult the agenda and other issues.

The 3rd NRTF was held on 10th July 2015. As one of the representatives of the development partners, the F-PREP made some suggestions, such as the idea of establishing a stakeholder forum specifically on REDD+ (like a FSSWG for REDD+), need of a "REDD+ Roadmap" as a common vision and basis for harmonization of actions (similar to the one discussed during the Detailed Planning Survey in March 2015), and the need for modification and prompt launching of some of the TWGs.

In June 2015, F-PREP participated in the meeting "Program Planning Workshop" jointly co-organized by both Headquarters of JICA and RECOFTC, in order discuss the possible collaboration in Lao P.D.R, as well as to learn from the cases of other countries. In July 2015, F-PREP participated in "REDD+ Symposium: Towards Early Implementation of JCM-REDD+" co-hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Japan and JICA, and also a meeting hosted by Forest and Nature Conservation Group, JICA. Both meetings provided an opportunity to share the state of REDD+ in Lao P.D.R.

More details of the various activities are reported in the monthly reports.

Deliverables

- (Annex 1) Presentation materials for the FCPF Carbon Fund Provincial Consultation in Luang Prabang, and the introductory workshop of the **Implementation Phase**.
 - (Annex 2) Presentation at the 3rd NRTF
-

B1 Facilitate FSSWG activities

Tasks

- B1.1 Review the result of inputs to the RTIM and 8th NSEDP made through the NRESWG**
 - B1.2 First (1st) meeting (FSSWG 07)**
 - B1.3 Second (2nd) meeting (FSSWG 08)**
 - B1.4 Third (3rd) meeting (FSSWG09)**
-

Achievements, Comparison against the plan, Contribution of the experts

(B1.1)

For Lao P.D.R, 2015 is the end year of the 7th NSEDP and also the start year of the 8th NSEDP. A comprehensive review of the 7th NSEDP and discussion for the 8th NSEDP is underway through a joint initiative among between the Lao government and the development partners. Upon request from JICA Laos as the co-chair of the FSSWG, F-PREP provided analytical insights to the discussion, coordinated the inputs from development partners, and participated in the preparatory meetings for the RTIM.

(B1.2)

The FSSWG07 (as the 1st FSSWG supported under the F-PREP) was held on 3 April under the

co-chairmanship of the Director General of DFRM and Senior Representative of JICA Laos, the attendance of nearly 50 participants. The meeting discussed the NRE strategy (draft); 8th NESDP (draft); establishment of Village Forestry Working Group; Re-zoning of 3 forest types; Forest cover assessment 2015; and PES. F-PREP provided support to the secretariat of FSSWG (DFRM), such as coordinating the schedule and agenda, logistics and drafting of the meeting minutes.

(B1.3)

The FSSWG08 (as the 2nd FSSWG supported under the F-PREP) was held on 19 June under the co-chairmanship of the Director General of DFRM and Senior Representative of JICA Laos, again with the attendance of nearly 50 participants. The meeting discussed the FCPF Carbon Fund proposal (draft); progress review of the World Bank FIP; contents related to the forestry sector under the 8th NESDP draft; follow up matrix of the RTIM recommendations especially on forest cover target and illegal logging; introduction of new projects and initiatives. F-PREP provided support to the secretariat of FSSWG (DFRM), such as coordinating schedules and agenda, logistics and drafting of the meeting minutes. F-PREP also facilitated the finalization of the activities and indicators defined in the RTIM matrix, obtained endorsement from the co-chairs, and submitted to the NRESWG.

(B1.4)

The FSSWG09 (as the 3rd FSSWG supported under the F-PREP) was held on 4 September under the co-chairmanship of the Director General of DFRM and Senior Representative of JICA Laos, with the attendance of nearly 50 participants. The meeting discussed on the progress of preparation for the RTIM 2015; shared the results of the 4th NRTF (including the discussion and endorsement of the draft ER-PIN for the FCPF Carbon Fund). The F-PREP provided support to the secretariat of FSSWG (DFRM), such as coordinating the schedule and agenda, logistics and drafting of the meeting minutes (meetings minutes was pending finalization at the time of writing this report, thus not attached).

Deliverables

Annex 3	FSSWG07 meeting minutes
Annex 4	FSSWG08 meeting minutes

B2 Identify response measures and processes to FS 2020 review results including FS 2020 revision

Tasks

- B2.1 Follow-up discussions on FS2020 revision at the NRESWG
- B2.2 Analyze the interrelation between FS2020 and other higher level strategies (e.g. NRE Sector Strategy, AF Sector Strategy, National REDD+ Strategy)
- B2.3 Following B2.1, B2.2 and FS2020 review results, (1) identify priority actions, and (2) create options on the future orientation of FS2020
- B2.4 Consult with MONRE and MAF on the above results
- B2.5 Support MONRE and MAF to plan the process, once the FS2020 revision and/or the priority actions are agreed on

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

(B2.1) (B2.2) (B2.3)

In order to consider the revision of FS2020, the first step was to follow up on the discussions at the NRESWG, through communication with the Planning and Cooperation Department of MONRE, DFRM and German Embassy (co-chair of the NRESWG). Also,

relationship with other higher-level policies, such as the NRE sector strategy (under development), agricultural sector strategy (under development), national REDD+ strategy (to be developed), national land policy (under development), northern upland development strategy (under development) were analyzed. By comparing the analyzed results and the results from the FS2020 review (supported by FSCAP), priority actions and future options were identified, and then submitted to the counterparts as a recommendation (Annex 5).

(B2.4) (B2.5)

It has been confirmed through dialogue with the counterparts and through the Detailed Planning Survey (DPS) that DFRM and DOF is not planning the revision of the FS2020 within the remaining 5 years. Instead, similar to other sector strategies, they plan to develop a new sector strategy which targets 2025 and visions toward 2030. Accordingly, support to the revision is agreed to be the scope of the Output 1 of the Implementation Phase, and the activity B2.5 to be incorporated there.

Based on the assumption that the new sector strategy will be prepared through 2018-2019, preparation for the entire process, such as development of drafting roadmap and establishment of the steering committee, need to commence from 2017. Also, as the national REDD+ strategy is targeted to be finalized by the end of 2017, the new sector strategy may need to carefully review and align its contents.

Deliverables

Annex 5 Analysis of surrounding conditions and possible action concerning revision of FS 2020 or formulation of a new forestry strategy

B3 Assist Detailed Planning Survey (DPS) of the Implementation Phase

Tasks

- B3.1 Facilitate agreement on the timing and steps of DPS with JICA side and GoL side
- B3.2 Collect background information for the DPS
- B3.3 Preliminary discussions the basic concept of the Implementation Phase with DFRM and other counterparts
- B3.4 Support the DPS team
- B3.5 Support compilation of the DPS report
- B3.6 Follow up on DPS results and facilitate preparation for the Implementation Phase

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

(B3.1) (B3.2) (B3.3) (B3.4) (B3.5)

The DPS was conducted from 2015/3/22 – 3/31. F-PREP supported both JICA and Lao side on its preparation, in-country survey (in Laos) and follow-up.

For example, F-PREP drafted the DPS itinerary and concept, provided background information, facilitated preparatory discussions with both the Lao counterpart and JICA, and facilitated coordination with other development partners. F-PREP also participated in the whole period of the in-country survey, and provided support through preparation of related documents (e.g. PDM, PO, presentation materials for each working session), advice on technical aspects, translation, meeting moderation, logistics, and compilation of the survey report. The result of the mission is agreed in the Minutes of Meetings signed on 31 March 2015.

F-PREP will follow-up on the issues confirmed in the DPS, and facilitate commencement of the Implementation Phase (see 4.2.(3)). In particular, F-PREP will consider the possibility of taking supplementary actions, such as the identification of priority policies for REDD+ in Luang Prabang, development of ToRs for the counterpart team and the four

Component Teams, development of a periodic reporting system, coordination and decision making protocols, etc., in consultation with JICA and the counterparts.

(B3.6)

After the DPS, F-PREP continued to follow up on the results and facilitate commencement of the Implementation Phase. This includes, preparation of the R/D, consultation and confirmation with DFRM and DOF on its contents, facilitated the decision on the implementation arrangement in Luang Prabang (pending issue from the DPS), facilitated signing of the R/D, facilitated preparation of project offices in DFRM, DOF and Luang Prabang, and continued use of the equipment from F-PREP, NFIS project and PAREDD project in respective offices. On 11 August 2015, an introductory work shop of the Implementation Phase was held back-to-back with the provincial consultation meeting of the FCPF Carbon Fund (for Luang Prabang, Houaphanh and Xayabouri provinces). The work shop targeted the counterparts in Luang Prabang and was useful to facilitate their understanding of the Implementation Phase.

Due to policy and budgetary constraints, the Implementation Phase, so far, does not intend to support field-level activities under its scope. On the other hand, extension of PAREDD approach continues to be a strong expectation of JICA. In order to fill this gap, the F-PREP pursued possibilities to collaborate with other projects. One possibility is the LENS2 project funding which the PONRE-PFRM is proposing to the Environmental Protection Fund. The proposal indicates the possibility of developing its phase 2 project, which is to carry out a participatory conservation of Phoupherng Phouphatoon - Tad Kuangxee Protection Forest Area. In order to create synergy between the Implementation Phase with this possible phase 2, F-PREP worked together with the DFRM, PONRE-PFRM and WB (donor of LENS2) to realize this idea and provided technical inputs to the proposal.

Deliverables

Annex 6 Record of Discussion (R/D) of the Implementation Phase

B4 Survey trends of forestry policies/REDD+, and impacts of sector restructuring

Tasks

- B4.1 Develop TOR
- B4.2 Recruit consultant(s)
- B4.3 Survey and reporting

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

It was agreed between JICA and F-PREP to cancel this activity due to following reasons:

- **Survey trends of forestry policies / REDD+**
Information on forestry policies and REDD+ are sufficiently collected and analyzed by the F-PREP experts, therefore, the necessity of this survey is low.
- **Survey the impact of sector restructuring**
The initial idea was to carry out an impact survey of the sector restructuring which occurred in 2011. However, currently there is a debate on re-restructuring the sector which makes the timing unsuitable to conduct a comprehensive analysis, therefore, the necessity of this survey is low.

Deliverables

n.a.

B5 Capacity building of the counterparts

Tasks

- B5.1 REDD+ training
- B5.2 National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) training
- B5.3 International forestry governance training
- B5.4 Participate in international REDD+ meeting(s)

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

(B5.1)

The REDD+ training was originally planned on March 2015. However, because of the conflicting timing with DPS, and also in order to consider a possibility of joining the event with other trainings by different partners, it was postponed to July. At the same time, reflecting the arising concern on the need of a harmonized capacity building approach, and also since the NRTF and the TWGs started to show signs of re-activation, it was found unfeasible to define the capacity building target.

On the other hand, as a part of the preparation of ER-PIN for the FCFPF Carbon Fund, the Lao government decided to conduct a provincial consultation, including with Luang Prabang province. As this was seen as a suitable opportunity to facilitate the understanding of the provincial counterparts on REDD+, the FCPF Carbon Fund and the Implementation Phase, it was decided to hold the Carbon Fund consultation meeting in the morning and the introductory work shop of the Implementation Phase in the afternoon of the same day. As a result, the two meetings were held back-to-back with the participation of 70 participants from 3 provinces, including 24 counterpart members from Luang Prabang. The one day meeting was useful to enhance their understanding of REDD+, the Carbon Fund proposal, JICA's Implementation Phase, and also CliPAD project in Houaphanh.

(B5.2)

The NFMS training (titled "Technical Workshop: National Forest Monitoring System, FREL/FRL and MRV for REDD+ in Lao P.D.R.") was originally planned in July 2015. However, to accommodate the schedules of participants, it was organized on 28-29 May with the participation of approximately 25 experts from DFRM, DOF and also MONRE-DDMCC who is the national focal point on climate change. The experts from NFIS project and Forest Preservation Program (FPP) participated as the resource persons, in order to share the state of Lao P.D.R on its related topic including the work under their projects, and how their outputs are linked with the objectives, outputs and activities of the Implementation Phase. In addition, the case of Vietnam was shared by UN-REDD through FAO. The participants gained understanding on the sequenced support from Japan, especially on the area related to the output 2 of the Implementation Phase (NFMS, FREL/FRL, MRV, NFI). However, further capacity building on institutional and technical aspects seem necessary. It will be useful to have similar sessions occasionally.

(B5.3)

The international forestry governance training (English training) was originally planned from early February to early May, but actually conducted from late April to late August due to the availability of the trainer. The training period was divided into 3 terms. The training followed the style of small group trainings as applied through FSCAP by selecting 20 participants from DFRM and DOF through a pre-screening, divide into 2 groups (beginners and intermediate) with 10 in each group. The training course aimed to include more discussion topics and terms related to forestry compared to the courses provided by FSCAP. The average attendance rate was 71% for the 1st term, 73% for the 2nd term and 70% for the 3rd term. At the end of the entire course, each participant was required to make a

verbal presentation and progress level of each participant was evaluated by the trainer. Considering the absence due to unexpected work and business trips, the attendance rate could be regarded as moderate, however, if similar trainings are to be provided in the future, alternative modes, such as using online courses could be a convenient option.

(B.5.4)

F-PREP supported the travel cost of the Deputy Head of DOF REDD+ Office, Ms. Kinalonne Phommasack, as one of the Lao delegate members, to participate in the FCPF Carbon Fund meeting (CF12) which was held in late April in Paris, France. In the meeting, Deputy Director of DFRM, Dr. Inthavy Akkhalath represented the Lao P.D.R and presented the Early Ideas. However, since Dr. Inthavy was still new to his position, Ms. Kinalonne who was familiar with the process was appointed to accompany and assist Dr. Inthavy. Until now, Ms. Kinalonne has been very active as one of the core members of the ER-PIN drafting team.

Deliverables

- Annex 1 Presentation materials for the FCPF Carbon Fund Provincial Consultation in Luang Prabang, and the introductory workshop of the Implementation Phase.
 - Annex 7 NFMS technical work shop agenda (work shop materials stored in CD-R).
 - Annex 8 International forestry governance training (English training)
 - Annex 9 Lao P.D.R. presentation at the FCPF Carbon Fund meeting (CF12)
-

B6 Progress reporting

Tasks

n.a.

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

Submitted in March 2015.

Deliverables

Progress Report (March 2015) (Lao translation prepared for Lao counterparts)

B7 Final reporting

Tasks

n.a.

Achievements, comparison against the plan, contribution of the experts

This report submitted in September 2015.

Deliverables

Project Completion Report (September 2015) (Lao translation prepared for Lao counterparts)

2.3.3 List of Deliverables

The list of deliverables of the project is shown below.

Table 2-2: List of deliverables

Work Plan	December 2014
Progress Report	March 2015
Project Completion Report	September 2015
Presentation materials for the FCPF Carbon Fund Provincial Consultation in Luang Prabang, and the introductory workshop of the Implementation Phase.	Annex 1
Presentation at the 3 rd NRTF	Annex 2
FSSWG07 meeting minutes	Annex 3
FSSWG08 meeting minutes	Annex 4
Analysis of surrounding conditions and possible action concerning revision of FS 2020 or formulation of a new forestry strategy	Annex 5
Record of Discussion (R/D) of the Implementation Phase	Annex 6
NFMS technical work shop agenda (work shop materials stored in the CD-R)	Annex 7
International forestry governance training (English training)	Annex 8
Lao P.D.R. presentation at the FCPF Carbon Fund meeting (CF12)	Annex 9
Provincial decision of Luang Prabang on the appointment of counterparts	Annex 10

2.3.4 Reference Information

The list of reference information collected and analyzed is shown below. These documents will be submitted as the Additional Volume to the final report.

Table 2-3: List of reference information

Forestry sector				
	Item	Form	Stored in	Summary
1	(Proposed draft text by the Secretariat) Key Messages to Round Table Implementation Meeting 2014 (RTIM 2014) From the Forestry Sub-Sector Working Group (FSSWG) In relation to the recommendation from High Level RTIM 2013	ENG Elec.	Additional Volume	A summary of recommendations submitted by the FSSWG to the NRESWG for the preparation of the RTIM. The recommendations include forest cover target, countermeasures for illegal loggings, village forestry, protection of specific tree species, management of rubber plantations, updating FS2020 or development of new sector strategy, etc.
2	Report : The Round Table Implementation Meeting 2014, November 2014	ENG Elec.	Additional Volume	MPI report on RTIM 2014.
3	(Proposed draft text by the Secretariat) Key messages for the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016-2020 by the Forestry Sub-Sector Working	ENG Elec.	Additional Volume	A summary of recommendations submitted by the FSSWG to the NRESWG regarding the 8 th NSEDP (2016-2020).
4	FS2020 review report	ENG Elec.	Additional Volume	A review conducted by FSCAP under the FSSWG framework. The report is divided into “Conclusion” and “Part I: Synthesis report of FS2020 review”, “Part II: Implementation Framework Review (IFW)”, and “Part III: Forestry Sector Performance Indicators 2014 (FSPI 2014)”.
5	A memorandum of handing over the responsibility and international granting projects in the forestry sector that were previously under the responsibility of MAF to be under the responsibility of MONRE (No. 0052/MAF, 2013/05/31)	LAO Unofficial ENG translation Elec.	Additional Volume	Decision to handover the secretariat function for REDD+, focal points for UNCCD and CBD, and chair of FSSWG from MAF to MONRE.
6	Booklet of Forestry related legislations in Lao P.D.R	Lao Hard copy	JICA project office in DOF	As described in the title.
REDD+				
	Item	Form	Stored in	Summary
7	Decision concerning the	ENG	Additional	As described in the title.

	establishment of Climate Change Working Group	(unofficial trans. Elec.	Volume	
8	Decision on Appointment of REDD Task Force for REDD+ implementation (No.7176/MONRE, 2013/10/30)	LAO Unofficial ENG translation Elec.	Additional Volume	As described in the title.
9	Forest Governance Assessment for REDD+ in Lao PDR Annex 1. Summary of Background Report	ENG Elec.	Additional Volume	A report of participatory governance assessment conducted as a part of the FCPF Readiness Support Program.
10	Annual Review of REDD+ Activities in Lao PDR 2012-2013, SUFORD	ENG Elec.	Additional Volume	A summary of the progress of Lao REDD+ for the year 2012-2013, including information on REDD+ activities, initiatives by development partners, etc.
11	REDD+ Glossary, Department of Forestry	ENG Hard copy	JICA project office in DOF	As described in the title.

Chapter 3. Current situation and challenges

Chapter 3. Current situation and challenges

F-PREP is designed as the 9 month preparation phase of the 5 year and 10 month project. Therefore, this chapter will focus only on the issues related to the Implementation Phase.

3.1 Limited capacity of the counterparts

As also reported in the Progress Report, the capacity of DFRM and DOF counterparts are limited for their mandates, including their roles as counterparts of ODA projects. This sometimes results in over-concentration of work to a limited number of people who are more competent and/or have certain English language ability to communicate with international partners. This issue needs to be considered not only by addressing the issues within the Lao side, but also needs to be seen as an issue related to aid harmonization and efficiency among the development partners.

This issue could be somehow discussed and coordinated through official means like the FSSWG, and also through other less formal means. Improved aid efficiency will certainly be an advantage for both the Lao side and the development partners. As the Implementation Phase is 5 years, if the counterpart agencies (i.e. DFRM, DOF and Luang Prabang province) can maintain the members of the counterpart as much as possible, then a more strategic capacity building can be possible.

3.2 Communication between DFRM and DOF

Although many improvements are seen, it is still the general view of the development partners that communication between DFRM and DOF needs further improvement. Communication within the department is also not as thorough as expected, and there have been situations where F-PREP experts and staff were serving as the go-between depending on each case. There are some cases where an official decision or instruction is required when DFRM and DOF want to collaborate, resulting in overall inefficiency in sector management.

As the range of counterparts will expand in the Implementation Phase, ideas for improvement are required. First, a TOR for counterparts under each output shall be developed and agreed. Then, raise motivation and interest of the counterparts through close communication, joint monitoring of the work plan and the activities, as well as other means. Also, since the outputs are interlinked, it will be useful to set up a standardized working process (e.g. periodic meetings, mechanisms for information management and sharing) among the project team (i.e. Lao counterparts and JICA experts). In any case, such improved ways of communication shall be institutionalized into the working modality.

Sector re-structuring seems to be under a political debate, and there is speculation that a government decision may be issued in 2016 the earliest. If this is to be the case, then there may be major changes also in respect of this issue.

3.3 Preparation for the sector information updates and development of the new sector strategy

The FS2020 formulated by the Lao government in 2005 is regarded as the basic strategy for the forestry sector, which defines its mid to long-term orientation and also a basis to harmonize domestic and external resources. The FS2020 review conducted in 2014 under the FSSWG framework concluded a recommendation on the need of its revision. Instead, DFRM and DOF indicated their intention during the Detailed Planning Survey (DPS) to develop a new sector strategy which targets 2025 and visions towards 2030.

Based on the assumption that the new sector strategy will be prepared through 2018-2019,

preparation for the entire process, such as drafting a roadmap and establishment of a steering committee, need to commence from 2017. It is also important to reflect the results of 7th NSEDP and the visions of 8th NSEDP which are both under discussion this year, and other major policies under review, such as the forestry law revision (under development), the national land policy (under development), re-survey and re-delineation of the boundaries of 3 forest types (under piloting), the national REDD+ strategy (completion target, 2017). This whole process will require substantial time and effort.

Since the development of FS2020 in 2005, JICA has been continuously supporting the implementation of the strategy including its review in 2014 by FSCAP, and the Implementation Phase will support the development of the new strategy. The review of FS2020 is highly valued by the stakeholders as the sole comprehensive sector review by now, and a similar but updated review of the sector will be necessary probably around 2016, before starting a full background study for the new sector strategy.

3.4 Progress of Laos REDD+ and need of harmonized actions

At the beginning of F-PREP, there was a strong expectation among the REDD+ partners of Laos, from both the government and stakeholders that REDD+ in Laos needs to improve its coordination and progress. After its launching, the F-PREP cooperated with other key REDD+ partners to encourage DFRM and other Lao partners to reactivate the process, for example to reactivate the NRTF which has not been organized since the 2nd meeting in May 2014, to establish and launch the TWGs, and so on. Also there were other positive factors, such as the launching of the FCPF Readiness Support Program, the government decision to apply for the FCPF Carbon Fund as well as the FIP additional financing. Currently, there is a positive expectation on the revitalization of Lao REDD+.

Among them, the FCPF Carbon Fund, as the ‘REDD+ result-based financing’ scheme, is serving as the strong incentive to motivate the Lao government (however, it is also true that the preparation of the ER-PIN is underway mainly driven by the development partners, and with limited participation by government). Whether Lao P.D.R will be accepted as the Carbon Fund pipeline will become clear after the submission of the ER-PIN in early September and the FCPF Carbon Fund meeting in October. Of course it is strongly hoped that FCPF selects Lao P.D.R as one of its pipeline countries, however, even if not successful, all the ideas and technical methods discussed, and the collaborative partnership fostered during the ER-PIN preparation process shall be maintained. Especially, it is important to note that the Carbon Fund methodologies and requirements are developed to be compatible to, or even more detailed than that of the UNFCCC, and the Lao ER-PIN is designed to match these methodologies and requirements, including the future national level scaling-up. Therefore, the experiences obtained here are useful regardless of the acceptance of the ER-PIN by the FCPF.

As described in 2.3, in the 3rd NRTF meeting, F-PREP made some suggestions, such as the idea of establishing a stakeholder forum specifically on REDD+ (like a FSSWG for REDD+), need of “REDD+ Roadmap” as a common vision and basis for harmonization of actions (similar to the one discussed during the Detailed Planning Survey in March 2015), and the need of modification and prompt launching of some of the TWGs. These recommendations were agreed in principle, but the Lao government should put them promptly in action while the momentum is still there, and the development partners including JICA are willing to support this.

3.5 Defining the role of provinces in REDD+

As explained in above 3.4, although Lao REDD+ saw stagnation with the REDD+, there is recently a positive sign of momentum building up. However, in reality, the main players of

forest protection and development are those in the provinces, districts, village clusters, households and individuals who are given forest use rights, private businesses holding concessions, and so on. The implementation of REDD+ and successful emission reduction and removals from forests largely depend on the success at the provincial level and below.

Until now, discussions on the roles of provincial level and below as an integral part of the national REDD+, are yet premature. In one way, this is a ‘chicken and egg’ situation where the provincial level cannot take actions without clear guidances from the central level, while the central level cannot provide clear guidances without knowing what they should expect from the lower levels on implementing REDD+.

At this moment, the REDD+ projects (as a pilot) at the provincial level are CliPAD in Houaphanh, FCPF Readiness Support Program in Houaphanh and Champasack, and JICA in Luang Prabang. These projects are expected to bridge the gap between the central level and provincial level, and facilitate defining the role of provinces in REDD+.

Chapter 4. Remaining issues towards the startup of the Implementation Phase

Chapter 4. Remaining issues towards the startup of the Implementation Phase

This chapter describes the remaining issues related to the transition from F-PREP to the Implementation Phase, particularly on the operational aspects.

4.1 Preparation of office environment for the JICA team

As a follow-up of the Detailed Planning Survey, the F-PREP has been requesting the counterpart agencies to prepare offices for the JICA team. Currently, the arrangement summarized in Table 4-1 below is under process.

Table 4-1: Office(s) and equipment for the Implementation Phase

Office	Current situation	Equipment
Office in DFRM (overall management)	Office room(s) will be prepared in the DFRM building, but the room(s) still undecided. In case there is a delay, continued use of the F-PREP office shall be negotiated.	Continue to use the equipment provided for the F-PREP. Other equipment will be newly procured as necessary.
Office in DOF (especially for output 2)	Continue using the NFIS office (- September 2015) in FIPD building – need confirmation.	Continue to use the equipment provided for the NFIS. Other equipment will be newly procured as necessary.
Office in Luang Prabang (specially for output 4)	Office room already prepared in PONRE-PFRM. However, there may be a chance to continue using the PAREDD office (- August 2015) in PAFO – need confirmation.	Equipment will be newly procured as necessary (or PAREDD equipment may be used) Other equipment will be newly procured as necessary.

Other equipment necessary for the project offices and project activities shall be decided after the commencement of the Implementation Phase.

4.2 Implementation Structure and Counterparts

The following arrangement in Figure 4-1 is agreed for the Implementation Phase as agreed in the R/D.

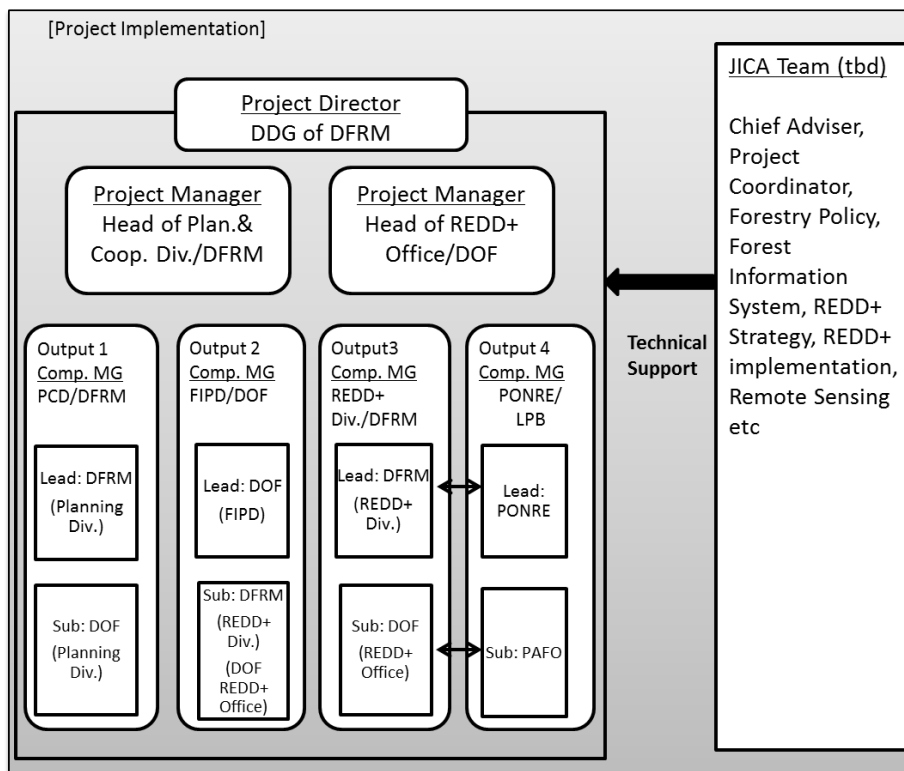


Figure 4-1: Implementation structure

According to the experiences of other JICA forestry projects (FSCAP, NFIS), counterpart members were selected without any particular decision from the counterpart agency (for FSCAP and NFIS, DOF). This means that, counterparts members are selected flexibly in response to the activities (however, the responsible agency of the Implementation Phase is DFRM, so this could be different). The recommended steps for the Implementation Phase is to first, reconfirm the contents of the project at the inception workshop, and then agree on the Terms of Reference (TOR) of each counterpart personnel (i.e. Project Director, Project Managers) and the component team (i.e. Output 1 to 4), and then request the respective agencies to appoint specific members to form a qualified counterpart team.

The Output 2 consists of activities related to NFMS, FREL/FRL, MRV and NFI. At the 3rd NRTF meeting in July 2015, the TWG for 'FREL/FRL' and 'MRV' were agreed to be merged as the 'FREL/FRL & MRV' TWG (name to be confirmed). Therefore, the members of the Component 2 team shall be appointed by referring to the members of 'FREL/FRL & MRV' TWG, so that activities under both the Implementation Phase and the TWG will be identical to the extent possible.

Meanwhile, the lead counterpart of Luang Prabang (Output 4) was not decided at the time of the Detailed Planning Survey. After the survey, DFRM held a consultation with the province and PONRE was decided to be the lead counterpart agency. Accordingly, the province already issued a decision of the provincial governor to appoint the counterpart members (No. 313/GoLPB dated 26 June 2015) (Annex 10). In this decision, a project steering committee chaired by the vice governor will be established, and counterpart members from PONRE, PAFO and also the 3 districts (i.e. Luang Prabang, Xieng Ngeun,

Phon Xai) were appointed as the counterpart members. As the Implementation Phase does not intend to conduct site-specific field activities, except for the policy piloting and forest monitoring, the reason of appointing the members from the 3 districts is somewhat unclear. Therefore, when the Implementation Phase start activities under Output 4 in Luang Prabang, it is necessary to reconfirm the contents and planned activities of this output, and have clarity on the inclusion of the 3 districts.

For the appointment of the Joint Coordinating Committee members, usually an official decision will be issued after the project commences, by following the members agreed in the R/D.

Chapter 5. Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

Chapter 5. Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

5.1 Securing fund for sustainability and collaboration with other projects

In the project application for this project which was submitted by the Lao government to the Japanese government, the Output 4 was described as “Capacity of a province for operation and management of REDD+ mechanisms including JCM is developed”, while the area to be covered by the project was described as “Components 1, 2, 3 concern national level while Component 4 focuses on Luang Prabang province. No direct field intervention is planned”(p.4).

Also, the terminal evaluation of PAREDD project which was conducted in February – March 2014, evaluated that the project “...almost achieved the project purpose for the PAREDD Approach, ‘develop a system of reducing deforestation and degradation through participatory land and forest management’ through the field level activities” (p.vii, Terminal Evaluation Report). Among the 2 project sites, the PAREDD approach was verified as effective in the Xieng Nguen site, but its effectiveness in the Phong Xai site were agreed to be verified in the 1 year extension period (until August 2015), and the project was also requested to consider an extension strategy of PAREDD approach in the northern region of Lao P.D.R. Shortage of government budget was seen as the biggest challenge for the PAREDD approach to extend further.

Based on this results of the terminal evaluation, JICA decided not to further support field level activities in the next project, although they still hope the PAREDD approach to be extend both institutionally and geographically. Since its beginning, the F-PREP actively sought for opportunities to fill this support gap, such as field investments (e.g. FIP), collaboration with other projects (e.g. LENS2) and result-based payment (e.g. FCPF Carbon Fund). As a result, Luang Prabang was included as proposed area for the FIP additional financing proposal (under consideration). The province and F-PREP reached a basic consensus to collaborate on capacity building activities and future possibility to combine LENS2 fund (under consideration) and JICA technical support in one protection forest area. Luang Prabang was also selected as one of the 6 northern provinces to be the target under the FCPF Carbon Funde (proposal to be submitted soon).

Sustainability and security of funding is always an issue that JICA projects face. It is important at the time of project formulation to internalize the exit strategy into the project design. Recently, a large amount of international support is committed to REDD+ and other climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, including disaster risk management, however, it appears that fund recipients and projects are still less compared to the fund available. Therefore, there must be opportunities for the forest sector, and also for other sectors, to access such climate change related funds and other international financing options. Lao P.D.R and JICA may explore possibilities to access such funding options, in order to maximize the impacts, ensure sustainability, and also to acquire global knowledge and technical capacities.

Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
Promotion Project

Project Completion Report

Annex 1: Presentation materials for the FCPF Carbon Fund
Provincial Consultation in Luang Prabang, and the introductory
workshop of the Implementation Phase.



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Carbon Fund

Provincial Consultation workshop for Emission Reduction Program Idea Note (ER-PIN) proposal development



Bokeo
7 August, 2015



Presentation Outline

- Session 1 (60 min) -

1. What is REDD+?
 2. What is FCPF Carbon Fund?
 3. Overview of the proposal
- Q & A

--- Coffee break ---

- Session 2 (70 min) -

4. Discussions



1. What is REDD+?

3

REDD+: an international initiative to promote forestry contributions to mitigate climate change

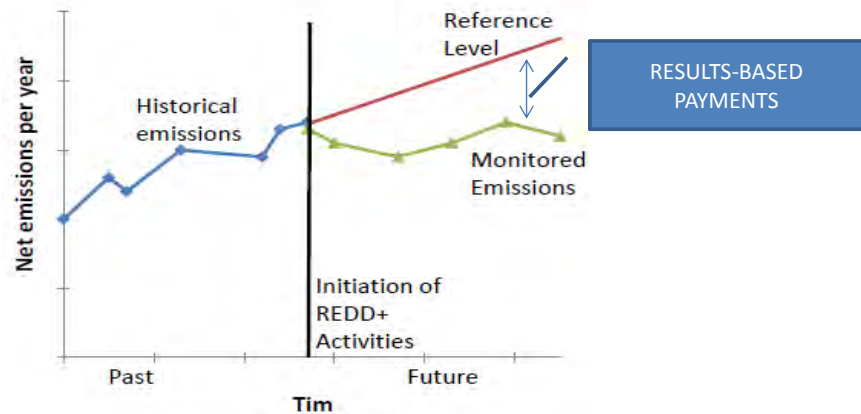
REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation [in developing countries]; and [plus] the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks



4

REDD+: incentivizing forest conservation

- **REDD+ payments:** “payments for performance” made on the basis of evidenced and verified reductions and avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions from forests or sequestration of carbon in forests.



Key Idea → encourage developing countries and key stakeholders to reduce emissions and enhance removals of carbon through improved forest management.

5

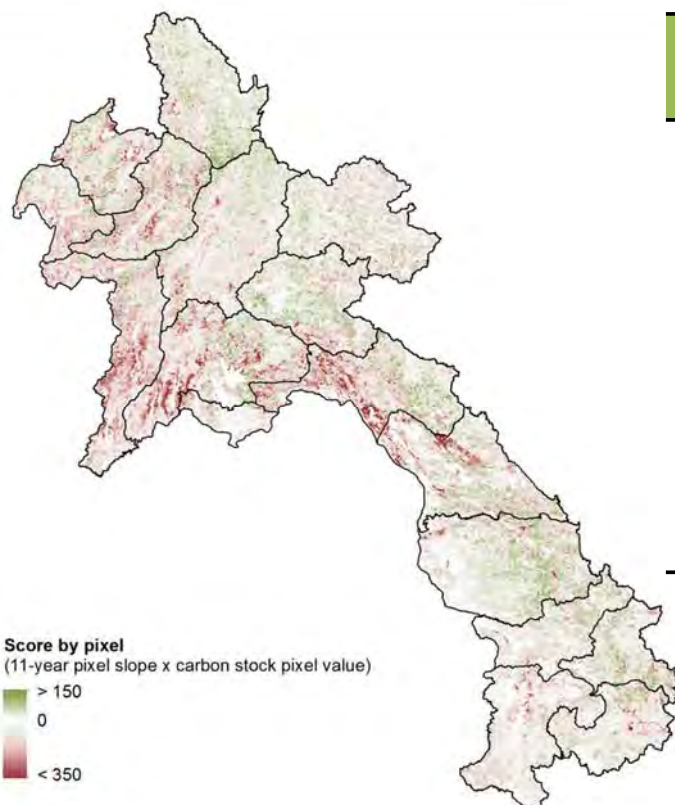
International Support for REDD+ Payments

- REDD+ work ongoing in numerous countries, with multilateral, bilateral, NGO, private sector and government support
- REDD+ payments:
 - Some **pilot projects** have provided payments to stakeholders, either through donor grant funds or sales of carbon credits on voluntary market
 - **Major funding to be available in future**, if new international climate regime agreed in Paris to replace expired Kyoto protocol, with agreement to become effective in 2020

→ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): 21st annual Conference of the Parties (COP 21) in Paris in December 2015

6

Lao PDR Areas of Gains and Loss in Forest Cover



Forest Management Categories	Area (M ha)	Forested Area (M ha)	Forest Cover
Protection Forest	8.2	3.13	38%
Conservation Forest	4.7	2.64	56%
Production Forest	3.1	1.48	48%
Plantations	0.3	0.30	100%
Other Areas	6.8	2.00	29%
Total Land Area	23.1	9.55	41%

Source: Forest Cover Assessment, DOF, 2010

Net Forest Loss (2000-2013): 1,110,268 ha

Average: 85,405 ha/year

Source: Hansen et al. 2013

7

Lao PDR REDD+: Overview

- **REDD+ National Task Force**, technical working groups, and two **REDD+ Offices*** working with development partners on **REDD+ readiness** at national level
 - FCPF Readiness Grant
 - Lao Forest Investment Plan
 - Other REDD-related projects
- REDD+ Readiness activities are progressing in **selected provinces**, as part of sub-national approach to REDD+
- **Government and National Assembly** revising **Forest Law**, which will incorporate articles on payment for environmental services and REDD+

*Lao PDR has two REDD+ Offices, which work together to support REDD+:

- National REDD+ Division in Department of Forest Resource Management, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and
- Department of Forestry REDD+ Office in Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

8

Lao PDR REDD+: Recent discussions

- Establishment of 6 TWGs was agreed. Detailed TORs to be developed:
 1. Legal framework
 2. Land use
 3. Law enforcement and the implementation of mitigation activities from deforestation:
 4. REL and MRV
 5. Benefit sharing
 6. Social and environmental safeguard
- **Establishment of Provincial REDD+ Task Force**
 - Director of provincial governor office to be the head of Provincial REDD+ Task Force
 - Members: relevant parties echoing the national level.
- **Provincial REDD+ office**
 - Secretariat: section of forest resource management
- Next meeting (4th meeting of RTF on 2 September 2015):
 - to endorse the ER-PIN
 - to approve TORs of TWGs

9

Lao PDR REDD+: Stakeholder engagement to date

ER-Program

- National level consultations : FSSWG (June 2015), REDD+ Task Force (July 2015)
- **Provincial level consultations: Joint workshops with all proposed provinces (provincial leaders) (August 2015)**

National REDD+ and FCPF Readiness process

- National level consultations (Dec 2014)
- Provincial level consultations on the FCPF Readiness process (Dec 2014 - ongoing)

Project level consultations

- CliPAD: village forest management planning process in 70 villages
- SUFORD-SU: village level activities guided by the comprehensive Community Engagement Framework
- PA-REDD: PLUP-based forest/land use plan and livelihood improvement in 11 villages

10

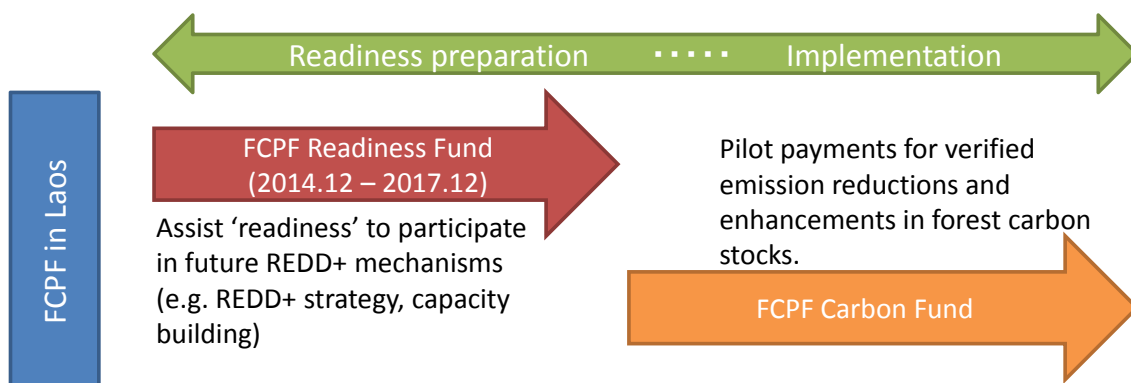


2. What is FCPF Carbon Fund?

11

FCPF Carbon Fund - overview

- Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous Peoples focused on REDD+.
- FCPF has two separate but complementary funding mechanisms
 - Readiness Fund >>> Laos is already selected
 - **Carbon Fund >>> Laos wants to be selected**



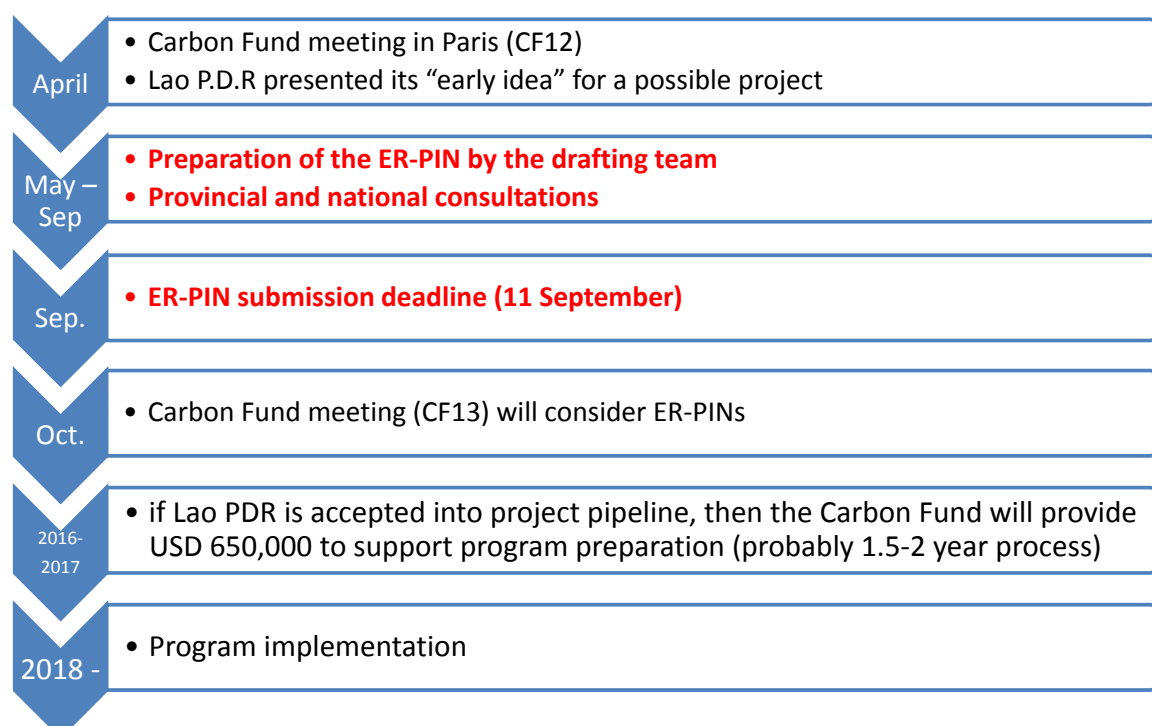
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FCPF Carbon Fund - objectives

- The goal of the FCPF Carbon Fund is to provide incentives to reduce emissions while protecting forests, conserving biodiversity, and enhancing the livelihoods of forest dependent Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- Program access criteria:
 - High-quality and sustainable emissions reductions and enhancement of carbon stocks including social and environmental benefits;
 - Sufficient scale of implementation;
 - Consistency with UNFCCC decisions on REDD+ and other regimes;
 - Consistency with the national REDD+ strategy and framework.
 - Clear mechanisms so that the incentives for REDD+ reach those who need them; and
 - **Transparent stakeholder consultations.**

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FCPF Carbon Fund – key milestones



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FCPF Carbon Fund – summary

- Carbon Fund is **NOT a fund to support the implementation** of REDD+ activities. It is a fund to **reward the achieved emission reductions and removals**.
- Therefore, Lao P.D.R. need to build the capacity to implement REDD+ activities by its own.
- Some development partners ready to support the national level and provincial level actions.
- Carbon Fund support is on a competitive basis
 - 11 programs (countries) in the pipeline
 - 10 additional programs (countries), including Lao P.D.R, competing to be selected into the pipeline.

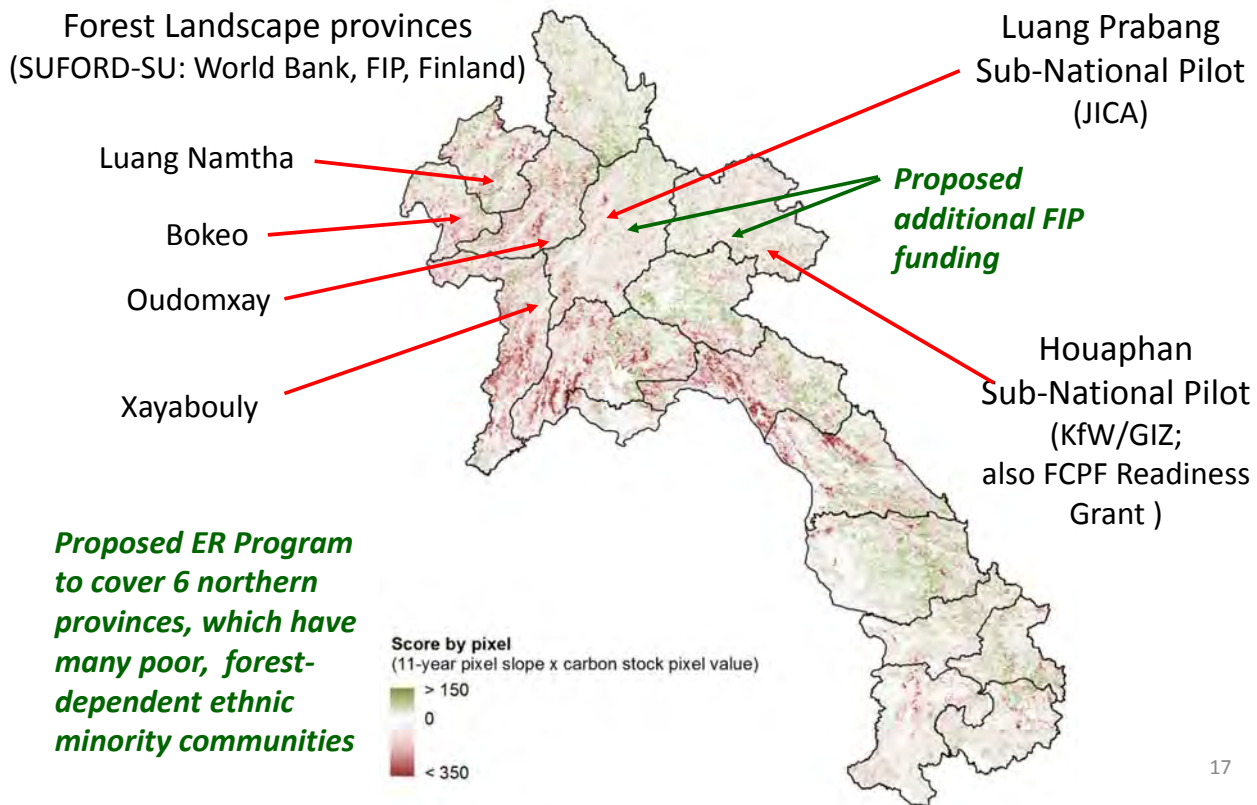
Lao P.D.R. must submit a competitive proposal (ER-PIN) by 11 September!

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3. Overview of the proposal

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Lao PDR ER Program Scale



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ER Program Strategies

Lao ER Program (2018-2022) proposed to build on ongoing and future work to address deforestation and degradation:

- National-level **policy** work and **forest and wildlife law enforcement**; Provincial scaling up of FLEGT
- Provincial REDD+ **action plans** and provincial **forest landscape management** agreements and plans
- **Certified sustainable forest management** (scaling up of certification for natural forests, small-scale plantations)
- **Participatory forest land use planning**
- Province-specific mitigation activities, i.e., **alternative livelihood activities, agroforestry**
- Site-specific **forest restoration** (natural regeneration, enrichment planting, gap planting, etc.) to increase carbon sequestration

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ER Program Strategies: Diversity and Learning Value

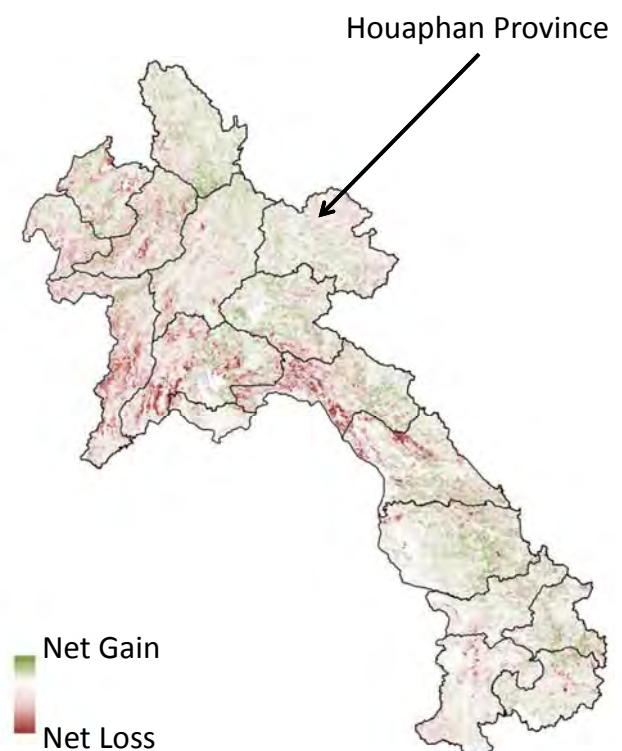
- Lao PDR ER Program has great potential for **forest regeneration** if land use is well managed.
- Lao PDR ER Program would **support piloting approaches to integrated spatial planning, forest landscape management and provincial REDD+ development** to address drivers of deforestation and promote climate sensitive development in an integrated manner.
- By promoting **inter-agency cooperation on planning**, deforestation impacts can be minimized of drivers such as:
 - Hydropower and infrastructure development
 - Agricultural and rubber concessions
 - Pioneering shifting cultivation

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ER Program Highlights: Houaphan Province

Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation Project (CliPAD, KfW/GIZ) (2009-2018)

- First Province-wide REDD+ Program
- Mitigation activities in 2 districts and 70 villages :
 - participatory land use planning,
 - village forest management agreements
 - law enforcement action,
 - agricultural extension
- Province-wide forest carbon inventories completed (2014)
- Province-wide REL under development
- Possible forest landscape management



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ER Program Highlights: Luang Prabang Province

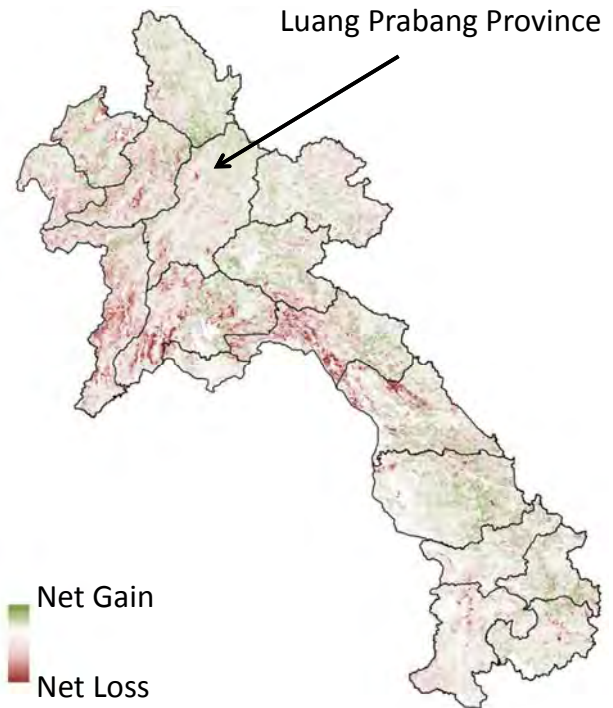
JICA PAREDD (2010-2015) and Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Project (2015-2020)

PAREDD Approach

- Participatory land / forest plans and regulations, village forest patrols, livelihood improvement, village revolving fund

Provincial Readiness

- Provincial framework for REDD+ (combined with possible forest landscape management by FIP)
- Pilot priority actions for emission reduction and removal enhancement
- Provincial forest monitoring
- Expand PAREDD approach to key areas under forest landscape management



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ER Program Highlights: Forest Landscape Management in 4 Provinces

Sustainable Forestry for Rural Development-Scaling Up (SUFORD-SU) (FIP, IDA, Finland) (2013-2018)

Since 2013 working in **Bokeo, Luangnamtha, Oudomxay and Xayabouly** Provinces on:

- **Participatory Sustainable Forest Management** in 12 production forests and with 272 villages; also agroforestry, alternative livelihoods, forest restoration
- **Forest Landscape Management** piloting for all forests in landscape: production, protection, conservation, village forests, plantations, uncategorized forests; and with partners, including KfW
- **Additional FIP support (2016-2020)** could cover remaining 4 provinces (including **Houaphan, Luang Prabang**)



Projected Emission Reductions

Provinces	Annual Loss * (Gross ha/yr)	Annual Emissions * (tCO ₂ e/yr)	Annual ER Potential (tCO ₂ e/yr)
Houaphan	9,426	2,779,192	277,919
Luang Prabang	8,089	2,384,962	238,496
Luang Namtha	7,114	2,097,678	209,768
Oudomxay	6,100	1,798,714	179,871
Xayabouly	5,774	1,496,145	149,615
Bokeo	3,824	1,127,619	112,762
Selected Pilot Provinces	39,628	11,684,311	1,168,431
Nationwide	98,837	29,141,938	2,914,194

* Average (mean) over period 2000-2013. Deforestation data from Hansen et al. 2013.

The ER Potential will be estimated soon by using national dataset (FIPD).

Need ambitious but feasible target.

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Support for ER Program

Considerable Political Support

- National REDD+ Office under Department of Forest Resource Management and DOF REDD+ Office under Department of Forestry jointly developing this early idea approach
- Prime Minister's Office supportive
- Forestry Sub-Sector Working Group and National REDD+ Task Force endorsed

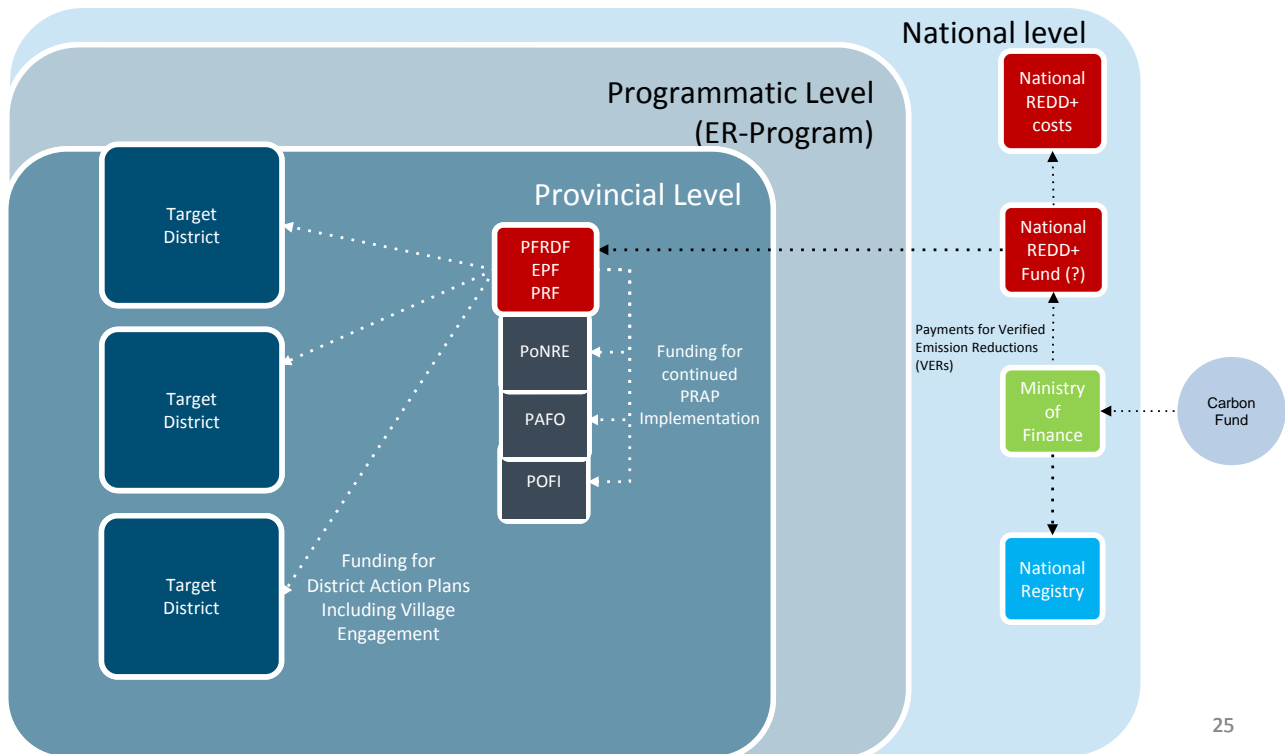
Significant Technical and Financial Support in 6 ER Program Provinces for ER, REDD+ & Other Activities – Donor Support Exceeding USD 60 million

- CliPAD (2009-18): USD 19.8 million
- JICA (2010-2020): USD 9 million
- KfW (2015-21): USD 12.4 million [Integrated Conservation of Biodiversity and Forests, work in Luangnamtha and Bokeo provinces]
- SUFORD-SU (2015-18): USD 7 million
- Possible additional FIP financing for SUFORD-SU (2018-21): USD 13 million
- Government: Forest Development Fund, Environmental Protection Fund, natural resource fees, resource other govt. sources

NOTE: budget figures are only for the proposed provinces; some programs have larger scope

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Benefit-Sharing (Draft)



Social & Environmental (Non-carbon) Benefits



Sacred tree in Bokeo.

Areas with high ethnic minority populations

Social benefits will include:

- Increased incomes and poverty alleviation
- Increased knowledge, skills, participation
- Increased participation of women and ethnic minorities in participatory sustainable forest management, land use planning, and village development activities
- Recognition of local knowledge & customary use of forests
- Improved forest governance

Areas that contain five national biodiversity areas.

Environmental benefits will include:

- Increased watershed protection, protection of streams and water sources
- Increased conservation of natural habitat for wild species
- Increased forest restoration



Khmu woman making rope from bark.

Consistency with Methodological Framework

- **Level of Ambition:** 6 of Lao PDR's 17 rural provinces
- **Carbon Accounting:** national-level system accounting under development
- **Safeguards:** Safeguard Information Systems to be developed under FCPF Readiness grant; ongoing work already using social and environmental safeguards, including FPIC
- **Sustainable Program Design and Implementation:** activities being mainstreamed into forest management processes implemented by provinces, districts, and villages
- **ER Program Transactions:** land rights being clarified in revisions of Forest Law, Land Law, and Land Policy; rights to carbon and REDD+ benefit-sharing under development

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Planned outreach and consultation

Consultation plans for ER-Program design phase:

- National REDD+ Office (DFRM)/DoF REDD+ Office under leadership of RTF will engage and consult with a broad range of stakeholders.
- **Integrated approach and reach across multiple sectors (beyond just forestry and environment sector).**

Overall REDD+ consultation process will strive to connect with the following:

- National Climate Change Strategy,
- National Socio-Economic Development Plan,
- Forest Strategy 2020

The result of multi-level consultations to feed into:

- National REDD+ Strategy/Action Plan and Roadmap
- **Provincial REDD+ Strategy/Action Plan and Roadmap**

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4. Discussions

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Drivers of deforestation, forest degradation, and forest regeneration

- The important initial step is to know what is happening in your forests, or namely “drivers analysis”:



<p>Deforestation ... decrease of forest areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pioneering shifting cultivation, • agriculture expansion, infrastructure development, • others 	<p>Forest degradation ... degradation of forest quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selective logging, • fire wood extraction, • others 	<p>Forest regeneration ... increase of forest area and forest quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reforestation, • assisted regeneration, • others
--	---	--

What is the situation in your province?

30

Identifying countermeasures

- Following the “drivers analysis”, explore countermeasures:

Existing countermeasures:	Future countermeasures:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ measures which are in place and proven to be effective; ➤ measures which the province intends to further extend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ measures which are in place but need improvement; ➤ measures which have not been practiced yet, but expected to be effective.

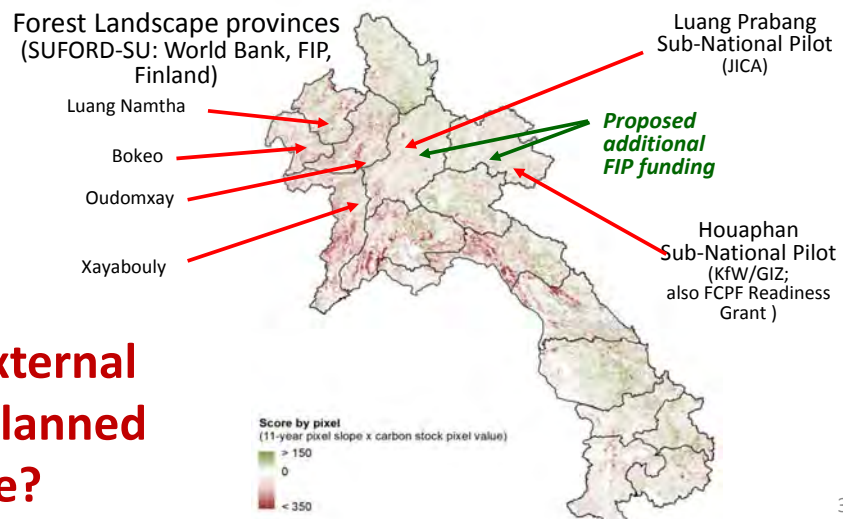
- The proposal envisages, for example
 - National-level policy work and forest and wildlife law enforcement
 - Provincial REDD+ action plans, forest landscape management
 - Certified sustainable forest management (natural forests, small-scale plantations)
 - Participatory forest land use planning
 - Alternative livelihood activities, agroforestry
 - Site-specific forest restoration

What are the countermeasures for your province?

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Existing/future external support

- Important to have shared understanding on the existing/future external support in the province,
- This will enable to find the gaps, and coordinate to fill the gaps.



What kind of external support exist/planned in your province?

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Explore non-carbon benefits

- REDD+ is not only about forest carbon – it's a chance to sustainably develop the socio-economy.
- Examples:
 - Poverty alleviation, improved forest governance, participatory land and forest management, gender and ethnic minority inclusive development;
 - Watershed protection, soil conservation, disaster and forest fire risk management;
 - Biodiversity conservation, nature tourism, cultural value.

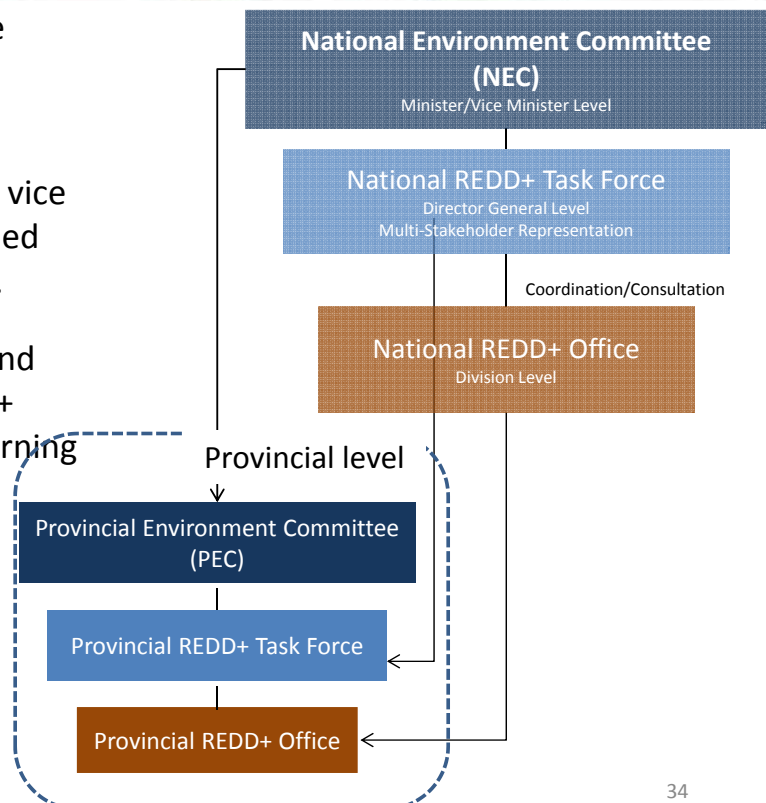
What are the non-carbon benefits that your province wants to explore through REDD+?

33

Institutional arrangement

- MONRE decision to establish the National REDD+ Task Force (No176/MONRE, 2013/10/30)
- MONRE as the chair, MAF as the vice chair, 24 members from concerned ministries, institutes, academics.
- To guide, establish, coordinate and guide the development of REDD+ strategy and legal matters concerning REDD+ framework.

Establish appropriate institutional arrangement at the provincial level



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Summary

- In summary, by participating in the FCPF Carbon Fund...

Opportunities

- Forest conservation and restoration
- Improved capacity in various aspects
 - Non-carbon benefits
 - Result-based payment

Responsibilities

- Commitment to REDD+
- Inter-agency coordination
- Coordinated action under the national REDD+ framework
- Autonomy and sustainability

- The Carbon Fund payment will be **based on performance (result-based)**.
- **Distribution and use of payment will be subject to the future agreement, as well as the benefit-sharing arrangements of Lao P.D.R.**

The provinces decide whether to participate in the program

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ຂອບໃຈ!
Thank You!



Introduction to Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project (SFM& REDD+)

Luang Prabang
11 August, 2015
Prepared by F-PREP project



1

Outline

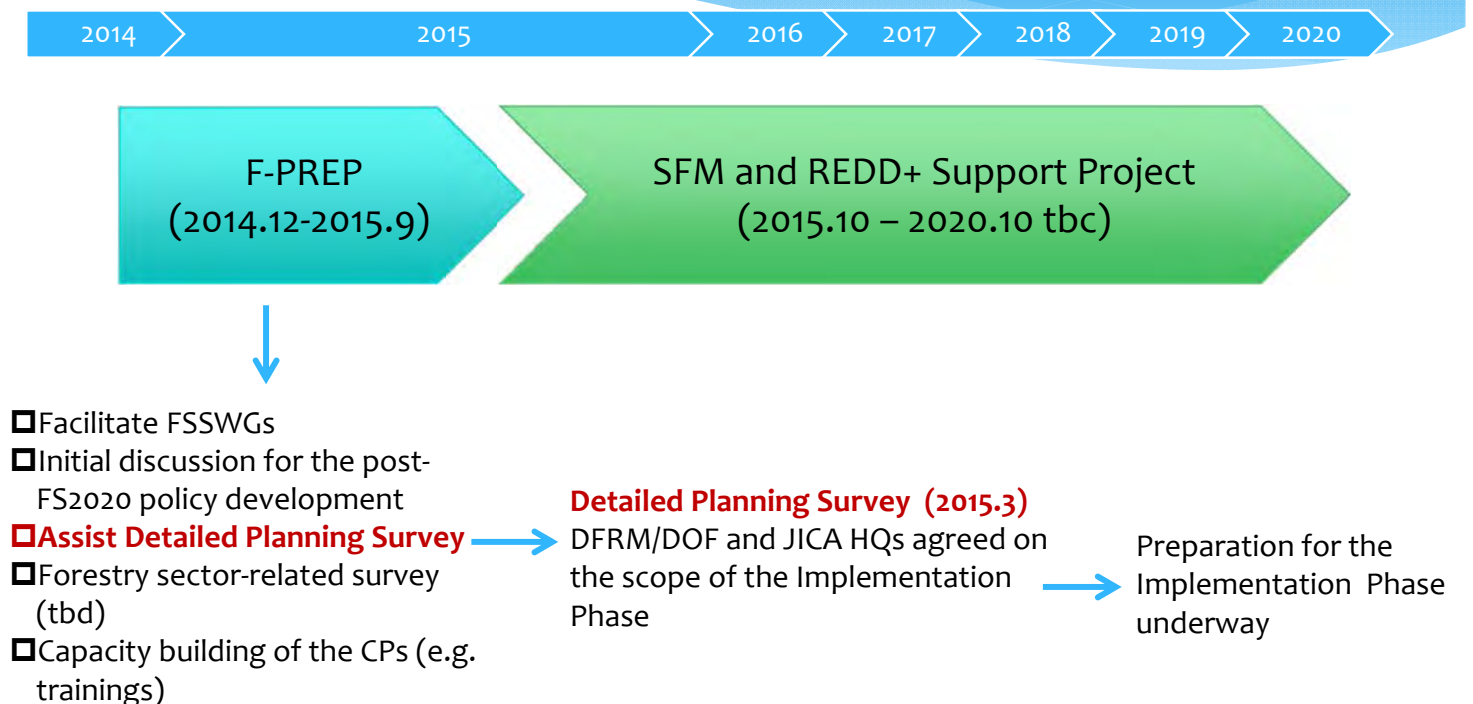
- * Background
- * Project overview
- * Activities in Luang Prabang (Output 4)
- * Key considerations

2

1. Background

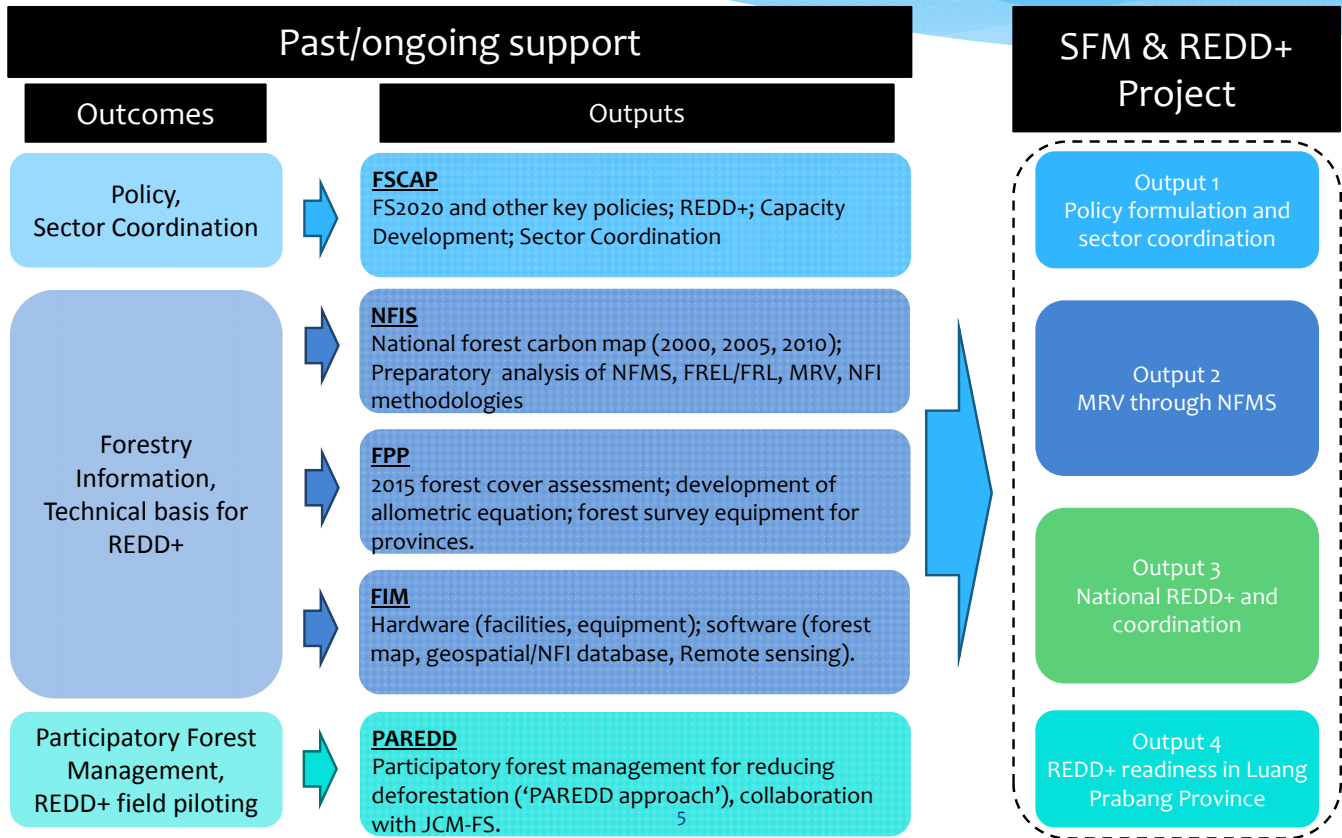
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Where are we now?



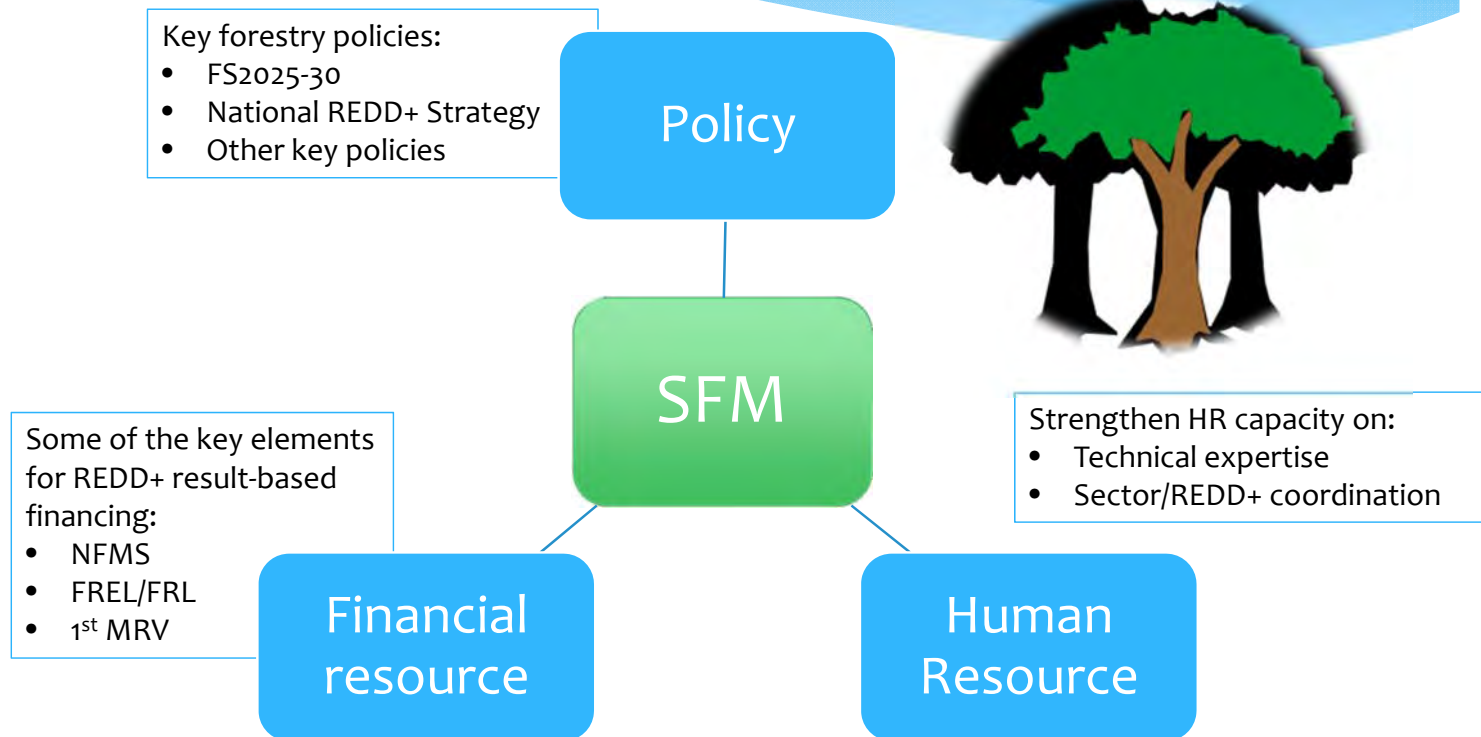
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Japanese support: past - present - future



2. Project overview

Towards promotion of SFM in Laos...



UNFCCC REDD+ result-based financing requires:

(1) National Strategy	(2) FREL/FRL
(3) NFMS	(4) SIS

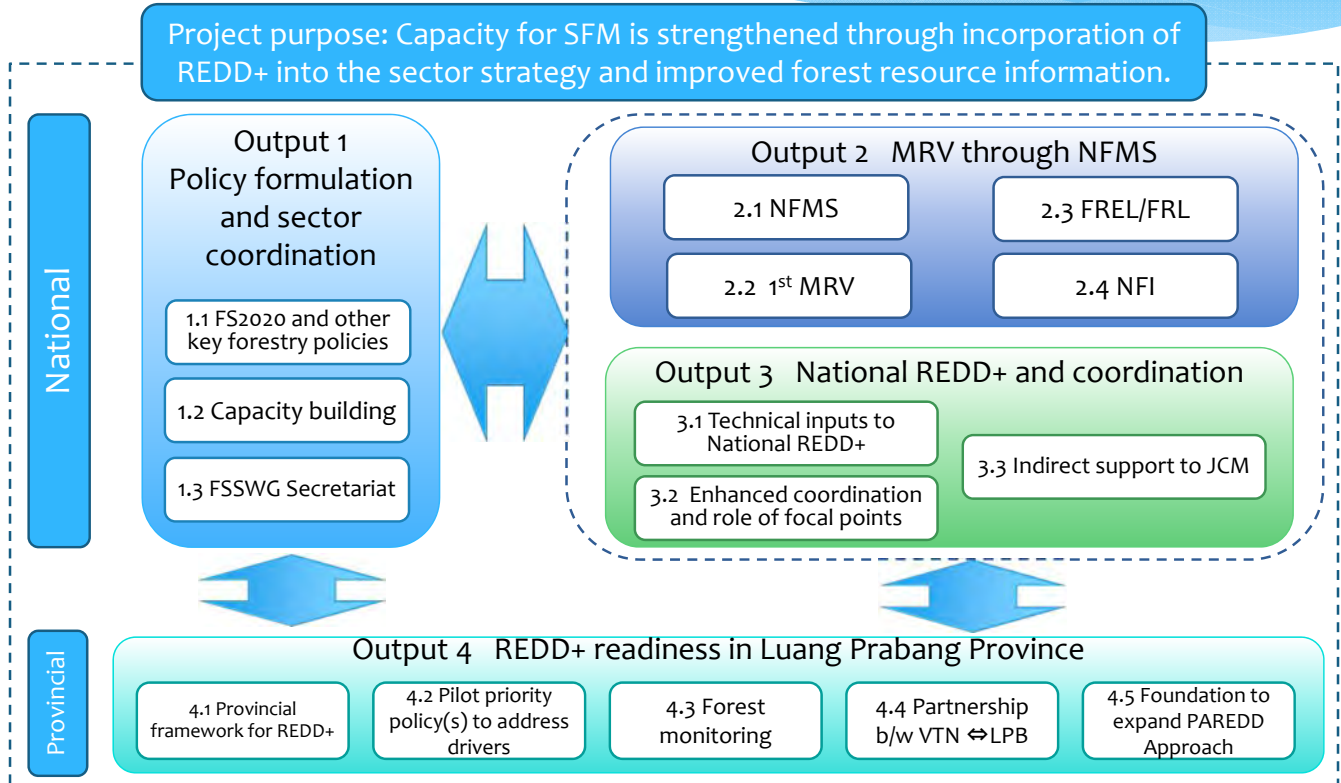
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General overview and outline

【Project duration】(tbc) 2015.10 - 2020.10	【Project office】(tbc) MONRE, MAF, Luang Prabang
【Implementation structure】	
<Counterparts> MONRE-DFRM, MAF-DOF, Luang Prabang	<JICA> Consultants to be mobilized
【Overall goal】 Sustainable Forest Management is promoted through full implementation of REDD+ and in coordination with the Forest Strategy.	
【Project Objectives】 Capacity for Sustainable Forest Management is strengthened through incorporation of REDD+ into the sector strategy and improved forest resource information.	
【Outputs】	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity of the central government on policy development, implementation and sector coordination is enhanced. 2. Emission reductions and removals resulting from the implementation of the REDD+ activities are quantified at national scale by using the NFMS. 3. Institutional development, management and coordination of national REDD+ is enhanced. 4. REDD+ readiness in Luang Prabang province is enhanced. 	

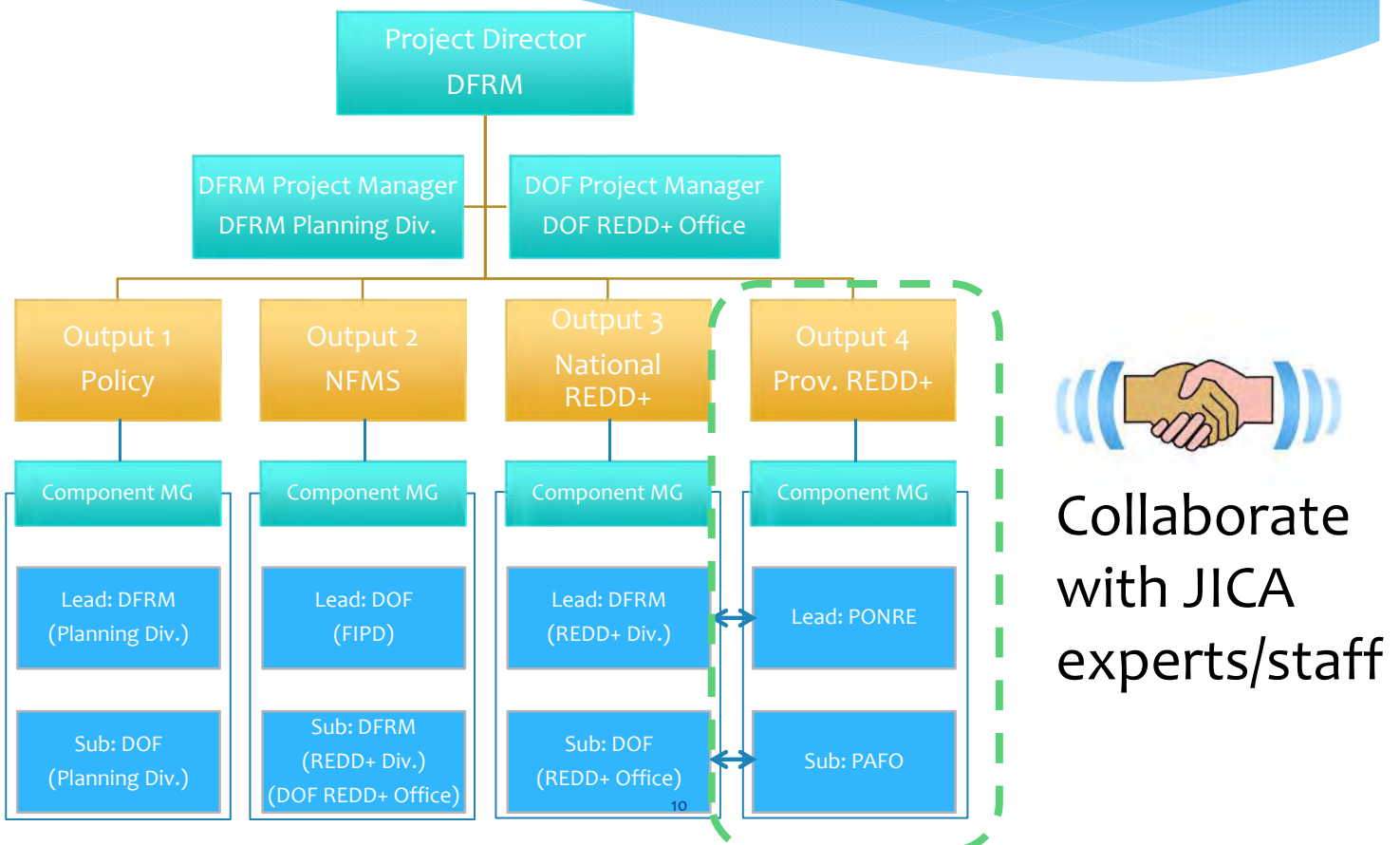
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Structure of the Implementation Phase



9

Project Organization Chart – Lao side



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3. Activities in Luang Prabang (Output 4)

11

What is expected for Luang Prabang?

- REDD+ is not only about forest carbon – it's a chance to sustainably develop the socio-economy.
- Enhancing 'REDD+ readiness' helps to make use of this chance.
- Tasks of the provincial level need to be defined through learning-by-doing.

Opportunities

- Forest conservation and restoration
- Improved inter-agency coordination
- Capacity development, governance
- Non-carbon benefits
- Result-based payment

Tasks

- Provincial REDD+ Task Force
- Provincial REDD+ office
- Provincial level plan for REDD+
- ... more to be defined...

Enabling environment

- Coordinated action under the national REDD+ framework
- Political commitment
- Autonomy and sustainability

12

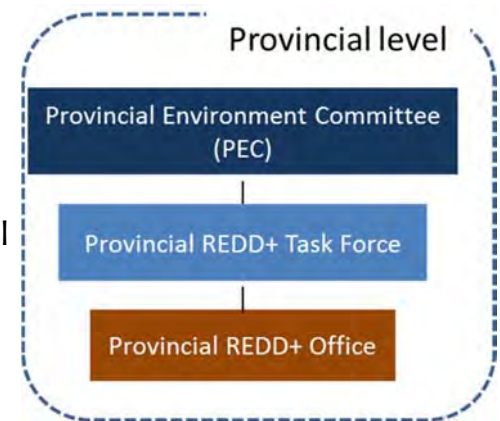
Activities (1)

Output 4

REDD+ readiness in Luang Prabang province is enhanced.

Activity	Result Indicator
4.1 Establish an institutional framework for implementing REDD+ in the province.	Provincial REDD+ Strategy (PRS) approved.

- Institutional arrangement (e.g. provincial REDD+ Task Force).
- Identify the drivers of emissions and removals.
- Develop a REDD+ framework for provincial level 'Provincial REDD+ Strategy' (PRS).
- Capacity building to implement the 'PRS'.



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Activities (2)

Activity	Result Indicator
4.2 Pilot priority forestry policy(s) to address the drivers of emissions and removals.	Effective policy(s) identified.

- Identify priority forestry policy(s) to address the drivers identified in 4.1
- Pilot identified priority forestry policy(s).
- Evaluate the results of piloting.
- Feedback the evaluated results to the province and the national level.



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Activities (3)

Activity	Result Indicator
4.3 Pilot forest monitoring as a part of REDD+ monitoring.	Forest monitoring conducted

- Develop the provincial forest monitoring plan.
- Conduct provincial forest monitoring.
- Review and assess the state of the sector.



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Activities (4)

Activity	Result Indicator
4.4 Promote cooperation on REDD+ between the central level and provincial level.	JCM-REDD+ proposal integrated into the PRS.

- Feedback the lessons from Output 4 to the national level (e.g. NRS, NFMS).
- Foster the understanding on JCM-REDD+.



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Activities (5)

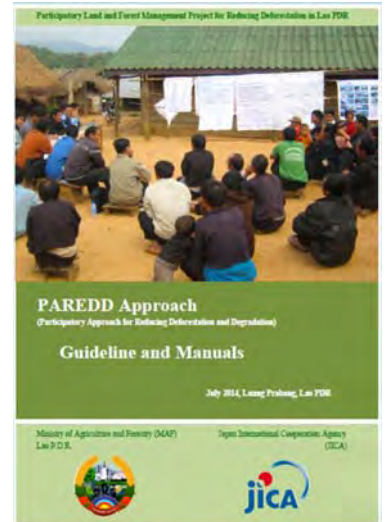
Activity

Result Indicator

4.5. Strengthen the foundation to expand PAREDD Approach.

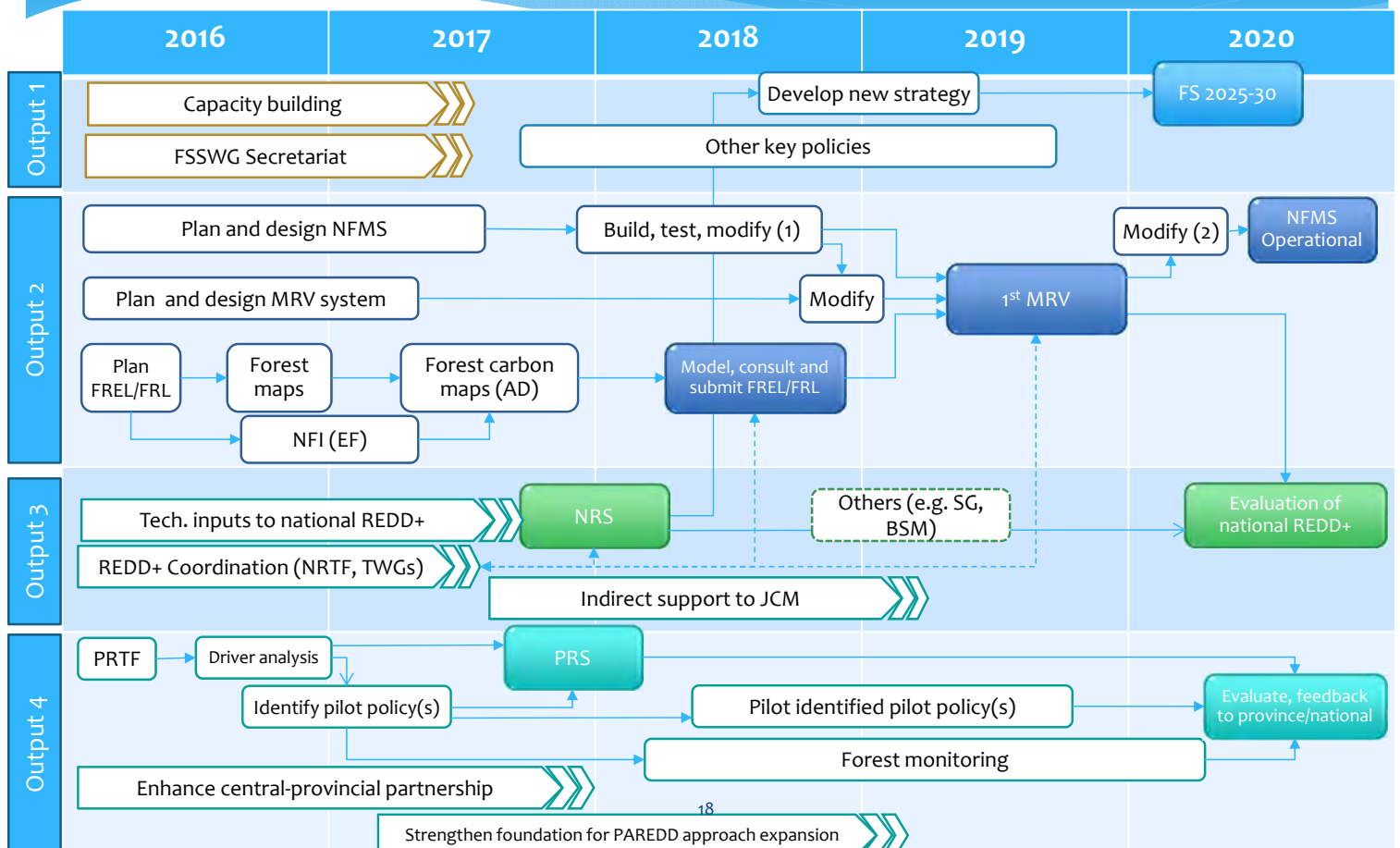
District staff trained.

- Provide advice to the JCM-REDD+ project proposed.
- Conduct Training of Trainers (ToTs) on PAREDD Approach to other districts.
- Continue field monitoring of PAREDD sites (e.g. VDF) and feedback the lessons
- Assist accessing external funds and other donor projects to extend REDD+ activities including the PAREDD approach.



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Flowchart and outputs



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4. Key considerations

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Key considerations (1)

1. Provincial level coordination

- **'forestry sector'** – coordinated planning and action within the forestry sector.
- **'beyond forestry sector'** - coordinated planning and action among different sectors (through the Provincial REDD+ Task Force).
- Need strong **political commitment** to support the process.
- Need thorough awareness raising and capacity building of the stakeholders.

2. Leveraging the actions

- **Harness REDD+ to existing/planned provincial initiatives.**
- **Synergize with other development projects** (e.g. WB/LENS 2, TABI, NU DP, ADB/Livestock, FIP, FAO).
- Explore **result-based financing options** (e.g. Carbon Fund, GCF, JCM)
- JICA project will **not have immediate fund for field-level interventions** (except for piloting policy(s) and forest monitoring).

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Key considerations (2)

3. REDD+ as a global mechanism – how to localize?

- REDD+ is an **global mechanism** discussed among the countries (UNFCCC).
- **Global ↔ National ↔ Provincial** level harmonization is important. This requires close collaboration with the central government.

4. Value as a piloting model

- How provinces should engage in REDD+ still unclear.
- Therefore, Laos need to **acquire experiences through ‘provincial REDD+’ piloting**.
- Luang Prabang expected to be one of the **piloting model**.
- Exchange of experiences with other piloting provinces (i.e. Houaphanh, Champasack) extremely useful.

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Thank you!

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Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
Promotion Project

Project Completion Report

Annex 2: Presentation at the 3rd NRTF

REDD+ TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

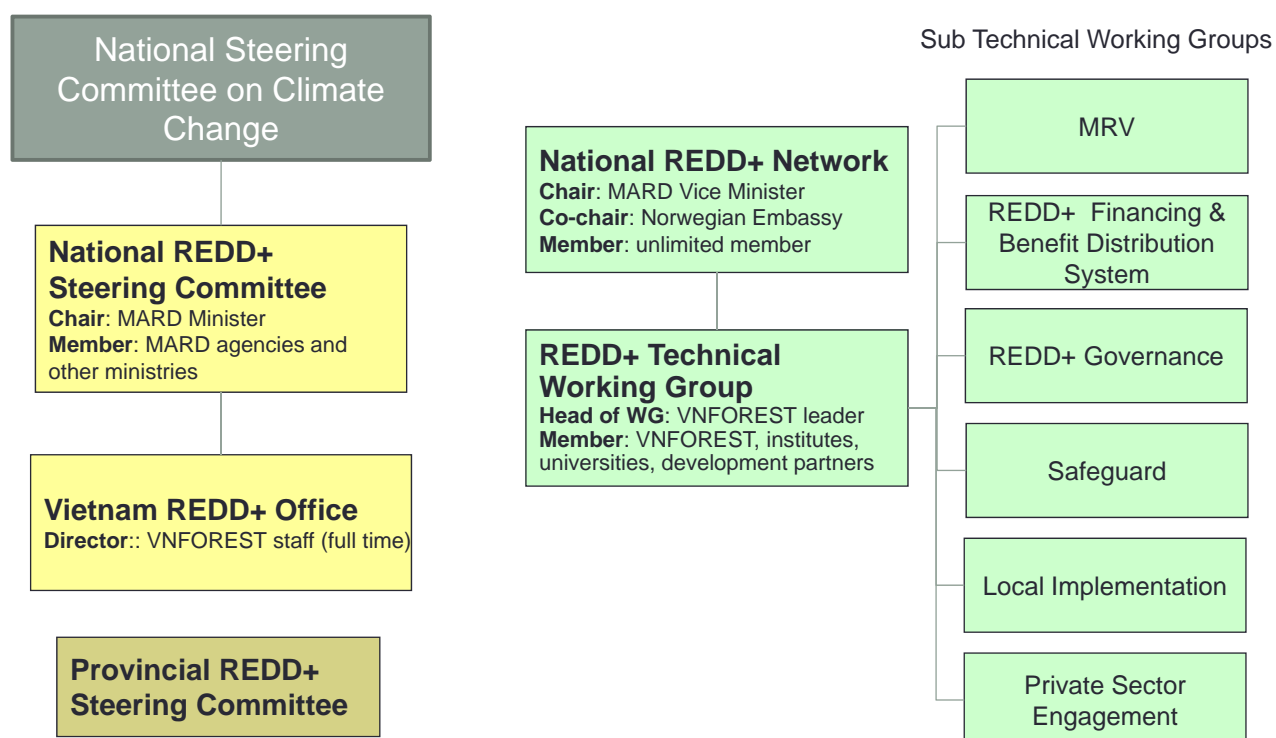
2015/07/09

3rd National REDD+ Task Force meeting

Prepared by JICA F-PREP

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Vietnam



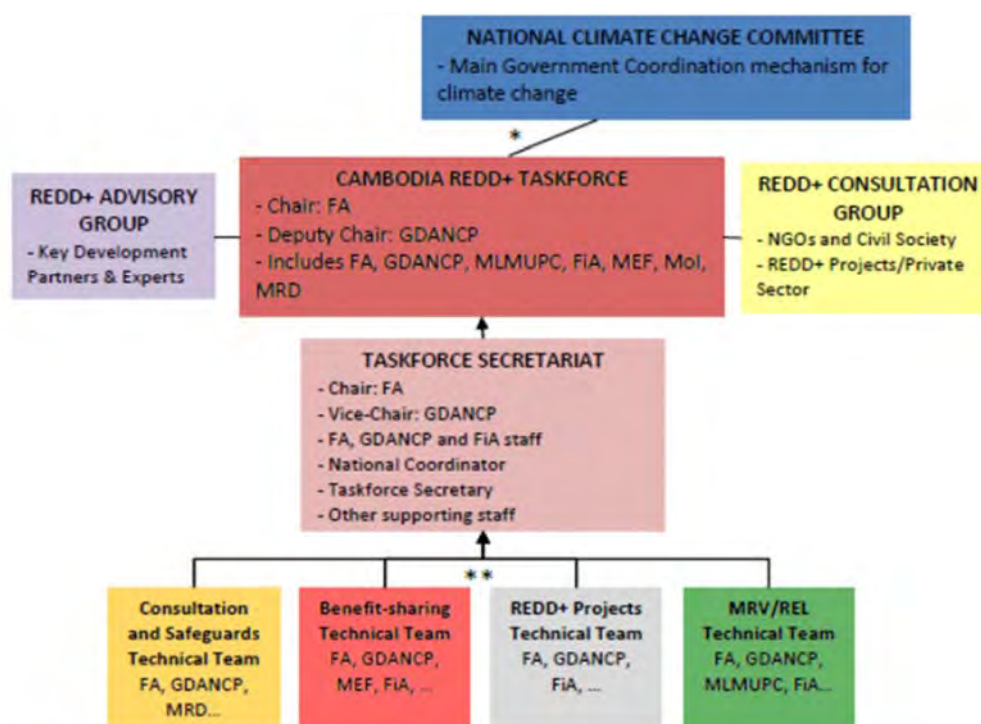
Overview

- There are 6 STWGs covering thematic areas
- Each STWG has its own TOR (some under development)
- Each STWG has its
 - Chair from the government agency
 - Co-chair from development partners
- Operation cost (mostly meeting cost) funded by the co-chair and/or UN-REDD program
- The STWGs report the progress and plan to the National REDD+ Network (1 – 2 times a year)
- Schedule of the STWG meetings and the results (meeting minutes) shared through the REDD+ website and National REDD+ Network mailing list.

Lessons learned

- The activeness differs among the STWGs, due to:
 - Existence of clear targeted topic, goal, work plan
 - Nature of the theme - technical vs institutional
 - Capacity of the chair and co-chair
- REDD+ Technical Working Group has been dormant, due to:
 - Unclear mandate, objective, lack of lead by the government, some overlapping function with the National REDD+ Network
- National REDD+ Network serves as a good mechanism for partnership building and information sharing. However, too broad to discuss anything in detail.

Cambodia



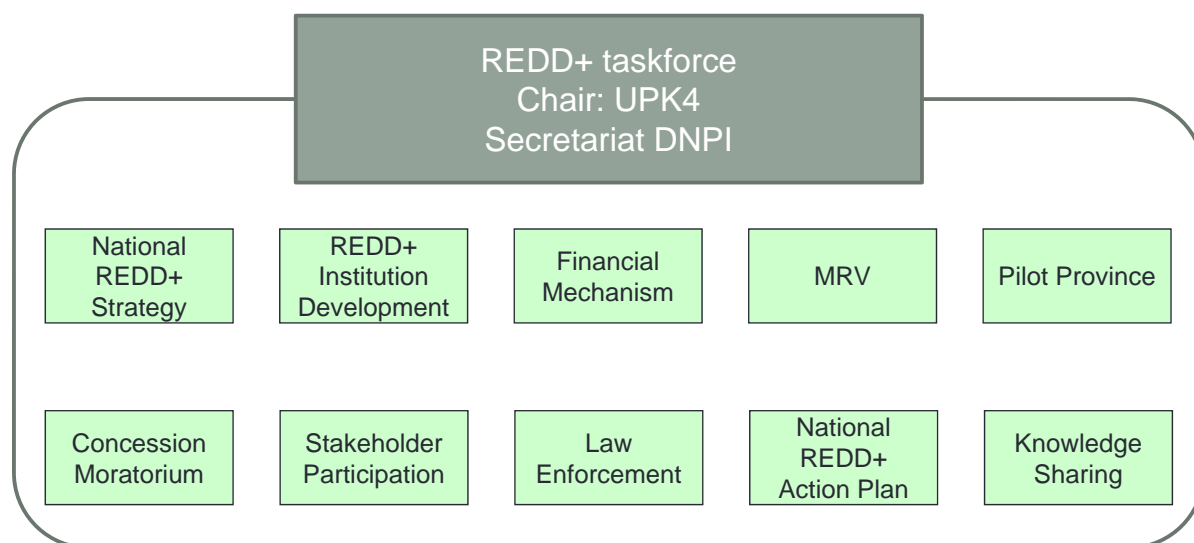
* Represents reports from the Taskforce sent to the NCCC

** Taskforce Technical Teams will include Government and non-Government representatives as appropriate

Overview

- Multi-year work plan is developed and approved by the Taskforce. The development partners provide coordinated support following the Multi-year work plan.
- Taskforce secretariat supported by development partner.
- Taskforce secretariat meets weekly to prepare for events, discuss about procurement and consultant recruitment, and others.
- Each Technical team has its TOR (approved by the Taskforce), members selected by nomination, led by chair and secretary.
- Operation cost of the Technical teams funded by FCPF and/or UN-REDD program.
- REDD+ related information shared through the website.

Indonesia



UPK4: Presidential Working Unit for Supervision and Management of Development
 DNPI: National Council on Climate Change

Source: Indonesian REDD+ Task Force (2012) REDD+ National Strategy

Overview

- It is unclear how the taskforce and the working groups will be framed into the national REDD+ after the government reform.
- Some specific working group reflecting key sector policy (e.g. Concession Moratorium)
- REDD+ Strategy and REDD+ Action Plan --- what is the objective? Only for drafting or also include implementation and monitoring?

Summary and recommendation

1. Establish an **official stakeholder consultation mechanism which includes development partners, CSOs, private sectors and others**. Clarify the inter-relationship with other groups (i.e. NRTF, TWGs).
3. **Thematic areas of the TWGs** may need further consideration. For example TWG on “National REDD+ Strategy” necessary?.
4. **Step wise roll out of the TWGs**. Some TWGs are ready to start (e.g. MRV), while others seem pre-matured (e.g. Safeguard).
5. Develop ‘**Laos REDD+ Roadmap**’ to enhance streamlined and collaborative actions. This can serve as the good basis for the NRTF and TWGs to further define their roles.

Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
Promotion Project

Project Completion Report

Annex 3: FSSWG07 meeting minutes

Record of 7th Meeting of the GOL-Donor Forestry Sub-Sector Working Group (FSSWG) under the Natural Resource and Environment Sector Working Group (NRE-SWG)

1. Time: 08:30-12:15, 3 April 2015
2. Venue: Meeting Room, Department of Forestry (DOF)
3. Chair and Co-chair
Chair: Mr. Khamphanh NANTHAVONG, Director General,
Department of Forest Resource Management (DFRM)
Co-Chair: Ms. Saeda MAKIMOTO, Senior Representative, JICA Laos Office
4. Agenda: Annex 1
5. List of Participants: Annex 2
6. Summary of Discussion

6.1 Lao Forest Investment Program and Early Idea for FCPF-Carbon Fund (CF) presented by Dr. Inthavy Akkharath – Handout 1

Discussion

Mr. Edwin Payuan, SUFORD SU, requested to clarify how systematically consultations will be conducted at national and/or sub-national level in the readiness phase.

Dr. Inthavy replied that the at this moment systematic consultations have been mostly at the national level, but each REDD+ related project conducts consultations with local agencies and people.

Dr. Paula Williams, SUFORD SU, added that the FCPF Readiness Project will conduct systematic consultations at various levels. She also provided an outline of FCPF-Carbon Fund (CF) process, which is a result-based payment, and provided the price of around USD5/tCO_{2e} being negotiated between the countries and the FCPF-CF. If Lao PDR could reduce emission by 1 million tCO_{2e} per year for 5 years under this program, it would receive USD 5 million in total. Therefore, an appropriate MRV system needs to be in place and investments for forest protection, livelihood improvement, sustainable forest management and so on need to come from the government, donor projects, Forest Investment Program and so on.

Mr. Marc Gross, GIZ, made the following 2 questions. 1. Is there a minimum level of emission reduction target set by the FCPF-CF? 2. Is the calculation of current emission and potential of emission reduction made from any provincial data or other sources?

Dr. Inthavy replied that these figures are from global data-set and more Lao specific carbon stock estimates which are under development will be used in a later stage.

Dr. Paula added that the FCPF-CF would like the supported countries to achieve significant emission reduction, for example, annual reduction of 2 million tCO_{2e}. In that case, the total reduction for 5 years will be 10 million tCO_{2e} and the payment of USD 50-60 million, but it looks difficult for Laos to prepare a program with this level. But, this is only an early idea and after receiving comments at the FCPF-CF

meeting in late this month, the idea will be further developed as an Emission Reduction Program Idea Note (ERPIN) of Lao PDR for submission and discussion at the next FCPF-CF meeting in late Oct 2015.

Ms. Akiko, FAO, asked if there is an idea or discussion at this moment on how the fund, if received from the FCPF-CF, will be used. Whether it will be paid to the 6 Provinces as benefits or used as REDD+ investment in other Provinces? This leads to a question of how funds paid by international level will be channelled from central level to Provincial and local levels including farmers. Is there discussion on a national benefit distribution system (BDS)? If not, the discussion on this needs to be started very soon and BDS established in the readiness phase.

Dr. Inthavy replied that the government recognizes the issue of BDS and it would be useful to accelerate and plan discussions on this important issue, once after Laos know when and how much the country can receive from the FCPF-CF.

Mr. Thongsoune, CliPAD, agreed that this is an important issue and without BDS we are not ready for REDD+.

Dr. Paula added that this is something that the national REDD Task Force needs to address. Readiness package, including the BDS, needs to be completed before Laos can sign a carbon procurement agreement with the FCPF-CF. But, the preparation of the ERPIN can proceed in parallel with the readiness preparation, and there will be a fund for the ERPIN preparation once Laos is selected in the pipeline of the FCPF-CF in late Oct this year. ERPIN preparation will take 1.5 or 2 years.

6.2 Updates on government initiatives

(a) Report on NRESW and RTIM meetings in Nov 2014 made by Ms. Phavika KIMANIVONG, Department of Planning and Cooperation (DPC), MONRE, as follows;

- Due to a misunderstanding between DPC and DFRM, a power point presentation is not prepared.
- During the RTIM process 2014, off-track MDGs, esp. forest cover target 65%, have been discussed and clarity of its status and progress was requested.
- At the RTIM 2015 retreat at Landmark Hotel in Mar 2015, a representative from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) shared that they already reported this issue to the Ministry of Planning and Investment, and as a result, the target will be kept as it is now.
- As for the RTIM 2015 process, there will be a high-level meeting in Oct 2015, earlier than usual, and the first NRESWG meeting is planned to be organized in late Apr 2015 after the Lao New Year.

(b) Outline of draft 8th National Socio-economic Development Plan (NSEDP) and Introduction of NRE Strategy with focus on forestry presented by Mr. Saly, Director, Planning and Cooperation Division, DFRM --- Handout 2

Discussion

Mr. Noriyoshi Kitamura, F-PREP, reflected that the retreat at Landmark Hotel didn't produce any clear conclusions on the issue of forest cover target. He introduced the handout of comments on 8th NSEDP prepared by the development partners especially on forestry sector (Handout 3). The comments were sent to both MPI and MONRE with a request for further discussion on these issues. He also mentioned that the draft 8th NSEDP covers mostly Protection Forests and Conservation Forests which are under DFRM's responsibility, and little focus on Production Forests and village forests under DOF, and thereby requested coordinated planning by both departments.

Mr. Saly replied that achievement of the forest cover target also depends on other sectors, and collaboration with those sectors is a key to success. The current draft 8th NSEDP does not include the areas under MAF's responsibility, but MAF's plan on forestry will be incorporated into the final draft soon.

Mr. Thongphath Vongmany, Director General, DOF, stated that MAF/DOF has already informed MPI that the forest cover target of 65% for 2015 and 70% 2020 will not be changed and this will be achieved through forest protection and rehabilitation of degraded lands as mentioned in the Forestry Strategy 2020. He also stated that the forest definition used by Laos, especially the canopy density - 20% while many other countries use 10%, reflects Lao specific land use, for instance paddy areas with standing trees. If the definition of canopy density - 10% is used, these paddy areas would be wrongly calculated as forests. But the FRA report to FAO will use the definition of canopy density - 10%, which results in higher forest cover rate. He acknowledged that there are many sceptical views about the targets, and also some recommendations to have lower but more realistic ones in response to dynamic land use changes taking place in Lao PDR. However, he confirmed that the Government will maintain these targets and will pay all efforts for achievement. He also shared that with the allocation of 4.5 million ha of land to agriculture and 2.6 million ha to urban and infrastructure areas including 0.5 million ha for reservoir area, it is possible to achieve the targets to rehabilitate 6 million ha of forests and establish 0.5 million ha of plantation forest, which will be added up to the current forest area of 9.5 million ha. As for the forest related figures in the 8th NSEDP, he suggested DPC/DFRM of MONRE to work with DOF/MAF for more correct and coordinated planning.

Ms. Akiko said that forest definition can be defined by countries for themselves, so Laos can have its own definition or combination of Lao and FAO definitions, but an important point is that clear forest definition is provided when setting and discussing forest cover targets.

Dr. Margret Jones Williams, UNDP, stated that as discussed in previous FSSWG Meetings, the forest cover targets need some clarity and the targets need to be realistic. The statement including the details by the DG of DOF should be clearly reflected in the national document, if the GOL is going to keep its position. She also stated that the 2nd National Communication to the UNFCCC submitted by the GOL shows that Laos was a country of a net sink in 1990, but changed to a net emitter in 2000, and the discussion on forest cover should not be limited to percentage cover but on how to reverse this trend to a more positive direction.

Mr. Peter Fugde, BURAPHA/STORA ENSO, asked Margaret whether UNDP considers forest plantation is a part of forest cover or not.

Dr. Margaret replied that in the last FSSWG meeting, there was a reference from the Co-Chair to how Myanmar reported on forest cover, and in that country they separate plantations from natural forests in forest cover assessment. It does not mean that forest plantations do not provide some services that the natural forests do, but it could be good to have them separated as practiced in other countries like Myanmar. The natural forest, whether primary or secondary, provides ecosystem services, which some plantations and tree cover do not. Therefore, the forest definition needs to reflect this and have clarity on this aspect.

Mr. Peter said that it is good to hear UNDP response and forest plantations are definitely part of forests. He also asked DOF's view on this.

Mr. Thongphath replied that in a FRA meeting in Rome in 2005, which he attended, discussion was whether rubber plantations are forest or not and it was finally agreed that they are forest. In some

countries like Malaysia, forest cover dramatically increased due to the inclusion of rubber plantations into forest cover. Forest plantations are also forest in Laos.

Mr. Scott Stanley, WCS, shared his view that it cannot be allowed to clear natural forests and plant trees, and then claim for forest carbon credits. This is actually contributing to loss of carbon, biodiversity and other values, thus only planting trees on bare land would increase carbon and lead to carbon credits.

Mr. Peter asked DFRM how much budget they estimate for the planned activities, such as regeneration of 120,000 ha by supplementary planting, and how they will be secured.

Mr. Saly replied that budgeting is not done specifically for the implementation of forest regeneration of 120,000 ha. This is to be aimed not only by the forestry sector but by including other sectors. GOL budget is limited, so it is expected that concerned cooperation projects promote forest regeneration in their project areas either in Protection Forests, Conservation Forests or Production Forests.

Mr. Khamphanh, DG, DFRM, added that there are three possible funding sources for forestry activities, especially for forest rehabilitation. First is the Forest and Forest Resource Development Fund (FDF) of GOL, which usually has an annual budget of LAK 15 billion, but the actual revenue is LAK 10 billion. Second is, as Mr. Saly mentioned, various cooperation projects like SUFORD, BCC and so on for promoting sustainable forest management. Third one is development projects/investments, especially hydro-power projects. MONRE/DFRM has been negotiating with various hydro-power investors about their support to forest rehabilitation in their catchment areas, and one new potential is the Nam Ngiep 1 Power Company. They are willing to pay USD 3 million during its construction period and USD 7-8 million in its operation period which will be in total of USD 11 million for watershed management. It is expected that the negotiation on concrete activities and budget will be conclude soon.

Mr. Edwin requested clarification on one of main priorities of NRE Strategy, which is “socialize forest management (for all by all)”.

Mr. Saly replied that it means every stakeholder participate in forest management not only for themselves but also for other stakeholders.

6.3 Introduction of new projects/initiatives

- (a) Report on TOR and consultation of the Village Forestry Working Group (VFWG) workshop, presented by Mr. Somsack Chandara, Deputy Director of Village Forestry and NTFP Division, DOF --- Handout 4a, 4b and 4c**
- (b) Method development for review and re-delineation of boundaries of 3 forest types, presented by Mr. Markus KUKKONEN, SUFORD-SU --- Handout 5**
- (c) Forest Cover Assessment 2015, presented by Mr. Soukanh BOUNTHABANDIT, Deputy Director, Forest Inventory and Planning Division, DOF. --- Handout 6**
- (d) Payment for Forest Ecosystem Services, presented by Dr. Phouphet KYOPHILAVONG, Faculty of Economics and Business Management, National University of Laos. --- Handout 7**

Discussion, closing

Mr. Thongphath, stated that in addition to the current 3 forest types (i.e. Protection Forest, Conservation Forest and Production Forest), DOF intend to establish another kind of forest administration, which is

“Village Forest”. The villages located inside or near the Production Forests can participate in forest management, and in return, gain benefits from Production Forests, as already articulated in the Presidential Decree 001. Other villages inside the Protection and Conservation forests can also participate in the management of those forests. Approximately 1.6 million ha of forests outside of the 3 forest types can be classified as “Village Forests”, but number of villages are uncertain yet.

He shared from Lao experiences on Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) that every village in Laos have forests, however, fragmented and scattered. The lands inside the villages can be used for production activities, and village forest management system can be introduced to the village production forests.

He appreciated the 1.3% forest cover increase as the interim result of the Forest Cover Assessment (FCA), but also pointed out the need of remote sensing results to be verified together with ground truthing, in order to produce the finalize result.

Regarding PES, he shared the idea to enable establishment of a certain fund under the revised forestry law (under drafting), as a contribution fund for forest conservation and rehabilitation. He suggested Dr. Phouphet to highlight in his study that there are still many legal barriers to realize this idea. There are 17 development projects, such as hydropower construction, which have certain fund for reforestation, but the forestry sector is not able to directly access these funds, since the funds go to the MOF first, and then allocated annually to the forestry sector with limited amount.

Peter SCHWAB, Prime Consultant, commented on Mr. Markus’s presentation on review and redelineation of 3 forest types. He agreed on the importance of detecting intact forests as well as fragmented forests, and added that the approach can also consider bringing in the conservation value, in other words the knowledge from conservation biodiversity, since fragmented landscapes can have more biodiversity than intact landscapes, for example from the experiences in Europe. It is important to recognize that fragmented species have higher risks of extinction than those existing in a habitat level.

Dr. Thoumthone, Faculty of Forestry, congratulated the increasing trend of forest cover according to the interim results, and also urged the importance of using remote sensing information in conjunction with the ground truthing.

He also stated that PES depends on one’s standing point. For example, elephants may be valuable for conservation purpose, while they can be harmful for farmers.

Markus, responded to the comments from Peter that the analysis software uses the term “protection value”, but this could not be a suitable term, and it could be better to say, for example, “continuously large and unfragmented forest”. He agreed that valuable fragmented habitats do exist. In his opinion, the only problem is the limitation of data in good quantity and quality for Laos to conduct a spatial distribution analysis. SUFORD is doing the 2nd phase of analysis, and expecting to have a biodiversity expert to give inputs on elements that are valuable. Proxy variables, such as human population pressure, amount of deforestation, distance from roads, and so on, are also needed to find out high-risk and low-risk areas.

Esa PUUSTJARVI, SUFORD-SU, added that in addition to the 2nd phase, SUFORD-SU is thinking of a 3rd phase which is to use personal indigenous knowledge and conduct manual checks to find things which people cannot capture from remote sensing. Sets of information obtained from remote sensing which look similar may have different biodiversity values on the ground.

Dietmar BRAEUTIGAM, agreed on the approach of the review and redelineation of 3 forest types, which is starting from the national level and then developing further down to the sub-national levels. The data on

forest fragmentation can also be used as indicators for values other than biodiversity, for example water resource, soil conservation, and other different functions of forest.

He shared his views that the research from Europe may show that fragmented landscapes may have higher biodiversity, but in tropics, usually there are more biodiversity in forests. In Laos, lands outside of forests are mostly maize and cash crops, which don't have much biodiversity. So fragmentation could still be a good indicator for biodiversity.

He also shared his views that village forests in the 3 forest types should fulfil the expected function of each forest type. Outside of this 3 forest types, villages can have their village conservation forests, village protection forests and village use forests together with respective management mechanism. Without such principle, it could be difficult to maintain the original function of the protected forests. Such issues can be further discussed in the VFWG.

Gabriel EICKHOFF, Forest Carbon, raised an idea on 3 forest types in relation with the presentation of the Early Idea note for the FCPF-CF. He thinks that this could be an interesting opportunity to increase liability on REDD+. In REDD+, there is no guarantee and questions on whether focusing on reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation is a viable approach for Laos. REDD+ could not be viable in Laos without addressing 'reforestation' and 'increasing forest cover'. If Laos only focus on emissions, the result may overlook the potential areas for enhancement. Spatial planning presents opportunities to identify fragmented areas and give those areas a mandate for reforestation by placing them within the conservation zones, not excluding them from the conservation zones. If the focus is only placed on intact forests and exclude the fragmented forests, then the opportunities for enhancement and rehabilitation of those fragmented forests could be lost. The '+' part of REDD+ could be targeted more easily by including fragmented forests into conservation areas and protected areas.

Mr. Thongsoune, appreciated the works done on the VFWG. He recommended that the group will develop a timeframe for its activities in order to have it discussed in the next FSSWG.

Mr. Peter Fugde, commented that FPIC is also important for forest plantation and emphasized the need of FPIC for the villagers to let them understand the different meanings among the forest types. He supported the changes of the forest definition applied in the FCA 2015, but pointed out that the 10cm diameter trees, which could be reached in 3-5 years after the shifting cultivation regrowth, can be gone after two years. So this definition could be a bit risky. He also expressed BURAPHA's interest to participate in finding a viable scheme for PES.

Nelson GAPARE, SNV Laos, introduced SNV's work on two multi-benefit programs: LEAF and ENRICH. He shared SNV's fundamental recognition that the potential of significant amount of carbon payment from avoided deforestation and forest degradation may not be expected in Laos, which is similar to the situation in Vietnam. It requires a shift from REDD to REDD '+', in close relation with renewable energy, agriculture and community engagement. SNV has a program in Attapu where they do forest restoration and enrichment which could be linked to this issue. MB-REDD+ of SNV is developing a recognition that benefits from REDD+ may not be that high, therefore, trying to establish a viable mechanism for the local communities. He thinks that it is a critical time for the country to understand that REDD+ alone may not be the answer.

Mr. Edwin PAYUAN, asked the next steps, timeline, process and direction of the VFWG. He also shared that one of the intentions of the National Assembly on review and redelineation of 3 forest types was to identify possible areas that the villagers can manage.

Regarding land use classification, he asked for clarification on the status of agroforestry in the land use classification, since at one point, agro-forestry was classified as one type of land use, and then it was removed. In the last Land Use Sub-sector Working Group this issue was revived.

Mr. Khamphanh, stated that village forests should be legally recognized and discussed in the land law and the land policy, and the results shall be integrated into the revision of forestry law and associated policies. He also encouraged the VFWG to discuss further on its TOR and present it in the next FSSWG.

Mr. Thongphath, added that the VFWG already came up with its tentative mandate. If the proposed TOR can be further discussed and agreed on, then the VFWG can be officially established as the sub-working group under the FSSWG. This can be done in prior to the next FSSWG meeting.

Ms. Makimoto, Senior Representative, JICA, summarized the meeting as follows:

- More details of the FCPF-CF Early Idea need to be elaborated toward the next CF meeting. Development of some REDD+ mechanisms, for example Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) also need to be considered.
- In the current RTIM process, sub-sector working group is requested to prepare a work plan and submit to the sector working group. Then, each sector working group is requested to submit a work plan to the MPI. Such timeline should be informed among the current development partner's network.
- In relation to the FCA 2015, there seems to be a general consensus on the need of combination of remote sensing and ground truthing for forest survey and monitoring, in order to come up with the correct figure, and decide a realistic target and indicator for the next 5 year plan (8th NSEDP). The 8th NSEDP is scheduled to be submitted to the next National Assembly in June, therefore, it will be useful to have another chance to update everyone with the results of the FCA.
- Tentative TOR for the VFWG was shared. For its official establishment, the TOR needs to be revisited and developed into detail before the next FSSWG.
- PES needs to overcome the legal barriers for its operationalization.

End of document

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Annex 4: FSSWG08 meeting minutes

**Record of 8th Meeting of the GOL-Donor Forestry Sub-Sector Working Group (FSSWG)
under the Natural Resource and Environment Sector Working Group (NRE-SWG)**

1. Date and time: 19 June 2015 08:15-12:15

2. Venue: Meeting Room, Department of Forestry (DOF)

3. Chair and Co-chair

Chair: Mr. Vongdeuane VONGSIHARATH, Director General,

Department of Forest Resource Management (DFRM)

Co-Chair: Ms. Saeda MAKIMOTO, Senior Representative, JICA Laos Office

4. Agenda: Annex 1

5. List of Participants: Annex 2

6. Summary of Discussion

6.1. Report on Carbon Fund meeting in Paris and ER-PIN preparation presented by Dr.Inthavy Akkharath – Handout 1

Mr. Lorenz Gessner, KfW asked who is actually preparing the Emissions Reduction Program Idea Note (ER-PIN) now.

Ms. Kinnalone Phommasack, DOF REDD+ Office, explained the background that the Government of Lao P.D.R (GoL) received some feedback from the Worldbank colleagues during their trip to Washington D.C, then decided to apply for the FCPF Carbon Fund. The REDD+ Division/DFRM, the REDD+ Office/DOF and several advisors from REDD+ projects, such as SUFORD-SU, CliPAD, JICA, FAO, are currently generating the ideas and preparing the ER-PIN.

Ms. Paula Willams, SUFORD-SU, added that the ER-PIN is currently prepared by the team which contributed to the preparation of the Early Idea. The FCPF Carbon Fund has a specific template, and the concept with more details need to be filled out by summer. This is ongoing under the lead of Dr. Inthavy, and ideas from other people are welcomed.

Mr. Noriyoshi KITAMURA, F-PREP, also added that as the ER-PIN is currently prepared by the

informal team, it is expected that the National REDD+ Task Force (NRTF) will be held as soon as possible, TWGs established, and this work to be formalized. The ER-PIN needs to be finalized by 11 September.

Katharina Foeldi, Embassy of Germany, asked if there is any news on when the NRTF will meet, since this has been awaited for a long time.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, Director General of DFRM and the Chair of the FSSWG, replied that DFRM is trying to organize the NRTF soon, however, several things, such as the attendee and the lead of the NRTF, need to be clarified beforehand.

6.2. Forestry issue in RTM process, shared by Mr. Noriyoshi Kitamura – Handout 2

Ms. Katharina Foeldi, shared that although she is not certain about the latest deadline, the initial deadline was last week. However, the MPI postponed the deadline in order to receive more comments from the line ministries. If the FSSWG still have comments on the matrix and indicators, such comments should be able to be delivered to the MPI. Once the matrix is finalized, then it will serve as the background document of the high-level Round Table Meeting. All sector working groups need to examine the indicators and prepare a report for its own sector.

Ms. Phavika Kimanivong, Department of Planning and Cooperation (DPC), MONRE, further shared that the DPC received the template from the MPI and worked closely with the DFRM on the inputs. The deadline of the matrix is also unknown to the DPC, but the draft matrix is already submitted to the MPI. The MPI says that they are still waiting for the final version from the MAF, which means, there is still a chance to provide more inputs to the final version.

Dr. Paula Williams, commented on the indicator 'Illegal trade of timber and wildlife cases published' that DOFI is not the only actor in law enforcement. There is the army, police and economic police, so many different actors are involved in stopping illegal trade of timber and wildlife. It is not sure how a comprehensive database can be put together from all this different agencies. This indicator is truly what Lao P.D.R would need to address, but achieving this may require some more work.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, confirmed that there is still some time to add inputs before submitting the final draft and report to the MPI. If the FSSWG wants to organize a workshop on this issue, it should be organized very soon.

Mr. Noriyoshi Kitamura, suggested that since organize another workshop takes time, and also the subject is not necessarily related to everyone, in order to be efficient on meeting the deadline, anyone can send comments to him by Wednesday next week, and a small meeting can be organized among those who provided comments to finalize the draft. The results can be shared by email as the final conclusion of the FSSWG.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, agreed on the suggestion from Mr. Noriyoshi Kitamura, and asked him to be responsible for collecting the comments and summarizing the inputs to the draft. The three

departments (i.e. DFRM, DOF and DOFI) will discuss and finalize the draft.

- 6.3. **Report on outcomes of REDD+ at SBSTA 42 in Bonn**, presented by Mr. Khamsene Ounekham – Handout 3

No discussions and Q&As.

- 6.4. **ASEAN Social Forestry Network and discussion**, presented by Mr. Sengrath Phirasack - Handout 4

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, shared that by next week or soon, the Village Forestry Working Group (VFWG) meeting will be organized by the DOF, in order to exchange information and idea on the VFWG. The VFWG will then be established under the FSSWG.

- 6.5. **Institutional capacity building for protected area and protection forest management, and wildlife conservation (LENS2 support to DFRM)**, presented by Mr. Lamphan Kommadam – Handout 5

Ms. Katharina Foeldi, asked the number of protected areas that already have management plans and number of those which still haven't, and whether there is a priority order to address this, since the development partners are always requested to help developing management plans.

Mr. Lamphanh Kommadam, answered that Nam Et - Phou Louey is one of the priority protected areas for developing the management plan, but eventually every protected areas need a management plan. This issue will be explored further after the project is started.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, also agreed on the need of prioritized selection of the target protected areas which will be supported developing its master plan.

- 6.6. **Integrated Conservation of Biodiversity and Forest by DFRM/KfW**, presented by Mr. Dietmar Braerutigam - Handout 6

Ms. Saeda Makimoto, Senior Representative of JICA Laos and the Co-chair of the FSSWG, asked about the project area in Khamuane province where the national road 12 - an economic corridor road linking Bangkok and Hanoi - is included. She wanted to know the mechanism on how this national road is considered under this project among the MONRE, MPWT and other related ministries.

Mr. Dietmar Braerutigam, replied that the project is aware of various development projects. The project will have its first mission to the both sites in July and then update the existing information on the developments project in the two landscapes. It would possibly affect not only the landscape of the central region but also the landscape of the northern region, where hydropower dams are planned and transboundary roads already exist. The project is also aware of the socio-economic development in the region. The project yet have details, thus, expects to use the next few weeks to obtain more details on the situation and evaluate the associated impacts to the aims of this project.

Mr. Noriyoshi Kitamura, asked for any updates from the government partners on the instruction by the office of the national assembly to review and re-delineate the boundaries of 3 forest categories, including reporting back to the national assembly. If the change in boundaries is significant, the basis for planning and activities will be affected. The SUFORD-SU and TABI developed a process on to review and re-delineate the boundaries of 3 forest categories.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, replied that MAF and MONRE are very concerned about this work and currently in the stage to implement the recommendation. The pilot has been conducted by SUFORD and TABI in Luang Prabang province, but the report hasn't be shared yet. A request to the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) for financial support was not accepted. The GoL is still thinking on how to encourage other development partners on to support this work. Because the 3 forest categories cover more than 70% of the land of the country, implementing this notice requires large financial support and capacity. Now the DFRM and DOFI are collaborating to establish a standing committee or an institutional mechanism, and both departments will continue to collaborate on this issue.

6.7. **Guideline Development for Protection Forest Management Planning under FPP**, presented by Mr. Takayuki Namura – Handout 7

No discussions and Q&As.

6.8. **Progress in FLEGT process**, presented by Mr Keophouvong Chanthapanya – Handout 8

Ms. Katharina Foeldi, commented that the German government provides EURO 6M to this process and is happy to hear this week that the prime minister actually approved the process. This is a good signal, and at the same time, she hoped the work will continue and the negotiation process can start sometime this year.

Dr. Inthavy Akkharat, raised the need to further discuss how the FLEGT and REDD+ should cooperate in law enforcement, since issues such as illegal logging and wildlife trade are also important for REDD+. He suggested DOFI to further consider the way of cooperation with the DFRM and DOF.

6.9. **Lao PDR National Reporting to the Forest Investment Programme**, presented by Dr. Paula Williams – Handout 9

Dr. Inthavy Akkharath, before going to the discussion on FIP, he asked for feedbacks to his presentation on the FCPF Carbon Fund. He particularly asked the opinions of the FSSWG on whether Lao P.D.R should go ahead with the Carbon Fund. Institutional readiness is especially a challenge and for example, the NRTF has been postponed a long time. As he needs to prepare a comprehensive report to explain about REDD+ and the FCPF Carbon Fund to the policy makers, he welcomed feedbacks any time.

Mr. Saly Singsavanh, Planning and Cooperation Division, DFRM, by referring to the last slide ‘Moving Forward’, asked when the Readiness Package will be completed and who will be the signer of the Readiness Package?

Dr. Inthavy Akkharath, explained that country needs to complete the readiness before the national, provincial and district level start to implement REDD+ projects. The country also need to have the TWGs to support evaluation, benefit sharing, and others in place, before more receiving more REDD+ projects.

Dr. Paula Williams, added that the Carbon Fund and the Readiness Grant are both managed by the FCPF. Any country who wants to apply for the Carbon Fund payment needs to complete the Readiness Package. The DOF is the implementing agency of the Readiness Grant and the project will support readiness, such as the National REDD+ Strategy.

Readiness involves stakeholder consultation, SESA, institutional arrangement and so on. After the ER-PIN is accepted to the pipeline of the Carbon Fund, then USD 650,000 will be disbursed for the development of Emission Reductions Program Document (ERPD) through 1.5-2 years period.

The Carbon Fund is available on competitive basis, and was originally agreed to run up to 2020, but recently agreed to be extended to 2025. The Carbon Fund is a different approach for result based payment, and it wants to decide soon on which countries will be involved. There are 11 countries currently selected in the pipeline, and 9 more countries wanting to be included into the pipeline. Lao P.D.R needs to prepare the ER-PIN quickly, and to be assessed in the October meeting in Paris.

Mr. Saly Singsavanh commented that following its TOR, the NRTF should be invited into the discussion in the future, as a venue to explain to the higher-level on the REDD+ benefits and so on.

--- Presentation by Dr. Paula Williams---

Dr. Inthavy Akkharath, as the national focal point of Forest Investment Programme (FIP), requested to receive comments from the DOF as the implementing agency of the program.

Dr. Paula Williams explained that the scoring was done together with other SUFORD members, Mr. Bounpone and other people from DOF, and some people from the WB in a small workshop.

Dr. Inthavy Akkharath, also added that if DOF was involved in the scoring, then we can consider this

as the agreed scoring.

Mr. Noriyoshi Kitamura, proposed that although this meeting was expected to discuss and endorse the report, since the participants are shared with the scoring and indicators only now due to the limited time, the FIP team can distribute the report for comments and regard it as the endorsement process.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, concluded that the report should be shared to the FSSWG members by email with a deadline for receiving feedbacks. The report needs to be submitted to the FIP by the end of this month.

Ms. Katharina Foeldi, commented from her experiences in other SSWGs, that it would be useful to share the draft beforehand if the FSSWG meeting is expected to be an approval process.

Dr. Inthavy Akkharath, ensured to circulate the document with a deadline.

6.10. Chairs summary and closing

Ms. Saeda Makimoto, as the co-chair, summarized the meeting as follows:

- Thanks to the active participation and discussion, the meeting was informative and result-oriented;
- In the future meetings, it is suggested to reduce the number of presentations, spare more time for discussions, and share the meeting materials beforehand especially when endorsement is required;
- Congratulates the related members for giving green light to proceed on the FCPF Carbon Fund proposal;
- At the same time, in order to establish the institutional mechanisms as soon as possible, for example the TWGs, the related departments are requested to discuss the details and propose to the FSSWG to ensure the 11 September deadline is met;
- Regarding the RTM, the FSSWG needs to collaborate with the NRESWG, the secretariat shall receive comments to the draft matrix by next Wednesday, and additional meeting will be held if necessary to finalize the matrix.
- As the preparation for the RTM, the forestry sector needs to compile the sector progress report by August or September in coordination with the NRE sector, and the next meeting can discuss on the way of reporting.

Mr. Vongdeuane Vongsiharath, as the chair, concluded as follows:

- Although the time was limited for detailed discussion, the meeting achieved its objectives;

- The FSSWG is supposed to be a quarterly delivery according to the TOR, so the next meeting will be scheduled in September, and the chair, co-chair and the secretariat will discuss the topics for the next meeting.

End of the document

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Annex 5: Analysis of surrounding conditions and possible action
concerning revision of FS 2020
or formulation of a new forestry strategy

Analysis of surrounding conditions and possible action concerning
revision of FS 2020 or formulation of a new forestry strategy

I. Policy measures recommended by FS 2020 review

- (a) **Develop an updated strategy for forestry sector as a successor strategy to FS2020.**
- (b) Review the funding strategy focusing on the financial flow of timber revenue derived from out of PFAs and the suspected leakages of the revenue. Revisit the proposed action of FS2020 on funding, which suggests to secure the cost for the appropriate forest management as an necessary investment for avoiding deterioration of the resource base;
- (c) Strengthen the information base and improve the transparencies throughout the sector activities, particularly the timber flow and the concessions. The most urgent need is the improvement of the trade statistics in view of AEC, CITES enforcement and avoidance of the revenue leakages, and join the contributors to the international trade statistics;
- (d) Urgently study and discuss the management of rubber plantation on which the forestry sector has no competence at the moment. Risks raised in FSPI 2014 should be fully addressed;
- (e) Consider inclusion of *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Dalbergia bariensis* into the Appendix III of CITES in cooperation with other range countries.
- (f) Mainstream the timber supply from the development projects. Full control of the legitimate temporary sources is necessary to segregate and purge illegal logging and its timber flow;
- (g) Consider to join International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to seek help for SFM, forest industry development and statistical capacity strengthening as well as the expertise of tropical timber species in CITES Appendices.

II. Analysis and Option

- (a) **Develop an updated strategy for forestry sector as a successor strategy to FS2020.**

1. Related strategies and possible impacts on forestry strategy

Natural Resource and Environment Strategy to 2025 with Vision to 2020 (Department of Planning, MONRE)

Status

Final draft being consulted within MONRE for submission to MPI and GOL

Forest related contents

Strategy Statement 1.4 “Sustainable management of forest and biodiversity to ensure 70% of forest cover by 2020 and improved rural livelihood by promoting forest rehabilitation, sustainable rural livelihood and protection of endangered wildlife” focusing on the following strategy actions (SA):

SA1.4.1 Supporting forest re-survey, allocation, and planning for forest and biodiversity management in the 3 forest categories including protection forest, conservation forest and production forest at national, provincial and district levels with public involvement.

SA1.4.2 Supporting forest survey, allocation, and planning for forest and biodiversity in the forest area that was not categorized in the 3 forest categories (protection forest, conservation forest and production forest) and promoting community land titles for forest land/village forests.

SA1.4.3 Establishing, implementing and monitoring forest rehabilitation and programs in forest degradation and project affected areas to ensure healthy ecology and minimise the impacts of forest cover (loss?).

SA1.4.4 Developing and implementing effective forest administration system by focusing on developing and improving forest survey, monitoring, assessing and reporting systems on forest resources, endangered wildlife and biodiversity status.

SA1.4.5 Promoting sustainable collection and use of NTFP in rural areas to ensure poverty reduction as well as sustainable forest and wildlife protection through community ownership.

SA1.4.6 Promoting the establishment of national parks in conjunction with nature conservation tourism in areas of healthy forest and biodiversity.

SA1.4.7 Establishing all relevant preconditions to participate in and benefit from an international mechanism on “Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

Impact on new forestry strategy

Most of the Strategic Actions proposed in the current draft are general and consistent with GOL forest policy and donor support except the community land/forest titling and community ownership, which is not clearly defined in the current land/forest related laws.

Agriculture Development Strategy to 2025 with Vision to 2030 (Permanent Secretary Office, MAF)

Status

Final draft (only in Lao) in preparation for submission to MPI and GOL in March 2015

Forest related contents

Mostly focus on agriculture and little on forest

Impact on new forestry strategy

Little impact on new forestry strategy

Upland Development Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development 2016-2020 (Department of Planning and Cooperation, MAF through Northern Uplands Development Programme (NUDP))

Status

Draft Final (Most likely a policy/strategic basis for NUDP. Unlikely to be submitted to GOL for endorsement)

Forest related contents

- 1) Conservation and sustainable use of natural resources is one of 4 Pillars

- 2) Proposed forest related activities; PLUP (for stabilization of land use), nature-based (forest) tourism, policy/support to NTFP, smallholder plantations, village forestry, etc., participatory management of 3 forest types, monitoring/maintaining ecosystem services, etc.

Impact on new forestry strategy

Proposed activities are consistent with current policy and donor support. So, little conflict foreseen.

National REDD+ Strategy (Most likely by the National REDD+ Task Force with endorsement from the National Environment Committee (Chair; Deputy PM) with support from FCPF Readiness Support Project (FCPF RSP), CliPAD, JICA and others)

Status

Drafting not started and will commence when the consulting firm for this is selected by FCPF RSP and arrive in Laos probably in Aug or Sep 2015. It is expected to have a draft REDD+ strategy by mid-2016 and final by 2017-18 for submission to UNFCCC, if possible.

Forest related contents

All of REDD+ strategy will be related to forestry. Its likely main components are: status of deforestation/forest degradation and carbon stock changes, analysis of main drivers and underlying causes, policy and measures to address drivers of deforestation/forest degradation and to promote carbon stock enhancement, institutional and implementation arrangements, benefit sharing/distribution system, consultation process, etc.

Impact on new forestry strategy (new FS)

The basis/scope of NRS is mostly forest resource/carbon changes and related land/forest management, but a new FS will have wider scope and types of data including those of NRS. FS 2020 has 9 thematic areas (land/forest use, production forest, NTFP, tree plantation, log harvest and royalties, wood processing, biodiversity, protection forest and village land/forestry), and 7 cross cutting areas (legal framework, law enforcement, human resource development, R&E, gender, funding/allocation and international cooperation). Because of similarity/difference in contents and probably similar timeframe for drafting, parallel preparation of the two strategies may bring more synergy than duplication/waste of time and resources. However, availability of human resources on the Lao side will be a major constraint.

Formulation of national land policy (NLP) and revision of land related laws including forestry law

Status

NLP; Submitted to the NA session in Jun 2014, but no agreement and no text available. It is widely said this issue has been transferred to the Politburo from NA. Land Issues Group (NGOs+projects) assisted drafting until 2013, and they raised concerns about the following 4 issues; 1) proposed land expropriation by state not only for public works but for private investment, 2) recognition of customary land tenure rights, 3) recognition of communal land titling and 4) establishment of functional grievance system.

Forestry Law; According to DFRM, the final draft has been submitted to GOL and will be revised according to the NLP decisions. Whether the current final is same as the one as of Apr 2014 or not is unknown.

Forest related contents

Main changes to the current law made in the draft as of Apr 2014; addition of physical definition of tree and forest, addition of carbon related definitions including market, carbon credit, financial mechanism, etc., addition of definitions of forest eco-system services and PFES, insertion of logging approval process for infrastructure project areas, addition of a REDD+ section including REDD+ definition, ownership over forest carbon, forest carbon market, PFES, etc., adding new businesses for forest land concession including agro-forestry, ecotourism, mining, forest eco-system service, adding “discussion and agreeing with local people” for granting concessions, expanded revenue sources of the Forest and Forest Resource Development Fund including PFES and proposed it to be a sub-fund of Environment Protection Fund, MONRE and MAF and their local agencies as forest management organizations,

Impact on new forestry strategy (new FS)

New FS will be largely formulated within the legal framework provided in the new NLP and Forestry Law. It can propose new or re-revision of the Forestry Law, but not major changes. PM Decrees and Ministerial Regulations to implement the new Forestry Law will also require fairly large amount of assistance mostly in the areas of REDD+, PFES and forest land concessions.

2. Factors to be taken into account on revision of forestry strategy

- 1) Re-restructuring of Ministries; Many including DG and DDGs say the three forestry related departments i.e. DFRM under MONRE, and DOF and DOFI under MAF will be under single Ministry either MONRE, MAF or Forestry Ministry and this decision will be made after the 9th Party Congress in Mar 2016. This will impact the institutional arrangements of strategy formulation because a multi-ministerial drafting or steering committee should be established and the secretariat should be nominated. Change in the arrangement before and after Ministerial restructuring can be possible, but it will take some time for deciding/functioning of a new arrangement.
- 2) Limited human resources; Parallel formulation of REDD+ strategy and forestry strategy will require assignment and engagement of many GOL staff, but the actual human resource is very limited and this will lead to a donor-driven process.
- 3) Revision of Forestry Law; This may also be delayed until after the Party Congress in Mar 2016 due to anticipated restructuring of forestry sector.
- 4) Views of Mr. Thongphath, DG, DOF and Mr. Khamphay, DDG, DOF; Both said that the Lao forestry sector needs a new strategy under new socio-economic conditions and each sector is required to have a strategy to 2025 with a vision to 2030. They also raised availability of new forest resource data i.e. forest cover rate for 2015, which will be one of important data for strategy formulation. However, Mr. Thongphath suggested to start from data collection and so on without establishing a GOL level arrangement i.e. multi-ministerial steering committee because of expected restructuring of MAF and MONRE in 2016.

- 5) Availability of latest forest related data; Forest cover rate for 2015 in Jun 2015 as a tentative figure and in Nov 2015 as a confirmed figure. National Forest Inventory will be implemented in around 2016-17 and Forest Map for 2015 will be also available almost at the same time. Detailed forest resource data will be available for use in late 2017 or 2018 for construction of REL/RL to be submitted to UNFCCC and possibly for formulation of a new forestry strategy.
- 6) Major projects; Major forestry projects such as SUFORD, CliPAD and FCPF Support Project are to be ended by end 2018. Of these SUFORD and FCPF are likely to be extended, but CliPAD unknown at this moment. So, there will be possible resource sharing and other types of cooperation with these projects even after 2018.
- 7) Forest cover target 70% in 2020; GOL officers say this target cannot be changed in the next 5 year plan (2016-2020) because it is one of GOL long term goals for 2020 even though it is clear that this cannot be achieved. New forestry strategy will have a new forest cover target rate probably lower than 70%, and the conflict with the current target will surface if the new one is proposed to GOL sometime before 2020.

3. Possible option

Taking into account the above and a time period of 2-3 years necessary for strategy formulation, an option for new strategy formulation is proposed as below

Start formulation after forestry sector restructuring in 2016 and finalize in 2019 or 2020 (actual period is 3 years from 2017).

以下の提言について別紙「FS2020 レビュー等に基づき行われた提言に関する分析及び対応方向(案)」を参照。

- (b) Review the funding strategy focusing on the financial flow of timber revenue derived from out of PFAs and the suspected leakages of the revenue. Revisit the proposed action of FS2020 on funding, which suggests to secure the cost for the appropriate forest management as an necessary investment for avoiding deterioration of the resource base;
- (c) Strengthen the information base and improve the transparencies throughout the sector activities, particularly the timber flow and the concessions. The most urgent need is the improvement of the trade statistics in view of AEC, CITES enforcement and avoidance of the revenue leakages, and join the contributors to the international trade statistics;
- (d) Urgently study and discuss the management of rubber plantation on which the forestry sector has no competence at the moment. Risks raised in FSPI 2014 should be fully addressed;
- (e) Consider inclusion of *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Dalbergia bariensis* into the Appendix III of CITES in cooperation with other range countries.
- (f) Mainstream the timber supply from the development projects. Full control of the legitimate temporary sources is necessary to segregate and purge illegal logging and its timber flow;
- (g) Consider to join International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to seek help for SFM, forest industry development and statistical capacity strengthening as well as the expertise of tropical timber species in CITES Appendices.

Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
Promotion Project

Project Completion Report

Annex 6: Record of Discussion (R/D)
of the Implementation Phase

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS

ON

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND REDD+ SUPPORT
PROJECT

IN

THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

AGREED UPON BETWEEN

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

AND

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY

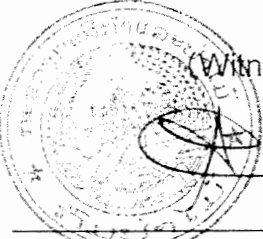

Vientiane Capital, 1st July 2015



Mr. Yusuke MURAKAMI
Chief Representative,
Laos Office,
Japan International Cooperation
Agency



Mr. Vongdeuane VONGSIHARATH
Director General,
Department of Forest Resource
Management
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment



(Witness)
Mr. Thongphath VONGMANY
Director General,
Department of Forestry
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

In response to the official request of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (hereinafter referred to as "GOL") to the Government of Japan, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JICA") and the Department of Forest Resources Management, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of GOL (hereinafter referred to as "DFRM") and relevant organizations have been collaborating on the preparation phase of the Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project (hereinafter referred to as "the Project", and formerly called as the "Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Promotion Project") since 9 December 2014.

Up to now, JICA, DFRM and relevant organizations held a series of discussions in order to develop a detailed plan for the full implementation phase of the Project. As a result, both parties agreed the details of the full implementation phase of the Project as outlined herewith, with its expected duration for 5 years from October 2015, and the main points discussed as described in the Appendix 1 and the Appendix 2 respectively.

Both parties also agreed that DFRM, the counterpart to JICA, will be responsible for the implementation of the Project in cooperation with JICA, and coordinate with other relevant organizations and ensure that the self-reliant operation of the Project is sustained during and after the implementation period in order to contribute toward social and economic development of Lao P.D.R.

The Project will be implemented within the framework of the Agreement on Technical Cooperation signed on 12th December 2003 (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement") and the Note Verbales exchanged on 19th May 2014 between the Government of Japan (hereinafter referred to as "GOJ") and GOL.

Present Record of Discussion, which was signed on 16th September 2014 will be expired upon signing of this Record of Discussion.

Appendix 1: Project Description
Appendix 2: Main Points Discussed

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

I. BACKGROUND

Lao P.D.R experienced rapid deforestation and forest degradation for decades. Forest cover in national territory for instance dropped from more than 70% in 1940's to 40% in 2010. Nine drivers of deforestation and degradation of forest were identified in the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), i.e. fire, unsustainable wood extraction, pioneering shifting cultivation, agriculture expansion, industrial tree plantation, mining, hydropower, infrastructure development and urban expansion, although the magnitude of deforestation of each of these drivers is not well studied.

Such serious deforestation and degradation of forest leads to adverse effects for micro and macro economy of Laos. Majority of the rural population directly rely on forest for food, water, energy, cash income and building material as well as pasture for cattle raising. Hydropower, which is one of the major sources for government revenue, also depends heavily on the function of forest as a mean for soil and water conservation. For such reasons, forest is crucial for sustaining the socio-economy of Laos, and at the same time, the country is vulnerable to the impacts of deforestation and degradation of forest.

Responding to such serious condition over forest in Laos, the Government of Laos (GOL) adopted the "Forest Strategy to the year 2020" (FS2020) in 2005. The FS2020 defines achieving 70% of forest cover by 2020 as its main target, and a set of actions for specific areas and cross-cutting issues, with responsible department for each action. At the same time, with bilateral and multilateral assistance, a number of countermeasures have been undertaken both in field level and in policy development, including "Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation including Forest Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and Carbon Stock Enhancement in Developing Countries" (REDD+).

Among such efforts, the Government of Japan (GOJ) has been supporting the forestry sector from the central to the local levels through four projects, i.e. Forestry Sector Capacity Development Project (FSCAP) terminated in September 2014, Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation in Lao P.D.R (PAREDD) to be completed in mid-August 2015, Forest Preservation Program (FPP) to be completed in June 2016, and Project on Capacity Development to Establish National Forest Information System for Promoting Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ (NFIS) to be completed in September 2015.

Japan has been supporting core issues in forestry sector for a long time,

including National Forest Information System, which forms a backbone of all information related to forest. It is rational, therefore, that Japan will play a central role in coordination on Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV), development of Reference Emission Level (REL) and other elements of REDD+, in addition to forest policy development and implementation in general.

The FS2020 defines the concrete targets of forest coverage as 65% in 2015 and 70% in 2020. The achievements against the targets should be verified and reported to the National Assembly, based on the forest cover assessment. Forest Resource Assessment 2020 by FAO will require a report on general information about the forest resources from every country, based on the latest information. To meet these demands, capacity of forest administrations for forest inventory and information management system at the national level is an urgent need for DOF and DFRM.

The United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) envisages a new framework succeeding to the Kyoto Protocol to enter into force in 2020, and REDD+ mechanism will be mainstreamed into the new framework. As a party to the UNFCCC, Lao P.D.R should be ready for the submission of comprehensive and reliable data including emissions from deforestation and degradation of forest as well as removal of carbon dioxide.

The GOL and the GOJ have been discussing the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) for mitigation of climate change, which creates opportunities for Laos to reduce emissions of Green House Gases (GHG) by investments from Japanese private sector. Since this is a newly developed mechanism, official procedures, rules and technical guidance should be developed and operationalized, while central and provincial authorities must have capacity to manage REDD+ projects properly.

Given such circumstances, the GOL requests the GOJ to support a new strategic project addressing key challenges in the forestry sector which Lao P.D.R is facing.

II. OUTLINE OF THE PROJECT

Details of the Project are described in the Logical Framework (Project Design Matrix: PDM) (Annex 1-II) and the tentative Plan of Operation (Annex 1-II).

1. Input

(1) Input by JICA

(a) Dispatch of Experts

Chief Adviser, Project Coordinator, Forestry Policy, Forest Information System, REDD+ Strategy, REDD+ implementation, Remote Sensing, Forest Inventory, Carbon Accounting, Database Management

(b) Training

Training courses in Japan and/ or third countries

(c) Machinery and Equipment

Input other than those indicated above will be determined through mutual consultations between JICA ,DFRM and DOF during the implementation of the Project, as necessary.

(2) Input by DFRM

DFRM will take necessary measures to provide at its own expense:

- (a) Services of DFRM's counterpart personnel and administrative personnel as referred to in II-6;
- (b) Suitable office space with necessary equipment;
- (c) Supply or replacement of machinery, equipment, instruments, vehicles, tools, spare parts and any other materials necessary for the implementation of the Project other than the equipment provided by JICA;
- (d) Means of transport and travel allowances for the JICA experts for official travel within GOL;
- (e) Suitable furnished accommodation for the JICA experts and their families;
- (f) Information as well as support in obtaining medical service;
- (g) Credentials or identification cards;
- (h) Available data (including maps and photographs) and information related to the Project;
- (i) Running expenses necessary for the implementation of the Project;
- (j) Expenses necessary for transportation within GOL of the equipment referred to in II-5 (1) as well as for the installation, operation and maintenance thereof; and
- (k) Necessary facilities to the JICA experts for the remittance as well as utilization of the funds introduced into GOL from Japan in connection with the implementation of the Project

(3) Input by DOF

DOF will take necessary measures to provide at its own expense:

- (a) Services of DOF's counterpart personnel and administrative personnel as referred to in II-6;
- (b) Suitable office space with necessary equipment
- (c) Supply or replacement of machinery, equipment, instruments, vehicles, tools, spare parts and any other materials necessary for the implementation of the Project other than the equipment provided by JICA;
- (d) Means of transport and travel allowances for the JICA experts for official travel within GOL;
- (e) Suitable furnished accommodation for the JICA experts and their families;
- (f) Information as well as support in obtaining medical service;
- (g) Credentials or identification cards for the experts working for DOF;
- (h) Available data (including maps and photographs) and information related

to the Project;

- (i) Running expenses necessary for the implementation of the Project;
- (j) Expenses necessary for transportation within GOL of the equipment referred to in II-5 (1) as well as for the installation, operation and maintenance thereof; and
- (k) Necessary facilities to the JICA experts for the remittance as well as utilization of the funds introduced into GOL from Japan in connection with the implementation of the Project

2. Implementation Structure

The Project organization chart is given in the Annex 1-III. The roles and assignments of relevant organizations are as follows:

(1) DFRM, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment

(a) Project Director

- Deputy Director General of DFRM, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment shall be assigned as the Project Director.
- Project Director will be responsible for overall administration and implementation of the Project.

(b) Project Manager

- Division Head of the Planning and Cooperation Division, DFRM, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment shall be assigned as the Project Manager.

(2) DOF, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

(a) Project Manager

- Head of the REDD+ Office, DOF, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry shall be assigned as the Project Manager.

(3) JICA Experts

The JICA experts will give necessary technical guidance, advice and recommendations to the counterparts in DFRM and DOF on any matters pertaining to the implementation of the Project.

(4) Joint Coordinating Committee

Joint Coordinating Committee (hereinafter referred to as "JCC") will be established in order to facilitate efficient planning, smooth implementation and inter-organizational coordination. JCC will be held at least once a year and whenever deems it necessary. JCC will approve the annual work plan, review overall progress, conduct evaluation of the Project, and exchange opinions on major issues that arise during the implementation of the Project. A list of proposed members of JCC is shown in the Annex 1-IV.

3. Project Site(s) and Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries

Main target groups of the project: DFRM, DOF, and PONRE/PAFO in Luang Prabang Province.

4. Duration

Five (5) years from the first arrival of the JICA experts for the full implementation phase to Lao P.D.R.

5. Reports

The project will prepare final report and necessary reports related to the project.

6. Environmental and Social Considerations

DFRM agreed to abide by 'JICA Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations' in order to ensure that appropriate considerations will be made for the environmental and social impacts of the Project.

III. UNDERTAKINGS OF DFRM AND GOL

DFRM and GOL will take necessary measures to:

- (1) ensure that the technologies and knowledge acquired by the Lao People's Democratic Republic nationals as a result of Japanese technical cooperation contributes to the economic and social development of Lao People's Democratic Republic, and that the knowledge and experience acquired by the personnel of Lao People's Democratic Republic from technical training as well as the equipment provided by JICA will be utilized effectively in the implementation of the Project; and
- (2) grant privileges, exemptions and benefits to the JICA experts referred to in II-5 (1) above and their families, which are no less favorable than those granted to experts and members of the missions and their families of third countries or international organizations performing similar missions in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

JICA and the DFRM will jointly and regularly monitor the progress of the Project through the Monitoring Sheets based on the Project Design Matrix (PDM) and Plan of Operation (PO). The Monitoring Sheets shall be reviewed every six (6) months.

Also, Project Completion Report shall be drawn up one (1) month before the termination of the Project.

V. PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SUPPORT

For the purpose of promoting support for the Project, DFRM will take appropriate measures to make the Project widely known to the people of Lao P.D.R.

VI. MISCONDUCT

If JICA receives information related to suspected corrupt or fraudulent practices in the implementation of the Project, DFRM and relevant organizations shall

provide JICA with such information as JICA may reasonably request, including information related to any concerned official of the government and/or public organizations of the Lao People`s Democratic Republic.

DFRM and relevant organizations shall not, unfairly or unfavorably treat the person and/or company which provided the information related to suspected corrupt or fraudulent practices in the implementation of the Project.

VII. MUTUAL CONSULTATION

JICA and DFRM will consult each other whenever any major issues arise in the course of Project implementation.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

The Record of Discussions may be amended by a Minutes of Meetings between JICA and DFRM with witness by DOF.

A Minutes of Meetings will be signed by authorized persons of each side who may be different from the signers of the record of discussions.

Annex 1-I Logical Framework (Project Design Matrix: PDM)

Annex 1-II Tentative Plan of Operation

Annex 1-III Project Organization Chart

Annex 1-IV A List of Proposed Members of the Joint Coordinating Committee

MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED

- The project needs to be implemented under good collaboration of DFRM and DOF. Both DFRM and DOF will take roles and make necessary inputs to achieve the project goal.
- The Project is expected to contribute to mitigation of and/or adaptation to climate change through promoting sustainable forest management and REDD+.
- The project needs to be implemented in line with the REDD+ roadmap (draft) as attached to the Minutes of Meetings on 31st March 2015. It is also confirmed that the government of Lao P.D.R will finalize the REDD+ roadmap in the early stage of the project.
- It is confirmed that the PONRE of Luang Prabang will lead the Output 4 of the project in collaboration with PAFO of Luang Prabang. As the lead of the Output 4, PONRE of Luang Prabang is also requested to provide the inputs described under "5. Inputs" of the R/D.

Project Design Matrix

Project Title: Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project

Version: draft 0

Implementing Agency: DFRM-MONRE, DOF-MAF, PONRE and PAFO of Luang Prabang Province

Dated 2015/06/16

Target Group: Government staff of the implementing agencies

Period of Project: 5 years from 2015

Project Site: Vientiane capital and Luang Prabang (LPB) Province

ANNEX 1-1

Narrative Summary			
Overall Goal	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumption
Sustainable Forest Management is promoted through full implementation of REDD+ and in coordination with the Forest Strategy.	1. REDD+ MRV periodically reported through BURs.	1. National MRV report through BURs.	
	2. SFM shows progress in line with the revised FS 2020.	2. [assess against the targets of the revised FS2020].	
	3. Forest cover in Luang Prabang increased xx % from year xxxx and thereby contribute to the FS implementation.	3. Comparison of forest cover.	
Project Purpose	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumption
Capacity for Sustainable Forest Management is strengthened through incorporation of REDD+ into the sector strategy and improved forest resource information.	1. Revised FS2020 approved.	1. Approval document.	Laos is equipped with the UNFCCC requirements for REDD+ result-based financing (i.e. National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS, SIS). NFMS is in constant operation based on the Operational Plan. Importance of forest conservation is supported, and necessary resources are secured. Negative impacts external to the forestry sector are effectively controlled and managed.
	2. NFMS operational in compliance with the UNFCCC.	2. Approval document of NFMS Operational Plan.	
	3. Based on the information generated by the NFMS, effectiveness of REDD+ activities is evaluated among the stakeholders (e.g. MONRE, MAF, Local Government, Development Partners) through a consultative process.	3. Evaluation summary submitted to the NRTF.	
	4. Results of activities in LPB province are utilized for the formulation of national forestry/REDD+ policies.	4. Feedback workshop report.	

Outputs	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumption
1. Capacity of the central government on policy development, implementation and sector coordination is enhanced. 1.1. Support development of forestry related regulations and policies. 1.2. Conduct capacity building sessions for targeted technical areas (e.g. PES, NFMS, REDD+). 1.3. Support sector coordination.	1. Role of REDD+ incorporated into the revised FS2020.	1. Verification of the revised FS2020.	Administrative structure of the sector remains unchanged, or the impact of change does not substantially risk the achievement of outputs.
	2. [number] counterparts are trained through Off-the-Job trainings.	2. Training session reports.	
	3. FSSWGs held every quarter.	3. Working Group reports.	
2. Emission reductions and removals resulting from the implementation of the REDD+ activities are quantified at national scale by using the NFMS. 2.1. Support development of the NFMS. 2.2. Support the 1 st national MRV for REDD+ by using the NFMS. 2.3. Support development of the national FREL/FRL. 2.4. Support the next National Forest Inventory (NFI) scheduled in 2016-2017.	1. NFMS developed.	1. Completion report of the 2 nd modification.	GoL decides to submit the 1 st national MRV report to the UNFCCC. GoL decides to submit the FREL/FRL to the UNFCCC.
	2. The 1st national MRV results reported to the national entity or focal point by using the NFMS.	2. 1 st national MRV report by DFRM/DOF.	
	3. The national FREL/FRL developed and submitted to the national entity or focal point.	3. FREL/FRL submission by DFRM/DOF.	
	4. Results of the NFI summarized.	4. NFI (2016 - 2017) report.	
3. Institutional development, management and coordination of national REDD+ is enhanced. 3.1. Provide technical inputs to the national REDD+ policies and institutions. 3.2. Support coordination role of DFRM and DOF in national REDD+. 3.3. Provide indirect support to JCM-REDD+ following its progress.	1. National REDD+ Strategy approved.	1. Approval document.	National REDD+ Strategy is approved without delay (expected within 2017). Administrative structure of REDD+ remains unchanged, or the impact of change does not substantially risk the achievement of outputs.
	2. "xxx" TWG co-chaired by the Project operational following the developed TOR.	2. "xxx" TWG report.	
	3. Recommendations made to the JCM-REDD+ Joint Committee along with the bilateral negotiation.	3. Input records from the REDD+ focal point to the JCM Joint Committee.	
4. REDD+ readiness in Luang Prabang province is enhanced . 4.1. Establish an institutional framework for implementing REDD+ in the province. 4.2. Pilot priority forestry policy(s) to address the drivers of emissions and removals. 4.3. Pilot forest monitoring as a part of REDD+ monitoring. 4.4. Promote cooperation on REDD+ between the central level and provincial level. 4.5. Strengthen the foundation to expand the PAREDD Approach.	1. Provincial REDD+ Strategy (PRS) approved.	1. Approval document.	
	2. Policy (s) effective to address drivers identified.	2. Evaluation report of the piloting results.	
	3. Provincial forest monitoring conducted.	3. Monitoring report.	
	4. JCM-REDD+ under proposal by a private entity integrated into the PRS.	4. Verification of the PRS.	
	5. 9 districts not supported by PAREDD have at least 4 officers/district trained in PAREDD Approach.	5. Training records.	

Activities	Inputs		Important Assumption
	Japanese side	Laos side	
<p>1. Capacity of the central government on policy development, implementation and sector coordination is enhanced.</p> <p>1.1. Support development of forestry related regulations and policies</p> <p>1.1.1. Agree on the orientation of FS2020 revision.</p> <p>1.1.2. Support FS2020 revision following the orientation agreed on and by incorporating the National REDD+ Strategy.</p> <p>1.1.3. Facilitate coordinated support to the policy needs of GoL through FSSWG framework.</p> <p>1.1.4. Based on 1.1.3 above, support development of other key policies (e.g. By-laws to the Forestry Law) (REDD+ related policies will be dealt with under Output 3).</p> <p>1.1.5. Feedback the results of policy piloting in Luang Prabang to the national policy.</p> <p>1.2. Conduct capacity building sessions for targeted technical areas (e.g. PES, NFMS, REDD+).</p> <p>1.2.1. In coordination with other stakeholders, conduct in-country trainings on the related fields.</p> <p>1.2.2. Conduct trainings in Japan and third countries.</p> <p>1.2.3. In coordination with other stakeholders, support participation of the counterparts to international conferences and workshops.</p> <p>1.3. Support sector coordination.</p> <p>1.3.1. Support the function of the FSSWG secretariat (e.g. information sharing, policy dialogues, stakeholder coordination).</p> <p>1.3.2. Support organization of FSSWG meetings (quarterly).</p> <p>1.3.3. Promote synergizing the FSSWG and the NRESWG, and other initiatives (e.g. through RTIM process).</p>	<p>1. Team of Japanese experts and national experts (tbd)</p> <p>Chief Adviser, Project Coordinator, Forestry Policy, Forest Information System, REDD+ Strategy, REDD+ implementation, Remote Sensing, Forest Inventory, Carbon Accounting, Database Management</p> <p>2. Equipment and Machinery To be further discussed</p> <p>3. Training To be further discussed</p> <p>4. Project Operation cost To be further discussed</p>	<p>1. Counterpart personnel (tbd)</p> <p>Project Director Project Manager –DFRM Project Manager –DOF Component Manager for each output Component team member for each output</p> <p>2. Office and equipment Office room(s) in DFRM, DOF, Luang Prabang</p> <p>3. Project Operation Cost To be further discussed</p>	<p>GoL commits to progress the revision of FS2020, and development of other policies also progress as scheduled.</p>

2. Emission reductions and removals resulting from the implementation of the REDD+ activities are quantified at national scale by using the NFMS.

2.1. Support development of the NFMS.

- 2.1.1. Decide the NFMS development plan.
- 2.1.2. Decide the scope, institutional arrangement and operational process.
- 2.1.3. Build the physical system based on the NFIS prototype.
- 2.1.4. Test-run and modify the scope, institutional arrangement, process, and the physical system (before and after the 1st MRV).
- 2.1.5. Develop the NFMS Operational Manual after the 2nd modification.
- 2.1.6. Develop the NFMS Operational Plan.

2.2. Support the 1st national MRV for REDD+ by using the NFMS

- 2.2.1. Decide the MRV procedure (e.g. technical methods, work process, institutional arrangement).
- 2.2.2. Modify the MRV procedure after the 1st test-run of the NFMS.
- 2.2.3. "Measuring": Estimate emissions by sources and removals by sinks from the latest available Activity Data (AD) and Emission Factor (EF) (for 2018-2019, tbd).
- 2.2.4. "Reporting": Facilitate inputs from forestry sector to the national GHG Inventory (assuming that the 3rd National Communications will be submitted in 2018-2019, and the BUR in 2019-2020).
- 2.2.5. "Verifying": Facilitate necessary arrangements required under the UNFCCC.

2.3. Support development of the national FREL/FRL.

- 2.3.1. Decide the plan and procedure for developing the national FREL/FRL.
- 2.3.2. Conduct driver analysis and develop Policies and Measures (PaMs).
- 2.3.3. Develop the 2015 forest map for creating the AD, including QA/QC.
- 2.3.4. Organize available EF from the NFI (2016-2017) results and other sources.
- 2.3.5. Develop the 2015 carbon map from the AD and EF prepared.
- 2.3.6. Develop historical trend from the carbon maps of multiple years, including 2015.
- 2.3.7. Define the national circumstances and reference scenario.
- 2.3.8. Hold consultation workshop(s) to decide the national FREL/FRL.
- 2.3.9. Facilitate submission of the national FREL/FRL to the UNFCCC.
- 2.3.10. Support improvement of the national FREL/FRL by reflecting the technical assessment

Cooperation with MONRE-DDMCC, as the responsible agency of "Reporting" of the MRV, proceeds efficiently.

results of the UNFCCC.

2.4. Support the next National Forest Inventory (NFI) scheduled in 2016-2017.

- 2.4.1. Support developing the plan for the next NFI (e.g. scope, institutional arrangement, work procedure)
- 2.4.2. Provide technical supports to the field survey.
- 2.4.3. Support compilation of the NFI survey results, including QA/QC (data will be stored into the NFMS).

3. Institutional development, management and coordination of national REDD+ is enhanced.

3.1. Provide technical inputs to the national REDD+ policies and institutions.

- 3.1.1. In coordination with other stakeholders, facilitate the development of National REDD+ Strategy.
- 3.1.2. Provide technical inputs to the National REDD+ Strategy.
- 3.1.3. Provide technical inputs to other national REDD+ policies (e.g. Safeguard, Benefit Sharing Mechanism).
- 3.1.4. Raise awareness on the need for the REDD+ focal point (i.e. DFRM and DOF) and the UNFCCC national entity or focal point (MONRE-DDMCC) to cooperate.
- 3.1.5. Based on the information obtained through the NFMS, evaluate the effectiveness of REDD+ activities among the stakeholders through a consultative process.
- 3.1.6. Enhance synergy between REDD+ in Luang Prabang and the national level, including the NFMS.
- 3.1.7. In coordination with other stakeholders, support Laos on accessing FCPF-CF (only if Laos is selected as a CF pipeline country).

3.2. 3.2 Support coordination role of DFRM and DOF in national REDD+.

- 3.2.1. Provide technical inputs to the NRTF.
- 3.2.2. Provide technical inputs to the TWGs.
- 3.2.3. Provide technical and operational support to the selected TWGs.

Development of National REDD+ Strategy and other national policies/institutions for REDD+ progress as scheduled.

TWGs are established and the TORs are decided without delay.

3.3. Provide indirect support to JCM-REDD+ following its progress.

- 3.3.1. Provide technical inputs to the institutional and technical aspects of JCM-REDD+.
- 3.3.2. Assist the counterparts to foster their understanding on JCM-REDD+.

4. REDD+ readiness in Luang Prabang province is enhanced.

4.1. Establish an institutional framework for REDD+ in the province.

- 4.1.1. In line with the progress of national policies, develop an institution for REDD+ in the province (e.g. provincial REDD+ Task Force).
- 4.1.2. Identify the drivers of emissions and removals.
- 4.1.3. In line with the progress of national policies, develop the provincial REDD+ Strategy (PRS).
- 4.1.4. Build technical capacity of the stakeholders to implement the PRS.

4.2. Pilot priority forestry policy(s) to address the drivers of emissions and removals.

- 4.2.1. Identify priority forestry policy(s) to address the drivers identified in 4.1.
- 4.2.2. Pilot identified priority forestry policy(s).
- 4.2.3. Evaluate the results of piloting.
- 4.2.4. Feedback the evaluated results to the province and the national level.

4.3. Pilot forest monitoring as a part of REDD+ monitoring.

- 4.3.1. Develop the provincial forest monitoring plan.
- 4.3.2. Support implementation of provincial forest monitoring based on its plan.
- 4.3.3. Review the monitoring result to assess the situation of forestry sector.

4.4. Promote cooperation on REDD+ between the central level and provincial level.

- 4.4.1. Feedback the lessons from the provincial REDD+ readiness exercise to the national level (e.g. National REDD+ Strategy, NFMS).
- 4.4.2. Assist the province to foster their understanding on JCM-REDD+.

4.5. Strengthen the foundation to expand the PAREDD Approach.


- 4.5.1. Provide advice to the JCM-REDD+ project proposed.
- 4.5.2. Conduct Training of Trainers (ToTs) to increase the staff who can apply PAREDD Approach in

JCM-REDD+ progress as intended.

Provincial REDD+ is supported under national policy.

The proposed JCM-REDD+ project continues.



<p>their administrative unit.</p> <p>4.5.3. Continue field monitoring of PAREDD sites (e.g. Village Development Fund as the future basis for REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism), and feedback lessons to the province and the national level.</p> <p>4.5.4. Assist the province to access and/or coordinate external funds and other donor projects, as the resources to implement REDD+ activities, including PAREDD Approach.</p>			
			Pre-Conditions
			<p>Both Lao and Japanese side decide the project framework and implementation arrangement without delay.</p> 
			<Issues and counter measures>



Project Title: Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project

ANNEX 1-II

Inputs	Year	1st Year (2015)				2nd Year (2016)				3rd Year (2017)				4th Year (2018)				5th Year (2019)				6th Year (2020)				Remarks				
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV					
Expert	Plan					As provisionally indicated in the R/D, and to be determined through further discussions.																								
Equipment	Plan					To be determined through further discussions.																								
Training in Japan	Plan					To be determined through further discussions.																								
In-country/Third country Training	Plan																													

Activities	Year	1st Year (2015)				2nd Year (2016)				3rd Year (2017)				4th Year (2018)				5th Year (2019)				6th Year (2020)				Responsible Organization				
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	Japan	GoL			
Sub-Activities																														
Output 1: Capacity of the central government on policy development, implementation and sector coordination is enhanced.																														
1.1. Support development of forestry related regulations and policies.						FS2020 review of alternatives, support other key policies, cooperate with Output 4																								
1.1.1. Agree on the orientation of FS2020 revision.	Plan																											Lead: PCD/DFRM Sub: PCD/DOF		
1.1.2. Support FS2020 revision following the orientation agreed on, and by incorporating the National REDD+ Strategy.	Plan																													
1.1.3. Facilitate coordinated support to the policy needs by donor partners through FSSWG framework.	Plan																													
1.1.4. Based on 1.1.3 above, support development of other key policies (e.g. By-laws to the Forestry Law) (REDD+ related policies will be supported under Output 3).	Plan																													
1.1.5. Feedback the results of policy piloting in Luang Prabang to the national policy.	Plan																													
1.2. Conduct capacity building sessions for targeted technical areas (e.g. PES, NFMS, REDD+).						Trainings, participate in international WSs, etc.																								
1.2.1. In coordination with other donor partners, conduct in-country trainings on the related fields.	Plan																											Lead: PCD/DFRM Sub: PCD/DOF Capacity building target: DFRM, DOF, LPB, other agencies concerned.		
1.2.2. Conduct trainings in Japan and third countries.	Plan																													
1.2.3. In coordination with other stakeholders, support participation of the counterparts to international conferences and workshops.	Plan																													
1.3. Support sector coordination.						Support FSSWG secretariat function, FSSWG meetings																								
1.3.1. Support the function of the FSSWG secretariat (e.g. information sharing, policy dialogues, donor coordination).	Plan																											Lead: PCD/DFRM Sub: PCD/DOF		
1.3.2. Support organization of FSSWG meetings (quarterly).	Plan																													
1.3.3. Promote synergizing the FSSWG and the NRESWG, and other initiatives (e.g. thorough RTIM process).	Plan																													

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Activities	Year	1st Year (2015)				2nd Year (2016)				3rd Year (2017)				4th Year (2018)				5th Year (2019)				6th Year (2020)				Responsible Organization	
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	Japan	GoL
Sub-Activities																											
Output 2: Emission reductions and removals resulting from the implementation of the REDD+ activities are quantified at national scale by using the NFMS																											
<p>2.1. Support development of the NFMS.</p> <p>2.1.1. Decide the NFMS development plan. Plan [2015-2016]</p> <p>2.2.2. Decide the scope, institutional arrangement and operational process. Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.2.3. Build the physical system based on the NFMS prototype. Plan [2017-2018]</p> <p>2.2.4. Test-run and modify the scope, institutional arrangement, process, and the physical system (before and after the 1st MRV). Plan [2018-2019] (Includes Modify (1) and Modify (2))</p> <p>2.2.5. Develop the NFMS Operational Manual after the 2nd modification. Plan [2019-2020] (Includes draft and finalize)</p> <p>2.2.6. Develop the NFMS Operational Plan. Plan [2019-2020] (Includes draft and finalize & approve)</p> <p>2.2. Support the 1st national MRV for REDD+ by using the NFMS.</p> <p>2.2.1. Decide the MRV procedure (e.g. technical methods, work process, institutional arrangement). Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.2.2. Modify the MRV procedure after the 1st test-run of the NFMS. Plan [2018-2019]</p> <p>2.2.3. "Measuring": Estimate emissions by sources and removals by sinks from the latest available Activity Data (AD) and Emission Factors (EF) for 2018-2019, (td). Plan [2018-2019]</p> <p>2.2.4. "Reporting": Facilitate inputs from forestry sector to the national GHG Inventory (assuming that the 3rd National Communications submitted in 2018-2019, and the BUR in 2019-2020). Plan [2019-2020] (Includes Collaborate with the 3rd National Communications and Submit through 2019 BUR)</p> <p>2.2.5. "Verifying": Facilitate necessary arrangements required under the UNFCCC. Plan [2019-2020]</p> <p>2.3. Support development of the national FREL/FRL.</p> <p>2.3.1. Decide the plan and procedures for developing the national FREL/FRL. Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.3.2. Conduct driver analysis and develop Policies and Measures (PaMs). Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.3.3. Develop the 2015 forest map for creating the AD (including QA/QC). Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.3.4. Organize available EF from the NFI (2016-2017) results and other sources. Plan [2017-2018]</p> <p>2.3.5. Develop the 2015 carbon map from the AD and EF prepared. Plan [2017-2018]</p> <p>2.3.6. Develop historical trend from the carbon maps of multiple years, including 2015. Plan [2018-2019]</p> <p>2.3.7. Define the national circumstances and reference scenario. Plan [2018-2019]</p> <p>2.3.8. Hold consultation workshop(s) to decide the national FREL/FRL. Plan [2018-2019]</p> <p>2.3.9. Facilitate submission of the national FREL/FRL to the UNFCCC. Plan [2019-2020]</p> <p>2.3.10. Support improvement of the national FREL/FRL by reflecting the technical assessment results of the UNFCCC. Plan [2019-2020]</p> <p>2.4. Support the next National Forest Inventory (NFI) scheduled in 2016-2017.</p> <p>2.4.1. Support developing the plan for the next NFI (e.g. scope, institutional arrangement, work procedure). Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.4.2. Provide technical supports to the field survey. Plan [2016-2017]</p> <p>2.4.3. Support compilation of the NFI survey results (including QA/QC) (data will be stored into the NFMS). Plan [2016-2017]</p>																											
<p>Lead: FIPD/DOF Sub: R-Div/DFRM R-Office/DOF</p> <p>Lead: FIPD/DOF Sub: R-Div/DFRM R-Office/DOF</p> <p>Lead: FIPD/DOF Sub: R-Div/DFRM R-Office/DOF</p> <p>Lead: FIPD/DOF Sub: R-Div/DFRM R-Office/DOF</p>																											

Activities	Year	1st Year (2015)				2nd Year (2016)				3rd Year (2017)				4th Year (2018)				5th Year (2019)				6th Year (2020)				Responsible Organization	
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	Japan	GoL
Output 3: Institutional development, management and coordination of national REDD+ is enhanced.																											
3.1. Provide technical inputs to the national REDD+ policies and institutions.																											
Technical inputs to national REDD+ Strategy and other requirements for result-based payment, M&F. Cooperate with Output 4																											
3.1.1. In coordination with other donor partners, facilitate the development of National REDD+ Strategy.	Plan																										
3.1.2. Provide technical inputs to the National REDD+ Strategy.	Plan																										
3.1.3. Provide technical inputs to other national REDD+ policies (e.g. Safeguard, Benefit Sharing Mechanism).	Plan																										
3.1.4. Raise awareness on the need for REDD+ focal point(s) and UNFCCC focal point (MONRE-DDMCC) to cooperate.	Plan																										
3.1.5. Based on the information obtained through the NFMS, evaluate the effectiveness of REDD+ activities through a consultative process.	Plan																										
3.1.6. Enhance synergy between REDD+ in Luang Prabang and the national level (including the NFMS).	Plan																										
3.1.7. In coordination with other stakeholders, support Laos on accessing FCPF-CF (only if Laos is selected as a CF pipeline country).	Plan																										
only if Laos is selected as a CF pipeline country																											
3.2. Support coordination role of DFRM and DOF in national REDD+.																											
(in collaboration with other donors) Support NRTF, TWGs																											
3.2.1. Provide technical inputs to the NRTF.	Plan																										
3.2.2. Provide technical inputs to the TWGs.	Plan																										
3.2.3. Provide technical and operational support to the selected TWGs.	Plan																										
3.3. Provide indirect support to JCM-REDD+ following its progress.																											
Indirect support to promote JCM-REDD+ following its technical and institutional progress																											
3.3.1. Provide technical inputs to the institutional and technical aspects of JCM-REDD+.	Plan																										
3.3.2. Assist the counterparts to foster their understanding on JCM-REDD+.	Plan																										

Lead: R-Div./DFRM
Sub: R-Office/DOF

Lead: R-Div./DFRM
Sub: R-Office/DOF

Lead: R-Div./DFRM
Sub: R-Office/DOF

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Monitoring Plan	Year	1st Year (2015)				2nd Year (2016)				3rd Year (2017)				4th Year (2018)				5th Year (2019)				6th Year (2020)				Remarks				
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	sc	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV					
Monitoring																														
Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC)	Plan																													Review progress, approve DPO, etc.
Set-up the Detailed Plan of Operation (DPO)	Plan																													To be approved in the JCC. Harmonize with Lao annual planning cycle (Oct - Sep).
Submission of Monitoring Sheet	Plan																													To be used as the basis for the DPO. Also to be reported to the JCC.
JICA Monitoring Mission from Japan	Plan																													To be scheduled in conjunction with the JCC.
Joint Monitoring (JM)	Plan																													Shall be a process for developing the MS.
Post Monitoring	Plan																													Scheduled in 2021 and 2023 Internal M&E by JICA Laos
Reports/Documents																														
Mid-term Progress Report	Plan																													
Project Completion Report	Plan																													Draft to be submitted at least 1 month before the completion of the project.
Public Relations																														
Quarterly Newsletter	Plan																													
Project website	Plan																													

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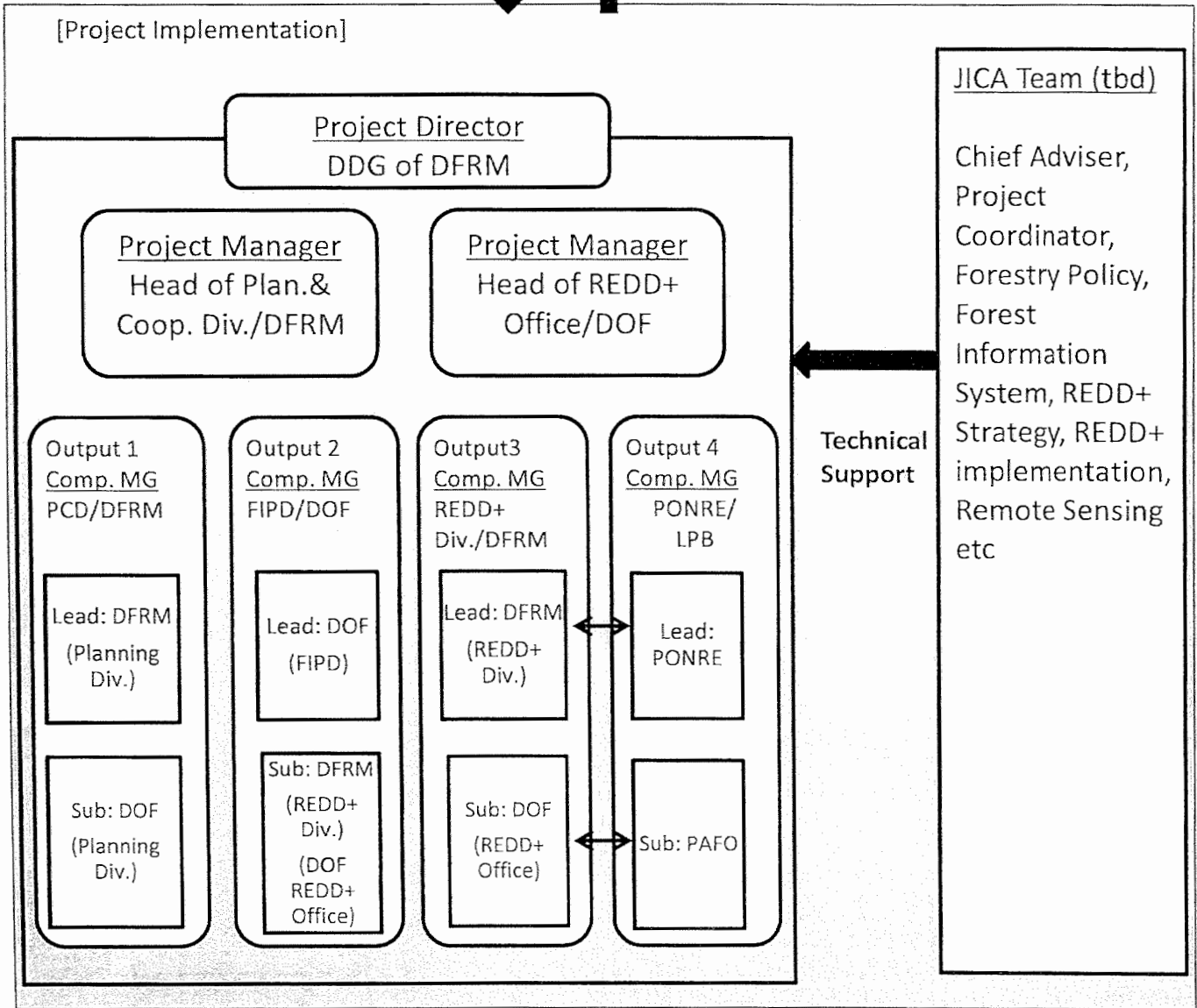
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Project Organization Chart

[Project Monitoring & Coordination]
Joint Coordinating Committee

Guidance ↓ ↑ Report



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ANNEX 1-IV

JOINT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

1. Function

The Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) will meet at least once a year or whenever necessity arises. The main functions of JCC are:

- (1) To approve the Plan of Operation and the annual work plan of the Project.
- (2) To review the overall progress of the Project activities as well as the achievement of the above-mentioned annual plan; and
- (3) To review and exchange views on major issues arising from or in connection with the Project, and to recommend corrective measures.

2. Membership

(1) Chairperson:

Director General, DFRM, MONRE

(2) Vice chairperson:

Chief Representative, JICA Laos Office

(3) Lao side:

- Deputy Director General, DOF, MAF
- Representative from Department of Planning and Cooperation, MONRE
- Representative from Department of Planning and Cooperation, MAF
- Representative from Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change, MONRE
- Representative from Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)
- Representative from Ministry of Finance (MOF)
- Representative from Government Office of Luang Prabang Province
- Representative from PONRE and PAFO of Luang Prabang Province
- Representative from Faculty of Forestry, National University of Laos (NUL)
- Project Director, Project Manager(s), Component Manager(s) and other counterparts
- Other officials mutually agreed upon

(4) Japanese side:

- Representative of JICA Laos Office
- JICA Experts of the Project
- Other relevant personnel mutually agreed upon

Note: Official(s) of Embassy of Japan may attend the JCC as observer(s)



Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
Promotion Project

Project Completion Report

Annex 7: NFMS technical work shop agenda
(work shop materials stored in the CD-R)



Japan International Cooperation Agency



Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment, Lao PDR
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR

Concept Note (v.2)

Technical workshop

National Forest Monitoring System, FREL/FRL and MRV for REDD+ in Lao P.D.R.

Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management
and REDD+ Promotion Project (F-PREP)

Background

Under the UNFCCC, developing countries are requested to develop a national forest monitoring system (NFMS) for REDD+ as an accountable system for monitoring and reporting of the REDD+ activities. An NFMS enables countries to collect information necessary to measure, report and verify (MRV) estimates of emission reductions and/or removals against the established forest reference emissions level/forest reference level (FREL/FRL), and also helps to assess the effectiveness of REDD+ activities on addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation or forest recovery. These are inevitable elements for a country to benefit from the future REDD+ result-based financing.

Lao P.D.R. has been making progress in preparing for the NFMS, and its key elements such as forest inventory, satellite-based land monitoring systems, and some database systems for the sector. The new JICA project (2015-2020) will, under its component 2, provide focused technical support to develop a country-led NFMS for Lao P.D.R., including development of FREL/FRL, the next national forest inventory, and the 1st MRV which is expected to be submitted to the UNFCCC through an authorized process .

Objectives of the workshop

The internal workshop will draw on the experiences of the past and ongoing exercises in Lao P.D.R., share the cases in other countries, and intend to facilitate a common understanding between JICA and the Lao counterparts to collaborate in the new JICA project (2015-2020).

The key objectives of the meeting are to:

- Build consistency in basic understanding of key issues relating to NFMS, such as:
 - Purpose of the NFMS and its possible structure;
 - Inter-relationship among NFMS, FREL/FRL, national forest inventory, MRV
 - Key player and stakeholders to be involved;
 - Up-to-date progress of Lao P.D.R. in the above elements.
- Obtain broader viewpoints and ideas on NFMS through the case study of other countries (tbd);
- Identify capacity gaps and plan follow-up activities for support by the new JICA project (2015-2020).

Expected outputs and results

The main results of the meeting will be:

- a greater understanding of NFMS for REDD+ and potential processes related to their development;
- shared common understanding on the needs and challenges of country-led NFMS processes in terms of both institutional and technical aspects;
- enhanced understandings on the activities to be undertaken by the new JICA project.

Expected participants

Approximately 20 participants.

Please send the list of nominees for the workshop to the contact below no later than **20 May 2015.**

Government staff and technical experts from the following fields are invited. The participants are strongly expected to be in a position who will apply the outputs and results of the workshop in the national REDD+ development, and also who are expected be a part of the counterpart team of the new JICA project (2015-2020):

Decision maker, Coordinator on REDD+	Person in a suitable position to orient and coordinate REDD+ of Lao P.D.R., with particular focus on NFMS. This may include: Leaders/DFRM, leaders/DOF, REDD+ Division/DFRM, REDD+ Office/DOF, Dpt. of Disaster Management and Climate Change (DDMCC)/MONRE.
Remote sensing and GIS expert	Technical expert with basic knowledge, skill and involvement in the national application of satellite-based forest monitoring using remote sensing and GIS tools. Technical expert with basic knowledge, skill and involvement in the national application of GIS in the forestry sector.
Forest inventory expert	Technical expert who is familiar with activities relating to national forest inventory and/or national forest mapping systems and data.
Database management expert	Technical expert who is in charge of, or will be in charge of the development and management of forestry database (e.g. National Forest Information Database under concept designing by NFIS project, SUFORD project, CliPAD project).

Dates and venue

28-29 May

Meeting room ofDOF-MAF

Language

The workshop will be delivered with a combination of English and Lao. An interpretation service will be provided but having basic listening, reading and conversation skill in English are valued.

Presentations by international experts will be delivered in English, while presentations by Lao experts in Lao. These will be followed by Q&As and discussions basically in English.

Contact

For more information, please contact **Mr. Eiji Egashira** <egashira.eiji@gmail.com> (project coordinator) and/or **Ms. Southida SOULIYAVONG** <southidajica@gmail.com> (technical assistant) or call 021-222-536 (F-PREP project office).

Focal points of the Lao side are:

For MONRE: **Mr. Saly SINGSAVANH**, Head of Planning and Cooperation Div, DFRM (as the project manager of F-PREP).

For MAF: **Mr. Savanh CHANTHAKOUMMANE**, Head of REDD+ Office, DOF (as the DOF focal point of F-PREP)

Day 1 28 May		
8:45 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:10	Opening remark	DG or DDG, DFRM
9.10 – 9:20	Introduction to the workshop and agenda	F-PREP
9:20 – 10:15	【Session 1】 NFMS, FREL/FRL, MRV and other key elements under the UNFCCC Q&A Discussion	Kitamura/ F-PREP
10:15 - 10:30	Break	
10:30 – 11:15	【Session 2】 How ready is Lao P.D.R.? – 1. National forest information and NFMS	Haraguchi/ NFIS
11:15 – 12:00	【Session 3】 How ready is Lao P.D.R.? – 2. Satellite-based forest monitoring and preparation of Activity Data (AD) for REDD+	Kajiwara/NFIS and Sombath/FIPD
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch	
3.00 – 13.45	【Session 4】 How ready is Lao P.D.R.? – 3. National forest inventory, Allometric equations for forest biomass, and preparation of Emission Factor (EF) for REDD+	Soukhan/FIPD
13:45 – 14:00	Break	
14:00 – 14:30	【Session 5】 How ready is Lao P.D.R.? – 4. Reporting to the UNFCCC (GHG Inventory)	Mr. Immala INTHABUALY /DDMCC
14:30 – 15:00	Wrap-up of Day-1 and closing	F-PREP

Leaders of DFRM and DOF are expected to participate particularly in Sessions 1.

Day 2 29 May		
8:45 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:20	Recap of Day-1 Introduction to Day-2	F-PREP
9:20 – 10:40	【Session 6】 Country case study - Vietnam (Akiko/UNREDD-FAO) 40 min - PNG and Peru (Haraguchi) 40 min	Akiko/ UNREDD-FAO Haraguchi/ NFIS
10:40-11:00	Break	
11:00 – 11:30	【Session 7】 Discussion: Institutional challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key player and stakeholder mapping ● Institutional design 	Co-facilitator Saly/DFRM, Kitmamura/ F-PREP
11:30 – 12:00	【Session 8】 Introduction to the new JICA project with particular focus on the Output 2 - NFMS, FREL/FRL, MRV, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expected outputs and work plan ● Identification of challenges and support needs 	Egashira/ F-PREP Co-facilitator Saly/DFRM, Kitamura/ F-PREP)
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch	
13:00 – 13:45	【Session 9】 Additional time for Q & A and discussion Wrap-up of the workshop	Co-facilitator Saly/DFRM, Kitamura/ F-PREP
13: 45 – 14:00	Closing remark	DG or DDG, DFRM

Leaders of DFRM and DOF are expected to participate particularly in Sessions 7, 8, 9.

Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
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Project Completion Report

Annex 8: International forestry governance training
(English training)



21st Century School
ໂຮງຮຽນສະຕະວັດທີ 21

PO Box 77
074/6 Sisangvone Rd.
That Luang Tai
Vientiane, Lao PDR

P: +856 21 45 2500
F: +856 21 45 2927

Latest List of student for English Training

Group 1 (Elementary)

Room 4

No.	Name and Surname	Organizations
1	Mr. Dada VONGLATHSAMY	Planning and Cooperation Division/DFRM
2	Mr. Mone SUPHUNKONE	Protection Forest/ Conservation Forest Invent Services/DFRM
3	Mr. Lerdvilay SINBANDITH	Emission from Deforestation Management Division/DFRM
4	Mr. Sythat SETTHAVANSAY	Aquatic and Wild Animal Management Division/DFRM
5	Mr. Chantha PHETPHOMMY	Village Forest and NTFPs Management Division/DOF
6	Mr. Phouthavonh PHONGPHICHIT	Organization and Administration Division/DOF
7	Mrs. Phaysouphet PHILAKONE	Planning and Cooperation Division/DOF
8	Mrs. Sommay VANNASOUK	Planning and Cooperation Division/DOF
9	Mr. Phouthasack PHAFONG	Office of the Secretariat of Forest Development Fund/DOF
10	Mr. Phouthone PHOUTTHAVONGSA	Technician of Inventory Section/FIPD
11	Mr. Bounlang SILIVONG	Technician of Administration Division/MAF
12	Mr. Syvone SONTHIPANYA	Technical Standard Development Division/DOF
13	Mr. Douangchai XAYPANYA	Forest Plantation/ Forest Investment Promotion Division/DOF
14	Mr. Khamdy CHAXONGTOUR	Forest Cover Estimation Unit/FIPD

Group 2 (Pre- Intermediate)

Room 16

No.	Name and Surname	Organizations
1	Mr. Soullilath KEOVILAY	Forest Management Division/DFRM
2	Mr. Monkham VONGKHILEE	Protect Forest/ Conservation Forest Inspection Services/DFRM
3	Mr. Khammanh THAMMAVONG	Forest Regeneration Service/DFRM
4	Mr. Sonekham SATDICHAN	Administration Division/DFRM
5	Ms. Manadnay XAVONGXAY	Forest Management Division/DFRM
6	Ms. Khonmany CHANTHAVONG	Organization and Administration Division/DOF
7	Mr. Sadavouth MANIVONG	Office of GHG Emission Reduction Deforestation/DOF
8	Mr. Linthong KHAMDY	Director General of FIPD
9	Mr. Bounpheng VICHITH	Deputy Director General of FIPD
10	Ms. Phetsamone THAMMAVONG	Planning and Cooperation Division/DFRM



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To added 4

more persons from FIPD:

- 1. Mr. Linthong KHAMDY, Director General of FIPD**
- 2. Mr. Mr. Khamma HOMSIKAVATH, DDG of FIPD**
- 3. Mr. Bounpheng VICHITH, DDG of FIPD**
- 4. Mr. Phouthone KHOUTHAVONGSA, Technician of Inventory Section**

Duration of the Study

54 sessions of training for each class on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

Start from 4:30-6:15, 1 hrs 45 minutes per class, 87 hr 30 minutes per class total.

Start date: 20th April 2015

Expected Finish date: 25 August 2015

Expiration date: 11 September 2015

This comes with my best wishes

Yours sincerely

Alastair Maitland
Director

Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
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Annex 9: Lao P.D.R. presentation at the FCPF Carbon Fund
meeting (CF12)



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Lao PDR Early Idea Forest Landscape Approach to REDD+ Emissions Reductions

Twelfth Meeting of the Carbon Fund (CF12)

Paris, France

April 28-30, 2015



Land Use Change in Lao PDR

- Lao PDR is land-locked, or land-linked, between 5 of the most rapidly industrializing countries in Asia. It has among lowest population densities in Asia, with over 6.5 million people of 49 ethnic groups, but a **rapidly growing economy**.
- Primary domestic **drivers of deforestation and degradation**: Illegal logging, pioneering shifting cultivation, fire, agricultural expansion, agro-industrial plantations, hydropower dams, mining, roads, infrastructure development, urban expansion



Fire



Urban expansion



Agro-industrial plantations, i.e., maize and rubber



Hydropower development

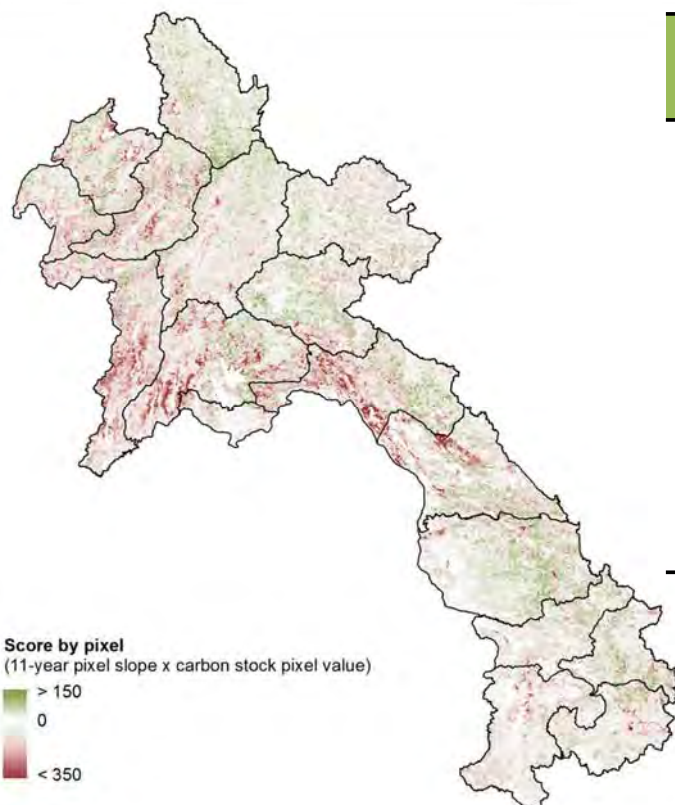


Mining



Road construction

Lao PDR Areas of Gains and Loss in Forest Cover



Forest Management Categories	Area (M ha)	Forested Area (M ha)	Forest Cover
Protection Forest	8.2	3.13	38%
Conservation Forest	4.7	2.64	56%
Production Forest	3.1	1.48	48%
Plantations	0.3	0.30	100%
Other Areas	6.8	2.00	29%
Total Land Area	23.1	9.55	41%

Source: Forest Cover Assessment, DOF, 2010

Net Forest Loss (2000-2013): 1,110,268 ha

Average: 85,405 ha/year

Source: Hansen et al. 2013

3

Lao PDR REDD+ Overview

- **REDD+ National Task Force**, technical working groups, and two **REDD+ Offices*** working with development partners on **REDD+ readiness** at national level
 - FCPF Readiness Grant
 - Lao Forest Investment Plan
 - Other REDD-related projects
- REDD+ Readiness activities are progressing in **selected provinces**, as part of sub-national approach to REDD+
- **Government and National Assembly** revising **Forest Law**, which will incorporate articles on payment for environmental services and REDD+

*Lao PDR has two REDD+ Offices, which work together to support REDD+:

- National REDD+ Division in Department of Forest Resource Management, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and
- Department of Forestry REDD+ Office in Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

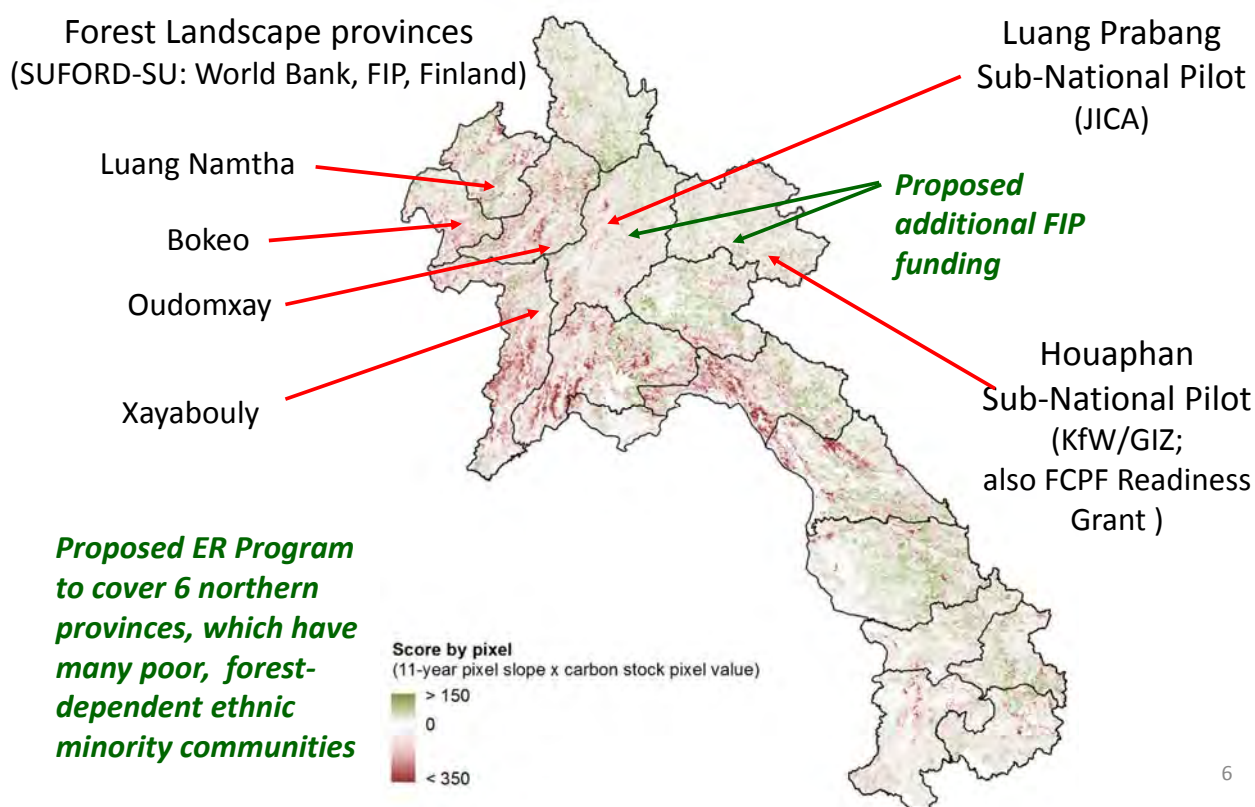
4

Lao PDR's FCPF Readiness Grant

- Readiness Process Management and Stakeholder Consultation
 - Support REDD+ Offices at various levels and 2 pilot provinces (Houaphan, Champasack)
 - Stakeholder working group, update and implement stakeholder consultations
- REDD+ Strategy Development
 - Policy analysis and other studies, identify REDD+ strategy options, and prepare national REDD+ Strategy;
 - Carry out the Social and Environmental Strategic Assessment (SESA) and prepare the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- Other REDD+ Readiness Implementation Arrangements
 - Work on revenue management, benefit-sharing, grievance and redress mechanisms, and build capacity in information and knowledge management
- Reference Emission Level (REL) and Monitoring Systems
 - Develop of REL and system to monitor, report and verify the forest carbon stock
 - Develop Safeguard Information System (SIS) for monitoring non-carbon co-benefits
 - Establish of a carbon registry, to be used for both carbon and non-carbon requirements

5

Lao PDR ER Program Scale



6

ER Program Strategies

Lao ER Program (2018-2022) proposed to build on ongoing and future work to address deforestation and degradation:

- National-level **policy** work and **forest and wildlife law enforcement**; Provincial scaling up of FLEGT
- Provincial REDD+ **action plans** and provincial **forest landscape management** agreements and plans
- **Certified sustainable forest management** (scaling up of certification for natural forests, small-scale plantations)
- **Participatory forest land use planning**
- Province-specific mitigation activities, i.e., **alternative livelihood activities, agroforestry**
- Site-specific **forest restoration** (natural regeneration, enrichment planting, gap planting, etc.) to increase carbon sequestration

7

ER Program Strategies: Diversity and Learning Value

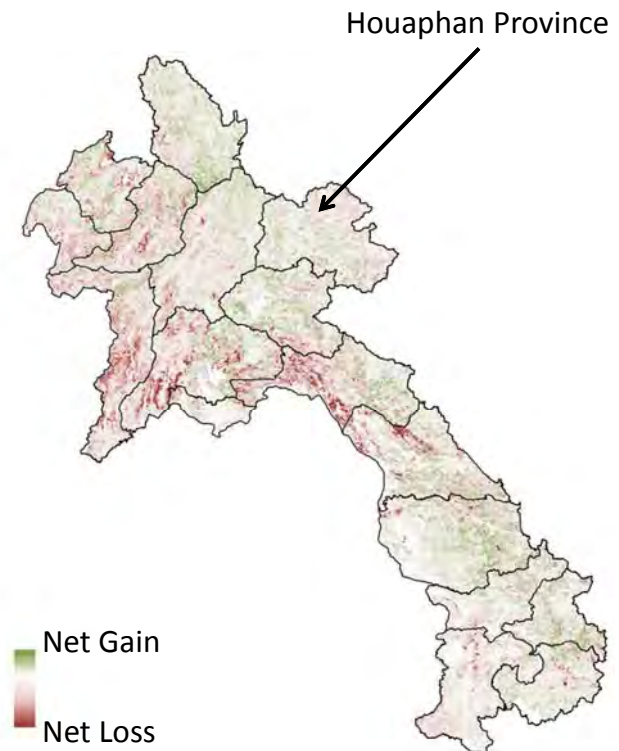
- Lao PDR ER Program has great potential for **forest regeneration** if land use is well managed.
- Lao PDR ER Program would **support piloting approaches to integrated spatial planning, forest landscape management and provincial REDD+ development** to address drivers of deforestation and promote climate sensitive development in an integrated manner.
- By promoting **inter-agency cooperation on planning**, deforestation impacts can be minimized of drivers such as:
 - Hydropower and infrastructure development
 - Agricultural and rubber concessions
 - Pioneering shifting cultivation

8

ER Program Highlights: Houaphan Province

Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation Project (CliPAD, KfW/GIZ) (2009-2018)

- First Province-wide REDD+ Program
- Based on Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+ (VCS-JNR) Requirements
- Mitigation activities in 2 districts and 70 villages :
 - participatory land use planning,
 - village forest management agreements
 - law enforcement action,
 - agricultural extension
- Province-wide forest carbon inventories completed (2014)
- Province-wide REL under development
- Possible forest landscape management



9

ER Program Highlights: Luang Prabang Province

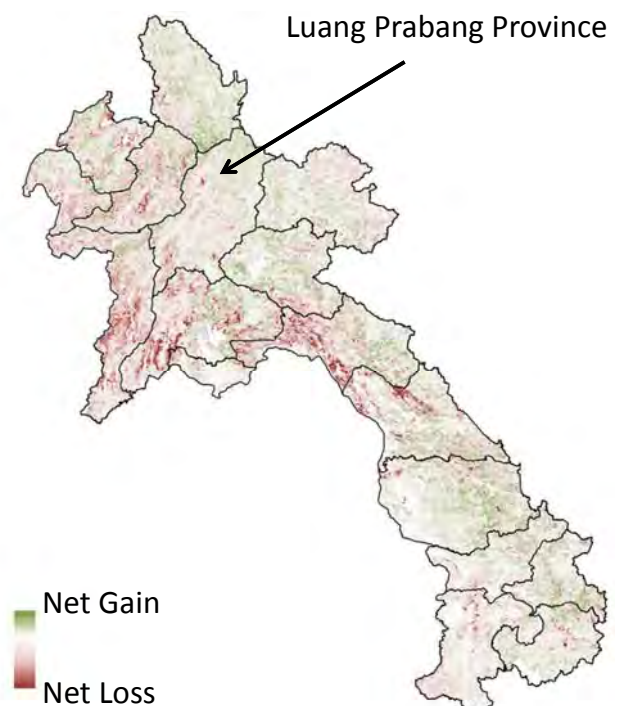
JICA PAREDD (2010-2015) and Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Project (2015-2020)

PAREDD Approach

- Participatory land / forest plans and regulations, village forest patrols, livelihood improvement, village revolving fund

Provincial Readiness

- Provincial framework for REDD+ (combined with possible forest landscape management by FIP)
- Pilot priority actions for emission reduction and removal enhancement
- Provincial forest monitoring
- Expand PAREDD approach to key areas under forest landscape management



10

ER Program Highlights: Forest Landscape Management in 4 Provinces

Sustainable Forestry for Rural Development-Scaling Up (SUFORD-SU) (FIP, IDA, Finland) (2013-2018)

Since 2013 working in **Bokeo, Luangnamtha, Oudomxay and Xayabouly** Provinces on:

- **Participatory Sustainable Forest Management** in 12 production forests and with 272 villages; also agroforestry, alternative livelihoods, forest restoration
- **Forest Landscape Management** piloting for all forests in landscape: production, protection, conservation, village forests, plantations, uncategorized forests; and with partners, including KfW
- **Additional FIP support (2016-2020)** could cover remaining 4 provinces (including **Houaphan, Luang Prabang**) & more support to 4 original landscapes



Projected Emission Reductions

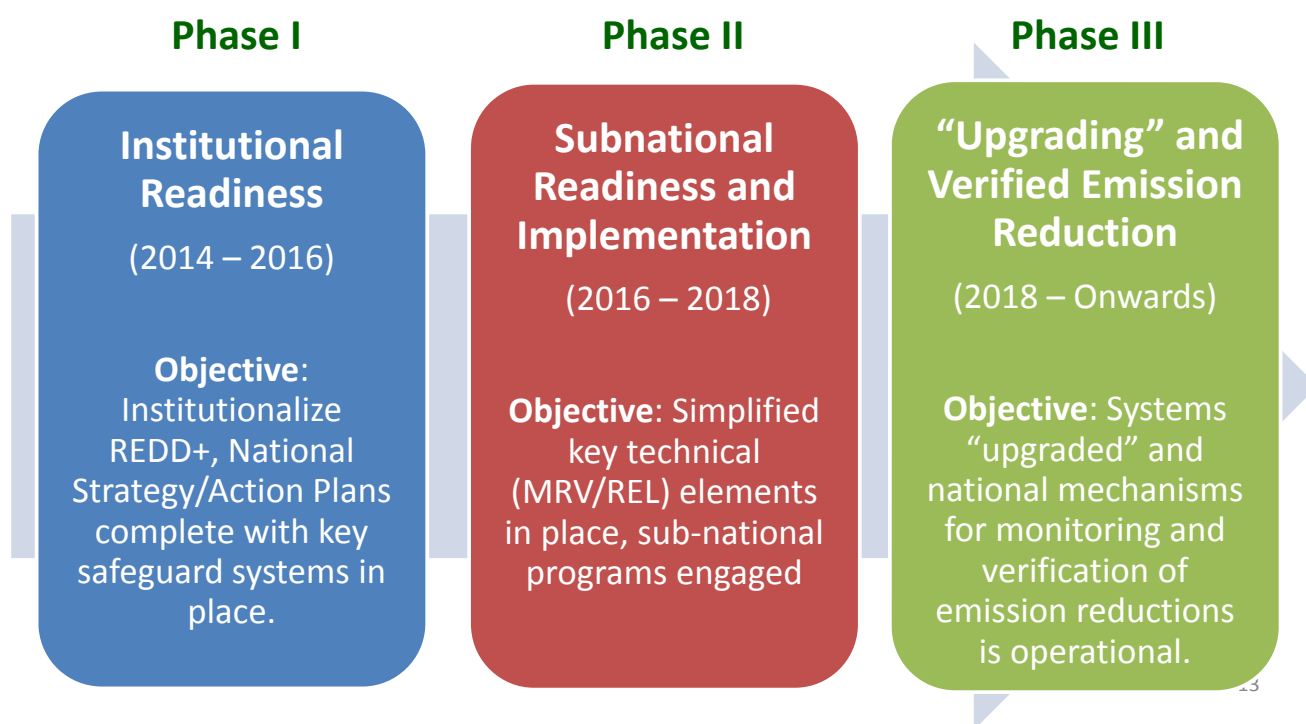
Provinces	Annual Loss * (Gross ha/yr)	Annual Emissions * (tCO2e/yr)	Annual ER Potential (tCO2e/yr)
Houaphan	9,426	2,779,192	277,919
Luang Prabang	8,089	2,384,962	238,496
Luang Namtha	7,114	2,097,678	209,768
Oudomxay	6,100	1,798,714	179,871
Xayabouly	5,074	1,496,145	149,615
Bokeo	3,824	1,127,619	112,762
Selected Pilot Provinces	39,628	11,684,311	1,168,431
Nationwide	98,837	29,141,938	2,914,194

- ER Program would produce emissions reductions of 5.8 mil. tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2eq) over 5 years in 6 provinces (over one-third of the national total).
- At \$5/ton, payments would amount to USD 29 million over 5 years.
- Proposed Lao ER-Program period is 2018-2022.

* Average (mean) over period 2000-2013. Deforestation data from Hansen et al. 2013.

National REDD+ Program Key Features

Lao PDR phased approach to REDD+:



Selected REDD+ Readiness Since 2008

Project	Donor	Focus	Scope	
CLIPAD	KfW/GIZ	Sub National Piloting	Houaphan Province	Subnational Piloting
PAREDD	JICA	Sub National Piloting	Luang Prabang Province	
SUFORD-SU	WB/FIP Finland	Sustainable Forest Management in Production Forests, Forest Landscapes, Village Forestry, monitoring	13 of 17 rural Provinces [Additional FIP funds for 4 remaining rural provinces proposed]	Mitigation And Enhancement
Lao Forest Investment Plan (FIP Laos)	FIP/WB/ADB/IFC	3 projects: SUFORD-SU (WB); smallholder plantations (IFC); biodiversity corridors / forest ecosystem services (ADB)	Multiple provinces	
FLEGT	European Union/GIZ	Law Enforcement	Multiple Provinces	
LEAF	USAID/SNV	REDD+ Technical Inputs	Multiple Provinces	
ENRICH	SNV	Carbon Stock Enhancements	Faculty of Forestry	REDD+ Technical Systems and Policy
FSCAP	JICA	Forestry Policies and Capacities	National Level	
NFIS	JICA	2 nd National Forest Inventory	Country-wide	
FPP	JICA	National Forest Cover Assessment	Country-wide	
Project Level Activities	RECOFTC, WWF, SNV,WCS	Various activities, NGO and private.	Multiple Locations	

Support for ER Program

Considerable Political Support

- National REDD+ Office under Department of Forest Resource Management and DOF REDD+ Office under Department of Forestry jointly developing this early idea approach
- Prime Minister's Office supportive
- Forestry Sub-Sector Working Group and National REDD+ Task Force endorsed

Significant Technical and Financial Support in 6 ER Program Provinces for ER, REDD+ & Other Activities – Donor Support Exceeding USD 60 million

- CliPAD (2009-18): USD 19.8 million
- JICA (2010-2020): USD 9 million
- KfW (2015-21): USD 12.4 million [Integrated Conservation of Biodiversity and Forests, work in Luangnamtha and Bokeo provinces]
- SUFORD-SU (2015-18): USD 7 million
- Possible additional FIP financing for SUFORD-SU (2018-21): USD 13 million
- Government: Forest Development Fund, Environmental Protection Fund, natural resource fees, resource other govt. sources

NOTE: budget figures are only for the proposed provinces; some programs have larger scope

15

Social & Environmental (Non-carbon) Benefits



Sacred tree in Bokeo.

Areas with high ethnic minority populations

Social benefits will include:

- Increased incomes and poverty alleviation
- Increased knowledge, skills, participation
- Increased participation of women and ethnic minorities in participatory sustainable forest management, land use planning, and village development activities
- Recognition of local knowledge & customary use of forests
- Improved forest governance

Areas that contain five national biodiversity areas.

Environmental benefits will include:

- Increased watershed protection, protection of streams and water sources
- Increased conservation of natural habitat for wild species
- Increased forest restoration



Khmu woman making rope from bark.

16

Consistency with Methodological Framework

- **Level of Ambition:** 6 of Lao PDR's 17 rural provinces
- **Carbon Accounting:** national-level system accounting under development
- **Safeguards:** Safeguard Information Systems to be developed under FCPF Readiness grant; ongoing work already using social and environmental safeguards, including FPIC
- **Sustainable Program Design and Implementation:** activities being mainstreamed into forest management processes implemented by provinces, districts, and villages
- **ER Program Transactions:** land rights being clarified in revisions of Forest Law, Land Law, and Land Policy; rights to carbon and REDD+ benefit-sharing under development

17

ຂອບໃຈ!
Thank You!



Lao's People Democratic Republic
Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+
Promotion Project

Project Completion Report

Annex 10: Provincial decision of Luang Prabang on the
appointment of counterparts

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

.....

Governor of Luang Prabang Province

No....313..... /GoLPB

Date: 26/June/2015.....

DECISION

**Appointment of the Provincial Steering Committee, Coordinator and Secretariat for
Implementation of the Forestry Sector Policy Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management and
REDD+ Promotion Project in Luang Prabang Province**

- According to an official letter of the Luang Prabang Province Natural Resource and Environment Office (PONRE) No. 2695/PONRE, dated 18 June 2015

Governor of Luang Prabang Province issues this DECISION as follows:

Article 1. Appointment of the provincial steering committee, coordinator and secretariat for implementation of the forestry sector policy strategy for sustainable forest management and REDD+ promotion project in Luang prabang province, which includes:

I. Provincial Steering Committees

1. Dr. Bouakhong NAMMAVONG	Vice-Governor of Luang Prabang Province	Leader
2. Mr. Soukanh BOUNYONG	Governor of Luang Prabang District	Secondary
3. Mr. Somphone SYOUDOMPHANH	Governor of Xieng Ngeun District	Member
4. Mr. Sychanh LATHSAMY	Governor of Phon Xai District	Member
5. Mr. Chanthavong PHONNACHIT	Deputy Director General of PONRE	Member
6. Mr. Sayaphanh LASY	Deputy Director General of PAFO	Member

II. Coordinators

1. Mr. Chanthavong PHONNACHIT	Deputy Director General of PONRE	Leader
2. Mr. Sayaphanh LASY	Deputy Director General of PAFO	Secondary
3. Mr. Somphet SAYADETH	PONRE	Member
4. Mr. Phonkeo PHONPHALY	PONRE	Member
5. Mr. Vilaphong KANYASON	PONRE	Member
6. Mr. Tui PHOMMACHANH	PONRE	Member
7. Mr. Bounpheng PHOUTHAVONG	PONRE	Member

8. Mr. Sontisith LOUNYALATH	PONRE	Member
9. Mr. Chanthavong SOULIVONG	PAFO	Member
10. Mr. Bounpheng PHENGCHANH	PAFO	Member
11. Mr. Som aok LITHIPHONG	PAFO	Member
12. Mr. Bounma SAVATHDY	DONRE (Xieng Ngeun District)	Member
13. Mr. Phetsavong VUETHOR	DAFO (Xieng Ngeun District)	Member
14. Mr. Souvanthong SOUKPHANSAY	DONRE (Luang Prabang District)	Member
15. Mr. Somvang PHOMMAKON	DAFO (Luang Prabang District)	Member
16. Mr. Khamphat SILIPASERTH	DONRE (Phon Xai District)	Member
17. Mr. Khamphout KEOBOUNMA	DAFO (Phon Xai District)	Member

III. Secretariat

1. Mr. Khattiya VANNASACK	PONRE	Leader
2. Mr. Xang SANAPHON	PAFO	Secondary
3. Ms. Chanpheng PHETDARA	PONRE	Member

Article 2. PONRE and the appointed persons are assigned to collaborate with concerned agencies for efficient implementation of the project activities, which based on their own roles and responsibilities.

Article3. This DECISION shall come into force from the date of signature

Governor of Luang Prabang Province

Singed and stamped by

Dr. Khampheng XAISOMPHEUNG

Cc:	Copy
PONRE	1
Appointed persons	1
Filing	2



ສາທາລະນະລັດ ປະຊາທິປະໄຕ ປະຊາຊົນລາວ

ສັນຕິພາບ ເອກະລາດ ປະຊາທິປະໄຕ ເອກະພາບ ວັດທະນະຖາວອນ

ເຈົ້າແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ

ເລກທີ. 2695/ພຊສ.ຫຼບ

ລົງວັນທີ. 18/6/2015

ຂໍ້ຕົກລົງ

ວ່າດ້ວຍການແຕ່ງຕັ້ງຄະນະຊີ້ນຳລວມ, ຄະນະປະສານງານ

ແລະ ກອງເລຂາຂັ້ນແຂວງ ໃນການຈັດຕັ້ງປະຕິບັດ ໂຄງການຍຸດທະສາດ ນະໂຍບາຍ

ຂະແໜງການປ່າໄມ້ ກ່ຽວກັບການຄຸ້ມຄອງປ່າໄມ້ແບບຍືນຍົງແລະ REDD+ ຂອງແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ

- ອີງຕາມ ໜັງສືສະເໜີຂອງພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ ສະບັບເລກທີ 2695/ພຊສ.ຫຼບ, ລົງວັນທີ 18/6/2015.

ເຈົ້າແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງຕົກລົງ:

ມາດຕາ 1. ເຫັນດີແຕ່ງຕັ້ງຄະນະຊີ້ນຳລວມ, ຄະນະປະສານງານ ແລະ ກອງເລຂາຂັ້ນແຂວງ ໃນການຈັດຕັ້ງປະຕິບັດ ໂຄງການຍຸດທະສາດ ນະໂຍບາຍຂະແໜງການປ່າໄມ້ ກ່ຽວກັບການຄຸ້ມຄອງປ່າໄມ້ແບບຍືນຍົງ ແລະ REDD+ ຂອງແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ, ເຊິ່ງປະກອບມີບັນດາທ່ານດັ່ງນີ້:

1. ຄະນະຊີ້ນຳລວມ:

1. ທ່ານ ດຣ ບົວຄົງ ນາມມະວິງ	ຮອງເຈົ້າແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ	ເປັນຫົວໜ້າ
2. ທ່ານ ສຸກັນ ບຸນຍົງ	ເຈົ້າເມືອງຫຼວງພະບາງ	ເປັນຮອງ
3. ທ່ານ ສົມພອນ ສີອຸດົມພັນ	ເຈົ້າເມືອງງຸຊຽງເງິນ	ເປັນຄະນະ
4. ທ່ານ ສີຈັນ ລັດສະໝີ	ເຈົ້າເມືອງໂພນໄຊ	ເປັນຄະນະ
5. ທ່ານ ຈັນທະວົງ ຜົນນະຈິດ	ຮອງຫົວໜ້າພະແນກ ຊສ ແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ
6. ທ່ານ ໄຊຍະພັນ ລາສີ	ຮອງຫົວໜ້າພະແນກກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ

2. ຄະນະປະສານງານ:

1. ທ່ານ ຈັນທະວົງ ຜົນນະຈິດ	ຮອງຫົວໜ້າພະແນກ ຊສ ແຂວງ	ເປັນຫົວໜ້າ
2. ທ່ານ ໄຊຍະພັນ ລາສີ	ຮອງຫົວໜ້າພະແນກກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ແຂວງ	ເປັນຮອງ
3. ທ່ານ ສົມເພັດ ໄຊຍະເດດ	ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ
4. ທ່ານ ພອນແກ້ວ ຜົນຜາລີ	ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ
5. ທ່ານ ວິລະພິງ ກັນຍາສອນ	ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ
6. ທ່ານ ຕຸ້ຍ ພິມມະຈັນ	ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ
7. ທ່ານ ບຸນເພັງ ພຸດທະວົງ	ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ	ເປັນຄະນະ

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| 8. ທ່ານ ສອນຕິສິດ ລຸນຍະລາດ | ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 9. ທ່ານ ຈັນທະວົງ ສຸລິວົງ | ພະແນກກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ແຂວງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 10. ທ່ານ ບຸນເພັງ ເພັງຈັນ | ພະແນກກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ແຂວງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 11. ທ່ານ ສິມອິກ ລິດທິພິງ | ພະແນກກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ແຂວງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 12. ທ່ານ ບຸນມາ ສະຫວັດດີ | ຫ້ອງການ ຊສ ເມືອງຊຽງເງິນ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 13. ທ່ານ ເພັດສະວົງ ວິທິ | ຫ້ອງການກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ເມືອງຊຽງເງິນ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 14. ທ່ານ ສຸວັນທອງ ສຸກພັນໄຊ | ຫ້ອງການ ຊສ ເມືອງຫຼວງພະບາງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 15. ທ່ານ ສິມຫວັງ ພິມມະກອນ | ຫ້ອງການກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ເມືອງຫຼວງພະບາງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 16. ທ່ານ ຄຳພັດ ສິລິປະເສີດ | ຫ້ອງການ ຊສ ເມືອງໂພນໄຊ | ເປັນຄະນະ |
| 17. ທ່ານ ຄຳພຸດ ແກ້ວບຸນມາ | ຫ້ອງການກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ເມືອງໂພນໄຊ | ເປັນຄະນະ |

3. ກອງເລຂາ:

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| 1. ທ່ານ ຂັດຕິຍະ ວັນນະສັກ | ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ | ເປັນຫົວໜ້າ |
| 2. ທ່ານ ຊ້າງ ຊະນະຜົນ | ພະແນກກະສິກຳ ແລະ ປ່າໄມ້ແຂວງ | ເປັນຮອງ |
| 3. ທ່ານ ນາງ ຈັນເພັງ ເພັດດາລາ | ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ | ເປັນຄະນະ |

ມາດຕາ 2. ມອບໃຫ້ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ, ບັນດາທ່ານທີ່ຖືກແຕ່ງຕັ້ງ ແລະ ທຸກພາກສ່ວນທີ່ກ່ຽວຂ້ອງຈົ່ງຮັບຮູ້ ແລະ ພ້ອມກັນຈັດຕັ້ງປະຕິບັດຕາມພາລະບົດບາດຂອງຕົນ ຢ່າງເຂັ້ມງວດ, ຖືກຕ້ອງຕາມລະບຽບການ ແລະ ໄດ້ຮັບຜົນດີ.

ມາດຕາ 3. ຂໍ້ຕົກລົງສະບັບນີ້ ມີຜົນສັກສິດ ນັບແຕ່ມີລົງລາຍເຊັນເປັນຕົ້ນໄປ.

ເຈົ້າແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ



ດຣ.ຄຳແພງ ໄຊສິມແພງ

ບ່ອນນຳສົ່ງ:

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| - ພະແນກຊັບພະຍາກອນທຳມະຊາດ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມແຂວງ | 01 ສະບັບ |
| - ບັນດາທ່ານທີ່ຖືກແຕ່ງຕັ້ງ(ທ່ານລະ) | 01 ສະບັບ |
| - ສຳເນົາ | 02 ສະບັບ |