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Title: Cambodia National REDD+ Strategy: Initial Working Draft

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Cambodia National REDD+ Strategy Initial Working Plan

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Disclaimer

This draft prepared by Pheakkdey Nguon, Consultant, in collaboration with Chhun Delux (FA), and does not necessarily represent the views of the Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce, the Forestry Administration, the General Department of Administration of Nature Conservation and Protection, the Fisheries Administration, and FCPF Project.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1. REDD+ at International Level

Tropical forests are among the most important and complex ecosystems on Earth. They provide a wide range of environmental services, including biodiversity conservation, water supply management, carbon sequestration, flood control, and protection against soil erosion and desertification¹. About 10 million people worldwide are employed in forest management and conservation and it is estimated that 1.6 billion people – including more than 2,000 indigenous cultures – depend on forests for their livelihoods². Similar to other natural resources, tropical forests have also been under increasing pressure from human activities. They continue to disappear at an alarming rate, leading to substantial decreases not only in biodiversity but also the carbon contained therein. This decline in forested areas has also negatively affected the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities. Increasing recognition of these issues has resulted in growing attention on forests at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Starting in 2007, within the broader context of climate adaptation and mitigation discussions, member countries of the UNFCCC have been actively negotiating a policy initiative that entails development and implementation of activities that would contribute to solving these forest-related challenges. That initiative is now known as **REDD+**, which stands for **R**educing **E**missions from **D**eforestation and forest **D**egradation, and (+) the role of sustainable management of forests, conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries³.

According to the UNFCCC, developing country Parties are encouraged to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities, as deemed appropriate by each Party and in accordance with their respective capabilities and national circumstances⁴:

- a. Reducing emissions from deforestation
- b. Reducing emissions from forest degradation
- c. Conservation of forest carbon stocks

¹ Millennium Ecosystems Assessment, 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. Island Press, Washington, DC.

² World Bank, 2012. World Development Report: Inclusive Green Growth. The Pathways to Sustainable Development. The World Bank, Washington, DC.

³ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 70

⁴ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP. Par.70

- d. Sustainable management of forests
- e. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

In addition, REDD+ activities shall be implemented in phases, beginning with the development of national strategies or action plans, policies, and measures, and capacity-building, followed by the implementation of national policies and measures and national strategies or action plans that could involve further capacity-building, technology development and transfer and results-based demonstration activities, and evolving into results-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified⁵. The UNFCCC⁶ also states that REDD+ activities should:

1. Contribute to the achievement of the objective set out in Article 2 of the Convention⁷
2. Contribute to the fulfilment of the commitments set out in Article 4, Paragraph 3, of the Convention⁸
3. Be country-driven and be considered options available to Parties
4. Be undertaken in accordance with national development priorities, objectives, and circumstances and capabilities and should respect national sovereignty
5. Be consistent with national sustainable development needs and goals
6. Be consistent with the objective of environmental integrity and take into account the multiple functions of forests and other ecosystems
7. Be implemented in the context of sustainable development and reducing poverty, while responding to climate change
8. Be consistent with the adaptation needs of the country
9. Be supported by adequate and predictable financial and technology support, including support for capacity-building
10. Be results-based
11. Promote sustainable management of forests

⁵ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 73

⁶ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Appendix 1. Par. 1

⁷ United Nations, 1992. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. New York.

⁸ Ibid

1.2. Evolution of REDD+ in Cambodia

His Excellency Dr. Mok Mareth, then Minister of Environment, announced at the 2007 UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) in Indonesia that “*The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) strongly supports the inclusion of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction from forest conservation and avoided deforestation in post-Kyoto regimes*”⁹. Since this remark, the RGC has been making significant progress towards establishing REDD+ national level coordination and arrangements in order to implement REDD+ activities. In 2008, Cambodia submitted its Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) to the World Bank’s Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and was accepted into the FCPF in early 2009. In August 2008, Cambodia applied to join the UN-REDD Programme, and was granted observer status in October 2009. Following Cambodia’s entrance to the UN-REDD Programme, the UNDP Cambodia and FAO Cambodia Country Offices committed to support the Royal Government with a REDD Readiness planning process, which led to the development of the Cambodia REDD+ national Roadmap¹⁰. In 2011, Cambodia received funding for a full UN-REDD Country Programme, which focuses on effective management of the REDD+ Readiness process and stakeholder engagement, development of the national REDD+ strategy and implementation framework, improved capacity to manage REDD+ at sub-national levels, and design of a monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system¹¹.

Recently, in December 2013, the Forestry Administration (FA), on behalf of the RGC signed the FCPF’s REDD+ Readiness Project Document, with the UNDP designated as the delivery partner of the World Bank’s FCPF¹². The FCPF’s Readiness Project aims to assist Cambodia to establish an effective national management of the REDD+ Readiness process and stakeholder engagement in accordance with the consultation principles; develop the national REDD+ strategy and implementation framework; improve capacity to manage REDD+ at sub-national levels; and design the monitoring system for REDD+ with capacity for implementation¹³. The Japanese government has also provided technical support to REDD+ through CAM-REDD since 2010.

⁹ Bradley, A. 2011. Review of Cambodia’s REDD Readiness: Progress and Challenges. Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Forest Conservation Project, Occasional Paper No. 4.

¹⁰ UN-REDD Programme, 2011. Cambodia REDD+ National Programme Document

¹¹ Ibid, p. 8

¹² FCPF, 2013. Cambodia FCPF REDD+ Project Document

¹³ Ibid, p. 5

Finally, several other initiatives led by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in collaboration with government supports have established REDD+ demonstration/ pilot sites in different provinces with various forest types¹⁴.

For the next 5 to 20 years, various Cambodian national development policies, plans, programs and strategies have incorporated REDD+ as part of its strategic agenda and work plans. Within these national documents, REDD+ has been identified by the RGC as one of the means for Cambodia, as a signatory of the UNFCCC, to contribute to addressing global climate change, thus achieving the objective set out in Article 2 and fulfil the commitments set out in Article 4, Paragraph 3 of the Convention¹⁵. At the same time, REDD+ has been identified as one of the mechanisms to generate additional financial supports for the RGC to develop and/or strengthen implementation of its national development policies related to sustainable forest management, and poverty alleviation¹⁶.

1.3. UNFCCC's Decisions on National REDD+ Strategies or Action Plans

In order to receive results-based finance, it is necessary that developing country Parties establish both the design and implementation elements for REDD+. These elements include¹⁷:

1. A national strategy or action plan
2. A national forest reference emission level or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational forest reference emission levels
3. A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure
4. A system for providing information on how the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities
5. An established coordination of support for the implementation of REDD+ activities

¹⁴ Nguon, P. 2014. REDD+ Feasibility Assessment for Community Protected Areas in Cambodia. Ministry of Environment and Adaptation Fund.

¹⁵ United Nations, 1992. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. New York.

¹⁶ National Climate Change Committee, 2013; National Forest Programme: 2010-2019; National Policy on Green Growth, 2013; Joint Monitoring Indicators, 2014; National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan (initial working draft, 2014); The Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries: 2010-2019

¹⁷ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 60 and 71; Decision 2/CP.17. Par. 64; Decision - 9/CP.19. Par.3; Decision 10/CP.19. Par.1

6. Biennial update report containing updates of national GHG inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received

Furthermore, COP16 of the UNFCCC agreed that when developing and implementing national strategies or action plans, developing country Parties shall address: the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations, and REDD+ safeguards, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities¹⁸. The UNFCCC does recognize that drivers of deforestation and forest degradation have many causes, and therefore actions to address them are unique to countries' national circumstances, capacities and capabilities¹⁹. Developing country Parties are indeed encouraged to take note of the information from on-going and existing work on addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation by developing country Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders²⁰. Finally, the implementation of REDD+ safeguards and information on how these safeguards are being addressed and respected should support national strategies or action plans and be included in, where appropriate, all phases of REDD+ implementation²¹.

¹⁸ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/ CP.16. Par. 72

¹⁹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 15/ CP.19 Par. 2

²⁰ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 15/ CP.19 Par. 5

²¹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par.1

Chapter 2: Overview of Cambodia Forest Land Management

Forests in Cambodia fall under the general jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), with the Forestry Administration (FA) of MAFF charged as the responsible Government Authority²². The General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDANCP) of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) is responsible for protected areas including core areas of the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve²³, while the Fisheries Administration (FiA) of MAFF is responsible for flooded forest and mangrove areas²⁴. Cambodian Law is hierarchical, therefore all subsidiary regulations should respect the differentiation of responsibilities laid out in the law. For instance, subsidiary regulations cannot amend responsibilities stipulated in a law²⁵. Consequently, management and regulatory jurisdictional authority over forest resources in Cambodia falls under the responsibility of several different government agencies under Cambodian laws. These laws include: Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Management Law 1996, Land Law 2001, Forestry Law 2002, Fisheries Law 2006, Protected Areas Law 2008, Royal Decree on Creation and Determination of Nature Reserves 1993, Sub-decree #83 on Registration of Land of Indigenous Communities 2009, Draft Law on Environmental Impact Assessment 2014. These are set out below and illustrated in Figure 1.

2.1. Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Cambodia

Cambodia is classified as a ‘high forest cover, high deforestation’ country, with approximately 10.7 million hectares of forest in 2006, and an annual deforestation rate of 0.8 percent between 2002 and 2006 (approximately 379,485 hectares of forest were lost during this period)²⁶. Escalating development pressures, in particular for land for economic and social land concessions, has caused a rapid increase in the rate of deforestation since 2004-5, suggesting that Cambodia’s baseline deforestation rate has probably now been much greater than the 0.8 percent. Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation have many causes, and therefore actions to address them are

²² Forestry Law 2002, Article 3

²³ Protected Areas Law 2008, Article 4

²⁴ Fisheries Law 2006, Article 3

²⁵ Oberndorf, R, 2010. REDD+ in the Cambodian Context: An Overview of the Policy, Legal and Governance Frameworks Impacting Implementation

²⁶ Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap, 2011. Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+.

unique to countries' national circumstances, capacities and capabilities²⁷. In Cambodia, deforestation and forest degradation results from a complex set of processes²⁸, including:

- improvements in accessibility to remote forested areas encouraged initially by a rapid increase in commercial logging activity in the 1990s, which ceased with the Government declared logging moratorium in 2002, and more recently by road-building projects;
- uncertain land tenure, which encourages land-grabbing based on squatters rights, even though illegal under Land Law 2001;
- lack of Government capacity in remote areas to adequately manage forests, which are state public property under Forestry Law 2002, Protected Area Law 2008 and Land Law 2001;
- a rapid increase in agricultural expansion and other large-scale development activities, which lead to widespread clearance of some areas; this is usually driven by declaring economic and social land concessions (ELCs and SLCs);
- increasing regional and global demand for raw materials; and
- rural poverty, which is still widespread in Cambodia

The drivers of deforestation and forest degradation also derived from sources outside the forestry sector. According to the National REDD+ Roadmap (2011), these drivers include in-migration to forest areas, agro-industrial developments such as land concessions, poor implementation of land laws and subsidiary regulations, economic incentives promoting forest clearance, poor environmental and social impacts assessment regulations, and a lack of state land registration and forest estate demarcation²⁹. Table 1 summarized drivers of deforestation and forest degradation identified in the Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap.

2.2. Current Forest Management Strategies in Cambodia

Development of Cambodia's REDD+ strategy builds on previous experiences and already existing forest management strategies, rather than initiating new policies, legal structures or governance arrangements. Existing forest management strategies under the RGC's key agencies (FA,

²⁷ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 15/CP.19. Par.2

²⁸ Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap, 2011. Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+.

²⁹ Ibid

GDANCP, and FiA) responsible for implementing projects to reduce deforestation and protect existing forests in areas under their jurisdiction, include³⁰:

- Protected Areas management, based on the 2008 Protected Areas Law, the 1996 Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management, the 1993 Royal Decree on Creation and Determination of Nature Reserves and experience with various existing projects (e.g. Samkos, Lomphat, Bokor, Virachey, Kulen Promtep, etc.)
- Protection Forest management, based on the 2002 Forestry Law and Protected Forest sub-decrees, and experience with various existing projects (e.g. Mondulkiri, Cardamoms), including the Seima Protection Forest REDD+ pilot
- Community Forestry (CF), the development of which has been supported by the 2000 National Community Forestry Strategic Plan, 2002 National Forestry Policy, provisions in the 2002 Forestry Law allowing for CF in Production Forest areas, 2003 Sub-Decree on Community Forestry, 2006 Guidelines on Community Forestry, and experience with the many CFs in existence, including the Oddar Meanchey Community Forest REDD+ pilot
- Community Fisheries (CFi), supported by the 2004 Royal Decree on Community Fisheries, 2005 Community Fisheries Sub-Decree and the 2006 Fisheries Law
- Community Protected Areas (CPAs), based on the draft CPA prakas; most Protected Areas now have one or more CPAs in existence
- Management of Fishing Lots
- Fisheries Protected and Conservation Areas
- Indigenous Land titling (2009 Sub-decree #83 on Registration of Land of Indigenous Communities)

2.3. Existing management strategies to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Cambodia

1. **National Forest Programme³¹ (NFP)**, which is a 20-years long term national forest management plan for the sector (2010-2029). The NFP provides a transparent, participatory process for planning, implementation and evaluation of all forestry activities, including direction for the overall course and approach of the wider forest sector by aligning activities with both national and international priorities and harmonizing with other sectors of the

³⁰ Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap, 2011. Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+.

³¹ National Forest Programme, 2010.

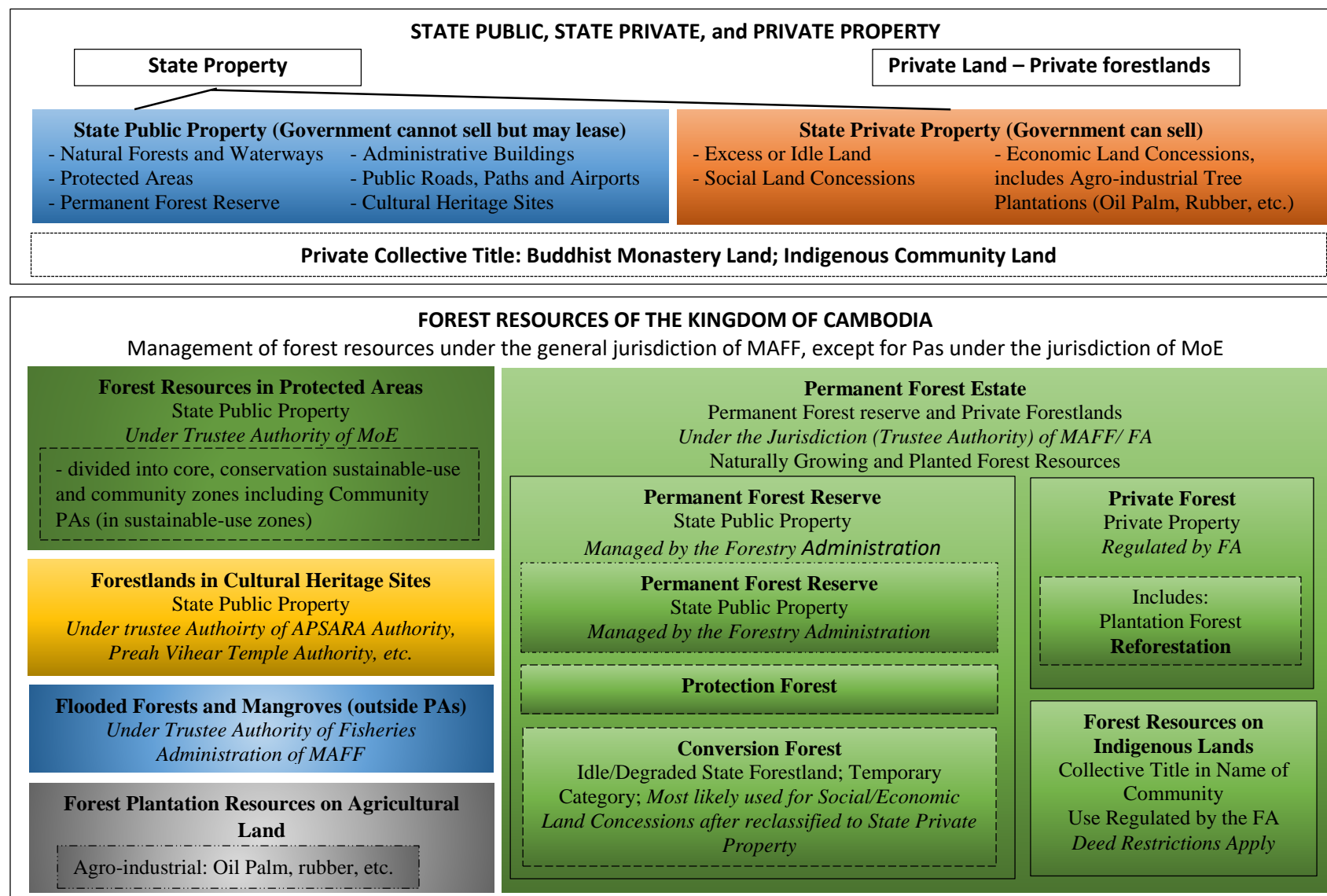
national economy. The NFP is implemented through five-year rolling plans for each sub-programme. In addition to providing the overall policy framework, it incorporates detailed strategic programmes for forest management activities in the Permanent Forest Estate, under the FA, which include community forestry, protection forests, and sustainable forest management.

2. **National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan³²** (NPASMP) for the three million hectares of Protected Areas (PAs), developed based on the 2008 Protected Areas Law. The recommended goals of the NPASMP are to: maintain and enhance the structure and ecological integrity of the forest and other biological, cultural and physical features of PAs; strengthen and maintain PA operations and support services; increase community involvement and support for conservation; provide accurate, relevant and timely information for resource management; develop and sustainably manage tourism in partnership with local communities and other stakeholders without negatively affecting PAs' ecological and cultural integrity; establish and enhance collaboration with other government organizations and local authorities in managing the PAs.
3. **Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries³³** (SPFF), details a 20-years long term management plan (2010-2029), and the 3-years Fishery Development Action Plan for the fishery domain. The SPFF is based on the 2006 Fisheries Law and subsidiary legislation. The key areas for strategic intervention under the SPFF include: protect and maintain the ecosystem in order to support wild capture fisheries at levels that are both sustainable and sufficient to support demand; increase rice field fisheries; support the growth of small, medium and large-scale freshwater aquaculture; develop marine fisheries and mariculture; improve post-harvest processing; promote fish and fisheries products in both national and international markets; support livelihood diversification away from capture fisheries, especially for poor, disadvantaged and vulnerable people in order to help them out of poverty; ensure that the regulatory environment for the fisheries sector is supportive and effective; and ensure that research and development is applied and supports an equitable development of the fisheries sector.

³² National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan, 2014 (Initial Working Draft)

³³ Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries, 2010

Figure 1: Land Classification – Forestland Management in Cambodia³⁴



³⁴ Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap, 2011. Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+.

Table 1. Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Cambodia³⁵

	Within the forest sector	Outside the forest sector
Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsustainable logging; • Fire (role disputed); • Unsustainable woodfuel collection (role unclear). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearance for agriculture; • Expansion of settlements; • Infrastructure development;
Indirect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of demarcation of forest areas; • Inadequate forest law enforcement; • Low institutional capacity and weak policy implementation; • Demand for wood energy for domestic and industrial use; • Low efficiency of wood conversion and use for construction, energy production, etc. • Lack of incentives promoting sustainable management of forests; • Lack of finance to support sustainable forest management activities by line agencies, local authorities and local communities • Lack of sustainable or alternative supply of wood and timber, including for wood energy to meet demand; • Weak forest sector governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low levels of stakeholder participation and involvement; - Lack of transparency and accountability; - Lack of assessment of social and environmental impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population increases; • Poverty; • Rising incomes and demands for resources; • Increasing accessibility of forest areas; • Low agricultural yields; • Migration into forest areas; • New settlements, including in border areas; • Large-scale agro-industrial developments (including economic and social land concessions and other concessions); • Land speculation; • Regional demand for resources; • Poor ESIA regulations and lack of implementation • Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weak forestland tenure – tenure is weakest in forests and other areas outside residential or farming zones; - Weak enforcement of the law; - Limited implementation of land registration (private and state) - Lack of a fair and transparent conflict resolution mechanism; - Insufficient implementation of land-use planning; - Overlapping/unclear jurisdictions; • Social norms (claiming land through utilisation); • Economic benefits provided by sustainable management of forests at the national level often appear lower than alternative land-uses; • Opportunity costs of sustainable management of forests at the local level; • Low awareness of environmental roles of forests.

³⁵ Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap, 2011. Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+.

Chapter 3: Cambodia National REDD+ Strategy

3.1. Purposes

The Cambodia national REDD+ strategy has been developed for the following purposes:

1. To prepare an institutional system to implement REDD+ activities, upon completion of REDD+ Readiness phase
2. To provide a basis and direction for integrated governance and regulatory systems to ensure the effective, efficient and equitable implementation of activities identified in the national strategy
3. To develop systematic and consolidated processes and approaches to sustainably manage Cambodian forests, protect biodiversity, and contribute to poverty alleviation

3.2. Goals

The following goals built on activities identified and completed as part of the Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap (2011).

- Short-term Goal (By end of 2015): **Readiness Phase**, activities include:
 - Effective national management of the REDD+ readiness process, stakeholder engagement and awareness-raising plan in accordance with principles identified in the national REDD+ Roadmap
 - Establishment of national coordination arrangements, including Taskforce, Taskforce Secretariat, Technical Teams, Consultation Group, and Gender Group to ensure effective, efficient and equitable REDD+ implementation;
 - Development of the Cambodia national REDD+ strategy and implementation framework, including safeguards and benefit-sharing
 - Development of the Monitoring System for national Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV); the Reference Scenario against which performance will be measured (Reference Levels or Reference Emissions Levels, RLs/RELs)
 - Develop implementation models based on results, pilot benefit sharing and safeguards. Summarize, evaluate, and draw lessons and experiences.

- Medium-term Goal (2016-2020): **Implementation Phase**, activities include:
 - Prepare for full implementation of REDD+ with market-based and results-based approach at national level
 - Land tenure and governance reforms
 - Forest law enforcement
 - Sustainable agriculture
 - Strengthen existing national forest management policies, in particular
 - National Forest Programme
 - National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan
 - Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries
 - Contribute to national development policies, in particular
 - Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency – Phase III
 - National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018
 - Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014-2023
 - National Policy on Green Growth, 2013

- Long-term Goal (Starting 2021-): **Performance-based Payments**, activities include:
 - Reference Levels or Reference Emissions Levels (RLs/RELs) and Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system are established and operational
 - Full implementation of REDD+ with market-based and results-based approach at national level with REDD+ credits monitored, verified and reported
 - Payments are made upon verified emissions reduction of agreed benchmarks, including reduced or avoided GHG emissions
 - Cambodia's forests and land areas remain a net carbon sink as a result of the implementation of national REDD+ strategy and relevant policies and measures for sustainable economic and ecosystem service functions of forests

3.3. Guiding Principles

The development of Cambodia REDD+ national strategy:

1. *Builds national capacity* within Government institutions and non-Government stakeholders: REDD+ is new and complex and substantial increases in understanding are required before decisions can be made
2. Is based on the *existing mandates* and supports *existing coordination mechanisms* of Government institutions, rather than creating new mandates and institutions in an already crowded and complex institutional environment;
3. Supports implementation of *existing policies and strategies for management of forest resources* that have been developed over the past 10-15 years;
4. Is *inclusive and balanced*, both between Government agencies and non-Government stakeholders;
5. *Draws lessons* from previous policy development possesses;
6. Seeks to provide *predictable and substantial finance* for implementation and scaling-up of existing forest management strategies;
7. *Builds awareness*;
8. Is *consistent* with the international negotiations process under the UNFCCC; and
9. Integrates lessons from *existing REDD+ demonstration projects*, if possible

In addition, the development and implementation of REDD+ Readiness frameworks in Cambodia, such as national approach to social and environmental safeguards and benefit sharing mechanism, have been informed by five principles: effectiveness, efficiency, equity, transparency and accountability. The terms are defined as follow³⁶:

- **Effectiveness:** REDD+ activities in Cambodia reduce emissions and result in additional, real and measurable social and environmental benefits.
- **Efficiency:** REDD+ activities in Cambodia constitute long-term activities that result in optimal financial, ecological, and social benefits.

³⁶ Saito-Jensen, M., Nguon, P...et al. 2014. Preliminary review and approach to develop a Safeguards Information System for REDD+ in Cambodia.

- **Equity:** REDD+ is implemented on the basis of the principles of equality for all and human rights protection in forest management, including for women, local communities and Indigenous Peoples vulnerable to socio-economic and environmental change.
- **Transparency:** REDD+ activities are undertaken transparently to enable full understanding and opportunity for stakeholders to participate.
- **Accountability:** REDD+ implementation is fully accountable to the people of Cambodia and the international community in terms of relevance, process, funding, and results obtained.

3.4. Strategy Development Process

The Cambodia national REDD+ strategy has been developed in a participatory manner involving various stakeholders at different levels. Various key stakeholders have been consulted during the drafting of the various chapters that constitute this initial working draft. For example, extensive consultations and capacity-building activities on national approaches to benefit sharing and social and environmental safeguards were conducted in more than 20 provinces. In addition, a REDD+ Expert Team, consisting of representatives from government institutions, development partners, and civil society organizations, has been established to help review and provide inputs on the various chapters of this current draft of the national strategy. A more extensive and participatory consultation with both government and non-government institutions will be conducted at national and provincial level during the first half of 2015. The strategy will then be revised taking into account comments/ suggestions from consultations with stakeholders. Cambodia aims to present the national REDD+ strategy at COP21 of the UNFCCC in Paris, to be held at the end of 2015.

The Cambodia REDD+ national Roadmap and achievements from activities conducted during the readiness phase were the bases for developing this national strategy. It should also be mentioned that the national REDD+ roadmap is a product of a very extensive consultations with various stakeholders from local to international level. This document has also guided the implementation of REDD+ readiness activities in Cambodia. In addition, while contributing to current national forest management strategies and programmes, the national REDD+ strategy is closely connected to the current national socio-economic and environmental development policies, strategies, plans, and programs. It is envisioned that the national REDD+ strategy should support/complement the

implementation of these broader development plans, and not establish parallel or competing plans and management structures for Cambodian forests.

In particular, development of national REDD+ strategy takes into consideration the following national policies or programs:

1. Rectangular Strategy Phase III, 2013-2018
2. National Strategic Development Plan, 2014-2018
3. Joint Monitoring Indicators, 2014-2018
4. Cambodia's Millennium Development Goals, 2014
5. Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan, 2014-2023
6. The National Green Growth Roadmap, 2009
7. National Policy on Green Growth, 2013

Finally, chapters constituting the national strategy, such as social and environmental safeguards and benefit sharing, identified where existing laws, policies and regulations of the RGC are relevant. Some of the key laws, policies and regulations that provide provision for the development of these chapters include:

1. Prakas on Protected Areas, No. 1033, 1994
2. Environmental Protection of Nature Resource Management Law 1996
3. Forestry Law, 2002
4. Land Law 2001
5. Sub-decree on Community Forestry Management, 2003
6. Royal Degree on the Establishment of Community Fisheries, 2005
7. Fisheries Law, 2006
8. Protected Area Law 2008
9. National Policy on Development of Indigenous Minorities, 2009
10. Policy on Registration and Right to Use of Land of Indigenous Communities in Cambodia, 2009
11. Draft Law on Environmental Impact Assessment 2014

Chapter 4: Implementation of National REDD+ Strategy

The REDD+ National Strategy will be implemented in phases in order to achieve the goals, outlined in Chapter 3. The following sections start with a summary of the progress made thus far during the REDD+ readiness phase, follow by a set of proposed activities to be conducted during the implementation phase and performance-based payment phase. Overall, significant progress has been made during the readiness phase; and therefore, Cambodia is on track to start the implementation of national REDD+ strategy beginning from 2016.

4.1. Three Phases of Implementation

4.1.1. Readiness Phase, By End of 2015 – Cambodia is ready.

Cambodia has been making significant progress in its REDD+ readiness phase. The Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce has been established with representatives from seven key ministries and began the first of its regular meetings in November 2013. Since then, the Taskforce has been active and has met regularly to approve work plans, and review progress of REDD+ readiness implementation. The Taskforce has continued to provide advice on the drafting of Cambodia National REDD+ Strategy and implementation framework. All four Technical Teams on REDD+ benefit sharing, safeguards, demonstration and MRV were established in 2013 and have been functioning since early 2014. All these Teams have been provided with technical orientation and concepts on REDD+ that are relevant to their tasks and roles. The Safeguards and Demonstration Technical teams have made a field visit to a REDD+ demonstration project to increase understanding on challenges facing implementation of pilot activities. Each team is now adept at managing its team meetings, work plan and contributes to technical elements of the National REDD+ strategy. The Consultation Group, a platform for 18 representatives from nine sectors of the non-governmental institutions to provide inputs to the Technical Teams and Taskforce, has been established and operational since August 2013. A National REDD+ Communications Strategy has been finalized, seven editions of the newsletter produced and several other multi-media products that includes posters brochures, video, TV, and radio programmes are under different stages of production.

A major recent development is the establishment of a “REDD+ gender group”, whose mandate includes awareness raising and capacity building of its members, and members of the REDD+ Taskforce, Consultation Group, and Technical Teams on gender mainstreaming in climate change and REDD+ implementation. In terms of capacity building, eight training events on REDD+ concepts have been organized for the Consultation Group, Technical Teams, Indigenous Peoples, and representatives of Community Forestry, Community Fisheries, Community Protected Areas, NGOs and staff from key forestry sector institutions. These events were attended by more than 300 participants.

The three institutions responsible for management of Cambodia’s forest have been involved in activities to identify relevant contributions that REDD+ implementation can make to their works. The FA is implementing projects such as: Building the awareness and support of REDD+ among forest-dependent communities in Siem Reap Province; Community level workshops to present and share experiences and lessons learned from the field visit to Oddar Meanchey REDD+ pilot project. A consultancy report on the results from the study tour and workshop has been submitted. The GDANCP is responsible for projects including: Development of National Protected Areas Strategy Management Plan (NPASMP). Field assessments and sub-national consultative meetings on the current status and management of protected areas were conducted in June 2014 to protected areas in Northeast and Southwest regions. The initial working draft of NPASMP has been completed. A six month consultations on this initial working draft has been proposed with the aim of finalizing the NPASMP by the end of 2015. Furthermore, the FiA leads the activities that focus on conservation and reforestation of flooded forest and mangroves for carbon emission prevention. Communities have been provided with technical assistance to produce seedlings for flooded forest and mangrove plantation. Local communities and local authorities have become aware of the roles of flooded forest and mangrove in climate change adaptation and mitigation. A five years implementation plan will be developed; deforested areas will be reforested, and effective management system will be established.

The planning workshop on Valuation of Forest Ecosystems and Costs and Benefits from REDD+ implementation in Cambodia was organized in April 2014 with approximately 30 participants. Reports on Valuation of Forest Ecosystem and Costs and Benefits from REDD+ Implementation

in Cambodia and workshop proceeding have been produced. Multiple activities related to valuation of costs and benefits have been combined as one activity under Costs and Benefits of REDD+. The technical team on Benefit Sharing organized a one-day provincial consultative meeting on REDD+ benefit sharing in 10 provinces. A total of more than 500 participants from the provincial authority, technical departments, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, ELCs and INGOs were invited to these consultations. Reports on these provincial meeting have been submitted to the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat. A final technical working paper on proposed modalities for REDD+ benefit sharing has also been produced. Similarly, the technical team on Safeguards conducted a one-day provincial consultative meeting on proposed national approaches to safeguards framework and safeguards information system in four regions in Cambodia, consisting of more than 20 provinces with a total of approximately 250 participants. A final technical working paper on proposed safeguards framework and safeguards information system has been produced. In addition, the report on the Assessment of existing fund mechanisms was produced and consulted with relevant institutions for comments. Summary findings of this assessment were presented at the fifth and sixth REDD+ Taskforce meeting. The Taskforce has endorsed a further study to refine a proposal for Cambodia National REDD+ Fund.

In regards to the design of a MRV system and REL framework and capacity for implementation, the technical team on MRV/REL has been very active and has held on average two meetings per month. The members of the MRV/REL Technical Team (TT) participated in a GHG Inventory training to compare the advantages and disadvantages of the different IPCC guidelines; while Non-annex 1 countries are only obliged to report using the IPCC 1996 guidelines, the decision and request was made to use 2006 IPCC guidelines for GHG inventory training sessions on the Agriculture Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector. As AFOLU includes the agriculture sector, the MRV/REL technical team members are exploring the possibility to invite a member of the General Department of Agriculture as additional member to the technical team. During the period from January to June 2014, the MRV technical team has agreed on the years to be used to assess historic emission development, and agreed on proposal for the forest (land use) definition to be submitted to the REDD+ Taskforce. The new definition has been presented to the fifth REDD+ Taskforce meeting. Methodical and operational consensus was reached between relevant institutions on production and improvement of existing maps. Available map classification

systems have been analyzed (10+ systems) and legends of key national legends have been translated to facilitate harmonization.

The National Forest Inventory (NFI) has been designed from the ground up, taking stock of stakeholders' experiences, and inventory data collected from the project/ subnational level. Subsequently the NFI field manual has been developed and tested during two field trainings covering 6 different forest types in areas under responsibility of the relevant line agencies (FA, FiA, and GDANCP). After the field practice, the team received a training in the analysis and interpretation methods of the field data. Collected data used for the development of the NFI is undergoing further analyses to develop country specific biomass estimates and emission factors. An inventory of available remote sensing data has been conducted. Available remote sensing data has been collected and reviewed to facilitate preparation of a consistent land use change series, and complete the developed NFMS monitoring platform. A concept Note and Letter of Agreement to develop area specific allometric equations and emission factors for inundated forests have been prepared. Finally, an article on NFI Field manual development and training has been drafted.

4.1.2. Implementation Phase, From 2016 to 2020

As identified in chapter 2, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Cambodia occur both within and outside the forestry sectors. Therefore, activities to be implemented as part of the national REDD+ strategy shall address these drivers accordingly. Within the forestry sectors, the identified drivers are largely addressable through Cambodia's existing forest management strategies, all of which include tenure reform and local co-management. Implementation of these strategies is however hindered by the lack of available finance, which could be met by REDD+.

- 1. The National Forest Programme (2010).** The NFP identifies 9 objectives and 6 operational programmes for management of the Permanent Forest Estate and overall regulation of the forestry sector, including forest law enforcement and governance (FLEG), community forests, sustainable forest management, protection forests, improving capacity and demarcation. The NFP is linked to 5-year national strategic development plans.

Potential activities: Reclassify and dedicate the major parts of remaining natural forest areas to their ecosystems protection and biodiversity conservation functions; Strengthen enforcement of forest law; Optimize use, processing and marketing systems for forest products;

Strengthen the support to existing community forestry programmes to better enable forest contributions to rural livelihoods; Capacity-building on REDD+

2. Protected Areas cover approximately 3 million hectares of forests and the main management strategy is the National Protected Area Strategic Management Plan (initial working draft has been produced, consultations will occur during the first half of 2015).

Potential activities: Development of National Protected Area Strategic Management Plan and PA Business/ Financing Plan (including REDD+); Development of PA zoning regulations and CPAs; Consideration of potential for reforestation within PAs; Investigation of other innovative financing models (including Payments for Ecosystem Services); Identifying synergies between REDD+ and the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Cambodia; Capacity-building on REDD+

3. Flooded forests and mangroves are managed by the Fisheries Administration, according to the Fisheries Law and Strategic Planning Framework on Fisheries (SPFF). The SPFF identified seven goals and nine areas of strategic interventions, based on the three fundamental pillars on development approach of the RGC for fisheries sector.

Potential activities: Consideration of integration of REDD+ and flooded forests and mangrove areas managed by Fisheries Administration under the Strategic Planning Framework on Fisheries through activities that aim to ensure that the regulatory environment for the fisheries sector is supportive and effective; support livelihood diversification away from capture fisheries, especially for poor, disadvantaged and vulnerable people in order to help them out of poverty.

4. Other possible activities such as assessments of local forest protection contracts; Conservation Concessions as alternative to land concessions; Development and Implementation of a national forest programme as a single and simplified overriding policy for the forestry sector that ensure the sector's justification through improved forest governance and forest management or provide a basis for sound policy and legal foundations for natural resource management; Harmonize all relevant policies; and ensuring respect for the rule of law regarding forest and land allocation, tenure, and use;

and Involvement of communities themselves must be closely involved in the development of the systems under which their forests will be managed.

Outside the forestry sectors, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation could be grouped into three: governance, agriculture, population and infrastructure development, and economics. Therefore, in order to address these drivers, activities to be implemented through the national REDD+ strategy should include:

1. Governance

- a. Support harmonisation of legislation and policy across sectors and levels of government
- b. Demarcate Permanent Forest Estate, CFs, PAs, and CFiAs
- c. Implement the Land Policy and related legislation
- d. Improve conflict resolution mechanisms;
- e. Improve land use coordination;
- f. Train judges and prosecutors in forest and forest-related laws
- g. Support transparency and consultations
- h. Review current environmental and social impact assessments requirements and develop recommendations for those related for activities in forest areas

2. Agriculture, population and infrastructure development

- a. Promote agricultural intensification in existing large farming landscapes;
- b. Redirect agricultural development to degraded areas with low carbon and co-benefit values;
- c. Remove policies that promote agricultural extensification;
- d. Implement laws relating to large-scale development, including ELC contracts and the requirements for EIAs;
- e. Review procedures for allocating Land Concession in relation to impacts on deforestation and degradation;
- f. Consult on land-use planning decisions;
- g. Review existing agricultural development policies and programs and determine conflicts and synergies;

- h. Review synergies with existing donor agricultural intensification programs;
- i. Review how processes of planning and establishing concessions and infrastructure could be improved

3. Economics

- a. Establish REDD+ financing mechanism to promote economic values of forests;
- b. Develop REDD+ Concession modalities as an alternative to land concessions;
- c. Develop detailed estimates of potential REDD+ benefits and other environmental services from forests;
- d. Understand potential contribution of concessions, in particular economic land concessions, to carbon sinks and forest carbon stock enhancement;
- e. Review impact of concessions on emissions;
- f. Awareness-raising on REDD+ and economics of climate change

It should be noted that, activities mentioned thus far are proposed based on consultations conducted during the drafting of the Cambodia REDD+ National Roadmap and achievements during the REDD+ readiness phase. The final decisions on specific activities to be implemented, taking into consideration the feasibility of monitoring, reporting and verifying emissions, will be made after full and effective consultations with government and non-government institutions as well as local communities, including indigenous peoples and those most vulnerable. The consultations of these proposed activities will be conducted during the first half of 2015. Once these consultations are completed, it is necessary to formulate a National REDD+ Action Plan that is filled with programs of activities identified/ prioritized by relevant stakeholders during the consultations along with estimated budget for selected activities to be implemented, and roles of institutions in charge of implementing and MRV-ing these activities. The formulation of the National REDD+ Action Plan must be done by the end of 2015.

4.1.3. Performance-based payment Phase, From 2021

The main objective for this phase, starting from 2021, is for Cambodia to have an operational Reference Levels or Reference Emissions Levels (RLs/RELs) and Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system to be able to account for the emissions reduced via the implementation

of activities identified in the second phase, from 2016-2020. In order to do so, the following activities will need to be in place by 2020:

1. Formulate policies, standards and various mechanisms related to MRV activities with the approval of the REDD+ Taskforce. These include coordination, harmonization, validation and verification of GHG calculations carried out at various levels from local sites to sub-national and national levels. The system will be developed in line with UNFCCC decisions and IPCC guidelines;
2. Compile all GHG inventory for Cambodia's forests over all domains of REDD+ activities at the national level. The GHG inventory will cover all relevant emissions and removals from within the country boundary
3. Establish a registry and clearing-house for the management and processing of related geographic and other data for access by stakeholders;
4. Develop mechanisms for reporting to relevant national and international institutions and market players;
5. Synergize the MRV system with the information system for REDD+ safeguard implementation;
6. Integrate a Forest Resource Monitoring System into the MRV System to ensure data accuracy on the changes of forest land use and its impact on carbon stocks and other ecosystem functions
7. Provide information on the results of verification of emissions reduction for any given phase of REDD+ activities to funding institutions responsible for disbursing performance-based payments;
8. Build coordinative capacity among MRV implementers in REDD+ relevant institutions

Chapter 5: Safeguards Framework and Information System

To obtain and receive results-based finance, developing country Parties should have a system for providing the most recent summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected³⁷. In addition, regardless of the source or type of financing, REDD+ activities should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP. 16 including the REDD+ safeguards³⁸. The development of REDD+ safeguards in Cambodia is done to ensure a risk evaluation reference point for REDD+ activities, and to facilitate the preparation of monitoring and evaluation steps relating to program management, financial accountability, and the impact of programs on vulnerable groups and the natural environment.

The REDD+ safeguards technical team has completed various activities in its preparation to develop Cambodia's national approach to safeguards and safeguards information system (SIS). The working paper on "*preliminary review and approach to develop a Safeguards Information System for REDD+ in Cambodia*" has been produced as a result of consultations which took place at both sub-national (22 provinces, 245 participants) and national levels (70 participants) with participations from representatives of both government and non-government institutions. Cambodia follows a six steps approach to develop its national SIS:

1. Defining key principles and criteria of the safeguards systems,
2. Gap analysis of existing social and environmental PLRs and procedures,
3. Selection of key PLRs and creation of new PLRs as required
4. Identification of indicators for REDD+ social/ environmental performance,
5. Development of monitoring methodology and institutional responsibilities
6. Development of reporting methodology and responsibility

The following table (Table 2) summarizes the proposed framework for safeguards principles, criteria and indicators in Cambodia based on the assessments of existing PLRs and inputs received from sub-national and national consultations.

³⁷ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 71; 2/CP.17. Par. 64; 9/CP.19. Par. 4

³⁸ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 2/CP.17. Par. 63

Table 2: Proposed REDD+ safeguards principles and criteria in Cambodia

Proposed principles	Proposed criteria	Indicators
Actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programme and relevant international conventions and agreements	1. Effective enforcement of and compliance with existing policies, laws and regulations and international conventions	1.1. All proposed REDD+ PAMs are consistent with identified actions in the National Forest Programme”
Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty	2. Transparency and accessibility of information related to planning and implementing of REDD+ activities including national Fund management and benefit sharing	2.1. Number of REDD+ outreach materials disseminated in Khmer, via radios, websites, and other means to reach those who cannot read Khmer 2.2. Regular updates on REDD+ activities through RTS websites, Facebook in Khmer 2.3. Technical papers related REDD+ national policy and implementation being posted at the RTS website before final decisions are made 2.4. Consultation group is updated on policy discussion for their inputs before the Taskforce Meeting 2.5. Regular disclosure of information regarding REDD+ funds and benefit sharing
	3. Accountability of all bodies representing relevant stakeholders, including through establishing and operationalizing effective grievance mechanisms	3.1. Noncompliance with REDD+ PAMs and safeguards is reported promptly and dealt effectively through relevant administrative and legal processes 3.1.2. Number of REDD+ grievances reported to relevant government agencies 3.1.3. Number of grievances resolved/unresolved
Respect for the knowledge and rights of Indigenous Peoples and members of local communities by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws,	4. Prior identification of 1) areas to be used for REDD+ and 2) all types of stakeholders and their rights in the proposed areas	4.1. Implementation rates of prior social and environmental assessments under REDD+ areas (e.g. by EIA, Forest Law)
	5. Application of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for Indigenous Peoples and affected local communities	5.1. Number of Indigenous Peoples households and affected communities being consulted based on FPIC principles under REDD+ areas 5.2. Number of documented consents by IPs and local communities in areas with REDD+ activities

Proposed principles	Proposed criteria	Indicators
	6. Avoidance of involuntary resettlement of IPs and local communities (except for those areas with high conservation values such as core zones under protected areas).	6.1. Number of Indigenous Peoples Households being evicted from their customarily owned land under REDD+ areas (except for those areas with high conservation values such as core zones under protected areas)
	7. Customary rights of IPs and local communities are respected (except for those areas with high conservation values such as core zones under protected areas). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights to subsistence use of Timber, NTFPs, and fish • Rights to use forests for their cultural purpose spiritual, ancestral, burial forests • Rights of “sustainable and non-expansionary” shifting cultivation by indigenous peoples and communities recognized by the state. 	7.1. Percentage of IPs and community households having their customary rights recognized under REDD+ areas (except for those areas with high conservation values such as core zones under protected areas). 7.1.1. Total number of Community Forestry and total forest areas they manage 7.1.2. Total number of Community Protected Areas and total forest areas they manage 7.1.3. Total number of Community Fishery and total areas they manage 7.1.4. Number of land titles given for Indigenous Peoples 7.1.5. Number of cases the state gives recognition of rights for shifting cultivation 7.2. Noncompliance with this safeguards is reported promptly and dealt effectively through relevant administrative and legal processes 7.2.1. Number of grievances about violation on customary rights reported to relevant government agencies 7.2.2. Number of grievances resolved/unresolved
The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders in particular indigenous peoples and local communities and women	8. Full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders in particular indigenous peoples and local communities and women in designing and implementing a national REDD+ strategy and implementation framework	8.1. Regular meetings of the Consultation Group and Gender Group prior to the Taskforce meeting to discuss relevant policy decisions and implementation modalities under REDD+ 8.2. Policy documents posted at the RTS website for stakeholder comments. 8.3. Representations of stakeholders from line agencies, community forestry, community protected area, community fishery, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, women, civil societies, and the private sector in subnational and national level meetings on REDD+ subjects
	9. Promote gender quality into the REDD+ national policy and implementation framework	9.1. Gender concerns being incorporated into the national REDD+ strategy and implementation framework

Proposed principles	Proposed criteria	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with the conservation of natural forests, ecosystems and biological diversity • Ensure that REDD+ actions will not be used for the conversion of natural forests for planted forests • REDD+ actions are used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystems and to enhance other social and environmental benefits among others to mitigate climate change related impacts 	10. Ensure prior identification of areas of natural forests, critical ecosystems, and biodiversity for further conservation and protection	10.1. Implementation rates of prior social and environmental assessments (e.g. EIA, forest law) under REDD+ areas
	11. Conserve and protect natural forests, critical ecosystems, and biodiversity	11.1. Areas of natural forests, critical ecosystems, conserved and protected 11.2. Number of endangered species increased/decreased under forests 11.3. Number of wildlife increased/decreased under forests 11.4. Decrease/increase in fish stocks under flooded and mangrove forests
	12. Avoidance of REDD+ being used for conversion of natural forest into planted forests (i.e. reforestation/afforestation activities targeted at barren lands/degraded forests forests)	12.1. Size of areas changed from natural forests into planted forests 12.2. Size of degraded and barren areas reforested/afforested
	13. Enhancement of social and environmental benefits (reduction of forest fires, and floods)	13.1. Rates of poverty in REDD+ areas 13.2. Secure tenure for communities (number of CFs, CPAs, and CFi) 13.3. The amounts of benefits shared to local communities and Indigenous Peoples 13.4. Incidents of forest fires (annual) 13.5. Incidents of floods (annual)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the risk of reversals 	14. Address the risk of reversals of REDD+ achievements, including potential future risks to forest carbon stocks and other benefits	14.1. Changes in the size of forest areas and their quality under REDD+ activities over time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce displacement of emissions. 	15. Avoid or minimise indirect land-use change impacts of REDD+ activities on forest carbon stocks, biodiversity and other ecosystem services	15.1. Deforestation rates in areas under REDD+ and its surroundings

5.1. Development of safeguards information system (SIS)

When developing and implementing national REDD+ strategies or action plans, countries shall address, inter alia land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the REDD+ safeguards, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities³⁹. According to the UNFCCC, developing country Parties shall develop a system for providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities. Safeguards Information Systems (SIS) should⁴⁰:

- Be consistent with the guidance in decision 1/CP. 16, Appendix 1, Paragraph 1
- Provide transparent and consistent information that is accessible by all the relevant stakeholders and updated on a regular basis
- Be country-driven and implemented at the national level
- Be transparent and flexible to allow for improvements over time
- Provide information on how all of REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected
- Build upon existing systems, as appropriate

It should be mentioned that development of SIS in Cambodia takes into consideration:

- Applicable existing policies, laws and regulations;
- Lessons learned from sustainable forest management programs and other relevant environmental programs;
- Developed at national and sub-national levels as needed, based on the preparedness of local regulators and implementers;
- The design, components and flow and the provision of information within SIS will allow for integration and consistency with the MRV System;
- Transparency and accessibility to all parties;
- SIS management will be the responsibility of the agency coordinating the MRV institution.

The inclusion of safeguard framework indicators into MRV instruments for periodic review, especially of the following:

³⁹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 72

⁴⁰ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 71; Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 2

- Accountability mechanisms related to methods and processes for collection of data on social and environmental conditions to support the formulation of REDD+ policies and activities;
- Facts and data set out in reports on the implementation of REDD+ policies or activities through to the evaluation phase;
- Fulfilment of the safeguards framework within REDD+ policies and activities implementation;
- Evaluation of the accountability of verification results relating to the distribution of benefits from the implementation of REDD+ activities among groups of men and women;

Taking these decisions into consideration, Cambodia follows a three steps approach to establish its SIS, which are 1. Development of indicators, 2. Selection of methods for data collection, and 3. Decision on a framework for information provision. In total, 15 main indicators along with methods to collect information were proposed and consulted with relevant stakeholders. At the moment, the safeguards technical team are revising the proposed indicators based on the consultation inputs.

5.2. Existing Legal Context for Grievance Redress Mechanism

The existing legal context in Cambodia provides strong political support in terms of the establishment and implementation of mechanisms to resolve grievances and disputes relating to the design, implementation and evaluation of REDD+. Specific legal documents in Cambodia that describe how grievances shall be addressed include:

- **MAFF** (Sub-decree on Forest Concession Management, 2000; Sub-decree on Permanent Forest Estate, 2005; Sub-decree on Economic Land Concession, 2005);
- **MoE** (National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 2002; Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2013; Draft EIA Law, second version, 2014);
- **MLMUPC** (Land Law, 2002; Sub-decree on Social Economic Land Concession, 2003; Sub-decree on procedures of Registration of Land of Indigenous People, 2009).

From the Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, various dialogues on this topic have been conducted at local, provincial and national level since 2011. Suggested options to resolve potential disputes or grievances are summarized as follow:

Local level:

- Build on what is working now
 - CF/CPA/CFiA structure as first line for internal disputes
 - Commune for CF/CPA/CFiA-community member disputes
 - informing local FA/GDANCP/FiA and engaging where necessary
 - Referring title issues to District land titling teams
- Clarify roles and responsibilities of CF/CPA/CFiA leadership, Commune Councils, NGO partners, local FA/GDANCP/FiA for dispute resolution
- Ensure that community residents are aware of the mechanisms and know how to access and use it
- Build local capacity for collaborative problem solving
- Build capacity to document and track disputes and their resolution, and to share documentation among local partners

Provincial level:

- Build from current ad hoc engagement
 - Provincial forest management/REDD+ multi-stakeholder body for dispute resolution
 - under auspices of provincial governor
 - with national agencies (FA, GDANCP/FiA), CF/CPA/CFiA network, NGO/CSO participation
 - for disputes a) involving local/provincial stakeholders from outside the community (e.g. organized migrants, provincial ELCs/commercial agriculture, provincial roads); b) between or among CFs/CPAs/CFiAs, NGO partners, FA/GDANCP/FiA, and communes
- Establish a mechanism (on model of current sectoral groups/task forces authorized by the governor

- Clarify representation, roles and responsibilities, in particular participation of non-government stakeholders
- Build capacity for a) collaborative problem solving; b) documentation, tracking and information sharing

National level

- Designate/develop a national mechanism for referring disputes that cannot be resolved at provincial level (ELCs, military, other)
- Build on existing REDD+ national coordination structure (i.e., Taskforce, Secretariat, Consultation Group, Technical Teams)
- Identify a mechanism that key national government stakeholders can agree on
- Clarify referral process from provincial level
- Clarify representation (e.g. military), roles and responsibilities
- Build capacity for a) collaborative problem solving; b) documentation, tracking and information sharing

Chapter 6: Financial Management of National REDD+ strategy

Results-based finance provided to developing country Parties for the full implementation of REDD+ activities that is new, additional and predictable may come from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources⁴¹. Regardless of the source or type of financing, REDD+ activities should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16., including the REDD+ safeguards⁴². Entities financing REDD+ activities, through a wide variety of sources, including the Green Climate Fund in a key role, are encouraged to collectively channel adequate and predictable results-based finance in a fair and balanced manner, taking into account different policy approaches, while working with a view to increasing the number of countries that are in a position to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions⁴³. These entities are also encouraged, when providing results-based finance, to apply the methodological guidance consistent with decisions 4/CP.15.; 1/CP.16.; 2/CP.17. and 11 to 15/CP.19. in order to improve the effectiveness and coordination of results-based finance⁴⁴.

6.1. Cambodia Proposed REDD+ Fund

Despite the advances made in public financial management in recent years, substantial capacity constraints remain that coupled with the complexity of REDD+ and the notion of results-based payments, can result in suboptimal performance if REDD+ payments are managed using country systems exclusively. In addition, experience shows that none of the REDD+ countries so far have opted for budget support as a modality to disburse REDD+ payments but either created independent REDD+ funds or integrated REDD+ into existing forestry or climate change funds. The recommendation is that a fund based approach is used to manage REDD+ payments in the first interim phase with a subsequent second phase relying more on country systems and following a transition. However, using a fund based approach does not mean that it should be completely separate from country public financial management systems. On the contrary, it should rely on the components that have already shown positive results. As an initial step, it could use the government

⁴¹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 2/CP.17. Par. 65; Decision 9/CP. 19. Par.1

⁴² UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 2/CP.17. Par. 63

⁴³ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 9/CP.19. Par. 5

⁴⁴ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 9/CP.19. Par. 6

charts of account to report data, enabling the Ministry of Economy and Finance to capture this data for broader planning, budgetary, and reporting purposes⁴⁵.

Rationale for developing fund management arrangements in 2 phases

Major challenges/obstacles do not permit the rapid operationalization of the fund using a Government administered National REDD+ Fund or a REDD+ sub-fund under the National Climate Change Fund for several reasons:

- The Funds themselves do not exist they are only mentioned in the relevant laws or the adoption of a new law would be required to establish it (separate national REDD+ Fund)
- There may be capacity constraints that would prevent the government from setting up a fund using government procedures credible enough for donors to capitalize it
- During the climate finance architecture design work supported by UNDP, donors were interviewed on whether they would be interested in pooling funding into a national fund. Donors were reluctant to capitalize a climate change fund hence the decision to create a national climate finance facility that harmonizes the various aspects of financial management (such as planning, reporting, accounting, treasury, budget etc.).

So it is recommended that a Multi-Donor Trust Fund is set up on an interim basis with international support in for example assuming the Trustee's and/or fund management role, participation in the governance structures and ensuring quality assurance of the technical work by hiring experts and staff. This solution would remedy the shortcomings of described above:

- It could be set up more rapidly
- And provide Cambodia with increased credibility to ensure capitalization⁴⁶

During the interim period while the Multi-Donor Trust Fund is already receiving funding and supporting activities on the ground, the country could:

- Decide what the long term fund management option will be

⁴⁵ Saito-Jensen, M., Nguon, P...et al. 2014. Preliminary review and approach to develop a system for benefit sharing for REDD+ in Cambodia.

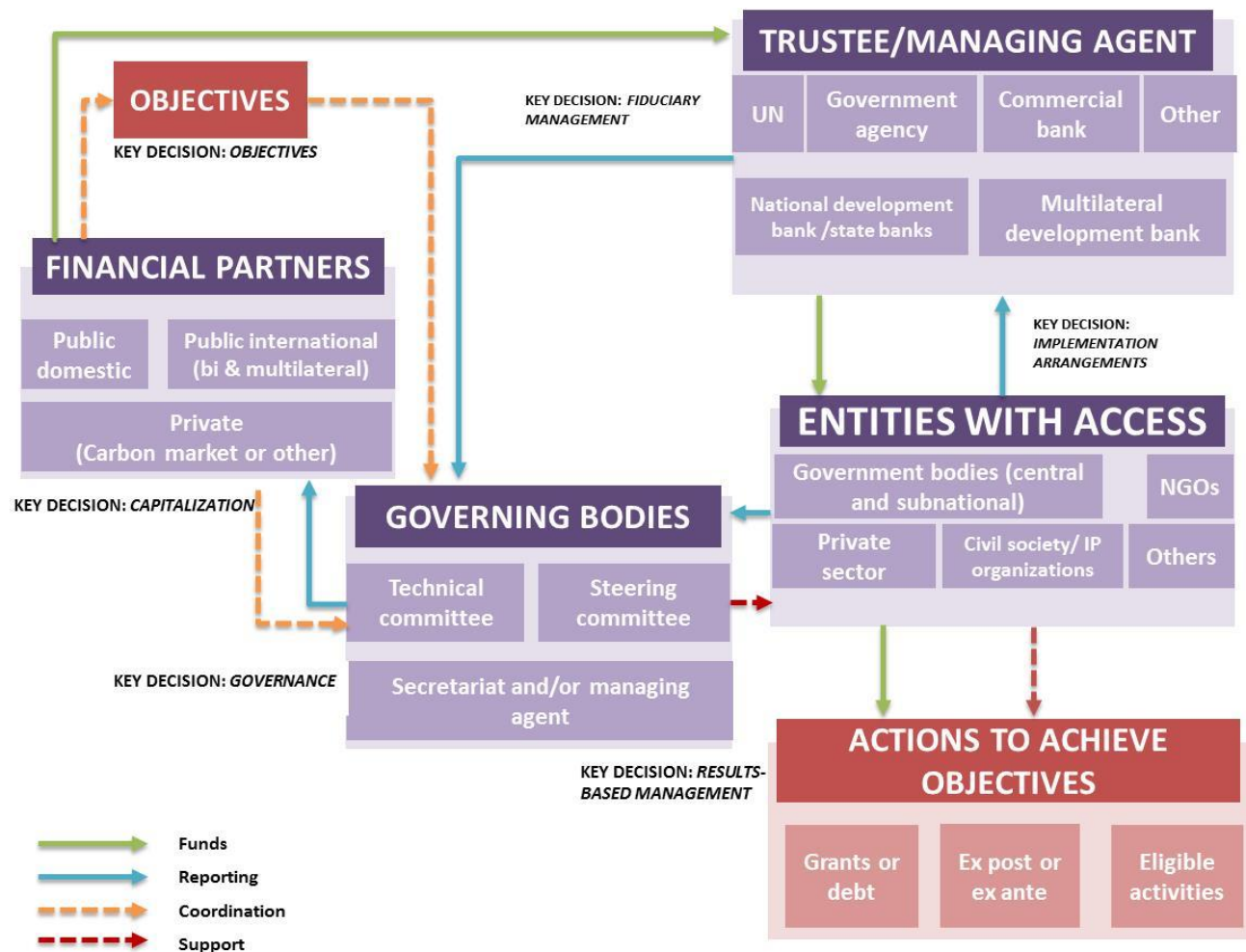
⁴⁶ To date, except for the Amazon Fund, REDD+ funding has been channeled to structures managed by international entities such as the UN or multilateral development banks

- Develop the necessary operational details of the selected long term option while considering national circumstances (such as developments in the national climate finance architecture) and lessons from the operation of the multi-donor REDD+ trust fund
- Identify capacity gaps and develop the capacities of national entities to ensure full ownership after the interim period.

Steps in the design of national REDD+ fund management arrangements

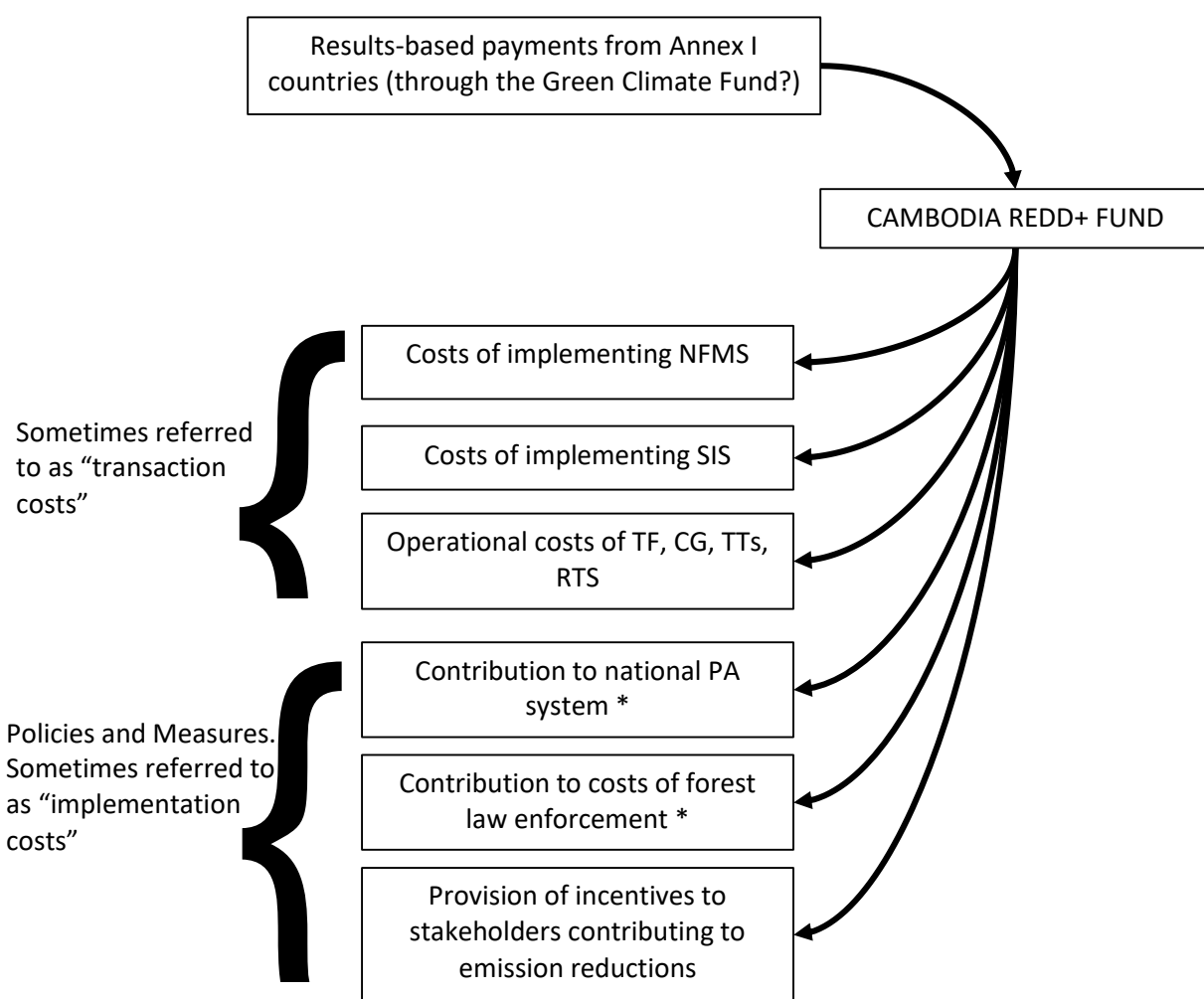
In the design of the multi-donor trust fund for REDD+ several steps will need to be taken. The key considerations and decisions are represented in the diagram below followed by the description of the steps proposed for the establishment of the National REDD+ Fund for Cambodia.

Figure 2: Proposed REDD+ Fund Design



The decisions presented in Figure 2 will be made during the fund development process. For key decision a number of important issues will need to be considered. The actual issues and considerations will be identified during the design process. The figure below (Figure 3) represents the proposed uses of results-based payments in a national REDD+ Programme, assuming that revenues received from Annex I countries are deposited in a Cambodia REDD+ Fund.

Figure 3: Proposed Uses of REDD+ Results-based Payments⁴⁷



* Note that these are examples of programmatic policies and measures – there may be others that the country decides to apply

⁴⁷ Ibid

Principles for REDD+ fund management: Benefit sharing

Drawing from stakeholders' inputs from sub-national and national consultations conducted by benefit sharing technical team, management of proposed REDD+ fund should incorporate the following principles:

- **Effectiveness:** REDD+ fund serves to reduce maximum possible emissions;
- **Efficiency:** REDD+ fund contributes to reducing emissions in a manner that minimizes costs, while being consistent with a rights-based approach;
- **Equity:** REDD+ fund is shared in a fair and equitable manner particularly for the benefit of the most vulnerable;
- **Timeliness:** Payments should be made right from initial activities of REDD+ implementation; incentives are offered more regularly (annually) than the measurement intervals of MRV system. If payments are made after performance, people and communities registered to demonstrate REDD+ activities cannot make upfront investments and therefore are not encouraged to conduct initial activities;
- **Adequacy:** In areas where there are alternative land uses of forest land, REDD+ must create direct and/or indirect benefits to entities who receive payments at an adequate amount not lower than those from alternative uses;
- **Flexibility:** REDD+ fund should support diverse activities that contribute to enhance forest carbon stock, reduce emission, improve biodiversity, sustainable forest management, at the same time suitable to each areas' social, economic and cultural conditions, compatible with characteristics of forest ownership, forest land use rights of many types;
- **Transparency:** REDD+ fund should be decentralized to local participatory management levels, following consistent principles and standards, ensure transparency in decision making, nature and magnitude of payments. Allocation of REDD+ fund must be conducted with support from a modern, verifiable information system, and auditing.
- **Compliance:** Management and allocation of REDD+ fund must be institutionalized with existing policies, laws and regulations with enforcement regime at all level of authorities and stakeholders.

Chapter 7: Measurement, Reporting and Verification

For developing country Parties to obtain and receive results-based finance, REDD+ actions should be fully measured, reported and verified⁴⁸. Results-based actions that may be eligible to appropriate market-based approaches that could be developed by the COP, as per decision 2/CP.17. Par. 66, maybe subject to any further specific modalities for verification consistent with any relevant decision of the COP. The COP also recognizes the need to develop capacities for measuring, reporting, and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities⁴⁹. Furthermore, the data and information used by Parties in the estimation of anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes, as appropriate to REDD+ activities undertaken by Parties, should be transparent, consistent over time and with the established forest reference emission levels (FRELs) and/or forest reference levels (FRLs)⁵⁰.

Developing country Parties are encouraged to develop the FRELs and/or FRLs according to their national circumstances and capabilities, or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational FRELs and/or FRLs⁵¹. Further guidance from the UNFCCC regarding development of FRELs and/or FRLs are as follow:

1. Establish FRELs/FRLs transparently taking into account historic data, adjusting for national circumstance, and maintaining consistency with anthropogenic forest-related GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks as contained in each country's GHG inventories⁵²
2. May use a step-wise approach to development of FRELs/ FRLs, enabling Parties to incorporate better data, improved methodologies and, where appropriate, additional pools⁵³

⁴⁸ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 2/CP.17. Par. 64

⁴⁹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 14/CP.19. Par. 2 and 15

⁵⁰ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 14/CP.19. Par. 3

⁵¹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 1/CP.16. Par. 71

⁵² UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 4/CP.15. Par.7; Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 8

⁵³ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 10

3. Express FRELs/FRLs in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, as benchmarks for assessing each country's performance in implementing REDD+ activities⁵⁴
4. Update FRELs/FRLs periodically as appropriate, taking into account new knowledge, trends and any modification of scope and methodologies⁵⁵
5. Subnational FRELs/FRLs may be elaborated as an interim measure, while transitioning to a national FREL and/or FRL, and that interim FRELs and/or FRLs of a Party may cover less than its entire national territory of forest area⁵⁶
6. Invited to submit, on a voluntary basis and when deemed appropriate, proposed FRELs/FRLs, accompanied by the following information⁵⁷
 - Information and rationale on the development of FRELs/FRLs, including details of national circumstance and, if adjusted, details on how national circumstances were considered
 - Information on FRELs/FRLs will be made available on the UNFCCC REDD web platform, including submissions with proposed FRELs/FRLs

7.1. National Forest Monitoring System

The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in Cambodia is expected to provide information relevant to monitor and report on REDD+ and to support broader forest sector policies and programmes such as for the NFP, NPASMP, SPFF and other policies in providing accurate and timely update of data. Since the scope of data to be collected, managed and used is broad, Cambodia is following a phased approach – starting with the use of the most important information first, then, develop NFMS into more comprehensive structure. Criteria to identify the most important information are: requirements of national policies and structures and UNFCCC, data availability, cost for data collection and management, capacity availability, and the availability tools or methods to use data.

⁵⁴ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 7

⁵⁵ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 12

⁵⁶ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 11

⁵⁷ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 9, 13 and 14

The NFMS consists of three pillars. They are Satellite Land Monitoring System, National Forest Inventory and GHG Inventory. The NFMS will be linked with the Safeguards Information System (SIS) and include specific components that will be established to allow for monitoring of selected policies and measures to reduce deforestation, forest degradation, or allow for more sustainable management of natural resources. The scope for each of the three pillars is as follows:

1. Satellite Land Monitoring System

SLMS monitors land use/cover changes. As the basic land use/cover monitoring tool, vector maps which show each land use/cover areas by polygons are being produced. The map of 2013/14 is the base map for assessing historical land use/cover changes. Land use/cover mapping is and is going to be under the responsibility of FA, who will provide consistent periodic update on land use/cover changes. Definition of forest, land use/cover classes and minimum mapping unit have been determined. New technology was introduced in land use/cover mapping and the production of 2005, 2010 and 2014 and the verification of the produced maps will be completed in May 2015. The future update cycle is foreseen to provide land use/cover update at a two years interval, thus to allow for periodic most accurate and timely data to report under National Communications, and Biennial Update Reports.

2. National Forest Inventory

National Forest Inventory will be periodically carried out to provide accurate information on status of natural resources in Cambodia. The NFI will support development and provide updates on national specific emission factors for all the major forest types and land use categories in Cambodia. Under the current design proposal, 5 year is considered to be one cycle. Target pools are above ground biomass, below ground biomass, and dead wood. Additional pools can be covered by a subset sample. Collection of the information other than those directly related to biomass calculation will be considered as optional, and will be evaluated in consideration with chosen REDD+ implementation measures and SIS. At present the NFI design proposal has almost been completed. It is expected that in 2015 Cambodia will be able to start implementation of its first NFI cycle. Forestry Administration, Fisheries Administration and the Ministry of Environment are responsible for conducting inventory of forests under their respective jurisdiction.

3. GHG Inventory

Non-Annex I countries are recommended to use the revised 1996 IPCC guidelines for national greenhouse gas inventories. However, based on the assumption that in the future, the 2006 IPCC guidelines will be used, Cambodia will use the 2006 guidelines to keep consistency among the contents of international reports. As for target GHG, CO₂ is considered to be important in Cambodia. Methodology for the inventory is Gain-Loss (Stock Difference) method. As for Tier level, Cambodia will start with Tier 1 first and will move on to Tier 2 along with the accumulation of detailed or higher quality data.

Consistency, Reliability, and Transparency

The NFMS Cambodia is expected to establish the requirements of data collection, and will need considerable maintenance. In parallel to establish the three pillars of the NFMS and additional monitoring mechanisms, Cambodia will implement a data management system that will allow for the storage, maintenance, and periodic backup of information. Part of the data will be hosted on a dedicated web platform to allow for greater transparency and visibility of REDD+ results. In order to prevent any misuse and adverse effects, data to be hosted in public domain will undergo a review process, and might be aggregated.

In summary, the strategy on NFMS in Cambodia is:

- Serving activities of REDD+ as well as existing policies and programmes
- Taking step wise approach – starting with the minimum and most important information.
- Each pillar of NFMS is being designed. Provisional draft design is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.
- Until NFI is implemented, or until land use/cover analysis using high resolution satellite image becomes possible, activities covered by NFMS is deforestation.
- And in GHG inventory, ____ (to be decided) _____ method is used.
- A data management system will be established
- Selected data will be hosted on web platform to allow for greater transparency and of visibility of REDD+ results

2. Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL)

The UNFCCC has defined forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels (FREL/FRLs) as: “...*benchmarks for assessing each country’s performance in implementing REDD+ activities*”⁵⁸. The UNFCCC has also agreed on four decisions⁵⁹ related to FRELs/FRLs for REDD+, providing guidance for developing countries on 1) modalities for FREL/FRLs including guidelines for submission of information⁶⁰; and 2) on the technical assessment of FREL/FRL submissions⁶¹.

The strategy for initial REL of Cambodia is summarized as follow:

The assessment of FREL will be conducted at the national scale, Tier 1 is basically used for the initial FREL assessment. Tier 2 and Tier 3 are expected to be used in the near future. Method for assessing FREL, to be completed, uses historical average with possible considerations on national circumstances, in particular the trends in gross domestic products. Deforestation and afforestation activities will be selected for primary assessment of FREL. Later, forest degradation will be assessed after two round of NFI are completed and/or the analysis by using large number of high resolution satellite image is carried out. For the first FREL submission, Cambodia will select CO₂ to report on. Once the country has the technical capacity, available resources and experience, more types of gases will be reported in subsequent submissions. In the first FREL assessment, Cambodia selects five forest carbon pools to calculate FREL, which are: above ground biomass consisted of standing live trees, dead wood, litters, and tree leaves; and below ground biomass consisted of tree roots. More carbon pools will be reported subsequently.

The reference period for developing FREL is 2005-2014. Forest land use/cover maps 2013 /2014 is used as a base map. The forest and non-forest areas were classified into 22 classes. Major reason for the selection of activity, GHG, pool, number of activity data and method is due to availability of current data. In designing FREL, forest is defined as “*trees higher than 5 meters on an area of at least 0.5 hectare with a canopy of more than 10 per cent* ”. Plantations such as rubber, palm

⁵⁸ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP.17. Par. 7

⁵⁹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 4/CP.15.; Decision 1/CP.16.; Decision 12/CP.17.; Decision 13/CP.19.

⁶⁰ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 12/CP. 17

⁶¹ UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Decision 13/CP.19.

oil, teak, acacia, and eucalyptus and fruit trees such as mango, cashew orchards are not classified as forest.

Between 2016 and 2020, priority actions to be completed for NFMS/ MRV and FREL are

- Functional NFMS including MRV and Monitoring
- Tier 2 reporting level reached for key pools and categories
- NFMS linked to SIS reporting and monitoring requirements
- Functioning SLMS providing biennial consistent updates on land use/cover
- NFI first cycle completed; implementation and resource plan for subsequent cycles established
- GHG inventory for forest sector completed biennially
- Database is operational
- Web platform providing periodic updates with most recent data on REDD+

NFMS specific Action Plan

1. Initial draft of NFMS by determining: (Feb 2015)

- * Overall design of NFMS and strategy for NFMS development
- * Subjects and/or activities to be monitored
- * Monitoring method and responsible organization
- * Methodology to use the monitoring results

These four kinds of work will be implemented simultaneously because they are inter-related.

2. Satellite Land Monitoring System

SLMS are based on the findings collected during the mapping of 2005/06, 2010 and 2013/14 land use/cover classes. Additional mapping assessments will be conducted in one or two rounds of the new land use/cover mapping and land use/cover change analysis (by 2020)

3. National Forest Inventory

The NFI implementation plan will be consistent with the SLMS. Proposed NFI implementation will be consulted with relevant stakeholders. Inputs from stakeholders will be used to revise the

proposed NFI. Proposed NFI will later be presented to the REDD+ Taskforce for comments/ and approval. Approved NFI implementation plan will be field tested, tentatively in 2016.

4. GHG Reporting

The selection of major elements will be made by determining:

- * Availability of activity data – for data not available now, default values of IPCC guidelines will be used.: by the end of January 2015
- * Default values to be used.: by the end of January 2015
- * Tier level to be aimed: by mid February 2015
- * Software to be used (or, select manual calculation method): by the end of February 2015, repeat calculation until 2020 along with the increase in the availability of data

Aiming at the calculation at the level higher than Tier 2, calculation will be repeated along with the increase in the data availability.

5. Database and WEB interface

The design of database management is made by April 2015. Software to be used, location of database server, database management method and Cambodian government agencies responsible for the maintenance of the database will be determined. The Provisional Database management system is completed by the end of 2015, and the database structure such as separating the storage of original data and the data to be uploaded to WEB site will be determined. Until 2020. Database structure and WEB interface will be reviewed and revised along with the development of data.

Chapter 8: Institutional Arrangements for Strategy Implementation

The institutional arrangements for implementation of Cambodia national REDD+ strategy needs to recognize the different roles and responsibilities of the various government authorities that have jurisdictional authority over forest resources in the country. Implementation of REDD+ is therefore expected to follow Government agency jurisdictions, with different Government agencies developing REDD+ implementation strategies for the different forest areas, based on the existing laws and policies of the RGC. Implementation will have to be nested within a National Framework, because REDD+ requires implementation at the National scale, with National-level reporting to the UNFCCC.

8.1. Coordination at National Level

Building on National REDD+ Roadmap, the functions and the agencies responsible for national-level implementation should include:

The National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) is responsible for preparing, coordinating and monitoring implementation of the Royal Government policies, strategies, regulations, plans and programs related to climate change. The NCCC's roles and responsibilities include (2010 Sub-decree #99, replacing 2009 Sub-decree #174 and 2006 Sub-decree #35):

- Coordinating and cooperating with concerned ministries and institutions in the preparation of draft policies, strategies, regulations, plans and programs on climate change;
- Determining the national negotiation positions and strategies for participation in international negotiations on climate change;
- Reviewing and adopting reports to the UNFCCC;
- Coordinating and monitoring implementation of projects, programs and activities related to climate change

Therefore, the NCCC's role is primarily focus on coordinating, monitoring and promoting in cooperation with concerned ministries and institutions of the RGC.

Under 2008 Sub-decree #188 (amending the 2000 Sub-Decree #17 on the Organization and Function of MAFF) the **Forestry Administration** of MAFF's general responsibilities for forest carbon are specifically:

- Conducting assessments to determine the quantity of national forest carbon stocks; and
- Developing and arranging for forest carbon trades and forest services to increase revenue for effective forest operations and development (Article 4 of 2008 Sub-decree #188)

The Forestry Administration therefore currently has authorization to develop forest carbon sales, however based on the law this applies only to the Permanent Forest Estate that lies under the jurisdiction of the FA. Based on the two exclusions in Article 3 of the Forestry Law, management of Protected Areas is under the Ministry of Environment and flooded forest and mangrove areas fall under the jurisdiction of the Fisheries Administration of MAFF. In addition, the **Fisheries Administration** of MAFF has jurisdictional management and regulatory authority over flooded forest and mangrove areas outside of the Protected Area network (the fishery domain), including Community Fisheries Areas and Fisheries Protected and Conservation Areas.

The **Department of Climate Change of GDANCP of MoE** acts as the secretariat of the NCCC and has the following relevant roles and responsibilities (see Article 4 of 2009 Sub-Decree #175 amending 1997 Sub-Decree #57 on MoE Organization and Function):

- developing national strategies, action plans and policies and regulations related to climate changes in cooperation with concerned institutions;
- implementing decisions of the UNFCCC;
- preparing national reports and greenhouse gas inventories for Cambodia under UNFCCC;
- coordinating implementation of CDM and carbon credit projects;
- proposing projects and programs and coordinating, monitoring and evaluating implementation of all projects and programs related to climate change;
- serving as focal point for the UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, the CDM, international negotiations on climate change, and preparing the national position for these negotiations;
- serving as secretariat of NCCC;
- cooperating with concerned institutions in the establishment and management of climate change trust funds and carbon credit policies; and

- strengthening cooperation among national institutions, development partners, civil society and the private sector in implementing measures to respond to climate changes as well as for effective implementation of decisions of the UNFCCC

The membership of the **Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce** composed of 10 representatives from seven ministries whose mandate is to manage the development of REDD+ readiness. The seven ministries represented in the Taskforce include: (1) the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), (2) the Ministry of Environment (MoE), (3) the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), (4) the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC), (5) Ministry of Interior, (6) Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), and (7) Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy (MIME). The overall responsibility of the Taskforce is to manage the national REDD+ programme, coordinate national REDD+ activities, ensure government coordinated responses, and integrate REDD+ into national development planning processes. Amongst other mandates, the Taskforce is responsible for reporting key decisions to national bodies, in particular the National Climate Change Committee. As a formal government body, non-government members cannot be part of the Taskforce. However, non-government stakeholders may be invited to join Taskforce meetings and can participate through the Advisory and Consultation Groups and Technical Teams.

Four **REDD+ Technical Teams**, established by the REDD+ Taskforce, are tasked with the responsibility to develop technical recommendations on particular key issues. Those four technical teams include: (1) safeguards technical team, (2) benefit sharing technical team, (3) demonstration technical team, (4) monitoring reporting and verification/ reference emission level (MRV/REL) technical team. Members of these technical teams include technical officers from different line agencies responsible for the issue under discussion as well as other stakeholders as identified, including civil society and indigenous peoples' representatives. Non-government members could be drawn from organizations represented in the REDD+ Consultation Group.

The **REDD+ Consultation Group**, established in August 2013, is represented by two elected representatives from nine institutions in Cambodia. Those nine institutions include: international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), national NGOs, local NGOs, indigenous peoples,

private sector, academic institutions, community forestry, protected area community, and fisheries community. Members of the Taskforce, Taskforce Secretariat and Advisors will meet with the Consultation Group on a monthly or bi-monthly basis to review progress with and provide comments on the National REDD+ Readiness process. The Taskforce will send reports and decisions to the Consultation Group for their comments, and will respond to comments raised. Consultation Group members may also be invited to join Taskforce meetings whenever appropriate.

REDD+ Gender Group was established in August 2014 by the REDD+ Taskforce in order to: 1) build awareness about gender and women's empowerment concepts and issues among members of the REDD+ Taskforce, Consultation Group and Technical Teams; and 2) advise on gender in components of the National REDD+ Strategy and subsequent implementation guidelines as they are prepared. In total, there are 4 members of the Cambodia REDD+ Gender Group, who come from the following four related institutions: FA and FiA of MAFF, MoE, and Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA).

The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) acts as the executive agency of the RGC in managing state properties (including forest carbon) in terms of selling, leasing, transferring, and other arrangements, and granting of various state concessions or contracts on management of state property. All contracts for sale of forest carbon would therefore have to be approved by the RGC, based on MEF's recommendation.

The Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC) has various responsibilities relating to land management including (1999 Sub-decree #62, 2001 Land Law, 2009 Land Policy):

- Cadastral administration of state land (public and private state land) and individuals' private land registration, including indigenous communal land titles; issuing land titles throughout Cambodia; Social Land Concessions;
- Carrying out cadastral surveying and mapping;

- Managing and disseminating all kinds of maps of the Kingdom of Cambodia to national mapping standards by cooperating with relevant institutions which produce sectoral maps; and
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) coordination.

8.2. Subnational Implementation

Functions that could be regulated by the various line agencies to implement REDD+ at the sub-national level might include:

- Monitoring of forest carbon (using the nationally-approved accounting rules) within forest areas of each agency's jurisdictional responsibility
- Setting reference levels / reference emissions levels for forest areas within each agency's jurisdictional responsibility
- Setting rules for benefit-sharing for forest areas within each agency's jurisdictional responsibility
- Approving REDD+ projects in forest areas within each agency's jurisdictional responsibility
- Monitoring the implementation of REDD+ projects in forest areas within each agency's jurisdictional responsibility

Local communities should be involved in local management decisions, implementation and monitoring, e.g. through existing Community Forestry agreements and similar modalities. Other non-state actors, such as NGOs or community forestry groups, may play key roles in implementation at particular sites.

Implementation is expected to involve REDD+ projects within a nested framework. Examples might include implementation in:

- protected areas or groups of protected areas
- community forests or groups of community forests and/or indigenous communal land titles in the Permanent Forest Estate
- community protected areas or groups of community protected areas and/or indigenous communal land titles in Pas
- protection forests

- forestry concessions
- groups of Permanent Forest Reserve units: e.g. a protection forest, areas of production forest, and several community forests

Implementation would involve working at subnational scales, such as entire provinces or forested regions (e.g. the Eastern Plains). Subnational implementation might require Government agencies to cooperate in setting reference levels and monitoring systems, e.g. in cases where Protected Areas are adjacent to Protection Forests. For example, Mondulakiri province includes parts of four Protected Areas (Snoul, Phnom Prich, Phnom Nam Lyr and Lomphat), two Protection Forests (Seima and Mondulakiri), Production Forest areas, and indigenous lands.

Abbreviations

AFOLU	Agriculture Forestry and Other Land Use
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CF	Community Forestry
CFi	Community Fisheries
CPAs	Community Protected Areas
COP	Conference of the Parties
ESIAs	Environmental, Social Impact Assessments
ELCs	Economic Land Concessions
FA	Forestry Administration
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FiA	Fisheries Administration
FLEG	Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDANCP	General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MIME	Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
MLMUPC	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
MRD	Ministry of Rural Development
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NCCC	National Climate Change Committee
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NFP	National Forest Programme
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPASMP	National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan
PLRs	Policies, Laws and Regulations
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
RLs/RELS	Reference Levels or Reference Emissions Levels
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
R-PIN	Readiness Plan Idea Note
SIS	Safeguards Information System
SLCs	Social Land Concessions
SPFF	Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Annexes

Annex 1: UNFCCC Decisions on National REDD+ Strategy and Its Components

1. Foundations of REDD+

Developing country Parties are encouraged to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities, as deemed appropriate by each Party and in accordance with their respective capabilities and national circumstances (1/CP.16. Par.70):

- a. Reducing emissions from deforestation
- b. Reducing emissions from forest degradation
- c. Conservation of forest carbon stocks
- d. Sustainable management of forests
- e. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

The implementation of the activities referred to in par.70 of decision 1/ CP.16 (referred to as REDD+ activities) should be carried out in accordance with appendix I to decision 1/CP.16, and that the safeguards referred to in par.2 of appendix I to decision 1/ CP.16 should be promoted and supported (1/CP.16. Par.69)

a. REDD+ activities should: (1/CP.16. Appendix 1. Par. 1)

- Contribute to the achievement of the objective set out in Article 2 of the Convention
- Contribute to the fulfilment of the commitments set out in Article 4, par. 3, of the Convention
- Be country-driven and be considered options available to Parties
- Be consistent with the objective of environmental integrity and take into account the multiple functions of forests and other ecosystems
- Be undertaken in accordance with national development priorities, objectives, and circumstances and capabilities and should respect national sovereignty
- Be consistent with national sustainable development needs and goals
- Be implemented in the context of sustainable development and reducing poverty, while responding to climate change
- Be consistent with the adaptation needs of the country
- Be supported by adequate and predictable financial and technology support, including support for capacity-building
- Be results-based
- Promote sustainable management of forests

b. REDD+ activities shall be implemented in phases, beginning with the development of national strategies or action plans, policies, and measures, and capacity-building, followed by the implementation of national policies and measures and national strategies or action plans that could involve further capacity-building, technology development and transfer and results-based demonstration activities, and evolving into results-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified (1/CP.16 Par. 73)

c. Estimates of reductions or increases of emissions should be results based, demonstrable, transparent and verifiable, and estimated consistently over time (2/CP.13 Annex Par. 2)

2. Design Elements of REDD+ Necessary to Obtain and Receive Results-based Finance

1. National Strategy or Action Plan
 - a. Via Information Hub of REDD+ Web Platform, as appropriate
2. National Forest Monitoring System
 - National Forest Reference Emission Levels and/or Forest Reference Levels
 - i. Submission through the REDD+ Web Platform
 - ii. Technical Assessment
 - iii. Final report of technical assessment published via REDD+ Web Platform (including Information Hub)
 - Measurement, Reporting and Verification
 - i. Biennial Update Reports
 1. Technical Annex
 2. International Consultation and Analysis
 3. Technical Report by LULUCF experts published via REDD+ Web Platform (including Information Hub)
 - Information as provided in Technical Annex accessible via Information Hub of REDD+ Web Platform
3. Safeguards Information System
 - Summary in National Communications
 - On a voluntary basis, via REDD+ Web Platform (including Information Hub)

2 (a). National Strategy or Action Plan

1. National Strategy or Action Plan
 - a. Link to REDD+ Finance
 - i. To obtain and receive results-based finance, developing countries should have a national REDD+ strategy or action plan (2/CP.17. Par.64; 1/CP16. Par. 71)
 - b. The information hub on the web platform on the UNFCCC website will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Convention, a link to the national strategy or action plan, as appropriate (9/CP.19 Par. 9 and 11)
 - c. Guidelines for Developing Country Parties
 - i. Developing country Parties aiming to undertake REDD+ activities are requested to develop a national strategy or action plan, in the context of the provision of adequate and predictable support, in accordance with national circumstance (1/CP.16. Par.71)
 - ii. When developing and implementing national strategies or action plans, address: the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations, and REDD+ safeguards, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities (1/CP.16. Par.72)
 - iii. Implement REDD+ activities in phases: 1) beginning with the development of national strategies or action plans, policies, and measures, and capacity-building; 2) followed by the implementation of national policies and measures and national strategies or action plans that could involve further capacity-building, technology development and transfer and results-based

demonstration activities; and 3) evolving into results-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified (1/CP.16 Par. 73)

2. Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation

- a.** Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation have many causes, and thus actions to address them are unique to countries' national circumstances, capacities and capabilities (15/CP.19. Par. 2)
- b.** Involvement of diverse stakeholders
 - i. Parties, organizations and the private sector are encouraged to take action to reduce the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (15/CP.19. Par. 3)
 - ii. All Parties, relevant organizations, and the private sector and other stakeholders are encouraged to continue their work to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and to share the results of their work on this matter, including via the Web Platform on the UNFCCC websites (15/CP.19. Par. 4)
- c.** Guidelines for Developing Country Parties
 - i. Identify drivers of deforestation and forest degradation resulting in emissions and also the means to address these (4/ CP. 15. Par. 1)
 - ii. Identify activities within the country that result in reduced emissions and increased removals, and stabilization of forest carbon stocks (4/ CP.15 Par. 1)
 - iii. Encouraged to take note of the information from on-going and existing work on addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation by developing country Parties and relevant organizations and stakeholders (15/CP.19 Par. 5)
 - iv. Address, when developing and implementing national strategies or action plans, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (a/ CP. 16 Par. 72)

2 (b). Safeguard Information Systems

- 1.** Link to REDD+ Finance
 - a. To obtain and receive results-based finance, developing country Parties should have a system for providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected (2/ CP. 17. Par. 64; 1/CP.16 Par. 71)
 - b. Developing countries seeking to obtain and receive results-based payments should provide the most recent summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards have been addressed and respected before they can receive results-based payments (9/CP.19 Par. 4)
 - c. Regardless of the source or type of financing, REDD+ activities should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP. 16 including the REDD+ safeguards (2/ CP. 17. Par. 63)
- 2.** The information hub on the web platform on the UNFCCC website will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Convention, the summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected (9/CP.19. Par.9 and 11)

3. Guideline for developing country Parties
 - a. Promote and support the following REDD+ safeguards when undertaking REDD+ activities (1/ CP. 16. Par. 69 and Par. 2 of Appendix 1)
 - i. That actions complement or are consistent with the objective of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements
 - ii. Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty
 - iii. Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
 - iv. The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities
 - v. That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that REDD+ actions are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits
 1. Non-Carbon Benefits
 - a. Policy approaches and positive incentives for mitigation actions in the forest sector can promote poverty alleviation and biodiversity benefits, ecosystem resilience and the linkages between adaptation and mitigation, and should promote and support the REDD+ safeguards (2/CP. 17)
 - b. The COP recognizes the importance of incentivizing NCBs for the long-term sustainability of the implementation of REDD+ activities, and notes the work on methodological issues referred to in decision 1/ CP. 18, paragraph 40 (9/CP.19 Par. 22)
 - vi. Actions to reduce displacement of emissions
 - vii. Actions to address the risks of reversals
 - b. When developing and implementing national strategies or action plans, address, inter alia,... land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the REDD+ safeguards, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities (1/ CP. 16 Par. 72)
 - i. The implementation of REDD+ safeguards and information on how these safeguards are being addressed and respected should support national strategies or action plans and be included in, where appropriate, all phases of REDD+ implementation (12/ CP. 17. Par. 1)
 - c. Develop a system for providing information on how REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities (1/ CP. 16. Par. 71). Safeguards Information Systems should (12/CP. 17 Par. 2)
 - i. Be consistent with the guidance in decision 1/CP. 16, Appendix 1, Paragraph 1

- ii. Provide transparent and consistent information that is accessible by all the relevant stakeholders and updated on a regular basis
 - iii. Be country-driven and implemented at the national level
 - iv. Be transparent and flexible to allow for improvements over time
 - v. Provide information on how all of REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected
 - vi. Build upon existing systems, as appropriate
- d. Provide a summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities (12/CP. 17 Pa. 3)
 - i. Provide this summary periodically and include it in national communications, consistent with relevant decisions of the COP on guidelines on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, or communication channels agreed by the COP (12/CP. 17. Par.4)
 - ii. Could also provide, on a voluntary basis, this summary of information via the web platform on the UNFCCC website (12/CP. 19. Par. 3)
 - iii. Start providing this summary of information in national communication or communication channel, including via the web platform of the UNFCCC (on a voluntary basis), after the start of the implementation of REDD+ activities (12/ CP. 19. Par. 4)
 - iv. The frequency of subsequent presentations of this summary of information should be consistent with the provisions for submissions of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and, on a voluntary basis, via the web platform on the UNFCCC websites (12/ CP. 19. Par. 5)

2 (c). National Reference Emission Levels and/or Forest Reference Levels

1. Link to REDD+ Finance
 - a. To obtain and receive results-based finance, developing country Parties should have a national FREL and/or FRL, or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational FRELs and/or FRLs (2/CP.17 Par. 64; 1/CP.16 Par. 71)
2. Parties, in particular developed country Parties, and relevant international organizations are invited to support capacity-building in relation to the development and assessment of FRELs and/or FRLs, taking into account the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (13/CP. 19 Par. 6)
3. Parties, in particular developing country Parties, and, as appropriate, intergovernmental organizations are invited to nominate technical experts with the relevant qualifications to the UNFCCC roster of experts (13/CP.19 Par.5)
4. Guidelines for Developing Country Parties
 - Develop, according to national circumstances and capabilities, a national forest reference emission level (FREL) and/or forest reference level (FRL) or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational FRELs and/or FRLs (1/CP.16 Par. 71)

1. Establish FRELs/FRLs transparently taking into account historic data, adjusting for national circumstance, and maintaining consistency with anthropogenic forest-related GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks as contained in each country's GHG inventories (4/CP.15. Par. 7; 12/CP.17. Par. 8)
2. May use a step-wise approach to development of FRELs/ FRLs, enabling Parties to incorporate better data, improved methodologies and, where appropriate, additional pools (12/CP.17. Par. 10)
3. Express FRELs/FRLs in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, as benchmarks for assessing each country's performance in implementing REDD+ activities (12/CP.17. Par. 7)
4. Update FRELs/FRLs periodically as appropriate, taking into account new knowledge, trends and any modification of scope and methodologies (12/CP.17. Par. 12)
5. Subnational FRELs/FRLs may be elaborated as an interim measure, while transitioning to a national FREL and/or FRL, and that interim FRELs and/or FRLs of a Party may cover less than its entire national territory of forest area (12/CP.17. Par. 11)
6. Invited to submit, on a voluntary basis and when deemed appropriate, proposed FRELs/FRLs, accompanied by the following information (12/CP.17. Par. 13)
 - Information and rationale on the development of FRELs/FRLs, including details of national circumstance and, if adjusted, details on how national circumstances were considered (12/CP.17. Par.9)
 - Information on FRELs/FRLs will be made available on the UNFCCC REDD web platform, including submissions with proposed FRELs/FRLs (12/CP.17. Par. 14)
 - Include in submissions of information on reference levels, for the purpose of allowing a technical assessment of the data, methodologies and procedures used (12/CP.17. Annex)
 - Information guided by the most recent IPCC guidance and guidelines as adopted or encouraged by the COP
 - Information used in constructing a FREL/FRL, including historical data, in a comprehensive and transparent way
 - Transparent, complete, consistent and accurate information, including methodological information, used to construct FRELs/FRLs, including, as appropriate, a description of data sets, approaches, methods, models (if applicable), assumptions used, descriptions of relevant policies and plans, and descriptions of changes from previously submitted information
 - Pools and gases, and REDD+ activities which have been included in FRELs/FRLs, and the reasons for omitting a pool and/or activity, noting that significant pools and/or activities should not be excluded
 - Definition of forest used in the construction of FRELs/FRLs and, is appropriate, in case there is a difference with the definition of forest used in the national

greenhouse gas inventory or in reporting to other international organizations, an explanation of why and how the definition was chosen

5. Technical Assessment

- a. Each submission referred to in decision 12/CP.17 Par. 13, shall be subject to a technical assessment (13/CP.19 Par. 1)
- b. Such proposed FRELs and/or FRLs, as referred to in 12/CP.17 Par. 13 might be technically assessed in the context of results-based payments (13/CP. 19 Par.2)
- c. Guidelines and Procedures for the Technical Assessment of Submissions from Parties on FRELs/FRLs include: (13/CP.19. Par. 3; 13/CP.19. Annex)

Objectives

- To assess the degree to which information provided by Parties is in accordance with the guidelines for submissions of information on FRELs and/or FRLs contained in the annex to decision 12/CP.17. for the construction of the FRELs and/or FRLs
- To offer a facilitative, non-intrusive, technical exchange of information on the construction of FRELs and/or FRLs with a view to supporting the capacity of developing country Parties for the construction and future improvements, as appropriate, of their FRELs and/or FRLs, subject to national capabilities and policy

Scopes

- The assessment team shall refrain from making any judgment on domestic policies taken into account in the construction of FRELs and/or FRLs (Par. 4)
- Areas for technical improvement may be identified and these areas and capacity-building needs for the construction of future FRELs and/or FRLs may be noted by the Party concerned (Par. 3)
- The technical assessment of the data, methodologies, and procedures used by the developing country Party under assessment in the construction of its FREL and/or FRL will assess the following (Par. 2)
 1. The extent to which the FREL and/or FRL maintains consistency with corresponding anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks as contained in the national greenhouse gas inventories
 2. How historical data have been taken into account in the establishment of the FREL and/or FRL
 3. The extent to which the information provided was transparent, complete, consistent, and accurate, including methodological information, description of data sets, approaches, methods, models, if applicable, and assumptions used and whether the FRELs and/or FRLs are national or cover less than the entire national territory of forest area
 4. Whether a description of relevant policies and plans has been provided, as appropriate
 5. If applicable, whether descriptions of changes to previously submitted FRELs and/or FRLs have been provided, taking into account the stepwise approach
 6. Pools and gases, and activities included in the FREL and/or FRL, and justification of why omitted pools and/or activities were deemed not significant

7. Whether the definition of forest used in the construction of the FREL and/or FRL has been provided and, if it is different from the one used in the national greenhouse gas inventory or from the one reported to other international organizations, why and how the definition used was chosen
8. Whether assumptions about future changes to domestic policies have been included in the construction of the FREL and/or FRL
9. The extent to which the FREL and/or FRL value is consistent with the information and descriptions provided by the Party

Timing

1. Assessment sessions will be organized once a year. Submissions received no later than 10 weeks ahead of a session will be assessed at that session. The assessment sessions will take place in Bonn, Germany (Par. 10).
2. See paragraphs 1-17 of annex for further details
3. The assessment team will prepare a final report within four weeks following the response of the Party that submitted the FREL and/or FRL and the report will be sent to the secretariat for publication via the web platform on the UNFCCC website. The report should contain an assessed FREL and/or FRL and, if appropriate, areas identified for further technical improvement, and capacity-building needs if noted by the Party concerned, for the construction of future FRELs and/or FRLs, incorporating the Party's response (Par. 18).
4. The information hub on the web platform on the UNFCCC website will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Convention, the assessed FRELs/FRLs expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to this final report of the technical assessment team (9/CP.19. Par. 9 and 11).

General procedures

1. Each submission will be technically assessed by an assessment team in accordance with the procedures and time frames established in the guidelines found in the annex to 13/CP.19. Par. 5
2. Each assessment team will conduct a thorough and comprehensive assessment of the submitted FREL and/or FRL and will prepare a report under its collective responsibility (Par. 6)
3. See paragraphs 7 and 8 of annex for further details

Composition of the Assessment Team

1. The secretariat shall ensure a balanced representation of LULUCF experts from developing and developed countries. The Consultative group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention may nominate one of its experts from a developing country Party with relevant expertise to participate in the technical assessment as an observer. Each submission shall be assessed by two LULUCF roster of experts, one from a developed country and one from a developing country (Par. 9).

2 (d). National Forest Monitoring Systems

1. Link to REDD+ Finance
 - a. To obtain and receive results-based finance, developing country Parties should have a robust and transparent NFMS for the monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure (2/CP.17 Par. 64; 1/CP.16 Par. 71)
2. The information hub on the web platform on the UNFCCC website will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Convention, information on the NFMS, as provided in the technical annex referred to in decision 14/CP.19 (9/CP.19 Par. 9 and 11)
3. Guidelines for Developing Country Parties
 - a. Establish, according to national circumstance and capabilities, robust and transparent NFMS for the monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure (4/CP.15 Par. 1; 1/CP.16 Par. 71)
 - i. Use a combination of remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches for estimating anthropogenic forest-related GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks and forest area changes (4/CP.15 Par. 1)
 - ii. Provide estimates that are transparent, consistent, as far as possible accurate, and that reduce uncertainties, taking into account national capabilities and capacities (4/CP.15 Par. 1)
 - iii. Are transparent and their results are available and suitable for review as agreed by the COP (4/CP.15 Par. 1)
 - iv. NFMS may provide, as appropriate, relevant information for national systems for the provision of information on how REDD+ safeguards are addressed and respected (11/CP.19 Par. 5)
 - v. Take into account, in the development of NFMS, the guidance provided in 4/CP.15 and be guided by the most recent IPCC guidance and guidelines, as adopted or encouraged by the COP, as appropriate, as a basis for estimating anthropogenic forest-related GHG emissions by sources, and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes (11/CP.19 Par. 2)
 - vi. Provide data and information that are transparent, consistent over time, and are suitable for measuring, reporting and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities, consistent with guidance on measuring, reporting and verifying nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties agreed by the COP (11/CP.19 Par. 3)
 - vii. NFMS should (11/CP.19 Par. 4)
 1. Build upon existing systems, as appropriate
 2. Enable the assessment of different types of forest in the country, including natural forest, as defined by the Party

3. Reflect, as appropriate, the phased-approach as referred to in decision 1/CP.16 Par. 73 and 74
4. Be flexible and allow for improvement

2 (e). Measurement, Reporting and Verification

1. Link to REDD+ finance
 - a. For developing country Parties to obtain and receive results-based finance, REDD+ actions should be fully measured, reported and verified (2/CP.17 Par. 64)
2. The information hub on the web platform on the UNFCCC website will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Convention, the results for each relevant period expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the technical report referred to in decision 14/CP.19 Par. 14 (9/CP.19/ Par. 9 and 11)
3. Results-based actions that may be eligible to appropriate market-based approaches that could be developed by the COP, as per decision 2/CP.17. Par. 66, maybe subject to any further specific modalities for verification consistent with any relevant decision of the COP (14/CP.19 Par. 15)
4. The COP recognizes the need to develop capacities for measuring, reporting, and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities (14/CP.19 Par. 2)
5. Guidelines for developing country Parties
 - a. Parties are encouraged, as appropriate, to develop guidance for effective engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in monitoring and reporting (4/CP.15 Par.3)
 - b. Measuring, reporting and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities is to be consistent with the methodological guidance provided in decision 4/CP.15 and any guidance on the measurement, reporting, and verification of nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties as agreed by the COP, and in accordance with any future relevant decisions of the COP (14/CP.19 Par. 1)
 - c. Parties are encouraged to improve the data and methodologies used over time, while maintaining consistency with the established or, as appropriate, updated, FRELs and/or FRLs (14/CP.19 Par. 5)
 - d. The results of the implementation by Parties of REDD+ activities measured against the FRELs and/or FRLs should be expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year (14/CP. 19 Par. 4)
 - e. The data and information used by Parties in the estimation of anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes, as appropriate to REDD+ activities undertaken by Parties, should be transparent, consistent over time and with the established forest reference emission levels (FRELs) and/or forest reference levels (FRLs) (14/CP.19 Par. 3)
 - i. This data and information should be provided through the biennial update reports by Parties, taking into consideration the additional flexibility given

to the least developed countries and small island developing States (14/CP.19. Par. 6)

- ii. Developing country Parties seeking to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions are requested to, when submitting this data and information, through the biennial update reports, to supply a technical annex as per decision 2/CP.17 Annex III, Par. 19 (14/CP.19 Par. 7)
 - 1. The submission of this technical annex is voluntary and in the context of results-based payments (14/CP.19 Par. 8)
 - 2. The data and information provided in this technical annex shall be consistent with decisions 4/CP.15 and 12/CP.17 and follow the guidance provided in the annex to decision 14/CP.19 Par.9)
 - a. Guidelines for elements to be included in this technical annex (Annex of 14/CP.19)
 - i. Results in tonnes of CO_{2eq} per year, consistent with the assessed FREL and/or FRLs (Par. 2)
 - ii. Demonstration that the methodologies used to produce the results are consistent with those used to establish the assessed FREL and/or FRL (Par. 3)
 - iii. A description of national forest monitoring systems and the institutional roles and responsibilities for measuring, reporting, and verifying the results (par. 4)
 - iv. A description of how the elements contained in decision 4/CP.15 Par 1(c) and (d), have been taken into account
 - v. Necessary information that allows for the reconstruction of the results (Par. 5)
 - vi. Summary information from the final report containing each corresponding assessed FREL and/or FRL, which includes (Par. 1)
 - 1. The assessed FREL and/or FRL expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year (CO_{2eq})
 - 2. The REDD+ activity or activities included in the FREL and/or FRL
 - 3. The territorial forest area covered
 - 4. The date of the FREL and/or FRL submission and the date of the final technical assessment report
 - 5. The period (in years) of the assessed FREL and/or FRL

6. Biennial Update Reports

- a. Parties are encouraged to improve the data and methodologies used over time, while maintaining consistency with the established or, as appropriate, updated, FRELs and/or FRLs (14/CP.19 Par. 5)

- b. This data and information should be provided through the biennial update reports by Parties, taking into consideration the additional flexibility given to the least developed countries and small island developing States (14/CP.19. Par. 6)
- c. Developing country Parties seeking to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions are requested to, when submitting this data and information, through the biennial update reports, to supply a technical annex as per decision 2/CP.17 Annex III, Par. 19 (14/CP.19 Par. 7)
- d. International Consultation and Analysis
 - i. Analysis by Technical Team of Experts
 - 1. Upon the request of the developing country Party seeking to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions, two land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) experts from the UNFCCC roster of experts, one each from a developing country and a developed country Party, will be included among the members selected for the technical team of experts (14/CP.19 Pa.10)
 - 2. The two LULUCF experts referred to in the Par. 10 may seek clarifications on the technical annex referred to in Par. 7 of 14/CP.19 and that the Party should provide clarification to the extent possible, in accordance with national circumstances and taking into account national capabilities (14/CP.19 Par. 13)
 - 3. The Party that submitted the technical annex may interact with the technical team of experts during the analysis of experts during the analysis of its technical annex to provide clarifications and additional information to facilitate the analysis by the technical team of experts (14/CP.19. Par. 12)
 - 4. As part of the technical analysis referred to in decision 2/CP.17 annex IV Par. 4 the technical team of experts shall analyze the extent to which (14/CP.19 Par.11)
 - a. There is consistency in methodologies, definitions, comprehensiveness and the information provided between the assessed reference level and the results of the implementation of REDD+ activities
 - b. The data and information provided in the technical annex is transparent, consistent, complete and accurate
 - c. The data and information provided in the technical annex is consistent with the guidelines referred to in Par. 9 of 14/CP.19
 - d. The results are accurate to the extent possible
 - 5. The LULUCF experts referred to in Par. 10 will develop, under their collective responsibility, a technical report to be published by the secretariat via the web platform on the UNFCCC website, containing (14/CP.19 Par. 14)
 - a. The technical annex referred to in Par. 7 of 14/CP.19
 - b. The analysis of the technical annex referred to in Par. 7 of 14/CP.19

- c. Areas for technical improvement identified, consistent with Par. 5 of 14/CP.19 as appropriate
- d. Any comments and/or responses by the Party concerned, including areas for further improvement and capacity-building needs, if noted by the Party concerned, as appropriate

3. Implementation Elements of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+

3 (a). REDD+ Finance

1. To obtain and receive results-based finance, REDD+ actions should be fully measured, reported and verified, and developing country Parties should have the following elements (2/CP.17 Par. 64; 1/CP.16 Par. 71; 9/CP.19. Par 3)
 - a. A national strategy or action plan
 - b. A national forest reference emission level or, if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational forest reference emission levels
 - c. A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure
 - d. A system for providing information on how the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities
 - i. Developing countries seeking to obtain and receive results-based payments should provide the most recent summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards have been addressed and respected before they can receive results-based payments (9/CP.19 Par4)
2. Results-based finance provided to developing country Parties for the full implementation of REDD+ activities that is new, additional and predictable may come from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources (2/CP. 17 Par.65; 9/CP.19 Par. 1)
 - a. Regardless of the source or type of financing, REDD+ activities should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP. 16, including the REDD+ safeguards (2/CP.17 Par. 63)
 - b. The operating entities of the financial mechanism of the Convention are encouraged to provide results-based finance for the phased implementation of REDD+ actions (2/ CP.17 Par. 68)
 - c. The progression of developing country Parties towards results-based actions occur in the context of the provision of adequate and predictable support for all phases of REDD+ actions and activities (9/CP.19 Par. 2)
3. Entities financing REDD+ activities, through a wide variety of sources, including the Green Climate Fund in a key role, are encouraged to collectively channel adequate and predictable results-based finance in a fair and balanced manner, taking into account different policy approaches, while working with a view to increasing the number of countries that are in a position to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions (9/CP.19 Par. 5)
 - a. Entities financing REDD+ activities are encouraged to continue to provide financial resources to alternative policy approached, such as joint mitigation and

adaptation approaches for the integral and sustainable management of forests (9/CP.19 Par. 8)

- b. These entities are also encouraged, when providing results-based finance, to apply the methodological guidance consistent with decisions 4/CP.15; 1/CP.16; 2/CP.17 and 11 to 15/CP.19 as well as 9/CP.19 in order to improve the effectiveness and coordination of results-based finance (9/CP.19 Par.6)
- c. The Green Climate Fund is requested, when providing results-based finance, to apply the methodological guidance consistent with decisions 4/CP.15; 1/CP.16; 2/CP.17 and 11 to 15/CP.19 as well as 9/CP.19 ,in order to improve the effectiveness and coordination of results-based finance (9/CP.19 Par. 7)

3 (b). Coordination of Support for the Implementation of REDD+ Activities

1. National Entities or Focal Points

- i. Interested Parties are invited to designate, in accordance with national circumstances and the principles of sovereignty, a national entity or focal point to serve as a liaison with the secretariat and the relevant bodies under the Convention, as appropriate, on the coordination of support for the full implementation of activities and elements referred to in decision 1/CP.16 Par. 70, 71 and 73, including different policy approaches, such as joint mitigation and adaptation and to inform the secretariat accordingly (10/CP.19 Par. 1)
- ii. The national entities or focal points of developing country Parties may, in accordance with national circumstances and the principles of sovereignty, nominate their entities to obtain and receive results-based payments, consistent with any specific operational modalities of the financing entities providing them with support for the full implementation of REDD+ activities (10/CP.19 Par. 2)
- iii. Parties are requested to ensure coordination of REDD+ activities, including of the related support, particularly at the national level (1/CP.16 Par. 78)

2. National entities or focal points, Parties and relevant entities financing REDD+ activities, are encouraged to meet on a voluntary basis, in conjunction with the first sessional period meetings of the subsidiary bodies, in order to discuss the needs and functions identified (10/CP.19 Par. 4)

- a. At these meetings, participants may seek input from relevant bodies established under the Convention, international and regional organizations, the private sector, indigenous peoples and civil society in undertaking their work and invite the representatives of these entities to participate as observers in these meetings (10/CP.19 Par. 8)
- b. National entities or focal points, Parties and relevant entities financing REDD+ activities are encouraged at their first meeting to consider procedural matters to facilitate the discussions (10/CP.19 Par. 7)
- c. These national entities or focal points, Parties and relevant entities are encouraged to hold their first meeting in conjunction with the second sessional period meeting of the subsidiary bodies in 2014 and thereafter

- annually in conjunction with the first sessional period meeting of the subsidiary bodies (10/CP. 19 Par. 5)
- d. The SBI is requested, at the latest, at its forty-seventh session, (Nov-Dec 2017) to review the outcomes of these meetings, to consider existing institutional arrangements or the need for potential governance alternatives for the coordination of support for the implementation of REDD+ activities , and to make recommendations on these matters to the COP at its twenty-third session (Nov-Dec 2017) (10/CP. 19 Par. 9)
 3. Relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations and stakeholders are urged to integrate and coordinate their efforts in order to avoid duplication and enhance synergy with regard to activities relating to decision 2/CP.13 (4/CP.15 Par. 9)
 4. Needs and functions identified to address issues related to the coordination of support for the implementation of activities and elements referred to in decision 1/CP. 16 Par. 70, 71 and 73
 - a. Strengthen, consolidate and enhance the sharing of relevant information, knowledge, experiences and good practices, at the international level, taking into account national experiences and, as appropriate, traditional knowledge and practices
 - b. Identify and consider possible needs and gaps in coordination of support, taking into consideration relevant information communicated under the Convention and other multilateral and bilateral arrangements
 - c. Consider and provide opportunities to exchange information between the relevant bodies stabled under the Convention and other multilateral and bilateral entities financing and funding the activities and elements referred to in decision 1/CP.16 Par. 70, 71 and 73, related to actions and support provided and received for these activities
 - d. Provide information and any recommendations, as appropriate, considering elements (i-iii), to improve the effectiveness of finance, including results-based finance, technology and capacity-building for developing country Parties when implementing the activities and elements referred to in decision 1/CP.16, Par. 70, 71 and 73, to the COP
 - e. Provide information and recommendations, as appropriate, on improving the effectiveness of finance to entities including bilateral, multilateral and private sector entities that finance and implement the activities and elements referred to in decision 1/CP.16 Par. 70, 71 and 73, and on how these activities, including results-based actions, can be more effectively supported
 - f. Encourage other entities providing support for the activities and elements referred in decision 1/CP.16 Par. 70, 71 and 73, to enhance efficiency and coordination and to seek consistency with the operating entities of the financial mechanism of the Convention, as appropriate
 - g. Exchange information on the development of different approaches, including joint mitigation and adaptation approaches for the integral and sustainable management of forests

3 (c). Information Hub

An information hub will be established on the Web Platform on the UNFCCC website as a means to publish information on the results of REDD+ activities and corresponding results-based payments (9/ CP. 19. Par. 9)

1. The information on results included on the information hub should be linked to the same results reflected on any other relevant future system that maybe developed under the Convention (9/ CP. 19. Par 17)
2. The information on results-based payments is to be inserted on the information hub in consultation with the developing country Party concerned, taking into full account decision 10/CP. 19. Par. 2(9/ CP.19. Par. 13)
3. The information hub aims to increase transparency of information on results-based actions, on the corresponding payments, as well as information related to the elements referred to in decision 1/CP16. Par 71. without creating additional requirements for developing countries Parties (9/ CP. 19. Par. 10)
4. The information hub will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Conventions (9/CP. 19. Par. 11)
 - a. The results for each relevant period expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the technical report referred to in decision 14/ CP. 19 Par. 14
 - b. The assessed forest reference emission level(s) and/or forest reference level(s) expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the final report of the technical assessment team referred to in decision 13/CP. 19. Par. 18
 - c. The summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected, as referred to in decision 12/ CP.19 and 12/CP. 17, Chapter 1
 - d. A link to the national strategy or action plan as referred to in decision 1/CP. 16, Par. 71(a), as appropriate
 - e. Information on the national forest monitoring system, as provided in the technical annex referred to in decision 14/Cp. 19
 - f. The information hub will also contain information on each of these results (i-v), including the quantity of results for which payments were received, expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, and the entity paying for results (9/CP. 19. Par. 12)

3 (d): General Commitments of Support

1. Parties are invited to further strengthen and support ongoing efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation on a voluntary basis (2/CP.13. Par.1)
2. All Parties, in a position to do so, are encouraged to support capacity-building, provide technical assistance, facilitate the transfer of technology to improve, inter alia, data collection, estimation of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, monitoring and reporting, and address the institutional needs of developing countries to estimate and reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (2/CP.13. Par.2)
3. Parties, in particular Parties included in Annex II to the Convention, are invited to mobilize resources to support efforts in relation to the actions referred to in par. 1-3 of 2/CP.13, such

as efforts, including demonstration activities, to address the drivers of deforestation (2/CP.13. Par.5)

4. All Parties in a position to do so are encouraged to support and strengthen the capacities of developing countries to collect and access, analyse and interpret data, in order to develop estimates (4/CP.15. Par. 4)
5. Parties, in particular developed country Parties, are urged to support, through multilateral and bilateral channels, the development of national strategies or action plans, policies and measures and capacity-building, followed by the implementation of national policies and measure and national strategies or action plans that could involve further capacity-building, technology development and transfer and results-based demonstration activities, including consideration of the safeguards referred to in par. 2 of appendix I to decision 1/CP.16, taking into account the relevant provisions on finance including those relating to reporting on support (1/CP.16. Par.76)
6. Parties in a position to do so and relevant international organizations are invited to enhance capacity-building in relation to using the most recent IPCC guidance and guidelines, as adopted or encouraged by the COP, taking into account the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (4/CP.15. Par. 1c and 5)

4. REDD+ Web Platform

1. REDD+ Activities

- a. Reporting on demonstration activities should include a description of the activities and their effectiveness, and may include other information (2/ CP. 13 Annex. Par. 10)
- b. Experiences in implementing activities should be reported and made available via the Web platform (2/ CP. 13. Annex Par. 9)
- c. Parties are invited to share lessons learned and experiences gained in the application of the guidance referred to in paragraph 1 of decision 4/CP.15 and the annex to decision 2/CP.13 through the Web Platform on the UNFCCC website (4/CP. 15 Par. 8)

2. Forest Reference Emission Levels (FRELs) and/or Forest Reference Levels (FRLs)

- a. Developing country Parties are invited to submit, on a voluntary basis and when deemed appropriate, proposed FRELs/ FRLs accompanied by the information found in Par. 9 and the Annex of decision 12/CP. 17. Par 13
- b. Information on FRELs/ FRLs will be made available on the UNFCCC REDD Web Platform, including submissions with proposed FRELs/ FRLs (12/CP. 17 Par. 14)
- c. Each submission referred to in decision 12/CP. 17 Par. 13 shall be subject to a technical assessment (13/ CP. 19. Par. 1)
- d. The assessment team will prepare a final report within four weeks following the response of the Party that submitted the FREL and/or FRL and the report will be sent to the secretariat for publication via the Web Platform on the UNFCCC website. The report should contain an assessed FREL and/or FRL and, if appropriate, areas identified for further technical improvement, and capacity-building needs if noted by the Party concerned, for the construction of future

FRELS and/or FRLs, incorporating the Party's response (13/ CP. 19 Annex Par. 18)

3. Measurement, Reporting and Verification

- a. Analysis by Technical Team of Experts
- b. Upon the request of the developing country Party seeking to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions, two land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) experts from the UNFCCC roster of experts, one each from a developing country and a developed country Party, will be included among members selected for the technical team of experts (14/ CP. 19 Par. 10)
- c. The LULUCF experts referred to in Par. 10 will develop, under their collective responsibility, a technical report to be published by the secretariat via the web platform on the UNFCCC website, containing (14/ CP. 19. Par. 14)

4. Information Hub

- a. An information hub will be established on the Web Platform on the UNFCCC website as a means to publish information on the results of REDD+ activities and corresponding results-based payments (9/ CP. 19. Par. 9)
- b. The information on results included on the information hub should be linked to the same results reflected on any other relevant future system that maybe developed under the Convention (9/ CP. 19. Par 17)
- c. The information on results-based payments is to be inserted on the information hub in consultation with the developing country Party concerned, taking into full account decision 10/CP. 19. Par. 2(9/ CP.19. Par. 13)
- d. The information hub aims to increase transparency of information on results-based actions, on the corresponding payments, as well as information related to the elements referred to in decision 1/CP16. Par 71. without creating additional requirements for developing countries Parties (9/ CP. 19. Par. 10)
- e. The information hub will contain, as reported through the appropriate channels under the Conventions (9/CP. 19. Par. 11)
 - i. The results for each relevant period expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the technical report referred to in decision 14/ CP. 19 Par. 14
 - ii. The assessed forest reference emission level(s) and/or forest reference level(s) expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year and a link to the final report of the technical assessment team referred to in decision 13/CP. 19. Par. 18
 - iii. The summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected, as referred to in decision 12/ CP.19 and 12/CP. 17, Chapter 1
 - iv. A link to the national strategy or action plan as referred to in decision 1/CP. 16, Par. 71(a), as appropriate
 - v. Information on the national forest monitoring system, as provided in the technical annex referred to in decision 14/Cp. 19
 - vi. The information hub will also contain information on each of these results (i-v), including the quantity of results for which payments were received,

expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, and the entity paying for results (9/CP. 19. Par. 12)

5. Safeguards Information Systems

- a. Developing country Parties should provide a summary of information on how all of the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the activities (12/ CP. 17. Par. 3)
- b. This summary of information could also be provided, on a voluntary basis, via the Web Platform on the UNFCCC website (12/ CP. 19. Par. 3)
- c. Developing country Parties should start providing this summary of information in their national communication or communication channel, including via the Web Platform of the UNFCCC, taking into account par. 3 decision 12/CP.19, after the start of the implementation of REDD+ activities (12/CP. 19. Par. 4)
- d. The frequency of subsequent presentations of this summary of information should be consistent with the provisions for submissions of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and, on a voluntary basis, via the Web Platform on the UNFCCC website (12/ CP.19. Par. 5)

Other decisions Impacting REDD+ - Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions

1. Guidelines for Developed Country Parties
 - a. Provide enhanced financial, technological and capacity-building support for the preparation and implementation of NAMAS of developing country Parties and for enhanced reporting by these Parties (1/CP.16. Par. 52)
 - b. Invited to submit to the secretariat information on support available and provided for NAMAS (1/CP.16. Par. 55)
2. Guidelines for Developing Country Parties
 - a. Developing country Parties will take nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building, aimed at achieving a deviation in emissions relative to 'business as usual' emissions in 2020 (1/CP.16. Par.48)
 - b. Encouraged to develop low-emission development strategies, recognizing the need for financial and technical support by developed country Parties for the formulation of these strategies, and interested developing country Parties are invited to share their experience with the formulation of low- emission development strategies during the in-session workshops (2/CP.17. Par.38)
 - c. Invited to submit to the secretariat information on NAMAs for which they are seeking support, along with estimated costs and emission reductions, and the anticipated time frame for implementation (1/CP.16. Par.54)
 - d. Developing countries that wish to voluntarily inform the COP of their intention to implement NAMAs are invited to submit information on those actions to the secretariat (1/CP.16. Par.50)
 - e. Encouraged to submit this information, noting the need to extend flexibility to small island developing States and the least developed country Parties (2/CP.17. Par.32)

3. Biennial Update Reports

- a. Developing countries, consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting, should submit biennial update reports containing updates of national greenhouse gas inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received (1/CP.16. Par.60(c))
- b. The guidelines for the preparation of biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties are contained in annex III of FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1 (2/CP.17. Par.39)
- c. In using the Guidelines, non-Annex 1 Parties should take into account their development priorities, objectives, capacities and national circumstances (2/CP.17. Par.41(b))
- d. Non-Annex I Parties, consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting, should submit their first biennial update report by December 2014; the least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit biennial update reports at their discretion (2/CP.17. Par.41 (a))
- e. The Guidelines should be used as a basis to provide guidance to an operating entity of the financial mechanism for funding the preparation of biennial update reports from non-Annex 1 Parties and, in the case of the first biennial update report, to the Global Environment Facility (2/CP.17. Par.41(c))
- f. Non-Annex I Parties are urged to submit their requests to the Global Environment Facility for support, in a timely manner (2/CP.17. Par.41(d))
- g. Enhanced support for the preparation of biennial update reports should be ensured by developed country Parties and other developed Parties included in Annex II to the Convention by means of resources, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention, on the basis of agreed full-cost funding (2/CP.17. Par.41(e))
- h. Non-Annex I Parties shall submit a biennial update report every two years, either as a summary of parts of their national communication in the year in which the national communication is submitted or as a stand-alone update report; the least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit biennial update reports at their discretion (2/CP.17. Par.41(f))
- i. The first biennial update report submitted by non-Annex I Parties shall cover, at a minimum, the inventory for the calendar year no more than four years prior to the date of the submission, or more recent years if information is available, and that subsequent biennial update reports shall cover a calendar year that does not precede the submission date by more than four years (2/CP.17. Par.41 (g))

4. Registry

- The COP will set up a registry to record NAMAs seeking international support and to facilitate matching of finance, technology and capacity-building support for these actions (1/CP.16. Par.53)
- The secretariat will record and regularly update in the registry the information provided by Parties on: (a) NAMAs seeking international support; (b) Support available from developed country Parties for these actions; (c) Support provided for NAMAs (1/CP.16. Par.56)
- The COP will recognize NAMAs of developing countries in a separate section of the registry (1/CP.16. Par.58)
- The registry should be developed as a dynamic, web-based platform managed by a dedicated team in the secretariat (2/CP.17.Par.45(a))

- Participation in the registry shall be voluntary and only information submitted expressly for inclusion in the registry should be recorded (2/CP.17. Par.45(b))
- The registry will facilitate the matching of actions seeking international support with support available by providing and directing information to Parties that submitted information on NAMAs seeking support, and Parties and entities that have submitted information on the support available (2/CP.17. Par.51)
- The financial mechanism may make use of information available in the registry when considering the provision of support for the preparation and implementation of individual NAMAs which are seeking support (2/CP.17. Par.53)
- Developing country Parties are invited to submit, as appropriate, to the secretariat the following information on individual NAMAs seeking international support: (2/CP.17. Par.46)
 1. A description of the mitigation action and the national implementing entity, including contact information
 2. The expected time frame for the implementation of the mitigation action
 3. The estimated full cost of the preparation
 4. The estimated full cost and/or incremental cost of the implementation of the mitigation action
 5. The amount and type of support (financial, technology and capacity-building) required to prepare and/or implement the mitigation action
 6. The estimated emission reductions
 7. Other indicators of implementation
 8. Other relevant information, including the co-benefits for local sustainable development, if information thereon exists
- Developing country Parties are invited to submit to the secretariat information on other individual NAMAs, to be recorded in a separate section of the registry, for their recognition (2 /CP.17. Par.47)
- Developed country Parties, the entity or entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism, multilateral, bilateral and other public donors, and private and non-governmental organizations that are in position to do so, are invited to submit to the secretariat, as appropriate, the following information on financial, technology and capacity-building support available and/or provided for the preparation and/or implementation of NAMAs: (2/CP.17. Par.48)
 1. Whether the support available is for the preparation and/or implementation of NAMAs
 2. The source of the support, including, where applicable, the name of the developed country Parties in question and the executing entity channeling the support, including contact information
 3. The amount and type of support available, and whether it is financial (e.g. grant or facilitated loan), technology and/or capacity-building support
 4. The status of delivery
 5. The types of action that may be supported and the process for the provision of support