

**UN-REDD Technical Assistance for REDD+ Implementation  
Status of TA/2018 inception and TA/2019 programming by mid-April 2018**

This document presents an overview of work undertaken at country level and on thematic areas during the first four months of 2018, as well as initial planning for 2019. The information presented shows that overall the 2018 implementation has started well, based on consultations carried out since 2017 and involving a wide range of stakeholders. This continuing in-country coordination process underpins the ongoing planning for 2019, and shows the continuity with 2018 implementation and alignment with the UN-REDD Results and Monitoring Framework 2018-2020.

**COLOMBIA**

**Status of TA/2018 inception**

An initial UN-REDD mission took place between 29-30 January with IDEAM to explore activities related to MRV, NFMS and FREL. Technical advisors from the three agencies contacted their government counterparts to re-affirm priorities and specific activities to include in the annual plan and changes – if any – to the 2018 work plan.

It became clear from the discussions with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and IDEAM that all REDD+ actions are being aligned with the Integrated Strategy to Control Deforestation and Forest Management (EICDGB). After a series of consultations, the strategy document is finalized and will be officially launched later this year, however, it is already serving as a guiding document for REDD+ actions.

An integrated draft workplan for 2018, and some activities identified for 2019, was shared with the government on 21 February, in advance of a joint mission, which took place between 26-28 February.

The UN-REDD mission started with an initial meeting led by Adriana Lagos, coordinator of the EICDBG, representing Angélica Mayolo, Head of the International Affairs Unit and REDD+ Focal point, and César Rey, Director of Forests and alternate REDD+ Focal point to the UN-REDD Programme. At that meeting, an overview of the planning process for the triannual TA presented. The government representatives highlighted the importance of the EICDGB as the key document to structure REDD+ actions. They also commented on the important role of the UN-REDD Programme in supporting continuity of the implementation process in light of the upcoming presidential election and change in administration and also in terms of the need to support the implementation process with analysis and discussion. Finally, they stressed the high value national team under the National Programme, both for their technical capacity and as the process to absorb the required capacities within institutions is not yet complete. The representatives from UN-REDD mentioned that options are being explored to retain some of that capacity under related projects.

During the meeting on Tuesday 27 February, representatives from the technical areas of MADS and IDEAM reviewed the full draft work plan for TA in 2018, resulting in a detailed set of activities under the pre-existing 2018-2020 results framework. The resulting work plan was presented to the UN-REDD focal point, to the Director of Climate Change and representatives from the Forest Department.

### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

An initial set of activities was identified during the preparations of the 2018 workplan. A draft work plan for 2019 will be prepared and disseminated during the closing events for the National Programme, which will also give an opportunity to extend discussions with other non-governmental actors. The closing of the National Program is scheduled for late May 2018.

Contact with the Norwegian Embassy will be sought during the mission.

## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

On 25<sup>th</sup> January, the UN-REDD Steering Committee in Côte d'Ivoire held its first annual meeting and examined, reviewed and appropriated the TA/2018 plan, including operationalization details and arrangements. For instance, a minor update to the TA planning includes enlarging the South-South cooperation initiative on cocoa to include Costa Rica (in addition to Ghana).

Some TA streams are already ongoing, e.g.: REDD+ investment planning, private sector engagement work, and the mentioned South-South co-operation initiative.

### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

The 2019 UN-REDD TA planning started in March 2018 during a UN-REDD joint mission in the country (19-22 March 2018). Planning discussions were held with the newly-appointed SEP-REDD coordinator, the Minister of Environment, representatives from the Prime Ministry, the civil society platforms (OI-REN, FEREADD) and a number of donors (including AFD, AfDB and IDH). Permanent dialogue has been held with the private sector in parallel.

Following that mission, discussions with Government and consultations with civil society and other stakeholders, a draft work plan for TA/2019 has been drafted and shared with the SEP-REDD coordinator on 6<sup>th</sup> April for further comments. Likewise, communication with civil society representatives regarding their inputs were also launched on 6<sup>th</sup> April.

This 2019 UN-REDD TA planning will be further detailed and eventually revised by the end of 2018, taking into account the evolving context (e.g.: the Forest and Cocoa Initiative, the revision of forest code). The proposed 2019 UN-REDD TA planning is fully aligned with the UN-REDD Results & Monitoring Framework 2018-2020; some slight refocus and wording adjustments were incorporated to better achieve the agreed outputs and milestones. The expected share of roles among the UN-REDD agencies will be as follows: UNDP is involved in public and private sector engagement, REDD+ fund, knowledge management and civil society engagement; FAO is involved in NFMS and forest law; and UNEP is involved in building consensus on priority public investments to support the adoption of sustainable agroforestry by the private sector (cocoa) and operationalizing the Safeguards Information System.

## **INDONESIA**

### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

As part of its exchanges with local counterparts in preparation for the 2018 TA, the UN-REDD team actively discussed improvement for cluster-based approach peatland management, developed by Gol, to improve peat and forest fire prevention program in Indonesia. There were discussions with Mr. Montty Girianna, Deputy Minister for Coordination in Energy, Natural Resources and Environmental Management and his staff at the Indonesia Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs (Kemenko). Discussion also took place to provide feedback on Gol's flagship program on social forestry and land reform acceleration. FAO held specific consultations and discussions on activities defined to meet Indonesia's needs on both forest and peatland monitoring, including satellite monitoring and GHG calculations. These consultations included Pak Joko (Dir. GHG team in DG CC), Planologi Pak Sigit and Pak Doni (Dir. Forest Monitoring in NFI team). Indonesia would like to show results at the Oslo meeting so an accelerated package of support is being developed using the FAO SEPAL satellite system.

The UN-REDD team also received important and positive feedback by Nazir Foad, Head of National Peatland Agency (BRG) on active knowledge exchange base support from Global Peatland Initiative noting to BRG's ambitious restoration target to 1.4 million ha degraded land or of 70% of total target by 2020. There were also active exchanges on indicators and funding mechanisms for result-based payment with Ms. Emma Rachmawati, Climate Change Mitigation Director at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MOEF), Ms. ETTY, Unit Head of Research Center of MOEF, and Ms. Budi Ayu from National Statistic Agency (BPS). UN-REDD jointly met with the Director Climate Change Mitigation and the REDD+ focal point on the inception report. In March 2018, the UN-REDD Indonesia team held a consultation on the 2018 work plan with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry's UN-REDD focal point and the Director for climate change mitigation and held initial discussions on 2019 TA agenda. UNREDD also met with several donors including Norway, Japan (JAXA and JICA) and the Director of International Environmental Policy for Australia.

The MOEF has given its full support for the 2018 workplan. They proposed the UN-REDD team to have further discussions with other international organizations for better coordination of activities. They indicated that for some activities, there may overlap with other planned projects.

### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

The Gol identified the following UN-REDD areas, activities and outputs which are aligned with their 2019 priorities:

1. Safeguards Information System (SIS REDD): SIS was proposed by MOEF as they indicated that the current web-based SIS has not been running as smoothly as expected. The challenges with the system are due to a lack of capacity of field personnel to collect and enter the data into the system and compile information to build a suitable safeguards report per policy activity or measure. The MOEF and sub-national government have mapped where the sub-national capacity gaps are and where skills could be used to update the SIS.
2. Social Forestry: One of the Government's flagship programs as elaborated by the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs is Social Forestry - an ambitious land reform agenda launched by the President which is becoming complex. The effort aims to maintain forest cover within the forest estate and distribute it to small-holders and set up communal customary tenure arrangements. UN-REDD Programme expertise on REDD+ safeguards, stakeholder engagement and spatial planning will be useful to help guide decision making and could help in monitoring and implementation of the social forestry

approach.

3. REDD finance: Strengthen the capacity of the Government of Indonesia on climate finance through the establishment of the Financing General Service Agency (BLU) for Environmental financing, that will include a REDD+ finance window, as outlined in Government Regulation on the Economic Instrument for the Environment (No. 46/2017) enacted in December 2017. UN-REDD Indonesia was requested by the DG Climate Change to support inter-ministerial coordination activities that are to be led by the MOEF. In addition, the Director of Environmental and Natural Resources Planning requested UN-REDD technical assistance to support the development of advanced integration of national Natural Capital Accounts for forests and peatlands. This approach would be an essential step for financing as natural capital will be a key indicator to trigger REDD+ payments or to facilitate interregional payments for the provision of ecosystem services (like water, carbon etc) by forests that are to the benefit of neighboring provinces.

4. Reducing emissions through peatlands restoration and management: The Minister of Environment and Forestry puts significant emphasis on peat restoration and peatland management as it is critical to meet the emission reduction targets set in Indonesia's NDC. The Gol has made significant efforts toward suppressing peat fires and reducing peat fire risks by restoring degraded peatlands and improving peatland management through improved land use planning. Measures such as peat zoning, enforcing minimum drainage depths (as underlined in PP No.57/juncto pp71/2014 on peat management), restoring 2.4 million ha of degraded peatlands, and the establishment of a Peatlands Restoration Agency as part of perpres 1/2016 are measures that the Government and partners have undertaken and bring the remainder of 22 million ha under sustainable management.

In addition, recently, Indonesia committed to lead south-south collaboration with the Congo Basin countries of Republic of Congo and Democratic Republic of Congo through technical assistance and exchange of scientific information and knowledge based on their experience and lessons learnt including working with the private sector. This commitment by Indonesia was articulated in the Brazzaville Declaration signed 22 March 2018 for the sustainable management of peatlands of the Cuvette Centrale region in the Congo Basin.

5. Innovative Financing and Fiscal Transfer Mechanism: The Fiscal Planning Agency perceives technical assistance would be valuable on strengthening the current design and monitoring system of environment incentives transfer mechanism between national to sub-national levels. Further, Indonesia would like to learn about successful public-private partnerships on environmental instruments, such as those which have been rolled out by the Pension Fund of Norway.

6. Technical Assistance on Fire Prevention: There may be a need for a further consultative process on integrated/coordinated fire prevention and hotspots system developed by different agencies. The BNPB/National Disaster Response Agency and the BMKG/the Climatological, Weather, and Geospatial Agency and the MOEF have developed different systems and could be open for reintegration.

7. Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation(CORSIA): Discussions took place with the Ministry of Transportation who raised its concerns of how to bring in CORSIA into Indonesia. Indonesia is one of the first countries joining CORSIA, therefore in the framework to support the regulatory agencies and the flight operators, the Government of Indonesia needs support. In particular they seek support for capacity building to be able to run the scheme and mechanism including calculation methodology (offsetting, eligible unit criteria, registry, etc.). To date, the technical details of

implementation have not been finalized. More coordinated works with ICAO and IMO is needed.

8. National Forest Monitoring System: The GoI indicates that the continued work on National Forest Monitoring System with support from FAO remains one of their priorities for 2019.

A more thorough inter-ministerial consultation led by MOEF will be conducted during the second quarter of 2018. The UN-REDD Indonesia team is expected to come up with a viable and realistic 2019 program and work plan reflecting the needs and resources available.

Further consultations will take place during 23-25 April with senior government staff (including Ibu Nur, the UNFCCC Focal Point, and the new Acting DG for Climate Change in MoEF); outputs for 2019 are expected to remain unchanged.

## MEXICO

### Status of TA/2018 inception

A FAO-led inception mission took place on 6-8 February, with Regional Advisors of UN-Environment and UNDP participating remotely to explore activities related to TA 2018 – 2020 with CONAFOR. 22 attendees were present including from various CONAFOR units including the Unit for International Affairs and Financial Development and Unit of Education and Technology Development. The mission purpose was to review and revise outputs for the 2018 work plan.

Following the mission, a series of conference calls continued the inception process to discuss the finalization of work planning in Mexico. A detailed plan on safeguards for 2018-2019 was finalized with the CONAFOR Unit of Forest Information, Unit of International Affairs and Financial Development, UN Environment (leading activities), UNDP and FAO. CONAFOR pointed out the need to develop new options on financing beyond RBP (Output 3.14). Technical support was requested for an evaluation on long-term finance options to be compatible with ENAREDD activities (UN Environment and UNDP will lead together the finance issues). FAO and UN Environment will advise the focus and scope of an updated analysis of drivers on deforestation and forest degradation, to later define analysis on mitigation scenarios (FAO will lead this activity). The route map for the formal consultation to validate the S-S cooperation plan on forest monitoring under the Mesoamerican Sustainable Environmental Strategy (EMSA) was identified. The consultation will be channeled through AMEXCID and the national correspondents of EMSA. In addition to the plan, FAO will contribute to organize the Technical Committee for the CEVFM, the participation of regional research institutions will be promoted. In addition, FAO will be leading the MRV coordination, regional support and S-S/N-S cooperation- once CONAFOR's MRV Specialized Unit finalizes the work plan for these activities. FAO informed about the coordination with SEPAL project (System for earth observations, data access, processing & analysis for land monitoring) to support the RS system improvements.

The work plan and related documents by output and specific issues was shared on Feb 22 with all the departments related with UN-REDD TA. No changes to the budget were identified.

The final work plan will be shared with the Norwegian Embassy.

**Status of TA/2019 programming:** The 2019 work plan was discussed with each technical department from CONAFOR. The technical advisory committee

(CTC REDD+) will be consulted through CONAFOR regarding the 2019 work plan.

## **MYANMAR**

### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

The priorities for sub-national implementation and institutional capacity (output # 3.18) have been identified (c/o GCF concept note). The arrangements for support on financial mechanisms (output # 3.18) were discussed during a UN-REDD annual planning meeting with various stakeholders. There is also potential to connect Myanmar TA with the KM component on REDD+ financial arrangements.

The outputs on NFMS (# 2.3) and capacity to monitor REDD+ actions (# 3.19) will be incepted during February through a FAO-led mission (involving stakeholders such as FD, FRI, other research institutions and partner projects, including FAO/Finland NFI/NFMIS project).

The private-sector support output (# 3.20, 2018 milestone) is awaiting the start of the new UN-REDD private sector specialist for Asia.

### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

There are four relevant outputs for the 2019 Myanmar Technical Assistance, detailed below.

Output 2.3. In 2019, technical assistance will build on the analysis of research work on growth models and allometric equation development carried out in Myanmar and in neighbouring countries by development partners and academic institutions. Based on the conclusions of this analysis and on the outcomes of forest and land cover classification carried out under the UN-REDD NP and incorporated into the SEPAL platform, the UN-REDD TA will enable the revision of the methodology used in Myanmar's initial Forest Reference Level in order to include the measurement of change in forest remaining as forest.

Output 3.18 Within UN-REDD NP support, Myanmar is designing its REDD+ National Strategy, a REDD+ National Investment Plan, a FREL and a safeguards information system. However, implementing REDD+ will require the strengthening of institutional capacities at national and decentralized levels, including new governance systems. The 2019 TA will build on the work undertaken in 2018 in the states/regions of tentatively Bago and Tanintharyi, and for 2019, tentatively Shan, Ayerarwady and Mandalay. The revision to national bodies will be incorporated into the process to finalize the National REDD+ Strategy.

Output 3.19. In 2019, UN-REDD TA will build on the development of a guidance document for monitoring of REDD+ interventions developed in 2018, and based on experience gained in other UN-REDD national programmes in the Asia-Pacific region, to build capacity for such monitoring among central and sub-national forest administration officials and other stakeholders.

Output 3.20 The preparation of Myanmar's first Summary of Information (SOI) on safeguards will be based on work in 2017-2018 to develop the country's national approach to safeguards and safeguards information system, including: assessment of benefits and risks; review of policies, laws and regulations; clarification of the safeguards; and development of SIS design framework. The Working Group on Stakeholder Engagement and Safeguards has been guiding these multi-stakeholder processes, and will continue to lead the development of the SOI. This activity will include: the preparation of an action plan

for developing the SOI, including a consultation/validation plan; and the drafting of the SOI by small team with the involvement of key government agencies.

## PERU

### Status of TA/2018 inception

The TA/2018 Peru programme was carefully designed with Government and through multi-stakeholder dialogue during 2017. In December 2017, the UN-REDD lead advisor had a meeting with the national UN-REDD focal point to confirm the TA deliverables (as per the UN-REDD TA results & monitoring framework). A follow-up inter-agency call took place in January 2018 – the originally planned deliverables remain firm whereas the following actions are added: (i) Multi-stakeholder engagement (emphasis in private sector); (ii) advise on safeguards (in coordination with SNV/CLP and UN-REDD support); and (iii) support to the development of national forest and climate change policy. In addition, pending TA activities from 2017 will be completed in early 2018.

There have been some delays in the first quarter 2018 due to presidential elections in March 2018. In the last months, the UN-REDD team has collectively taken several actions to try to speed up the inception and implementation of the NP and 2018/TA:

- Several coordination calls with the national counterpart to define next steps regarding NP inception phase;
- The team offered to support to MINAM in the elaboration of the NP annual workplan. However, the government decided to prepare all enabling documents with their own team in Lima;
- The first activities related to the implementation of the 2018/TA started immediately after a coordination call to kick off the 2018/TA, where the scope of activities and modalities to deliver TA were agreed between agencies and government. For instance, two calls were held with the technical team in charge of the GHG inventory (FAO provided technical guidance on how to report the contribution of secondary forest in the GHG inventory) and in the coming weeks other activities included in the 2018/TA are expected to kick off – pending confirmation from SERFOR and MINAM;
- At the request of MINAM, UN-REDD carried out two short-term contracts to facilitate the development of the inception process (preparation of TOR, of POA, etc.);

During the regular UN-REDD coordination call on 10 Apr the team also agreed that each agency will prepare a more detailed work plan 2018 with their technical counterparts, which will be used later on when during the inception process to speed up implementation.

### Status of TA/2019 programming

Informal discussions with government in early 2018, when TA/2018 inception was conducted, confirmed the overview for 2019 as presented in the UN-REDD Results & Monitoring Framework 2018-2020 remains valid. Government changes have halted the national REDD+ process and slowed down UN-REDD technical support. A thorough planning and inception of UN-REDD support to Peru will be conducted within the next months, including NP inception, TA/2018 delivery and TA/2019 planning; this will engage both government parties and non-governmental stakeholders.

## REPUBLIC of CONGO

### Status of TA/2018 inception

On 15th February, 13 representatives of CN-REDD, CNIAF and FAO held an inception-planning mission to review activities for TA 2018. The work plan was updated and validated via email by the national REDD Coordinator. The meeting reviewed progress to date and identified areas of national interest highlighting advancements with legal frameworks, prioritising work on degradation and monitoring activities. The work plan will be shared with the Norway Embassy.

Following input from CN-REDD, the TA 2018 will support the development of a national definition of forest degradation, the creation of a national degradation map and (output 2.1.2), expected by June. In the second quarter of 2018, reports for national forest cover 2014-2016 will be finalised and will include summaries of the NFI and FRL (output 2.1.1). A methodology for mapping carbon stock gains will be finalised in September (output 2.1.3). An MRV expert will support output 2.1 for 2 months.

The alignment of the national strategy and the forest investment plan to the GCF project will be delivered through two workshops and will be finalised in April (output 3.1.1). IP/CSO consultation will be made in the implementation of the output 3.1.1.

### Status of TA/2019 programming

Options for the 2019 workplan were discussed during the meeting held with CN-REDD in Brazzaville in February 2018 where the yearly workplan was finalized and approved. One of the key elements of the 2019 workplan will be to establish a methodology and implement an approach to monitor forest regrowth in the country, including plantations.

## VIET NAM

### Status of TA/2018 inception

The 2018 TA is being implemented in coordination with the NP UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme, which held its Executive Group (EG) meeting in December 2017, and confirmed the EG decisions including the 2018 work plan and budget in January 2018.

TA is being rolled out as an extension of the NP, and does not anticipate specific inception processes, as the technical areas of work under the TA 2018 are partly being addressed under the NP.

Technical consultations with the Government and other stakeholders are underway for each work area and specific activities have been agreed, including:

- Production of forest cover maps for 2018 and 2020 with improved methodology, as well as drafting of an M&E framework for the NRAP (under Outcome 2);
- Revision and finalization of the National REDD+ Implementation Plan (NRIP) with multi-ministry engagement;
- Provincial REDD+ implementation and monitoring framework development (under Outcome 3).



Briefing with IP/CSO representatives on TA 2018 overall workplan was held. Engagement and coordination with CSOs in monitoring requested; In 2018, Farmers' Associations, forest companies, and management boards participated in the meetings on PRAP monitoring. Progress debrief communications were held with Embassy of Norway in March 2018.

#### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

Initial discussions regarding TA 2019 have taken place, including with several Government counterparts relevant to the TA areas of work. Generally, no significant changes are foreseen for TA 2019 at this stage. After further progress in TA 2018 is observed, the workplan for TA 2019 will be revisited for possible revision.

### **ZAMBIA**

#### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

The UN-REDD Programme began interacting with the Forestry Department in late 2017 via a series of Skype calls with the Forestry Department Director Mr. Ignatius Makumba. During these discussions, Mr. Makumba indicated that the focus of the support be on the establishment of the National REDD+ Coordination Unit and he indicated that the department would require material support for this unit. Due to changes in the funding modality associated with the UN-REDD Programme it was not possible to provide direct support for this unit. Instead, the team has continued to focus on identifying and sourcing additional funding for the implementation of the countries recently completed Forest Investment Plan. Recent discussions with Senior Forestry officers in Lusaka have reflected this focus, which is largely in-line with the activities outlined in the 2018 – 2020 work plan discussed in 2017 (output 2). In addition, the country has recently published an important regulation regarding community forest management, which will be the main vehicle for REDD+ implementation.

A UN-REDD inception mission took place on 25-29 March 2018. The purpose of the mission was three fold, firstly the UN-REDD program sought to discuss and finalize the work plan activities for 2018 as part of the Technical Assistance provided to Zambia. Secondly, the mission sought to gain clarity on how best the program could support the Zambian REDD+ program to mobilize funds for the REDD+ investment plan, and finally the third goal was to discuss the UN REDD+ work plan for 2019. The three goals were realized through a number of meetings and a stakeholder workshop. Key results and outcomes were as follows.

- Activities associated with the 2018 work plan were discussed with senior Forestry Department staff on two separate occasions, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March (Forestry Department).
- A draft work plan prepared in cooperation with senior forestry Department officers (Mindenda Pande – Principle Forestry Officer) has been discussed with the Director prior to the stakeholder workshop.
- A workshop was held at Blue Crest Lodge on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018, participants were given the opportunity to provide inputs to the work plans as well as to provide additional information regarding the funding of the REDD+ investment plan.

- The GEF was identified as the most suitable option for fast-tracking funding for the IP.
- Outputs from the workshop will be collated and shared with consultants employed to write concept notes for GCF proposals
- Activities planned for the 2019 period of technical assistance were presented and discussed as part of the stakeholder workshop discussed above.

Activities remain unchanged although they may be updated following the completion of the 2018 period. The components of the 2018 work plan have been presented to both Forestry Department officers as well as IP/CSO's. The 2018 work plan will be signed off by the Resident Coordinator and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. Once this plan has been signed off, it will be shared with the Norwegian Embassy in Malawi (Zambian embassy was shut down).

#### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

The 25-29 March joint UN-REDD mission to Zambia aimed to *inter alia* discuss the UN-REDD work plan for 2019. Activities received general approval from the participants at the workshop as well as the Forestry Department. IP / CSOs were consulted as part of the stakeholder workshop described in the adjacent text. Specifically Robert Chimambo attended the workshop as well as a number of Government officials and related projects including the Zambian Integrated Forests Landscape Program (WB - BioCF), Decentralized Forests and Other Natural Resource Management program (Finland – Indufor).

The current version of the work plan is likely to change following the activities planned for 2018. Agencies will continue reviewing activities with the Government of Zambia.

### **KM: Integrated Land-Use / Landscape approach for REDD+ and beyond**

#### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

**UNEP:** The contents of this KM component were discussed and reviewed in early February by UN Environment staff, with inputs from regional teams and thematic experts. After review of the workplan, it was decided that in 2018 a survey of UN-REDD partner countries will be undertaken to identify good practice on integrating social and environmental benefits into REDD+ design, which depending on country status and preferences may include input to PAMs design within national and subnational strategies, action plans, implementation plans and investment plans. This will be accompanied by a review of national policy documents (NS/APs, NBSAPs, relevant NAMAs) and relevant UN-REDD Programme products. The discussions emphasized the need to build on the years of UN-REDD experience on tools and approaches for REDD+ planning.

**FAO:** A work plan for the implementation of the thematic area was prepared. As a first step, existing literature on a landscape approach for REDD+ and the forestry-agriculture interface in the context of climate change and food security has been scoped. UN-REDD country actions and ongoing plans for 2018 have been reviewed to identify main areas of attention on landscape through an internal questionnaire with FAO decentralized staff bringing in the needs of the countries; discussions on potential methodologies and tools to monitor reforestation/landscape restoration have been initiated (re: Output 2).

Initial contacts have been taken with internal and external partners; specific discussions are ongoing between FAO and CIFOR regarding initial analytical work exploring the potential of an integrated landscape approach to achieve transformational change. The methodological basis of the FAO-CIFOR work

will inform 1-2 case studies to be elaborated later in 2018 (re: Output 1).

Support has been provided in the thematic session “People-centred approaches to integrated landscape management” at the “Working across sectors to halt deforestation and increase forest area: from aspiration to action” where REDD+ has been identified as catalytic to implementing landscape approaches and transformational change in land use, including by integrating community-based involvement into national strategies (re: Output 3).

#### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

**UNEP:** The 2019 activities will continue and deepen the search and systematization of good practices on integrating social and environmental benefits into REDD+ design. The specific details regarding the choice of case studies and lessons learned will be defined during the fourth quarter of 2018 in view of the results obtained at that time as well as opportunities and challenges foreseen for 2019.

**FAO:** The planning for 2019 is on its early stage and no news to report.

#### **KM: Forest Tenure and the rights of indigenous peoples**

##### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

**UNDP:** For the country-level knowledge component, three major areas for knowledge provision and dissemination have been identified: (i) integrating the indigenous visions in national REDD+ strategies and investment plans; (ii) advancing instruments to implement the territorial rights of indigenous peoples, notably around Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC); and (iii) supporting indigenous peoples in REDD+ implementation programmes. The countries and stakeholders for this knowledge work are still being scoped, assessing country demand. On the basis of a first planning document, which will also include the normative part led by FAO, an initial consultation with the indigenous peoples’ stakeholders in UN-REDD (IP representatives to the UN-REDD Executive Board, leaders in beneficiary countries and selected regional leaders) will take place during the month of February. An international knowledge event is intended to take place during the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous issues, in mid-April 2018.

**FAO:** A 2018 workplan has been prepared on the three outputs. Timing for the preparation and potential dissemination of knowledge products (re: Output 1) have been identified e.g. Tenure security as a key enabling factor for enhanced and sustainable REDD+ NS/AP for mid-year, potential dissemination (yet to be confirmed) at FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) or at the Oslo Tropical Forest Forum: the REDD+ exchange 2018.

Specific tenure work initiated in 2017 in support to countries is being fine-tuned (Viet Nam, Ethiopia, Liberia, Uganda, Zambia). FAO–UNDP work is ongoing to enhance coordination among the two agencies, on the planning documents and on the identification of selected countries for joint support to provide consolidated UN-REDD technical assistance in response to stakeholder needs (re: Output 2).

An article on “Addressing encroachment on state forest land in Tunisia” was jointly prepared with Tunisia Directorate General of Forestry, submitted and accepted for presentation to the 2018 World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (abstract and draft document prepared by February, presentation to be jointly given at the conference in mid-March) (re: Output 3).

UN-REDD D-group on legal preparedness for REDD+ being re-assessed for potential revitalization and expansion towards inclusion of tenure issues (re: Output 3).

**Status of TA/2019 programming**

UNDP and FAO are working on a draft work plan. A major consultation with indigenous peoples in the framework of the 17th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) will take place very soon (17 April 2018); then a full work plan will be produced.

**KM: Financing and private sector****Status of TA/2018 inception**

The contents of this KM component were discussed and reviewed in early February by UN Environment staff, with inputs from regional teams and thematic experts. In 2018 there will be further consultations and engagements with companies and private sector initiatives (e.g. IDH/Sustainable Trade Initiative, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, TFA2020, etc.) to enlarge the number of commitments made by businesses, to have these well communicated to UN-REDD partner countries, and to ensure these could be reflected in national REDD+ processes (e.g. in NS/AP and/or investment plan). The feedback received to the 2018 workplan confirmed the value added of developing an environmental and social impact framework for finance facilities to stimulate the amount of public and private capital channeled towards sustainable land use and that can serve as a 'blueprint' for replication across the agribusiness and finance industry.

**Status of TA/2019 programming**

The 2019 activities will continue and deepen the activities of 2018 but we expect a renewed attention on working on deforestation free banking coalitions, business case analysis strategically targeted to facilitate investment flows into sustainable land management, and exploration of options to facilitate access for developing countries to non-traditional result-based payment sources, including the forthcoming aviation market. The specific details of the 2019 workplan will be defined during the fourth quarter of 2018 in view of the results obtained at that time as well as opportunities and challenges foreseen for 2019.

**KM: Forest monitoring systems and MRV****Status of TA/2018 inception**

Planned improvements to Open Foris tools is underway, and integration of Open Foris and SEPAL (System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring) into a single secure open source cloud-based computing environment has commenced. Consultation with Norway in the framework of SEPAL provided positive feedback on the planned integration and improvements to Open Foris.

2018 activities/milestones are on track and focus on development work:

Output 1.1. Integration of existing NFMS/MRV tools into Open Foris Online

Output 1.2. Development of new open source MRV tools to enable calculation chains for FREL/FRL and REDD+ results.

**Status of TA/2019 programming:** The work plan is foreseen as in the programme document.

**KM: Mainstreaming REDD+, NDCs and SDGs**

### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

For this component, UN-REDD is exploring synergies and joint work with the UNDP NDC Support Programme (a knowledge, technical advice programme currently serving 38 countries), and intends to support the forests, land use and REDD+ dimensions in the NDC Partnership.

As part of the inception for this KM component, UN-REDD professionals participated in a UNDP meeting on “Designing integrated support for NDC implementation” (25 January 2018) where the integration of REDD+ support with the UNDP NDC Support Programme was discussed in detail. This equally served to launch a discussion on integrating the REDD+ help desk function planned under UN-REDD for this component with the existing help desk under the NDC Support Programme.

In addition, on the workstream’s activity on specialized advice to at least 3 UN-REDD countries on NDC design and related affairs, 3 UN-REDD countries have been identified, where there is potential to reach concrete results in 2018: Colombia, Cote d’Ivoire and Ecuador. The related implementation will be undertaken as a joint effort between FAO and UNDP (including UNDP NDC Team), as well as selection of any other priority countries to explore. In regard to country support, UN-REDD/FAO has collaborated with country stakeholders on MRV (AFOLU) resulting in catalytic action, also bringing in additional FAO country specific technical and financial resources, such as the Technical Cooperation on the preparation of the Ecuador NDC (AFOLU) and related reporting tools, which started implementation in early 2018 and is being jointly implemented with FAO staff.

Two UN-REDD professionals are members of the “Agriculture, Food Security and Land Use” stream of the NDC Partnership and will further explore both knowledge and outreach synergies between UN-REDD and The NDC partnership.

In addition, UN-REDD has begun scoping out potential international/regional meetings where the Programme can make a contribution in terms of technical presentations and sessions to bridge REDD+ and other Paris Agreement tracks. For example, a coordination meeting with the head of the Global Platform for the Capacity Building Initiative on Transparency, on 26<sup>th</sup> January, served to tentatively identify an opportunity to have a REDD+ presentation at the next CBIT global workshop ( 25-26 April, Berlin).

Additionally, two UN-REDD members who sit on the LEDS AFOLU working group steering committee (including in a co-chair capacity) are communicating with the other member institutions in this committee so to seek further synergies in 2018 (the draft workplan offers various potential opportunities for UN-REDD to partner in terms of webinars, workshops, etc.).

An initial scoping study on linkages between REDD+ and SDGs was undertaken as a joint effort between FAO and ICRAF; preliminary results are being fine-tuned and finalized. Dialogue is ongoing between UNDP and FAO to join efforts in the organization of potential webinar/sessions on REDD+ and SDG linkages towards the end of 2018, to be based on the results of the preliminary study (re: Output 1 and 3).

### **Status of TA/2019 programming**

This knowledge component has started in 2018 with the provision of a mix of technical sessions for country stakeholders, a help-desk service to selected countries and a number knowledge products under design. This will continue and deepen in 2019, especially as both NDCs and national SDGs commitments get better defined and further implemented. The 2019 planning has started and will build from a number of stakeholder consultation opportunities (including national government focal points and development partners) to identify knowledge needs and gather technical-assistance requests, including:

- i. feedback from the knowledge events from this component conducted along 2018;

- ii. a consultation with indigenous peoples during the UNFPII (UN-REDD dialogue event, 17 April 2018), in which indigenous specialists that follow either the NDCs processes or the SDGs agenda are expected to attend;
- iii. outcomes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical workshop of the Global Coordination Platform on the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) (25-26 April 2018), which is part of the Paris Agreement provisions;
- iv. country consultations in the fringes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia-Pacific Rainforest Summit (23-25 April 2018), focusing on work priorities and technical-support needs in the area of REDD+ NDCs; and informal consultations to be held in the next UNFCCC session (Bonn, May 2018).

#### **KM: REDD+ funding mechanisms**

**Status of TA/2018 inception:** This TA component has started to focus on three major capacity streams demanded from countries, which will continue and consolidate in 2019:

- (i) enhanced performance of national funds and programmes that finance and implement policies & measures for REDD+, including institutional arrangements, M&E tools, local payment schemes (PES) and transparency protocols, notably demanded by (or expected from) Cambodia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Ecuador, Ghana and Panama;
- (ii) institutional and financing architecture for complex national investment programmes for REDD+, combining and sequencing diverse types and sources of finance, both public and private, notably in Ecuador, Mexico, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, VietNam; and
- (iii) supporting GCF accreditation and the upgrading of national institutions to manage international REDD+ finance and payments-for-results, including DR Congo, Ecuador and Peru.

These 3 streams reflect the evolving international financing landscape for climate and REDD+, which requires countries to establish fine and vanguard institutional, financial, technical and governance arrangements to access, combine, sequence, deliver and report on such finance. UN-REDD is providing expertise, advice and tailored options to countries, and will subsequently compile the knowledge and lessons raised to offer them to a wider range of countries.

#### **KM: Crosscutting – communication**

##### **Status of TA/2018 inception**

The development of the cross-cutting effort 'Knowledge and experience sharing, South-South exchanges and advocacy of key forest values' was informed by partner review, stakeholder engagement and peer consultation.

The 2018 strategy and work plan were presented to the UN-REDD Programme Management Group on January 24, 2018 and subsequently reviewed by the three agencies. It is informed by an assessment of activities in 2017 and lessons learned and incorporates ideas that were proposed throughout 2017 by all three partner agencies and discussed in the Communications and Knowledge Management Working Group. It draws on the Global Survey issued by the Management Group in 2017 to partner countries and stakeholders to ensure their needs are met by the strategy and work plan.

During January, the UN Environment Communications Division was consulted to identify synergies and ensure high quality of outputs. Finally, the contents of the component received feedback from NICFI's and NORAD's management and communications officers throughout 2017 and more recently in January

and April 2018.

**Status of TA/2019 programming**

The planning and definition of UN-REDD Communications and Knowledge Management activities for 2019 will be confirmed by the third quarter of this year. However, in addition to the main avenues outlined in the workplan for 2018, we expect to invest time and resources on the UN Secretary General Climate Summit, the revamping of the workspace (to ensure knowledge of UNREDD is available after 2020) and the expansion of the REDD Academy on Harvard's EdX platform (also to ensure the Programme's legacy).