

ASIA-PACIFIC Regional Activities



- The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has a Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) based in Bangkok, Thailand
- RDMA and its partners implement regional programs, with a focus on the Lower Mekong (Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia)
- USFS supports two RDMA climate change mitigation programs:
 - LEAF
 - LEAD

LEAF



- Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests, based in Bangkok, works in Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, and Papua New Guinea
- USFS provides technical support to three of their programs
 - Forest degradation monitoring
 - Low-emission land-use planning
 - Climate change curriculum development

LEAF, cont' d



Forest Degradation

- USFS staff & LEAF conducted forest degradation assessments in Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam (2012)
- Regional workshop (Nov 2012) brought technical experts together to discuss assessment outcomes:
 - What are the main drivers of degradation?
 - How can degradation be measured and monitored?

LEAF, cont' d



Low-Emission Land Use Planning

- USFS land planners and GIS experts worked in Laos and Vietnam to understand status of LUP and how to incorporate low-emissions into LUP
- Team developed LUP Guidelines document
- LUP case-study mission in a province in Vietnam to inform the Guidelines and the curriculum development program (next)

Curriculum Development Program

- USFS and US academics working with 8 Mekong universities to development four climate change ‘modules’ :
 - Basic Climate Change
 - Social and Environmental Safeguards
 - Carbon Measurement and Monitoring
 - Land Use Planning and Climate Change

LEAD



- Low Emissions Asian Development, based in Bangkok, covers multiple sectors and is focusing on seven Asian countries
- USFS is supporting their forestry sector work
- Mangrove Carbon Assessments
 - Regional Workshop in Thailand for seven countries on the significance of mangroves for climate change mitigation, and how to measure carbon in mangroves
 - Follow-on capacity building in Cambodia and Philippines next year