

Expert: International Consultant on Strategic Environmental Assessment / Environmental Impact Assessment

Output: 1.3

Responsible UN Agency: UNDP

Duration: 2.5 person-months on “When-Actually-Employed” basis
August – December 2010

Duty station: Hanoi and home-based

Background:

The UN-REDD Programme assists Vietnam to strengthen the country’s capacity to be ready for REDD implementation. One of the key components of the Programme is to develop a framework for the governance structures of REDD as a National Programme and its relationship to other government programs.

The National REDD Programme is one of the key priorities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and it is considered crucial in meeting the objectives of the National Target Program on the Reduction of Climate Change impacts (NTP-RCC). REDD will be pervasive throughout the operations of the Viet Nam Directorate of Forestry within the Ministry and it will have important consequences for the other sections of the Ministry. REDD has an impact at the national level where the National REDD Programme will be administered, but also at regional offices of the Ministry where many of the operational tasks will be concentrated. Important elements of the National REDD Programme involve coordination and collaboration with other government agencies as well – e.g. land titling and registration (MONRE), distribution of benefits (MOF), timber-based industries (MOIT), engagement of ethnic minorities (CEMA) – as well as with stakeholders outside of the government.

In order to establish an effective National REDD Programme the governance structures have to be designed and implemented in such a way that all offices and stakeholders inside and outside of the government are included in an objective, efficient and transparent way.

Objectives:

The overall objective of the study is to design a framework for REDD governance in Viet Nam. The framework document has to be comprehensive – cover all aspects of the National REDD Programme and indicate tasks and responsibilities of all offices and stakeholders inside and outside of government – and it shall include a strategy for implementation.

At least the following elements shall be incorporated in the study:

- Review of relevant land-use and forest policies and governance currently in place in Viet Nam.
- Review of existing information required for REDD, identification of missing information and a strategy to generate additional information.
- Formulation of a data and information management strategy for REDD.
- Formulation of the overall structure of governance for REDD.
- Detailed formulation of tasks and responsibilities of government offices in REDD.
- Formulation of roles and responsibilities of non-state stakeholders in REDD.

- Design of a procedure for comprehensive Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment for the National REDD Programme and for individual activities undertaken as part of REDD.
- Design of an integrated Monitoring & Evaluation system for REDD – i.e. for monitoring of achievements and results of REDD activities.
- Formulation of an implementation strategy for the National REDD Programme.

The study is executed jointly and in full coordination with other international and national consultants and in full consultation with all relevant stakeholders. The consultant will perform his duties under the direct supervision of the National Project Director of the UN-REDD Programme and in close collaboration with the National Team Leader and Technical Specialist of the UN-REDD Programme.

The consultant will take on the following specific responsibilities:

- Liaise closely with the National Project Director and work, on a daily basis, with the National Consultant SEA/EIA, the International and National Consultants on Monitoring & Evaluation and the International and National Consultants on Forest Institutions.
- On the basis of the institutional mapping of all forestry institutions in Viet Nam and the analysis their (potential) relevance for the REDD mechanism, identify which processes should be subjected to SEA and EIA. Identify actors and stakeholders for the SEA and EIA.
- Design and develop a SEA for the National REDD Programme itself.
- Design and develop EIA procedures and a standard (minimal) methodology for REDD-compliant activities in the field.
- Assist in the design of a governance framework for REDD in Viet Nam, ensuring proper integration of SEA/EIA in all relevant elements, under the direction of the International and National Consultants on Forest Institutions.
- Participate in consultative processes with key national stakeholders (including public sector, private sector, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, NGOs, etc.) in support of all aspects of the assignment.
- Prepare a detailed report on all substantive elements of the assignment, jointly with the National Consultant SEA/EIA.

The International Consultant SEA/EIA will work closely with other team members in the performance of his duties, in particular with the National Consultant SEA/EIA. It is expected that the assignment will to a large extent be undertaken in Viet Nam, primarily in Hanoi but with some domestic travel.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- Post graduate degree in Forestry, Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Economics, or similar.
- At least 10 years of international experience on SEA and EIA, preferably in a tropical forestry context.

- Good knowledge of the REDD mechanism under the UNFCCC. Knowledge of the Vietnamese REDD position and proposal; knowledgeable of the submissions of the Government of Viet Nam to The World Bank on REDD (R-PIN).
- Extensive experience with tropical forest institutions and implementation of SEA and EIA in operational management procedures. Knowledge of forest policy and institutions in Vietnam is an asset.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.