

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

Expert:

Task B: Quantification of Costs Associated with a REDD+ Compliant BDS
National Consultant (30 days)

Output: 1.4

Responsible UN Agency: UNDP

Duty station: Hanoi.

Background:

A study on a REDD+ compliant benefit distribution system (BDS) for Viet Nam identified the potential barriers to and constraints on such a system, identified options to overcome these barriers and constraints, and in some cases made specific recommendations. Further work by GoV and others is needed to further define specific options; identifying the optimal course of action requires further analysis, discussion, and testing.

The establishment of a REDD-compliant BDS for Viet Nam will continue to be a GoV priority and will be supported by the UN-REDD Programme. On-going studies are needed to:

- Examine concepts contained in the report, and identify improvements.
- Investigate those issues requiring a more intensive analysis.
- Establish a roadmap to create a REDD-compliant BDS (which needs to be tied to the initiation of REDD+ revenues).

The types of activities that need to be included in further analyses are the identification and drafting of legal instruments, review and evaluation of current initiatives and programmes, further analyses of policy options, research on specific issues, piloting, and design of monitoring and recourse mechanisms.

The UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme is currently seeking a number of international and national consultants to undertake the studies listed above. The consultants will each have a specific responsibility but will coordinate activities to arrive at a coherent set of outputs.

Outputs

The activities of the consultants will result in the following outputs:

1. (B) Assessment on the components of and quantity spending on, the actual costs of administration and management of benefit distribution systems in Viet Nam

2. (B) Estimation of the magnitude of BDS administration and management costs at different hierarchical levels for a REDD+ BDS in Viet Nam
3. (B) Recommendations to the GoV concerning the necessary legislative and policy implications of the findings, highlighting new information that might modify the policy recommendations of the initial UN-REDD BDS study
4. (B) Recommendations to the UN-REDD Programme concerning additional capacity building requirements to implement a REDD+ compliant BDS

The outputs are produced jointly by the consultants, with the responsibility for the individual outputs assigned as per the task identified below. The outputs will be presented in the format of one or more reports to be written in the English language.

The consultant will take on the following specific responsibilities:

Task B: Quantification of Costs Associated with a REDD+ Compliant BDS

National Consultant: 30 days

In order to quantify the costs associated with a REDD+ compliant BDS, the consultant should:

- Describe the current provisions, regulations and mandated limits for management fees, overheads and other administrative costs in existing benefit distribution systems in Viet Nam (including, but not limited to the 661 and 135 programme and PFES pilots in Lam Dong and Son La)
- Collect information on the components of, and quantify spending on, the actual costs of administration and management of benefit distribution systems in Viet Nam (including, but not limited to the 661 and 135 programme and PFES pilots in Lam Dong and Son La)
- Review experience from benefit distribution systems in other countries (including PFES and not limited to carbon-related benefit distribution systems) the concerning costs of administration and management, and procedures for determining their limits or components
- Estimate the magnitude of BDS administration and management costs at different hierarchical levels (national, provincial, district) for a REDD+ BDS in Viet Nam
- On the basis of these estimates, derive indicative retention levels for different levels of administration.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

National consultant:

- Post graduate degree in Forestry, Economics, Environmental Economics, or another relevant discipline.
- At least 7 years of working experience on forest / land use financing and rural development in Vietnam.

- Good knowledge of forestry and governance issues in Vietnam, with particular reference to aspects of economics and financing.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written Vietnamese and English.

Remuneration

The National consultant for this assignment shall be paid with VNM3 level of UN-EU Cost-norm