

Cambodia REDD+ Activity Cover Page

Title of Activity:

Support to demonstration activities to reduce emissions at local level.

Related activities in FCPF Workplan:

3.2 FCPF. Development of sub-national capacity to manage REDD+

Objectives of Activity:

The main objective is to develop a strategy plan for output 3.1. A brief strategy plan that defines:

- Priorities and eligible activities for piloting by FCPF
- Geographic focus for FCPF piloting; and
- Partners in the piloting
- Planned demonstration activities with timelines, budget and responsible institutions

Brief Description:

The COP 13 decisions of the UNFCCC encourage countries to “explore a range of actions, identify options and undertake efforts, including demonstration activities to address the drivers of deforestation relevant to their national circumstance, with a view to reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation and thus enhancing forest carbon stocks due to sustainable management of forests (3/decision 2/CP.13/2007)”. *Demonstration activities* are generally used to refer to any *subnational* approaches that fall within a national boundary such as those implemented at the landscape, jurisdictional (eg.-provincial) and project scales.

According to the UNFCCC decisions, countries should ultimately propose and implement a *national* REDD+ approach, while demonstration activities (sub-national approaches) could be used as an interim measure to move towards national implementation. Yet, effective implementation of a national REDD approach requires involvement of both national and subnational level institutions who have an important role in governing forests. Hence, countries should use lessons from demonstration activities not only to identify a range of REDD+ guiding principles on key issues integral of a national REDD+ approach but also to establish and promote effective cooperation and coordination among different levels of institutions for the implementation of REDD+.

The main objective of the FCPF output 3.1 is to identify approaches/activities which can be replicated at national level and used for the national REDD+ strategy by demonstrating specific elements of a national REDD+ programme. Thus, the FCPF funding under output 3.1 should support testing specific activities at subnational level to provide information on how to introduce and agree on subnational activities (including the issues of drivers of deforestation and counter-PAMs, accounting scale, forest reference levels, MRV and national forest monitoring system, safeguards, benefit distribution), to assess the effectiveness, benefits, costs and appropriate incentive structures of the activities, and to explore options of replication of, and scaling up the activities to a national scale.

The expected outputs of the activity 3.1 will be:

- A number of reports to inform how REDD+ activities can be implemented and supported at local level including information on how to plan relevant activities in close consultation with the community to get their acceptance?
- How can national funds (in this case FCPF) pay the communities for their work (incentives)?
- How can activities be monitored and linked to incentives (performance based payment)?
- What level of local government should be involved?
- Can this be implemented on a national scale and can it be cost efficient?
- Lessons learned through implementation of demonstration activities that will strengthen implementation guidelines for the national REDD+ Strategy.

The benefits of the activity will include: capacity developed at sub-national levels and experience developed on implementation of REDD+ activities at both central and sub-national levels.

In order to identify kinds of demonstration activities to be supported by the FCPF project and how, it is proposed that a small and short-lived technical committee be formed as soon as possible. Possible members of the committee are:

- National Project Director and National Project Manager of the FCPF, Chair and vice chair of the Cambodia REDD+ secretariat
- Interim technical specialist, REDD+ coordinator, UNDP programme analyst,
- Other development partners as needed.

Key Outputs:

A brief strategy plan that defines:

- Priorities and eligible activities for piloting by FCPF
- Geographic focus for FCPF piloting; and
- Partners in the piloting
- Planned demonstration activities with timelines, budget and responsible institutions

	Signature	Name and Function	Date
Developed by:		Tim Boyle, Interim Technical Specialist	
Implemented by:		REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat	
Approved by:		UN-REDD Programme Director	



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Cambodia REDD+ National Programme

UNDP PROJECT No. 00076292

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CONCEPT PAPER

Background

REDD+ stands for “reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries”. The main goal of REDD+ is to reduce forest degradation and deforestation, and to promote sustainable forest management by offering results-based payments to developing countries and their stakeholders. In other words, developing countries shall receive financial incentives according to the volume of reduced emissions from the efforts to improve their forest governance.

The COP 13 decisions of the UNFCCC encourage countries to “explore a range of actions, identify options and undertake efforts, including demonstration activities to address the drivers of deforestation relevant to their national circumstance, with a view to reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation and thus enhancing forest carbon stocks due to sustainable management of forests (3/decision 2/CP.13/2007)” (see annex for more information about indicative guidance for demonstration). *Demonstration activities* are generally used to refer to any “sub-national” approaches that fall within a national boundary such as those implemented at the landscape, jurisdictional (eg.-provincial) and project scales. In the case of Cambodia, the terms, “sub-national” and “landscape” have been used to refer to “a province” and “the area within multi-provincial boundaries” respectively.

According to the UNFCCC decisions, countries should ultimately propose and implement a *national* REDD+ approach, while demonstration activities (subnational approaches) could be used as an interim measure to move towards national implementation. It is also important to bear in mind that the effective implementation of a national REDD approach requires involvement of both national and subnational level institutions including relevant line agencies such as Forestry Administration, GDANCP and Fishery Administration as well as provincial, district, communal and village authorities who have an important role in governing forests. While PAMs will be developed at the national level, they will be implemented by subnational agencies. Likewise, whereas forest monitoring and reporting on results will happen at national level, the activities to deliver the results will happen at subnational level so will possible incentives (benefit sharing) be provided at the subnational level to support these activities.

Hence, countries should use lessons from demonstration activities not only to identify a range of REDD+ guiding principles on key issues integral of a national REDD+ approach but also to establish and promote effective cooperation and coordination among different levels of institutions for the implementation of REDD+. Among others, lessons can be used to address the following inquiries such as those related to drivers of deforestation and counter-Policies and Measures (PAMs), accounting scale (national /landscape /jurisdictional), forest reference levels, MRV and national forest monitoring system, safeguards, benefit distribution and implementation modalities and mechanisms.

- How to identify drivers for deforestation and forest degradation;
- How to design and implement policies and measures to tackle identified drivers;
- How to set reference emission levels at what scales;
- How to measure, to report and to verify forest carbon at which scales;
- How subnational based methods (including project approaches) can be integrated into a national accounting following UNFCCC-based methodologies.
- What is efficient, effective and equitable benefit sharing mechanism;
- How to mitigate/avoid possible environmental and social risks but to maximize co-benefits;
- How existing demonstration activities that build mainly on project based methods can be integrated into a national accounting following UNFCCC-based methodologies.
- How subnational level actors such as subnational governments and communities can develop a local plan to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (who will they report to on activities undertaken? who will provide the incentives and in which format? and who will monitor the activities that take place and that the agreed incentives that are provided?)

“Demonstration activities” are also expected to test finance sustainable forest management practices as well as up-front REDD+ initiatives before the “results” generates “payments”.

In the case of Cambodia, its national REDD+ Readiness Roadmap has identified three types of demonstration activities during the readiness phase:

- 4.5 Initial demonstration activities: Supporting 3-4 REDD+ projects approved by Government agencies; and documentation of results
- 4.6 Other demonstration project activities: Pilot forest protection contracts, pilot conservation concessions, etc.
- 4.7 Extending demonstration activities: Selection of 1-2 regional demonstration sites; pilot demonstration; documentation of results

The UN-REDD Programme covered the 4.5 activity, by providing support to REDD+ pilot projects such as Oddar Meanchey Community Forestry and Seima Protected Forest through UN-REDD Output 3.1. These projects have applied project based approaches, i.e. VCS/CCBA-methods to measure, review, and verify forest carbon for performance based payments. The FCPF project will address the 4.6 and 4.7 activities through FCPF Output 3.1, Activity 3.1c, by demonstrating specific elements of a national REDD+ programme. The major difference between the two initiatives is that UN-REDD supported comprehensive projects at discrete sites, whereas FCPF will demonstrate specific activities, which need not necessarily be co-located, meaning that demonstrations of different components of REDD+ may be implemented in different locations.

Since the completion of the Roadmap and the initiation of the UN-REDD Programme, numerous other demonstration activities have been initiated. Thus, the thematic and geographic focus of these other initiatives needs to be taken into account in designing appropriate demonstrations to be supported by the FCPF. Relevant initiatives include:

- Cam-REDD, which is undertaking demonstrations of policies and measures (PAMs) in the Cardamom Mountains, Preah Vihear, and Kulen Promthep;
- USAID-funded projects SFB and LEAF, which will undertake demonstrations of PAMs, mainly at Prey Long;
- UN-REDD’s “Community-based REDD+” (CBR), which will likely undertake demonstrations of PAMs and social safeguards at sites to be determined (Country Action Plan is under development);
- UNDP’s SFM project, which is undertaking demonstrations of sustainable forest management practices through the installation of improved stoves, and support for community forestry initiatives.
- Forestry Administration’s provisional demonstration of benefit sharing, likely to be in Siem Reap province.

The main objective of the FCPF output 3.1 is to identify approaches/activities which can be replicated at national level and useful for the national REDD+ strategy by demonstrating specific elements of a national REDD+ programme. Hence, the FCPF funding under output 3.1 should support testing specific activities at subnational level to provide information on how to introduce and agree on subnational activities (including the issues of drivers of deforestation and counter-PAMs, accounting scale, forest reference levels, MRV and national forest monitoring system, safeguards, benefit distribution), to assess the effectiveness, benefits, costs and appropriate incentive structures of the activities, and to explore options of replication of, and scaling up the activities to a national scale.

The expected outputs of the activity 3.1 will be:

- A number of reports to inform how REDD+ activities can be implemented and supported at local level including information on how to plan relevant activities in close consultation with the community to get their acceptance?
- How can national funds (in this case FCPF) pay the communities for their work (incentives)?
- How can activities be monitored and linked to incentives (performance based payment)?
- What level of local government should be involved?
- Can this be implemented on a national scale and can it be cost efficient?
- Lessons learned through implementation of demonstration activities that will strengthen implementation guidelines for the national REDD+ Strategy.

The benefits of the activity will include: capacity developed at sub-national levels and experience developed on implementation of REDD+ activities at both central and sub-national levels.

Objective of the activity

In order to identify demonstration activities to be supported by the FCPF project, it is proposed that a small and short-lived technical committee be formed as soon as possible.

Proposed members of the committee are:

- National Project Director and National Project Manager of the FCPF, Chair and vice chair of the Cambodia REDD+ secretariat
- Interim technical specialist, REDD+ coordinator, UNDP programme analyst,
- Other development partners as needed.

The main objective of the committee's activities is to develop a strategy plan for output 3.1. The committee will therefore:

- Review the activities being undertaken by other initiatives,
- Set priorities and eligible activities for piloting by FCPF,
- Set geographic focus for FCPF piloting; and
- Select partners in the piloting.

Key output of the activity

- A brief strategy plan that defines:
 - Priorities and eligible activities for piloting by FCPF
 - Geographic focus for FCPF piloting; and
 - Partners in the piloting
 - Planned demonstration activities with timelines, budget and responsible institutions

Activity schedule

- A review of existing activities (15-26 May, 2014) done by Moeko
- A meeting of a technical committee on 26-28 of May
- Development of a strategy plan by 30 of June

Proposed Budget:

Description	Unit	Rate (USD)	Total
Grants to implementing partners for demonstrations	5	20,000	100,000
Miscellaneous	n/a	n/a	1,400
Total			101,400

Approved By:

Prepared By:
Timothy Boyle, Interim Technical Advisor

National Programme Director

Date:/...../2014

Date: 14/ 5/2014

Annex: indicative guidance for demonstration :

1. Demonstration activities should be undertaken with the approval of the host Party.
2. Estimates of reductions or increases of emissions should be results based, demonstrable, transparent and verifiable, and estimated consistently over time.
3. The use of the methodologies described in paragraph 6 of this decision is encouraged as a basis for estimating and monitoring emissions.
4. Emission reductions from national demonstration activities should be assessed on the basis of national emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
5. Subnational demonstration activities should be assessed within the boundary used for the demonstration, and assessed for associated displacement of emissions.
6. Reductions in emissions or increases resulting from the demonstration activity should be based on historical emissions, taking into account national circumstances.
7. Subnational¹ approaches, where applied, should constitute a step towards the development of national approaches, reference levels and estimates.
8. Demonstration activities should be consistent with sustainable forest management, noting, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
9. Experiences in implementing activities should be reported and made available via the Web platform.²
10. Reporting on demonstration activities should include a description of the activities and their effectiveness, and may include other information.
11. Independent expert review is encouraged.