Working Session 1:

Introduction to spatial analysis for REDD+ planning at the provincial level in Viet Nam

Ha Noi, 16 – 27 June 2014

Working Session technical session plans

PART 3: Identifying potential zones for a REDD+ action - Sustainable management of forests to reduce emissions from the harvesting of forest products

As discussed in Part 2, each of the five broad REDD+ activities[1] can be achieved by implementing a variety of more specific actions and these actions can only take place in certain locations, for reasons ranging from environmental suitability to existing land-use policies and designations. The multiple benefits and risks associated with REDD+ also vary spatially.

In Part 3 of the session, we will be thinking about what criteria determine whether land is suitable for actions under the REDD+ activity **sustainable management of forests** (again while noting safeguards, e.g. respecting the knowledge and rights of communities and indigenous peoples). We will be focusing on actions to reduce emissions from the harvesting of forest products. Actions relevant to this activity may include promoting reduced impact logging in production forests and the extension of forest certification.

As a first step, we will be exploring the possible definitions or focus of actions associated with 'sustainable management of forest' (SMF) activities, especially in the Viet Nam context. There is no definition for 'sustainable management of forests' under the Convention (UNFCCC). The closely related concept of 'sustainable forest management' (SFM) has a very broad definition under the UNFF's Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forest:

> *"Sustainable forest management as a dynamic and evolving concept aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental value of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations."*

By its nature this definition includes protected areas as well as sustainable harvest and any other sustainable activities in forest.

To focus the current exercise, we suggest concentrating on the actions under SMF that increase the sustainability of forest production, and hence decrease carbon emissions related to forest products.

3A: Identify existing areas where SMF is already happening

Step 1:

The first task will be to identify areas which areas where the harvesting of forest products occurs.

- Where are areas which are used for the harvesting of forest products such as timber, fuelwood, other wood products and NTFPs? Do these include natural forest and planted forest?

[1] Reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; sustainable management of forest; conservation of forest carbon stocks; enhancement of forest carbon stocks

- Which types of harvesting of forest products are of interest? Commercial and/or small-scale? Timber, fuelwood, NTFPs? The drivers analysis undertaken in the provinces may provide some guidance on this question.

Step 2:
Another question is where is sustainable management of forest (SMF) related to the harvest of forest products already occurring, i.e. the current extent of such practices. This may also include whether any areas should be excluded from this definition. As part of this process, it is important to understand what is meant by 'sustainable management of forests' in the planning context (e.g. in the province or in Viet Nam).

Some questions to guide the discussion:

- What types of interventions could be described as SMF to reduce emissions from harvest of forest products? E.g. does it include community-based forest management? Sustainability certification of production forests? Improved management of protection forest?
- Which forest categories and/or types do these activities cover?

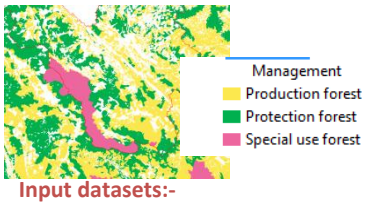
Step 3:
Use this information to help determine whether there are any areas that should be excluded from the areas where the practice is happening. For example, are all forest concessions considered to be practising SMF, or should we exclude forest concessions that do not have a management plan from the current extent of SMF?

Step 4:
The next step is to identify the datasets needed and their availability (a similar process to Part 2). Relevant data may include:

- Forest categories
- Forest types
- Forest tenure or Forest Management Units
- The location of forest areas currently certified for SMF
- The location of community forest management programmes/projects

Step 5: Technical activities for mapping current extent of SMF:

Code	Trạng Thái	Type
	Đất có rừng	**Forested Land**
1	Rừng LRTX và nửa rụng lá giàu	Evergreen - Broadleaf forest - Rich
2	Rừng LRTX và nửa rụng lá trung bình	Evergreen - Broadleaf fo Medium
3	Rừng LRTX và nửa rụng lá nghèo	Evergreen - Broadleaf fo Poor
4	Rừng LRTX và nửa rụng lá phục hồi	Evergreen - Broadleaf fo Regrowth
5	Rừng rụng lá	Deciduous forest
6	Rừng tre nứa	Bamboo forest
7	Rừng hỗn giao gỗ, tre nứa	Mixed Wood and Bamb forest
8	Rừng lá kim	Coniferous forest
9	Rừng hỗn giao lá rộng, lá kim	Mixed Broadleaf and Coniferous forest
10	Rừng ngập mặn	Mangrove forest
11	Rừng núi đá	Limestone forest
12	Rừng trồng	Plantation forest



Input datasets:-
NTFPS's?
-Timber, fuelwood harvesting?
Other wood products?
-Forest management types (Production, protection, special use?)
-Current forest cover data (natural/plantation?)
-Other(s)?

Determine where does the Harvesting of forest products occur?

What datasets can help spatially define where the harvesting of forest products currently occurs

Determine the definition or focus of the SMF actions

What forest categories and/or types do these activities cover?

Highlight SMF areas where the harvesting of forest products currently occurs

Highlight areas currently production Forests, Protection Forests and areas currently under CBFM

Input Datasets:-
-Community-based forest management?
-Production Forests
-Protection forest?

Determine any areas to exclude, e.g. exclude if lack management plan?

identify additional datasets needs

Create a Boolean raster layer s where 1 = areas to include and 0 = areas to exclude

(if more than one dataset may need to create boolean rasters for each dataset and us Boolean Or function to merge into single raster layer of areas to include/exclude

Produce map layout of Current extent of SMF

Input Datasets:-
-Forest concessions?

3B: Identify possible zones for extending SMF

The first task in this process will have provided a definition or understanding of the current practice of SMF related to the harvest of forest products in the province, as well as a map of its current extent. The next task will be to identify areas for the potential extension or promotion of SMF actions.

Step 1:
The first question to ask is whether the focus of SMF may change in the implementation of the *future REDD+ actions*. For example, if community forestry was not considered a priority before, will that change through the REDD+ action? Answering these questions should form part of consultations and discussions between REDD+ planners and stakeholders as they prioritize and develop intervention packages in the province.

Step 2:
Determine whether there are any types of areas that will be excluded from the analysis of potential zones for future promotion of SMF. For example, these areas may include already certified forest management units, or units currently pursuing certification. Planners may also decide to focus SMF efforts in particular forest categories, such as production forest, or types, such as natural forests.

Step 3:
Overlay the map of current SMF, and any that showing any areas to be excluded from future SMF, with the map of carbon stocks. Potentially, you can highlight areas low in carbon or high in carbon, depending on the goals of the action.

Step 4:
Maps showing additional benefits related to the action can also be added to the analysis. For example:

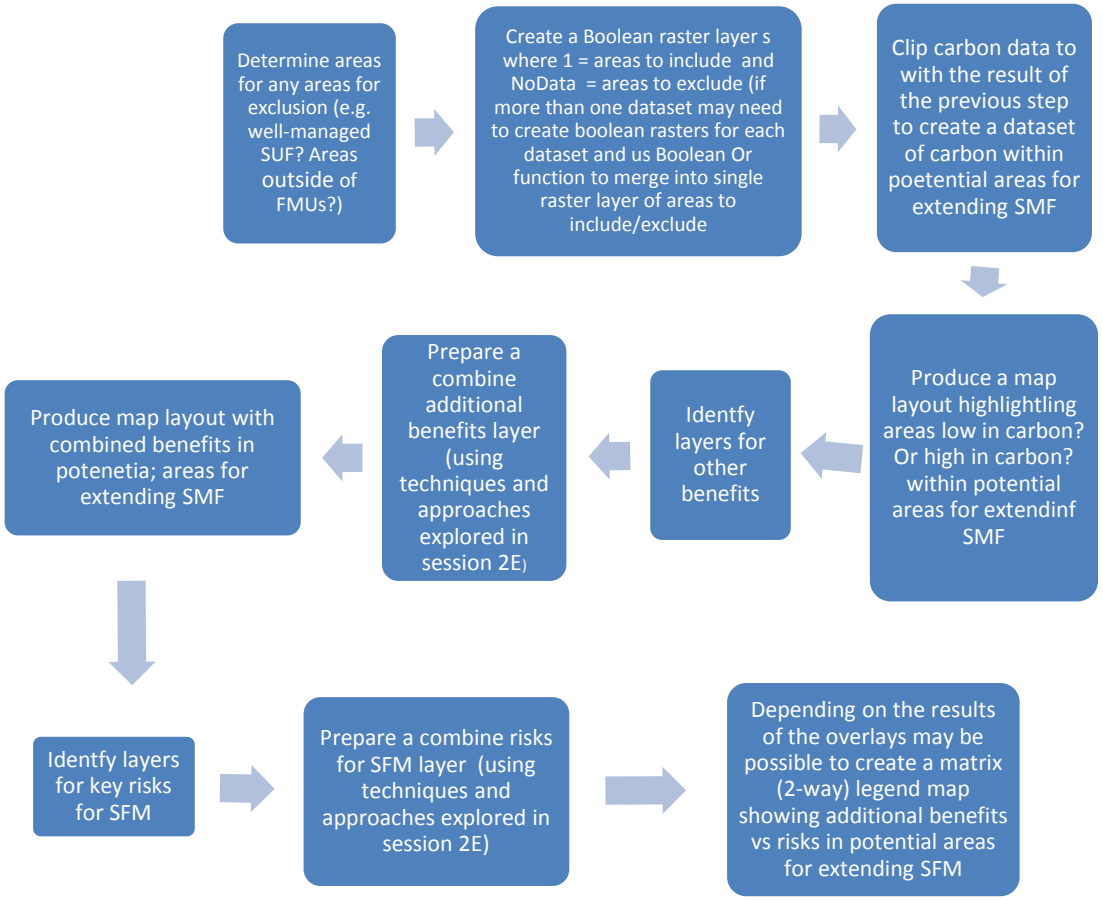
- Location of communities (if community involvement/community forestry is important)
- Location of poor areas (if livelihood enhancement is a goal)
- Areas of biodiversity importance (if biodiversity conservation is a goal)
- Areas important for timber supply (if improved timber supply is a goal)
- Areas important for soil erosion control (if improving soil conservation and/or water quality are important)

These can also be combined with key pressures and risks related to the action, such as:

- High population density/poverty
- Location of future logging, hydropower, mining concessions
- Road access/network

Step 5: Technical activities for mapping current extent of SMF:

***** Example Workflow only - details to be determined by discussion *****



3C: Multi-criteria analyses and weightings approaches in the Viet Nam REDD+ planning context

This section will involve a short presentation on multi-criteria analyses options followed by a structured discussion among participants. Some guiding questions:

- What additional techniques are the group aware of?
- What multi-criteria methods have individuals used? What were the advantages and disadvantages of these methods?
- Can any of these techniques be explored further for this work?
- Have any of the group had experience in using the ranking method? What are the implications of this method?
- Have any of the group had experience in using an analytical hierarchy approach for weighting data using pairwise comparisons?
- Have any of the group had experience in weighting data (and the choices involved)? What are the implications of certain kinds of weighting?
- Are there any standard protocols in Viet Nam for this type of work?
- Does anyone in the group have suggestions for which approach would be suitable for our work supporting the provinces?