

Cambodia REDD+ Activity Cover Page

Title of Activity:

Consultation on benefit sharing models

Related Activities UN-REDD Workplan:

2.3c Consultation on results from activity 2.3b.

Objectives of Activity:

To have a broad national consultation on the results of the assessment conducted under activity 2.3b and promote understanding of options and challenges in regards to benefit sharing for REDD+ in Cambodia.

Brief Description:

Main tasks for the consultant team are to:

- Prepare a plan for a country wide consultation process on the results of the assessment of existing benefit sharing models including initial proposals for benefit sharing models. The consultation plan should consider how to involve all relevant stakeholders, e.g. local governments, military, CF, CPA and CFi, IPs, land owners, ELCs, farmers, NGO's, men and women;
- Consult with stakeholders on the plan and seek collaboration with relevant stakeholders e.g. local government and the Consultation Group on the implementation of the consultation process;
- Prepare the necessary information material and implement the plan; and
- Collect comments from the consultations sorted by interest group and prepare them for a publication with a summary highlighting key ideas and concerns expressed by the participants in the consultation.

Key Outputs:

The project expected outputs are:

- A comprehensive consultation process on benefit sharing for REDD+ in Cambodia.
- A publication documenting comments and suggestions made during the consultations in English and Khmer

	Signature	Name and Function	Date
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Implemented by:		REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat	
Approved by:		UN-REDD Programme Director	

CONCEPT PAPER

Consultation on benefit sharing models

1. Background

The Cancun Agreements issued at the Conference of Parties (COP) 16 held in Mexico in 2010 provides strong support for policy approaches that deliver positive incentives for countries and their actors to engage in REDD+ (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).

Thus far, a number of decisions related to REDD+ have been made on subjects including implementation, principles and safeguards, assessment of results, and reference levels. However, decisions are yet to be made regarding how to deliver positive incentives for countries and their actors to reduce emissions from the forest sector through REDD+. As of now, it is up to each country to decide upon how REDD+ should be implemented within the framework agreed, including issues related to how to distribute benefits at the national, regional and local levels, considering their national circumstances but also following inter alia the safeguards listed in the Cancun Agreement.

Forests support the livelihoods of millions of rural indigenous peoples and communities who depend on forest resources for subsistence and income. Given the importance of forests for rural livelihoods, participating countries are required to apply safeguards in order to ensure “full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities” in REDD+ (as stated in the Cancun agreement). The application of such safeguards is not only an important means of avoiding and mitigating possible negative impacts of REDD+ on these people but it can also serve to promote their active participation in forest and land conservation, as well as to reducing rural poverty which may contribute to achieving long term sustainable management of forests and carbon sequestration. On the contrary, the failure to involve local people and institutions in REDD+ and benefit sharing may risk lowering their incentives to engage in sustainable forest and land management, and thus may undermine the ultimate purpose of REDD+. Hence, it is imperative that indigenous peoples and local communities are also included in benefit sharing and that benefits are distributed in a manner that are equitable, transparent and cost-effective equitable.

Benefits are not limited to a monetary value but also include non-monetary values that may arise from improved forest governance. For instance, effective forest policies, programmes and measures to achieve REDD+ goals may not only generate income from carbon related payments but also deliver a broad range of multiple non-monetary benefits. REDD+ can contribute to new job opportunities, clarification and likely issuance of land tenure for communities and increased rural incomes and preservation of important ecosystem and environmental services and biodiversity.

Cambodia has taken a first step towards getting ready for REDD+ through the REDD Road Map and with the support of UN-REDD and other supporting frameworks are building capacity to plan and implement REDD+. Two REDD pilot projects commenced in 2008 and 2009 and it is expected that the different actors involved in forest and land use planning need further capacity building including an improved understanding of benefits sharing, multiple benefits and costs associated with REDD+.

A decision on how to distribute benefits and to whom and in what form at different levels will require careful analysis of possible options suitable to the national circumstance of Cambodia. For this reason, there is a need to assess and learn from national as well as international experiences with regard to benefit sharing mechanisms used in the forest sector (e.g. Payments for Environmental Services (PES) and REDD+ pilot projects). Such decisions will also require extensive consultation with relevant representatives of

government at national, provincial and local levels as well as discussions with all relevant stakeholders in order to ensure a common understanding and broad acceptance of a benefit sharing mechanism that is suitable for Cambodia. At the same time, ensuring the full and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders will contribute to avoiding the creation of unrealistic expectations about REDD+ benefits which in some cases has been noted as a problem in the past.

2. Objective

To consult with a wide group of stakeholders on benefit sharing mechanisms including pros and cons of different models, and to collect their views on the matter for further work on benefit sharing for REDD+ in Cambodia.

3. Expectation

An enhanced understanding of pros and cons for utilizing different benefits sharing mechanisms relevant for REDD+ and a collection of views from a wide group of stakeholders to be taken into account for the further work on identifying possible options for benefit sharing mechanisms for REDD+ in Cambodia.

4. Activities

Main tasks for the consultant team are to:

- 1) Prepare a plan for a country wide consultation process on the results of the assessment of existing benefit sharing models including initial proposals for benefit sharing models;
- 2) Consult with relevant stakeholders, including representatives from local government, and make any necessary adjustments to the consultation plan;
- 3) Prepare necessary information material for the consultations;
- 4) Execute the consultation plan and collect comments from the consultations sorted by interest group and prepare them for a publication with a summary highlighting key ideas and concerns expressed by the participants in the consultation (in English and Khmer); and
- 5) Provide recommendations on further consultations as appropriate.

5. Outputs:

- 1) An country wide consultation on results of the assessment of existing benefit sharing models including initial proposals for benefit sharing models
- 2) A report on the consultations process highlighting key findings and concerns in English and Khmer with possible recommendations for further consultations.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

The REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat will:

- Develop ToR for the consultant team and manage the recruitment of the consultants.
- Provide oversight of the work by the consultants
- Assist in the organizing of the consultations (one person from the Secretariat will participate in the consultation meetings)
- Make the report from the consultations available in English and Khmer.

7. Budget

Activity	Budget
Two national consultants(2*55days)	8,800
Field trip costs national consultants (15 trips 3 nights 3 people)	4,252.50

15 local meetings	25,200
National level consultation in Phnom Penh (80 participants)	5,680
Printing and dissemination of activity output in English and Khmer	900
Miscellaneous	1.500
Total	46,332.50

8. Time frame

The activities will be implemented from November 2013 to February 2014. The schedule of the activity is shown below.

Activity	Time period
Development of ToR and announcement of consultancy	July
Recruitment of the consultants	October
Development of consultation plan	Early November
15 local consultation meetings	November to February
National consultation meeting in Phnom Penh	February