



4th UN-REDD Regional Lessons Learned Workshop

National Forest Monitoring Systems for REDD+

Bangkok, Thailand, 15-17 October 2013

BACKGROUND

REDD+ decisions under the UNFCCC request developing countries aiming to implement REDD+ to develop a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS). An NFMS enables countries to collect information required to provide measurable, reportable and verifiable estimates of emission reductions and/or removals that occur as a result of the implementation of REDD+ activities. Many countries have made significant progress in developing NFMSs, including components on forest inventory and satellite land monitoring systems. However, the range of methods and advantages or disadvantages of various approaches are not always well known or shared among and between countries. Furthermore, within countries the information required to prepare NFMS and National Greenhouse Gas inventories and reports is often fragmented between different agencies. Thus there are opportunities for individuals and countries within the Asia Pacific region to share information and experiences that will assist them in developing effective and efficient national forest monitoring systems.

The 4th UN-REDD Regional Lessons Learned Workshop, on **National Forest Monitoring Systems for REDD+**, responds to these opportunities. This workshop is part of a series of regional events around the world, organized by FAO. The UN-REDD document "[*National Forest Monitoring Systems: Monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification \(M & MRV\) in the context of REDD+ Activities*](#)" summarizes the implications of these requirements for participating countries. This document will be the key reference document for this workshop. The workshop will draw on the experiences of other regional partners involved in building capacity for NFMS in Asia and the Pacific, particularly the SilvaCarbon program of the United States Forest Service.

The key objectives of the meeting are to:

- Build consistency in understanding of key issues relating to NFMS for REDD+, and in application of this understanding in the context of national REDD+ Readiness activities and REDD+ Strategy development;
- Provide an overview of the purposes, benefits, practices, and costs of monitoring forest carbon for REDD+ and for traditional national forest inventory
- Provide an opportunity for information exchange and joint learning across countries in the Asia-Pacific region on NFMS for REDD+;
- Identify capacity gaps in NFMS development and plan follow-up activities for support at regional and national levels.

OUTPUTS/RESULTS

The main results of the meeting will be a greater understanding of NFMS for REDD+ and potential processes related to their development among all UN-REDD Partner countries, greater capacity within countries in the help design and implementation of country-led NFMS processes, and draft a programme of follow-up activities. A meeting report will be produced, and all presentations and summaries of discussions will be posted to the UN-REDD Workspace and the websites of UN-REDD, SilvaCarbon and USAID's Lowering Emissions from Asia's Forests (LEAF) project

VENUE AND DATE

It is proposed that the meeting will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 15-17 October 2013. The details of the venue and travel arrangements will be circulated later. **Please let us know before 31 July 2013 if there are any other conflicting meetings to avoid overlaps.**

PARTICIPATION

Two or three participants from each UN-REDD, LEAF and SilvaCarbon partner country will be invited, to fit the following profiles:

1. **The UN-REDD, LEAF, or SilvaCarbon Focal Point** for the country, *or* their suitably qualified representative. This representative must have good prior knowledge of REDD+, the status of national REDD+ Readiness initiatives. He/she will be responsible for drafting a summary document on national activities related to NFMS for REDD+ prior to the workshop.
2. **A forest inventory expert** who is familiar with activities relating to national forest inventory and/or national forest mapping systems and data.
3. **A remote sensing expert** with up-to-date knowledge of the national application of remote sensing tools and satellite land monitoring systems in the forest sector.

These participants should have working knowledge of English language, and be in a position to apply the information acquired during the workshop within the context of national REDD+ Readiness, through UN-REDD National Joint Programmes or other initiatives.

Other participants will include:

- Representatives of non-UN-REDD partner countries in the region, to fit the above profiles, including China, India, Thailand, South Korea (1-2 each)
- Regional civil society representatives (number depends on funding)
- Regional advisors of UN-REDD implementing agencies (FAO, UNDP, UNEP), and technical experts
- Representatives of other REDD+ Readiness initiatives in the region, including FCPF, LEAF, USFS SilvaCarbon, RECOFTC etc.

Please send nominations for participants that meet these criteria, to the organisers below as soon as possible and at the latest by 16th August 2013.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on the workshop itself, please contact Adam Gerrand (adam.gerrand@fao.org) or Ben Vickers (ben.vickers@fao.org) of FAO and Marija Spirovska Kono of SilvaCarbon (mkono.silvacarbon@gmail.com). Travel arrangements will be coordinated by Ms. Rapeepan Sumana (sumana.rapeepan@fao.org).