

# Bangladesh REDD+ Readiness Roadmap; Progress Report

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27<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

## Establishment of Roadmap Technical Advisory Team

A multi-skilled team of international and national advisors and experts has been formed and is working collaboratively to draft the Roadmap.

### National experts:

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|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Prof. Ansarul Karim | Forest Policy Expert         |
| Haradhan Banik      | National REDD+ Focal Point   |
| Dr. Mariam Akhter   | Forest Monitoring/GIS Expert |

### International support:

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Ben Vickers               | UNDP consultant     |
| Matieu Henry/Joel Scriven | MRV Experts, FAO HQ |

### UN REDD agency support:

UNDP Dhaka: Tarik-ul Islam, Sarwat Chowdhury, Maruf Baig  
FAO Dhaka: Badrul Arefin, Kumar Upadhyay

## Establishment of Technical Working Groups for REDD+

To ensure broad ownership of the Roadmap process, the Technical Advisory Team cannot work autonomously. Working Groups, consisting of voluntary, well-informed and diverse members, ensure that the outcome of the process has multi-stakeholder buy-in, as well as greater accuracy. Three Technical Working Groups were established following initial national consultation workshop in October:

**Safeguards WG:** Initial meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December, UNDP Dhaka

**Methods/MRV WG:** Initial conference call on 20<sup>th</sup> December

**Strategy WG:** Initial meeting planned for late December or 1<sup>st</sup> week Jan

## Consultation Process

**Initial national consultation workshop** on the Roadmap, held on 26<sup>th</sup> October, produced baseline analyses of potential REDD+ strategies, potential risks of REDD+, and information and capacity building needs for REL/MRV development. This consultation brought together national-level stakeholders who were already informed on REDD+ and thus able to contribute actively to discussions on Roadmap development. They included government officials, academics, donor agencies, NGOs and media representatives.

## REDD+ Readiness Roadmap Bangladesh

**Sub-national consultation workshops** have been held in Rangamati on 28<sup>th</sup> October and Cox's Bazar on 19<sup>th</sup> December. These workshops are designed to contribute to the sections of the Roadmap dealing with analysis of drivers of deforestation and degradation and identification of potential REDD+ strategies. Workshop methodology is participant-centred, light on presentation and has been successful in promoting constructive dialogue and consensus among diverse participants. The participants include local and district-level representatives of administrative bodies, forest department, NGOs, forest-dependent communities and media.

**Field-level consultations:** were conducted in Rangamati district on 29-30<sup>th</sup> October to further contribute to driver analysis and strategy identification.

### Communication

A press release regarding the national consultation workshop was released and published in national print media. An article on the October consultancy mission was released as a headline story in the November 2011 edition of the UN REDD online newsletter. A Dropbox folder has been established to facilitate internal communication among the Technical Advisory Team and Working Group members.

UNDP and FAO country offices maintain close contact on all matters relating to the REDD+ Roadmap to ensure that the Technical Advisory Team is properly coordinated. Accordingly, all current and future missions related to the Roadmap process will be fully collaborative, entailing transparent communication channels among team members.

### Roadmap Draft

A Roadmap workplan was drawn up in September 2011 after the first consultancy mission, followed by a draft Roadmap outline, which was presented to the REDD+ Steering Committee during the second consultancy mission. Elaboration on this outline was held back to allow for alignment with the latest draft of the joint World Bank / UN REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) guideline on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. While Bangladesh is not obliged to follow a particular Roadmap template, alignment with the R-PP format will facilitate the development of submissions for full UN REDD partner country status, in the event that an invitation is issued in future.

A revised and updated Roadmap outline was developed in December and draft content for sections covering REDD+ Management Arrangements and Stakeholder Consultation and Participation have been circulated among Technical Advisory Team members.