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Title RTA
Date submitted: June 20, 2016

1. Practice area: PBPS SDC

2. Mission period (incl. of travel days): From: 29 May – 3 June 2016

3. Type of mission: Technical backstopping

4. Clients: UN-REDD PMU, Forest Department, UNDP CO.

5. Purpose of mission: To support the NP in completing/advancing a number of technical work steams.

6. Documents, materials, resources

- PAMs and integrated financing templates
- Safeguard Information System framework
- TOR for Institutional capacity assessment for implementing the National Strategy.
- Budget plan for the UNDP component for operational closure

7. Mission members: Aki Kono, RTA

8. Costs: UN-REDD Global Programme Budget

9. Brief summary of the mission

The objective of this mission was to support the PMU in finalizing/reviewing- 1) the process of PAMs refinement, 2) the on-going process of safeguards development, and 3) the work plan for the National REDD+ Strategy completion and in designing: 4) an approach to PAMs financial planning, and 5) terms of reference for institutional capacity development action planning.

10. Findings

National REDD+ Strategy development /PAMs elaboration

- PAM profiles, especially their goals and outcomes, needed closer assignment with REDD+ to keep the primary focus on addressing drivers of D&D and forest enhancement thus emission reductions/removals while contributing at the same time to improved the overall environmental governance capacity.
- Further review suggested reducing the number of PAMs from the current 22 to 16.
- For instance, seven PAMs under ‘Other Forested Lands’ were merged into three: 1. Support to Vihara Devalagam, JEDB, SLSPC, RPCs & LRC forested lands (a shared steering committee to handle the demarcation of private forested lands, conservation easement, data based/survey), 2. Support the acquisition of natural forest lands under LRC & GPC, and 3. Identify local supply chain for fuelwood demand.
- National REDD+ Strategy preparation process must be handled carefully and strategically to ensure successful transition to its implementation by the Government – with that in mind, although the UNDP CO had planed to operationally close all activities by Dec 2016, it has been now agreed that additional 2 months in 2017 be added to ensure proper translation, editing and formatting, etc. of the Strategy document and to support the official launch by the Government.
- UNDP CO Senior Manager has agreed to withhold US\$ 18,000 from the 2016 budget to be spent in 2017 for the above reasons, but all contracts should be issued within 2016 (see the revised work plan below).
- To support the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy, UNDP will work with the FD and NDA of GCF to explore a possibility of putting forward a funding proposal to the GCF.

Safeguards and SIS development

- In relation to the “respected” aspect of Sri Lanka’s safeguards, the PMU will advise the team working on safeguards to derive a list of capacity development actions to be followed up. The actions will then be costed and put together with the integrated action/financial plan under the National REDD+ Strategy.
- Safeguards information system structure was discussed, and a design was proposed– I will help the PMU by starting populating the structure after safeguards risks/benefits and PLR analysis results have been handed in by

the consultants.

- For capacity development actions in relation to the SL safeguards, the team of consultants will apply the following capacity categories for the purpose of aligning the structural aspect of actions with institutional capacity assessment results:
 - a. Enabling environment (political context and institutional vision)
 - b. Organizational (technology, finance, procedures and coordination)
 - c. Individual (skills, knowledge and attitude)

PAMs action/financial planning

- The integrated PAMs action and financial plan will also include capacity development actions from SIS, NFMS, SE, and in relation to specific roles and responsibilities of key institutions, and also management costs required for the overall coordination of the Strategy implementation.
- For quick reference by policy makers and donors/investors, the integrated PAMs action and financial plan will also include information on safeguards and CO2 targets regarding each PAM.

Institutional capacity assessment

- Institutional capacity assessment will look at current mandates, functions, and operational capacities of those institutions that are expected to play key roles and responsibilities in operationalizing the Warsaw Framework – the competency framework developed for the NP in Mongolia will be adapted for the Sri Lanka context.
- TOR for capacity assessment was reviewed and finalised.
- Candidate consultants to be recommended from the regional CC roster.

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Recommend experts from the regional CC roster for the institutional capacity assessment	Aki	One week after the mission
SIS table population	Aki	End June
GCF- follow up discussion with the GoSL	CTA	Within a month
UNDP internal discussion regarding GCF support to Sri Lanka and discussion with FAO.	Aki	Within a month

12. Distribution list: UN-REDD, and the CO

Revised Work plan into Jan – Feb 2017

Activity	REDD STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT												Original Plan			
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		JAN	FEB	
Endorsement of TOR for the TWGs by the TF on NP&S															No Change	
1 Formation of TWG (three)															No Change	
2 Inception meeting of TWGs															No Change	
3 Separate meetings of TWGs (as required)															No Change	
4 Finalization of PAMs with refinement															No Change	
5 Finalization of PAMs with all relevant details as per the formats															Planned initially to be completed in August	
6 Consultative session on REDD+ Strategy with Stakeholders															Planned to be conducted in August	
7 Review of the REDD+ Strategy by RTT															RTT review to be done in Sept	
8 Public review and finalization															To be done in Oct	
9 Final editing of the REDD+ Strategy															To Be done in Nov	
10 Layout & translation Printing of REDD+ Strategy															To be done in Dec	
11 Formal handing over of the REDD+ Strategy to GOSL																To be done in Feb.