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| UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMEBDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARY Date: 25 July 2012 | | | UNDP_Logo-Blue w TaglineBlue-ENG.png | |
| Name: Tim Boyle, UN-REDD | | **Tel No.** +66819005402 |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:**  BKK-Phnom Penh-Hanoi -BKK | | **List of Annexes**: | | |
| Inclusive Travel Dates: | | **Key counterpart(s) in each location:** | | |
| 2-5 Oct. 2012 |  | * CMB: UNDP CO (Elena Tischenko, Lay Khim, Sovanny Chhum, Giacomo Fedele) * CMB: REDD+ Task Force Secretariat (Chea Sam Ang, Vathana Khun, Monyrak Meng) * CMB: Secretariat staff (Kimhy Lun, Heang Thy) * VN: UNDP CO (Louise Chamberlain, Tore Langhelle) * VN: UN-REDD staff (Pham Minh Thoa, Pham Manh Cuong) | | |
| **Purpose/Objectives of Mission**  To attend 2nd PEB of the UN-REDD/Cambodia programme and to assist in overcoming barriers to implementation  To attend the closing workshop of the UN-REDD/Viet Nam programme and finalize Phase 2 proposal | | | | |
| **Context**  Cambodia has been implementing its national UN-REDD Programme for a year, but progress has been slow due to the complexity of forest governance in the country, involving three agencies which have mandates for different parts of the forest estate. The development of workable procedures for management of the programme has taken time, and staff for the PMU only recently recruited. The first PEB meeting was held in August.  The national UN-REDD Programme in Viet Nam has been under implementation for 3 years and was operationally closed in June 2012. A proposal for a Phase 2 is under development. | | | | |
| **Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings**  A meeting was held with staff of the Taskforce Secretariat: Vathana Khun (FA), Kimhy Lun (Coordinator), Heang Thy (Communications) and Thida Pan (Finance and Procurement) in order to identify on-going barriers to implementation and to identify solutions. Since the arrival of Secretariat staff recruited with UN-REDD funds, progress in terms of financial delivery has dramatically improved:  Three-monthly rolling averages of delivery in US$  Looking beyond purely financial measures, the National REDD+ Taskforce has held its first meeting on Sept. 28th; and CSO and IP workshops were held Sept. 25-27 to select interim representatives for the PEB. This process, which is considered best practice, is the subject of UN-REDD/Cambodia’s first knowledge products (see separate report).  Meetings were also held with the UNRC, UNDP CD and staff of the CO Environment team. These meetings focused on:   * Recruitment of a Technical Advisor – the top-ranked candidate had effectively withdrawn on the morning of Oct. 3rd, and the 2nd-ranked candidate was subsequently found to be no longer available. It seems that a new round of recruitment will be necessary, and that short-term solutions will need to be found – hiring a short-term consultant or seeking a greater role from the RTA, or both * Interaction with the NGO-led demonstration projects, especially Oddar Meanchey. The issue of conflict resolution has emerged as a risk to progress. The possibility of initiating a process with the UN-REDD/FCPF grievance mechanism consultant was discussed.   A meeting of the Forest Administration (FA) Committee on CC and REDD+ was attended. Presentations were made on UN-REDD, Cam-REDD, FCPF, LEAF, and ITTO’s work on REDD+. Before and after the Committee meeting, discussions were held with the JICA-funded policy advisor to the FA and visiting JICA officials from Japan, including the Deputy DG for Forest and Nature Administration, concerning integration of work programmes and evaluation plans for UN-REDD, Cam-REDD and the FCPF.  The 2nd PEB was attended. Key points:   * CSO rep requested materials for PEB in advance of the meeting, so that he can discuss with other members and consolidate their inputs. * Extension of the programme was mentioned (by UNRC and UNDP CD) and a need to request an extension probably in the next meeting in December. * The next PEB meeting is scheduled to be on Dec 13th.   The Closing Workshop of UN-REDD/Viet Nam was attended in Hanoi. Presentations were made on Programme Achievements and Lessons Learned. Participants were invited to comment on the programme, including identifying weaknesses and proposals for future work. Key achievements:   * National REDD Network, REDD+ Office, REDD+ Website * Technical working groups and six sub-technical working groups * National REDD+ Action Programme * BDS with 17 principles recommendation * MRV Framework * Study report of ecological stratification for REL development * Communication strategy, communication materials on FPIC, PCM, BDS... * Allometric equations. * Establishment of REDD+ working group; awareness raising on REDD+ to stakeholders through FPIC, PCM, BDS/R-factor; and planning for REDD+ at the provincial level. * Organization of regional workshops, dialogues, and trainings * Policy dialogue with other sectors towards a joint work plan on REDD+ & FLEGT.   Lessons learned:   * + The FPIC process facilitates programme planning   + Awareness raising has often been confusing rather than informative. It should begin as early as possible.   + FPIC for REDD+ is an ongoing process, rather than a single event   + FPIC must be adapted to the national and cultural context * Local consultations on BDS must be linked to awareness raising for FPIC * BDS must be adapted to local context * BDS should build on existing programmes * A poorly-designed BDS risks reinforcing existing inequity * Focus on Participatory Monitoring (PM), rather than Participatory Carbon Monitoring (PCM) * Participatory Monitoring is a key part of awareness raising * Participatory Monitoring can be used to encourage discussions on forest governance between local people, foresters and other government officials * The REDD Network and Sub-Technical Working Groups (STWGs) have been quite effective and non-government co-chairs have contributed to success * The REDD Network should be a forum for all REDD+ initiatives * The REDD Network must be separate from, but linked to, the FSSP * STWGs need clear mandates and objectives * Inconsistency of forest data undermines confidence in a country’s ability to manage a REDD+ programme * REDD+ is an opportunity to secure finance for improved data generation and management * National endorsement of forest certification systems may promote greater transparency and  quality of the information   A conference call was held with Norwegian agencies, the UN-REDD Secretariat and UNDP HQ on the Phase 2 proposal, focusing on short-comings and identifying actions to be taken to allow signature of key documents in November.  Meetings were held with the UNRC and UNDP CD to discuss implementation arrangements for UNDP under Phase 2   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | |  |  | | | | | |
| Follow up actions:  * Investigate opportunities to initiate grievance/conflict resolution activities in relation to Oddar Meanchey * Identify short-term solutions to provide technical advice to UN-REDD/Cambodia * Investigate opportunities for integration of UN-REDD, Cam-REDD and FCPF work plans and evaluations * Contribute to further development of UN-REDD Phase 2 documents | | | | **Distribution List:**   * Tim Clairs, UN-REDD UNDP PTA   **Cc**   * Thomas Enters * Aki Kono |

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