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BDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARY
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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME **BDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARY** Date: 29 Sept. 2016	UNDP *Empowered lives.* *Resilient nations.*
Name: Tim Boyle, UN-REDD **Tel No.** +66819005402	

Approved Mission Itinerary: BKK-Ulan Baator-BKK	**List of Annexes**: None
Inclusive Travel Dates: 18-24 Sept. 2016	**Key counterpart(s) in each location:** • UN-REDD PMU: Chris Dickinson, Khishigjargal Batjantsan • UNDP/Mongolia: Daniela Gasparikova, Bunchingiv Bazartseren, Khishigjargal Kharkhuu

Purpose/Objectives of Mission

To participate in the early stages of PAMs identification and prioritization; to learn about the status of UN-REDD implementation after taking over as RTA; and to advise on deliverables under TS funds and remaining NP funds for 2016

Context

Mongolia's request for full-scale National Programme funding was approved by the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board in July 2014, and the NPD was signed in September 2015. Pending initiation of the NP, TS funding was approved to initiate the implementation of Mongolia's National REDD+ Readiness Roadmap. The TS focuses on generating detailed information on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and identifying capacity needs of public institutions to implement REDD+ under the Warsaw Framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The generated information will provide an important baseline against which to identify a specific scope and direction of REDD+ readiness efforts in Mongolia.

Under the NP, and building on the analysis of drivers undertaken with TS funds, a process of identifying and prioritizing PAMs has recently begun. A team of four national consultants and one international consultant) Peter Iversen) has been recruited for this purpose.

Besides the FAO and UNEP components of the NP, there are also other initiatives with which the UN-REDD NP needs to interact. These include an FAO TCP on NFI development, an FAO/GERF project supporting FUGs, and a UNDP/GEF project supporting local PAs.

Due to imminent changes in staffing of the regional UN-REDD team in Bangkok, I recently assumed responsibility as RTA for Mongolia. Consequently, the one-week mission sought to achieve the following objectives:

- Acquaint myself with the status of implementation of the REDD+ Readiness Roadmap under the TS and NP, and challenges faced in making further progress
- Learning about coordination opportunities and challenges with other initiatives
- Plan for expenditure of remaining TS funds before the end of the year
- Participate in the early stages of PAM identification and prioritization

Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings

1. **PAMs identification and prioritization**

Advice was provided on a conceptual approach, and assistance provided in developing problem trees to help with PAMs prioritization. The main point in this exercise was to emphasize that, collectively, PAMs should address all priority drivers by tackling all of the underlying drivers. Therefore, PAMs prioritization only applies to options within each underlying driver. Five rough problem trees were developed based on the available information for the four priority drivers/barriers (fire, pests, reforestation/enhanced natural regeneration, and degradation leading to deforestation – broken into national/systemic issues and local/operational issues). Ideally, the problem trees need further refinement, including

supplementary information in some cases. For example, "weak law enforcement" covers a wide range of possible shortcomings, which need to be specified in order for appropriate PAMs to be designed.

On Sept. 22-23, a workshop was held at "Khaan Jims" resort in Erdene soum, Tuv province. Participants discussed the drivers, problem trees, possible PAMs and criteria for PAMs prioritization. On the second morning, each participant was invited to score candidate PAMs against weighted criteria. However, there were two short-comings with the process. Firstly, virtually all the participants represented forest sector organizations, meaning that there were no PAMs proposed that were not forest-centred. Secondly, many participants gave almost equal scores to most PAMs, meaning that there was little discrimination among them. Preliminary results indicated that the highest priority PAM would be raising awareness on the impacts of fire, which is not convincing! It is proposed (and PMU are addressing) that additional meetings be conducted with Agriculture; Law Enforcement; Finance and other departments; in addition, the scoring should only be used as a preliminary tool for screening as it is clear many participants did not understand the system or gave high scores to their specific field of interests, eg nurseries were scored highly for immediate GHG reduction potential by interested parties though its immediate mitigation potential is not definitely not high.

Additional activities need to be undertaken to address these shortcomings. Effective engagement with other sectors needs to be established, and alternative approaches to prioritization identified.

2. **Coordination with other initiatives**

Discussions were held with staff and consultants of several related initiatives to identify opportunities for collaboration. A meeting was also held with the UNRC and staff of UNDP and FAO COs to ensure effective collaboration. Although no major challenges exist, it is clear that there needs to be frequent communication among all UN teams in Mongolia to ensure accurate understanding of each other's roles, mandates and activities.

3. **Planning for accelerated disbursement of remaining TS funds and 2016 NP funds**

Due to the requirement to spend all TS funds by the end of this year and all NP funds by the end of 2017, careful planning of activities and disbursements is essential. Approximately $80,000 of TS funds need to be spent this year. Proposals for activities include scaling up of communications work, additional technical support visits from regional UN-REDD staff, and the organization of a study tour to Bhutan to learn about mainstreaming REDD+ into "green development" processes. A draft concept note for such a study tour was prepared. Additional activities include communication and knowledge products, and discussion into the possibility of a North American entomologist expert to provide some additional expertise and lessons from boreal forests, preliminary discussions are underway with USFS and Canada FS.

Follow up actions:	Distribution List:
Boyle: - Liaise with government of Bhutan on possible study tour - Provide on-going technical review of PAMs prioritization process - Provide on-going technical support to development of Mongolia's REDD+ Strategy - Assist in organizing additional technical support missions - Provide input to knowledge products PMU: - Liaise with GoM concerning study tour to Bhutan, including identification of participants, scheduling and technical preparations - Develop ToR for additional technical support missions, especially communication mission - Follow up with PAM's, through additional meetings with non-forest sector and provide further input to selection of PAM's - Provide agenda and discussion points for PEB meeting in December 2016	- Tim Clairs, UN-REDD UNDP PTA - Bunchingiv Bazartseren, Team Leader, UNDP CO - Daniella Gasparikova, UNDP CO - Chris Dickinson, Khishigjargal Batjantsan, PMU

AGENDA FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT FOR REDD+ POLICIES AND MEASURES

/September 5-23, 2016, Ulaanbaatar/

Week III

Sept 19, 2016 / Monday			
9:00 – 12:00	**Meeting/discussion Pest Management** experts (researchers from institutes)	PMU	IC, NCs, experts (10-20 people) + Tim
14:00 – 17:00	**Review Driver Progress to date**: Meeting with Tim Boyle	PMU	Chris, Bilguun, Jack, IC, NC
Sept 20, 2016 / Tuesday			
09:00-9:45		UNDP	Tim, Chris and Jack
10:00-11:00	Tim Boyle: UNDP Meeting (Daniella)	UNDP	Tim, Chris, Jack
11:00-12:00	Kevin Gallagher, FAO: Meeting	UNDP	Tim, Chris, Jack and Richard
09:00 – 12:00	PAM Team - IC and NCs work at MSFM office	UNREDD	IC, NC
1: 30 – 4:30	**Focus Group on Developing Results Chains**	UNREDD	IC, NC, Tim, PMU
4:30 – 5: 30	**Meeting for Workshop Facilitators**	UNREDD	IC, NC, Tim, PMU
Sept 21, 2016 / Wednesday			
Policies and Measures Team			
09:00 – 18:00	IC and NCs work at MSFM office	MSFM	IC, NC
Tim Boyle			
09:00-10:30	Tim Boyle: Meeting with Daniella at Country Office	PMU	Tim, Chris, Jack
10:30-12:00	Tim Boyle: Meeting with National Project Director & State Secretary	PMU	Tim, Chris, Jack
12:00-1:30	Tim Boyle: Lunch Meeting with GIZ	PMU	Tim, PMU
1:30-3:00	Tim Boyle: Meet PMU Team: Planning REDD+ Strategy	PMU	Tim, PMU
3:00-5:00	Tim Boyle: Meet PMU Team: Planning REDD+ Strategy	PMU	Tim, PMU
Evening	Evening:	PMU	
Sept 22, 2016 / Thursday			
08:00 – 10:00	Move to UB 2 Hotel, Terelj Area	PMU	IC,NC, experts
10:00 – 12:30	**Policies and Measures Consultation Workshop:** First session of First Consultation meeting on PAMs	PMU, MSFM	IC,NC, experts
12:30 – 13:00	LUNCH		

13:30-18:30	**Policies and Measures Consultation Workshop:** Second session of First Consultation meeting on PAMs	PMU, MSFM	IC,NC, experts
Sept 23, 2016 / Friday			
09:00 – 13:30	**Policies and Measures Consultation Workshop:** Discussion session on Initial list of PAMs	PMU, MSFM	IC,NC, experts
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch		
14:30 – 16:00	Participants move to UB city	PMU	experts
14:30-18:00	**Forest Restoration Field Trip:** Mr Chingis, Forest Ranger	PMU	Peter, Tim, Chris, Khongor, NC x 2, TWG x 2
Sept 24, 2016/Saturday			
AM	**Feedback & Debriefing Meeting:** Further detailed work overview and conclusions from previous works **Plan for next steps:** Plan for additional meetings Plan for next steps PMU plan Plan for information / consultation still needed	IC, NC, PMU	IC, NC, PMU
PM	IC and NC work at MSFM Office	MSFM	IC and NC
27-29th September	SFM Open Day – GIZ and FAO Workshop (200 participants)		Munkzorig + 1, Chris, Richard, Jack
27-29th September	Note: Chris and Munkzorig to prepare a brief 15 minute presentation on 'Developing National REDD + Strategy – Initial Feedback from Selection of Policies and Measures' – Munkzorig to present as no proper translation available.		