UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME BDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARY Date: 16 August 2013	
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Approved Mission Itinerary: BKK- Colombo – BKK	**List of Annexes**:
Inclusive Travel Dates: 4 – 7 August 20133	**Key counterpart(s) in each location:** • UNDP CO – Ananda Mallawatantri, Ramitha Wijethunga • NPD – Anura Sathurusinghe • PMU - Nalin Munasinghe

Purpose/Objectives of Mission

- Work with the UNDP CO focal points, Programme Manager and National Programme Director (NPD) to prepare a concrete 1st year implementation plan for the delivery of the UNDP-led activities; and
- Meet with the relevant government and non-government stakeholders, including relevant IP and CSO representatives, the PMU and NPD, in order to consult and prepare for the formulation of the Programme Executive Board (PEB) and the National REDD+ Programme Management and Coordinating Committee (RPMCC) (Output 1.1).

Context

The UN-REDD National Programme (NP) in Sri Lanka was approved for funding by the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board in March 2012.   The NP Document was subsequently prepared and signed by the Government of Sri Lanka in December 2012. The NP is envisaged to support the Government of Sri Lanka in catalyzing the establishment of key central mechanisms and processes and development of capacities required to implement REDD+ by the end of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) implementation.

After going through several months of preparation, including the establishment of the Programme Management Unit (PMU) and internal arrangements between the UN Agencies and the Forest Department, the NP was finally launched at the inception meeting on the 7th of June 2013.

In order to start implementing the NP, the PMU now needs to establish concrete plans to facilitate effective, efficient and equitable stakeholder participation in decision making related to the REDD+ Readiness process and for coordinated delivery of outputs to achieve the expected outcomes.

Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings

1st year implementation plan

- Anura, Nalin and Ramitha were briefed about the roles and responsibilities of relevant parties as well as key priority areas for the first year. Among the priorities for UNDP-led activities were:

1. Proposed Civil Society Platform and RPMCC
   - The purpose of a meeting with CS representatives was to clarify and differentiate the roles and functions of the PEB from the RPMCC to address a slight confusion that arose during the Inception Workshop in June. There were also some objections over the suggested names of potential CSO representative to the PEB in the National Programme Document.
   - Once it was clear that CSOs will play a more influential role in the RPMCC, focus of discussion shifted to establishing a suitable platform that will galvanise the CSO community, and thereby contribute to both PEB and RPMCC.
   - Due to political implications over how civil society is defined, there was a short debate over the differences between CSO, NGO, CBO, as well as the role of the private sector. It was temporarily resolved when those present requested Anura to produce a concept note for the establishment of a CS Platform that will guide further discussion. Although there was general consensus that the private sector plays a role, the actual details of how and what that may be is temporarily shelved until the RPMCC can be formed.
   - Post-meeting, it was strategized that categorization of the CS will be adapted from the SEPC: governance, social and environmental. Self-identification of which category they belong to will be guided by key entry points, also summarized from the SEPC. It is proposed that each category then select one representative to sit in the RPMCC.
   - The concept note also proposes a national consultation workshop of the CSO to deliberate on the suggested representation framework, the ToR of the CS Platform, as well as self-selection of one CS and one IP representative to the PEB.

2. PEB
   - Given that there is no common platform for the CSO yet, it was proposed that the CS representatives from the meeting be invited to observe the 1st PEB meeting.
   - The experience from there can then be shared to guide the selection of the CS and IP representatives to the PEB during the national consultation workshop.
   - The mission team also discussed and shared experiences of organizing and preparing for PEB meetings from other countries with Anura and Nalin. Nalin, in particular, might require a bit of pushing to ensure the date of the first meeting is determined, and all the necessary preparations will be completed in time.

CBR+ and Sri Lanka Small Grants Programme
   - The team met with Shireen and Dinali, the SGP National and Assistant National Coordinator of the SGP, to discuss the upcoming CBR+. The meeting was geared towards exchange of information, but focused more on SGP's experiences and challenges with implementation.
   - Shireen assured the team that the upgrade of SGP to a full-sized project modality in 2014 will not affect the implementation of the CBR+.

Follow up actions:	**Distribution List:**
• Revise ToRs of PEB and RPMCC (Celina); • Develop concept note for CS Platform (Celina)	• UNDP UN-REDD