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**Back to Office Report**

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**Title** Regional Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

**Date submitted** 24 February 2016

1. Practice area: BPPS / Sustainable Development and Resilience Cluster

2. Mission period (incl. of travel days)

From: 15 to 17 February 2016

3. Type of mission: Technical backstopping

4. Clients

UNDP CO – Lat Lat Aye, Saw Doh Wah

PMU – Franz Arnold (Chief Technical Advisor), Khin Hnin Myint (National Programme Coordinator), Aung Kyi (Communications Officer), Min Soe (Stakeholder Engagement Officer)

5. Purpose of mission

a) Programming and operationalising stakeholder engagement and safeguards activities under TS

b) Technical support to the Stakeholder Engagement Officer

6. Documents, materials, resources

7. Mission members

Celina Yong

8. Costs

UNDP/UN-REDD global budget

9. Brief summary of the mission

*9.a Background*

Myanmar became a partner country of the UN-REDD Programme (Programme) in December 2011 and has quickly taken steps to start implementing REDD+ readiness activities. A **REDD+ Readiness Roadmap** was finalized in 2013, based on a multi-stakeholder dialogue and engagement process, with the participation of Government officials, civil society organisations, representatives from ethnic minorities, independent experts and international development practitioners. Since 2014, the Programme is providing some initial support to the implementation of the *Roadmap* through the so-called Targeted Support window. In 2015, Myanmar submitted a proposal to the UN-REDD Policy Board for a National Programme. The 15th meeting of the Policy Board approved Myanmar's funding request on a provisional basis, pending confirmation of additional contributions. In the meantime, the Programme Management Unit (PMU) is fully staffed now that the CTA is on board. The 3 Technical Working Groups (TWG): Drivers and Strategies; Stakeholder Engagement and Safeguards; and National Forest Monitoring System and Forest Reference Emission Levels/Reference Levels are operational.

*9.b Main Findings*

- The revision of stakeholder mapping and analysis is progressing slowly. Different tasks, methodologies, and intended outputs were clarified between the SE officer, the NP Coordinator and the regional SE specialist. In addition of an encompassing consultation and participation plan for the Programme, it was agreed that the officer will also develop a detailed plan for the development of the draft national REDD+ strategy by the end of 2016.
- To meet CO's procurement requirements in recruiting CSOs or NGOs to implement Programme activities, the decision was made to create a roster of organisations. Areas of required expertise have been identified, and a Request for Information will be issued. The PMU will then recruit a national consultant to assess the capacity of these organisations against a list prepared by CO.
- To move ahead with the recruitment of a NGO to facilitate the self-selection of the CSO and IP/Ethnic Minorities member, CO has agreed to proceed with a Reimbursable Loan Agreement modality. The successful individual representing the NGO is expected to be in place by end of March. In preparation for these workshops, Min Soe and Aung Kyi will work on introductory power point presentations.
- In preparation for the development of a national Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines for REDD+, the PMU and the regional SE specialist will have a joint discussion with the consultant to ensure common expectations related to the ToR, division of roles and responsibilities as well as identify dates for a mission. The team understood that while the guidelines will be quite generic, it should be anchored in a Burmese context. To ensure national ownership as well as comply with general expectations, a national consultation workshop will be organised for the near final product, in addition to the normal function of the TWG on Stakeholder Engagement and Safeguards.

- Based on remaining TS funds, and pending availability of funds for the NP, the work on legal and institutional capacity assessment of policies, laws and regulations would be divided, with the former prioritised for 2016 as the findings will help inform the development of the safeguards roadmap. Once the roadmap is available, and barring worst-case scenario for the NP, the latter will commence towards the end of 2016, followed closely by a scoping study of grievance redress mechanisms for REDD+.
- Official members of the 3 TWGs have been confirmed based on a list of line agencies and CSOs pre-identified during a workshop between the interim CTA, and these organisations in 2015. No designated alternates have been identified, but it was recognised that there should be good communication and continuity between the official members and their alternates.
- A World Bank representative was on mission in Myanmar with the aim of identifying opportunities for support, although the scope was largely undefined. Through the CO, the CTA provided information regarding the Programme. The regional specialist also shared a summary presentation of how specific steps in the country approach to safeguards overlap with FCPF's requirements for the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment and its corresponding Environmental and Social Management Framework. This was extracted from a presentation prepared by Jen Laughlin for a safeguards workshop in Bhutan where FCPF is the delivery partner.

#### 9.c Expected Outputs

- Revised stakeholder mapping and analysis
- Revised ToRs for the CSO and IP/EM PEB selection; Competencies Framework for REDD+
- Draft ToR for the Legal Framework Review and Institutional Capacity to implement PLR

#### 10. Key counterparts

- UNDP CO – Lat Lat Aye, Saw Doh Wah
- PMU – Franz Arnold, Khin Hnin Myint, Aung Kyi, Min Soe

#### 11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Revised ToRs for the CSO, IP/EM PEB selection; and Competencies Framework for REDD+	Celina	Done
Revise stakeholder mapping and analysis	Min Soe, Celina	End of February
Consultation and participation plan	Min Soe, Celina	End of June
ToR for the Legal Framework Review and Institutional Capacity implement PLR	Celina	End of March
Develop CSO Roster	Khin Hnin Myint, Min Soe, Celina	End of April
Develop power point presentations on (i) What is REDD+?; (ii) Introduction to the UN-REDD Programme in Myanmar; (iii) ToR of PEB members	Aung Kyi for (i) and (ii) Min Soe for (iii)	Mid May

#### 12. Distribution list

UNDP UN-REDD, UNDP CO – Lat Lat Aye, Saw Doh Wah, Khin Hnin Myint