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Title Regional Stakeholder Engagement Specialist
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1. Practice area: BDP/EEG	
2. Mission period (incl. of travel days) From: 11 to: 15 March	
3. Type of mission: Workshop	4. Clients Forest Peoples Programme and PUSAKA, a local Indonesian NGO
5. Purpose of mission To provide a presentation regarding stakeholder engagement within the UN-REDD Programme at an International Workshop on Deforestation and the Rights of Forest Peoples, organised by Forest Peoples Program (FPP), an international NGO, and PUSAKA, an Indonesian NGO	6. Documents, materials, resources • Presentation
7. Mission members Celina Yong	8. Costs UNDP/UN-REDD global budget (travel) / FPP and PUSAKA (hotel and meals)

9. Brief summary of the mission

9.a Background

FPP had organised an international workshop from 9 to 14 March to contribute up-to-date information on deforestation drivers in nine different tropical forest countries – Cameroon, DRC, Liberia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Colombia, Guyana, Peru, and Paraguay - with a priority on local experiences, participatory assessments and community-perspectives on direct and underlying causes and solutions. International agencies that included CIFOR, DFID, FCPF/FIP, ICRAF, UN-REDD, were invited to join the field trip on 12 March, followed by a continuation of the meeting on 13 March. An initial invitation was extended to Dr Charles McNeill who was unable to attend due to an earlier commitment. Due to its location in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia, it was decided that the Asia-Pacific Stakeholder Engagement Specialist attend and present its work on how the Programme’s stakeholder engagement work is supporting the effort to address drivers of deforestation in the countries it is supporting.

9.b Main Findings

- The common message coming out from all the regional drivers presentations, based on yet-to-be finalised case studies, is the implementation gap between countries’ international obligations to human rights treaties, and actual practices on the ground. For example, nationally, there are landmark court decisions regarding land made in favour of forest peoples which are not respected by the governments themselves. Land grabs, or ‘green’ grabs continue. This reinforces the message from Weilburg: rights of IPs should not only be recognised and respected, but also enforced by governments.
- The workshop strongly emphasised the need for a concerted focus to address tenure, a message reinforced by William Sunderlin’s (CIFOR) presentation based on its Global Comparative Study on REDD+.
- Tied to this is the bigger challenge of how the civil society can counter the national sovereignty argument, insisting that these treaties are binding obligations. Couched in this is what international organisations like UN can still do to push government to be more accountable. The presentation made reference to this by highlighting our commitment to help countries fulfil the Cancun Safeguards, demonstrating that through our work on SE, FPIC and grievance, and the link to the broader work on addressing drivers.
- Constitutional Court Ruling No. 35 regarding the return of customary land located in State Forests to indigenous communities is not progressing well. The National Land Agency does not, or has not shown willingness, to move ahead with the enforcement of this ruling. Furthermore, not only are provincial authorities reluctant to enforce the ruling, there is also a danger that elite capture may happen at this level.
- No update was available on the bill of Indigenous Peoples’ Rights, which would have strengthened the ruling No. 35.
- Noteworthy is that neither FCPF nor FIP attended the meeting.
- Jeanne Sharon Amelia Atkinson from Guyana, representing the Amerindian Peoples Association, in response to the Programme’s presentation, noted that indigenous peoples were not consulted in the approval of GRIF. They were merely sensitised, or informed, and had submitted a complaint to the UNRC noting this as a violation of FPIC. It was noted that the process was UNDP-led, and

iterated that UNDP should also adhere to UN-REDD's guidelines. It was proposed that Sharon will be connected to the LAC SES for further clarification.

9.c Bilateral Discussions

- Joji Carino, Director of FPP
 - While sharing news of upcoming collaboration between the Programme and AIPP on National IP Dialogues, Joji stated that FPP has contacts with an organisation working with the adivasis in Sunderbans, Bangladesh.
 - She agreed for the contact details to be shared with AIPP, the Maleeya Foundation, a network partner of AIPP, and the CO for the purpose of ensuring a broader network and representation of adivasis in the country.

9.d Expected Outputs

- Final case studies to be disseminated in the next 3 to 6 months.
- Palangkaraya Declaration calling for further commitment and action from various parties to accelerate the recognition and enforcement of forest peoples' rights.

10. Key counterparts

- FPP – Marcus Colchester

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Link Jeanne Sharon Amelia Atkinson from Amerindian Peoples Association with Jose Arturo regarding GRIF in Guyana	Celina	Immediately after workshop
Obtain contact of FPP partner organisation working in Sunderbans Bangladesh from Joji Carino and share with CO and the Maleeya Foundation in Bangladesh	Celina	Immediately after workshop
Share Palangkaraya Declaration	Celina	Upon availability

12. Distribution list

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