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1. Practice area: BPPS, Sustainable Development and Resilience Cluster	
2. Mission period (incl. of travel days) From: 13 – 20 March	
3. Type of mission: Technical backstopping	4. Clients UNDP CO - Bunchingiv Bazartseren, Khishigjargal Kharkhuu PMU - Khishigjargal Batjantsan, Bilguun Oyuntsetseg, Batchuluun Bayanmunkh
5. Purpose of mission a) Develop understanding of proactive stakeholder engagement that builds on consultation, participation and where necessary, consent. b) Demonstrate these principles by showing how outputs 3, 4, 5 and 6 are linked to one another, and how they contribute to the broader NP process. c) Develop a detailed sub-activities work plan for these 4 outputs (2016 – 2017). d) Identify barriers to engaging CSO/LC	6. Documents, materials, resources
7. Mission member Celina Yong	8. Costs UNDP/UN-REDD global budget

9. Brief summary of the mission

The National Programme Document was signed in September 2015, and the PMU, fully staffed by December 2015, with the exception of a CTA expected in April 2016. The Programme held an induction, followed by a PEB meeting and a launch end of January. The CSO/IP PEB representative has not been filled, and will be selected by a proposed CSO/LC Forum. One of the objectives of this mission is to assess the viability of establishing this forum vis-à-vis existing platforms set up by other projects.

9.a Findings

There is space for a national multi-stakeholder platform to influence policies through the sharing of knowledge in providing strategic feedback during the readiness phase.

- Bilateral meetings with Thomas Eriksson, DRR, Andrew Inglis from the FAO GEF: Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia’s productive forest landscapes project, and Klaus Schmidt-Corsitto and team from GiZ: Biodiversity and adaptation of key forest ecosystems to climate change, and REDD+ national forest inventory in Mongolia project, and B. Ganbataar, GEF SGP National Coordinator, projects revealed that a multi-stakeholder platform at the national level with an initial ToR covering the readiness phase may be beneficial. This can be a policy-focused platform, drawing on member organisations with access to local communities.
- Given the broad nature of REDD+, “civil society” can be defined broadly for membership to cover not only environmental groups, but also governance and social, and where possible NGOs with good media relations for advocacy purposes. The key success factor for this platform would be its ability to galvanise multiple experiences into feedback that is critical and strategic for the current phase.
- A potential member organisation would be Partnership for Development Network, a SGP grantee with plans to set up a government-CSO dialogue at the national level for their 55 community groups from 11 aimags. It plans to conduct negotiation trainings for representatives from the community groups. The national multi-stakeholder platform considered by the Programme could be a launching pad for the Network’s plans.
- Another potential member is the Open Society Forum that focuses on governance issues, and is critical and independent. Likewise, the existing Mongolian Environmental Civil Council, with its connection to the government and broad membership of 198 accredited member organisations, can also contribute to the platform.

While promoting the leveraging opportunities provided by REDD+ in the overall national agenda, caution is needed in order to manage multiple stakeholders' expectations.

- Given the upcoming national elections, tentatively in June 2016, and the shrinking economy, there is pressure for REDD+ to yield significant financial benefits. A concerted effort, particularly through a revised analysis of stakeholders leading to a well-crafted communications strategy with clear key messages, needs to be in place to urgently address misconceptions about REDD+. At the same time, to capitalise on international events, such as World Environment Day in June, and future International Day of Forests, to demonstrate how REDD+ may assist Mongolia to achieve its green growth agenda and promote better sustainable forest management.
- To achieve this, the NP's Communications Officer needs to proactively link with other related projects (GiZ, ADB, UNDP, FAO/GEF) to ensure complementarity in terms of messages and knowledge products that are relevant to the REDD+ readiness phase.
- A subset of the communications strategy is a media strategy with the aim to identify the roles media can play in building general public awareness about forests, REDD+ and green economy in Mongolia. The media component will be outsourced to a consultant that is expected to produce a comprehensive media strategy for REDD+ from 2016 – 2018 including a proposed set of media outreach materials, and recommend how the capacity of media or journalists can be developed in relation to REDD+.

Demonstrate how engagement processes that build on clear representation institutions, well-defined roles and expectations are fundamental to seeking consent, if and when it is required during REDD+ implementation.

- Feedback from GiZ who is providing technical support to develop a national law on access to benefit sharing with elements of FPIC, in relation to UN CBD, points to a lack of understanding regarding FPIC and how it can be applied.
- Prior to commencing any UN-REDD related work on FPIC, it is imperative to demonstrate how efforts at the national level to identify strong national representative institutions, clear processes to share information and receive feedback, and how they will be engaged for what objectives are all building blocks to seek consent, if and when it is needed. In addition, activities to identify policies and measures based on preliminary drivers study, will provide a clearer context to identify if consent is needed, what it is needed for, by and from whom, and how a process can be designed for consent to be given or withheld.

9.b Results achieved (key outputs)

- Detailed work plan for outputs 3, 4, 5 and 6 broken down by sub-activities
- Revised ToRs for TWG on NS and Policies; CSO/LC Forum; national FPIC/SE guidelines

9.c Expected outcomes and impacts

- Civil societies in Mongolia are galvanised to provide strategic feedback for the national REDD+ readiness process.
- Key stakeholders demonstrate a working understanding of REDD+ readiness, while the general public recognises the opportunities REDD+ provides to realise green economy.

10. Key counterparts

- UNDP CO – Bunchingiv Bazartseren, Khishigjargal Kharkhuu
- PMU – Khishigjargal Batjantsan, Bilguun Oyuntsetseg, Batchuluun Bayanmunkh

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Revise ToR on Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis for national consultant recruitment	Bilguun, Celina	Mid-April
Revise ToR to develop media strategy by national consultant	Chuka, PMU, Celina	Mid-April
Revise and finalise communications strategy based on results from stakeholder mapping and analysis	Chuka, PMU, Celina	March – September
Preparation for stakeholders' perception and general REDD+ awareness surveys	Chuka, PMU	April
Coordinate translations of technical terms and glossaries with informal working group organised by MEGDT	Chuka	March – August
Develop knowledge products: 4 elements of Warsaw Framework; general introduction to REDD+ and the NP; and others	Chuka, PMU, Regional	March – end of Programme

Review and revise ToR for multi-stakeholder platform	Celina, Bilguun, PMU	Mid-April
Develop ToR for national FPIC/SE guidelines	Celina, Bilguun	End of May/early June
12. Distribution list		
UNDP UN-REDD		