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**Title** Regional Stakeholder Engagement Specialist  
**Date submitted** 19 September 2016

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

2. Mission period (incl. of travel days)  
From: 5 to 9 September 2016

3. Type of mission: Technical backstopping

4. Clients  
UNDP CO – Lat Lat Aye  
PMU – Franz Arnold (Chief Technical Advisor), Khin Hnin Myint (National Programme Coordinator), Min Soe (Stakeholder Engagement Officer)

5. Purpose of mission

- a) Deliver 3 modules: safeguards, SE, governance at the National REDD+ Academy refresher course.
- b) Preliminary discussion with National Consultant for the Competency Framework for REDD+ assignment.

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 conducted its first National REDD+ Academy in October 2015, the participants of which were intended to be core trainers to deliver future academy modules to other stakeholders in the country. A refresher course was designed to address further gaps in knowledge that these potential trainers may still have. During preparation for the course, however, it became evident that only a handful of these potential trainers would be present. A predominant factor could be a lack of support from leadership within other line agencies to permit their staff to be trainers. A last-minute redesign of the course resulted in the potential trainers delivering modules they are interested in, with support from the regional UN-REDD team. In fact, this mentoring process, served a better platform to advance future academies in the country.

*9.b Main Findings*

**1. In-country academy**

- Plenary discussions during the Stakeholder Engagement and Governance modules highlighted existing challenges such as projects implemented by the former government where consent was not considered; tension between statutory and customary rights to land resulting in overlapping land claims and discord; a general lack of trust between communities and government agencies. Future sub-national stakeholder engagement activities would need to be prepared to handle these challenges.
- With the exception of Forest Research Institute, it is unclear if all current and previous participants will be able to become trainers, either internally within their own agencies or for general REDD+ training. The Dry Zone Greening Department was singled out as particularly resistant. It is yet unclear if the reason for this was a lack of understanding about their role in REDD+ or a lack of motivation to be involved or current personalities. A closer review of the results from the stakeholder mapping and analysis exercise is required to identify potential solution to this resistance.

**2. Competency Framework for REDD+**

- Initial discussions with the national consultant highlighted the possibility of identifying a senior person or position in targeted agencies and organisations to create support for REDD+. This would create the basis for upcoming capacity building plan to equip vital stakeholders to engage in the readiness process, followed by testing of the yet-to-be decided policies and measures.
- It was agreed that the assignment will identify where gaps in knowledge and skills about REDD+ still exist, from which the Programme will support to address and add value to multiple REDD+ capacity building initiatives and programs.

### 3. Other matter

#### a) Review of existing FPIC documentation in Myanmar

- The TWG on Stakeholder Engagement and Safeguards had inquired if a Myanmar-specific FPIC guidelines is required. As a follow-up action, the SEO, with assistance from the regional specialist, will prepare a simple table reviewing all existing materials in the country. The findings will be shared with the TWG, from which a decision may be formed.
- The key would be to improve understanding of how the key elements of stakeholder engagement form the bedrock for FPIC, including the ability to identify if and when consent is required. When pilot areas are identified, the operational steps in Myanmar's SE guidelines, completed in July 2016, will be used to demonstrate how this knowledge: stakeholder engagement and FPIC can be applied in the REDD+ context.

#### 9.c Expected Output

- Workplan for Competency Framework for REDD+ assignment

#### 10. Key counterparts

- UNDP CO – Lat Lat Aye
- PMU – Franz Arnold, Khin Hnin Myint, Min Soe

#### 11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Complete table to review existing FPIC materials in Myanmar	Min Soe, Celina	End of September
Prepare workplan for Competency Framework for REDD+ assignment	Celina	15 September

#### 12. Distribution list

UNDP UN-REDD, UNDP CO – Lat Lat Aye