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| UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMEBDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARY Date: 10 May 2013 | | | | | UNDP_Logo-Blue w TaglineBlue-ENG.png |
| Name Kimberly Todd | | | **Tel No.** + 1 212 906-5686 | |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:**  New York –Bangkok, Thailand –Phnom Penh, Cambodia -New York | | **Documents/Resources**:   * Workspace page for Bangkok regional workshop: <http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=2959&Itemid=53> | | | |
| Inclusive Travel Dates: | | **Key counterpart(s):** | | | |
| 3 – 8 March 2013 |  | Bangkok   * UN-REDD HQ and Regional Centre colleagues in attendance * Phil Franks, REDD+ SES * Steven Swan, SNV-Vietnam   Phnom Penh   * Cambodia REDD+ Task Force Secretariat (Chea Sam Ang, Vathana Khun) * Mathieu Van Rijn, FAO | | | |
| **Purpose/Objectives of Mission:**  ***Bangkok***  The key objectives of the Bangkok safeguards workshop were to:   * Provide a platform for joint learning across countries in the Asia-Pacific region on safeguards * Clarify the possible goals of a developing safeguards that should be considered before countries embark on a particular approach * Highlight that there is not a “one-size fits all” approach to developing safeguards, but outline a generic framework that can help countries to build a system that responds to country circumstances, and helps harmonize different safeguards initiatives * Identify follow-up activities for support; particularly identification of targeted support needs * K.Todd presented on the UNFCCC context for REDD+ safeguards and co-prepared a presentation on the UN-REDD framework to support countries on safeguards and safeguard information systems, that was delivered by Julie Greenwalt, UNEP.   ***Phnom Penh***   * To discuss Output 4 (on MRV) of the Results Framework for FCPF support to Cambodia, for which UNDP is serving as the Delivery Partner. For the outputs and activities included in the results framework, including those on MRV, UNDP is required to conduct due diligence. This meeting was an early step to start to engage more specifically on the content of the MRV work and to discuss a bit about the coordination of that work with FAO within the FCPF DP context. | | | | | |
| ***Bangkok***  **Context**   * This workshop was the third in a series of regional lessons learned workshops in the A-P region, and the topic has been requested by the UN-REDD countries. * The UN-REDD policy brief on safeguards and SIS had recently been finalized and this meeting also served as an event to “launch” this knowledge product.   **Participants:** More than 70 participants from government agencies, CSOs, technical advisors from UN-REDD Partner Countries, and representatives of FAO, UNDP and UNEP.  **Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings:**   * Discussions were kicked off by introducing the context of safeguards, including a historical retrospective and then, specifically the UNFCCC context. This session also included the perspective of the private sector and how safeguards reduce risks related to investments. * During the first day, discussions also focused on experiences from subnational efforts, like the Oddar Meanchey REDD+ pilot project in Cambodia. Other examples presented were several where the REDD+ SES is being applied: Indonesia and Nepal. The first day of the workshop concluded with a presentation on the types of support that the UN-REDD Programme provides related to national approaches on safeguards (UNEP on behalf of interagency safeguards group) and an FAO presentation on how forest monitoring can serve functions of an SIS. * The second day of the workshop focused on country-led approaches to developing safeguards, with presentations by Bhutan, Indonesia (REDD+ Task Force), the Philippines and Viet Nam. * There seems to be a need for more capacity-building on fundamentals of REDD+ safeguards and safeguard information systems, particularly the existing processes, initiatives and how all of these relate (e.g., SEPC, REDD+ SES, SESA). * There are clearly a few model countries who have advanced this work, particularly Indonesia, but even most of the examples presented during the workshop indicate that work is only at initial stages of a national approach (e.g., Vietnam hasn’t even completed its gap analysis of the “5Ps”- Policies, Programme, Plans, Processes and Practice - to address safeguards. Most countries still seem to be at a stage of needing to conduct awareness –raising. * In the session on national approaches, the complementarities among the UN-REDD approach, REDD+ SES approach as well as the SNV framework developed through work with Vietnam (the 5 P’s, which is very similar to PLRs) were evident. This seemed to help reinforce a clear, consistent concept of a general framework for country approaches to safeguards. * There were several comments from participants that the presentation on NFSM and information systems was too focused on remotely-based methods with no recognition of a participatory approach for collecting information. It was clear that a priority of the Programme should be to advance its joint-thinking on this topic and improve our messaging/communication on this, as part of presentations we give on national forest monitoring systems and safeguard information systems. * In addition to the activities directly related to the workshop, the meeting provided an opportunity to hold several bilateral meetings in preparation for the Phnom Penh visit later in the mission. Todd and Boyle held meetings with Peter Iversen, Cambodia UN-REDD, as well as with Naomi Matsue, representing the JICA CAM-REDD Programme to discuss the coutry context and ongoing work.   ***Phnom Penh***  **Context**  UNDP is the Delivery Partner of the FCPF in Cambodia. An R-PP was prepared and submitted in March 2011. Relatively few comments were made, but these comments remained unaddressed until recently. To meet the FCPF deadline for finalization of R-PPs, a process of review has been recently undertaken, but needed to be broadened to various divisions of the Forestry Administration. An Assessment Note and UNDP prodoc have also been under preparation; both documents require a Results Framework, which had also been drafted and subject to preliminary review, requiring a broader review.  **Participants:** Boyle, Todd, Chea Sam Ang, Vathana Khun (Cambodia REDD+ Task Force Secretariat) Mathieu Van Rijn (FAO),  Setsuko Yamazaki (UNDP Country Director)  **Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings:**   * Boyle and Todd met with H.E. Chea Sam Ang, Forestry Administration, on the morning of March 7th. He provided strong support for finalization of the R-PP and Results Framework. A proposed visit of the Zambia UN-REDD team was also discussed. * A meeting was subsequently held with Vathana Khun, Chair of the National Taskforce Secretariat, and Mathieu van Rijn, FAO MRV advisor to UN-REDD. Outcome 4 of the draft Results Framework was discussed and considered generally to be adequate. The meeting provided an opportunity for questions about the status of the REDD+ MRV work to be clarified, to inform the results framework. Detailed comments were subsequently provided to Boyle by Todd later in the mission, and and from Van Rijn along with Mathieu. A meeting was also planned for the following Monday for the finalization of the R-PP and results framework, which would bring in a larger group of national government representatives. * On the afternoon of March 7th, a meeting was held with UNDP Country Director, Setsuko Yamazaki. We provided a de-brief on the meetings earlier in the day discussed the R-PP process and the outlook for the type of arrangements that would need to be put into place with FAO. | | | | | |
| Next steps/Follow up actions:  * Refine/improve presentation slides for the UN-REDD framework on safeguards/SIS (Safeguards Group) * Advance interagency thinking on participatory monitoring (incoming UNDP intern dedicated to this topic, June – August) * Follow-up review meeting held on results framework on Mar. 28 (Ongoing inputs provided on later iterations of the framework.) * Completion of the UNDP pro-doc, including the “Quality Management for Project Activity Results” matrix (Kim‘s follow-up task: to complete baselines, indicators, targets and means of verification on Outcome 4 - done) | | | | **Distribution List:**   * UNDP/UN-REDD | |