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**Back to Office Report**  
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1. Practice area : UN-REDD

2. Mission period (incl. of travel days)

From : 26 April to : 02 May 2015

3. Type of mission :

TS/CNA Launch Event to Malawi

4. Clients

UNDP Malawi, Malawi Department of Forestry

5. Purpose of mission

Attending the TS/CNA launch event, preparations for ICA, coordination with CNA outputs and FAO team

6. Documents, materials, resources

TS and CNA Document, Inception Workshop Agenda (Concept Note), Joint Mission TOR

7. Mission members

Elsie Attafuah, UN-REDD Senior Regional Advisor for Africa, Ela Ionescu, Regional KM Specialist, Marius Walter, Governance Assessment Specialist, Till Neef (FAO), Amanda Bradley (FAO)

8. Costs

9. Brief summary of the mission

After the approval of the Targeted Support Project Document during the LPAC meeting held 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015, FAO colleagues and UN-REDD regional team joined the second mission to Malawi. The main objectives of the mission were to ensure **Coherence and sequencing of the UN support to the Malawi REDD+ process** and b) **Awareness-raising of stakeholders with regards to outcomes of UN-REDD support**. The mission held further consultative meetings with technical level stakeholders to advance on the different work streams and to coordinate with the consultants teams on obvious and possible synergies, common areas and limitations of each assignment. The major event took place on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April to launch the UN-REDD support to Malawi and was attended by more than 100 participants from Government, Civil Society, Community Based Organisations and Private Sector. The Minister for Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, his Principle Secretary and the UN Resident Coordinator opened the event.

The preliminary findings during the inception workshop will be shared in a separate report. The overall workshop report will be produced by the Department of Forestry with support from the UN-REDD team (UNDP regional + Marius, Till, Amanda).

9.a Findings

1. The mission team held a kick-off planning meeting with the **Department of Forestry** on Monday 27 April from 10am-1pm in order to discuss last minute logistics and the final schedule for the workshop. Presentations were refined in the afternoon in order to ensure coherent messaging and no overlapping information during the launch event.
2. A meeting with the consultants teams engaged for the TS output activities and CNA was held on Monday 27 April afternoon. The team delivering on the Policy and Legal Framework assessment (ELI/CEPA), the National Forest Monitoring System and the Analysis of Tenure Regimes was present. The following issues were resolved:
  - a) a synthesis report shall be produced under the leadership of Jessica Troell, Lead consultant for the Policy and Legal Framework Assessment as well as the Tenure regime analysis. The UN-REDD regional and global colleagues in the respective area will support Jessica. The synthesis report will draw upon all reports produced under the Governance work stream (ICA, CRA, LPFA, Tenure regimes analysis) and provide an analysis, easy to read for dissemination and awareness raising purposes.

b) The **ICA and Legal-Policy Framework** have certain overlaps or rather informing each other during certain steps of the assignments which need to be coordinated well. The inception reports for both activities will consider these aspects and synergies have been identified in the selection of local sites to be coherent, the “de-facto”

implementation of laws and regulation as well as reinforcement mechanisms to be looked at from both angles (identification of root causes).

3. The mission team met the **UN Resident Coordinator, Ms Mia Seppo**, on Tuesday, 28 April from 11-12am. The UN RC expressed her gratitude for the well-prepared mission and launch event. She however pointed to the political aspects of the activities outlined in the CNA and TS and emphasised that the linkages to country context are crucial for the success of a REDD+ mechanism in the country. Forestry is not a priority area in Malawi, but the entry point for REDD+ are the recent floods and the post disaster risk management structure currently underway which feeds into the broader national resilience building process. In order to pitch the interest of the political leadership and catch their attention to REDD+, we shall think about short-term goals and results for the emerging issues in the country and how REDD+ fits into it (Food crisis, replanting, agroforestry sector affected by floods). The reports expected to be produced under the UN-REDD support shall have this in mind, and if the UN can come up with solid analysis and information which can be used for the Natural Resource Management Sector and to inform national development planning, the better. The department of forestry is perceived as a weak implementing partner, but needs to be strengthened, which the current UN-REDD support can do.
4. On Tuesday Afternoon a **Governance Technical Working Group (GPTWG)** meeting was scheduled to discuss a first outline and **parameters of the ICA**. Due to a limited attendance of participants, no broader discussion took place, however, the concept of the ICA and what it intends to deliver was clarified and understood by the group. The meeting also discussed synergies and overlaps with the Legal and Policy Framework analysis, which is complementary to the ICA. The department is mainly interested in having the ICA informing their stakeholder engagement approach and the level of engagement with different stakeholder clusters. Therefore, emphasis should be laid on these aspects. It was further agreed that the GPTWG will serve as the guiding body for the ICA and CRA and in order to be inclusive, the meeting decided to open up the group and include the following institutions: Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining; Anti Corruption Bureau; Malawi Economic Justice Network; Forest Governance Learning Group (Malawi chapter); Department for Human Resources; Ministry of Lands; Ministry of Local Governance; PRESS trust – Agriculture Limited; Malawi Chamber of Commerce.
5. After the workshop, the meeting held a debriefing with the department of Forestry and the following issues were identified as being important to be addressed in the medium term:
  - a) Traditional Authorities invited to the launch event didn't attend the meeting. The next mission should consider holding a dialogue on deforestation, and options using the traditional system with TA's in their localities. This should also include issues around protection and safeguards. However, the right language and messaging need to be found to ensure effective engagements. With regards to representation at national level meetings and workshops, it was suggested to collaborating with the Ministry of Local Governance, representing body with regards to TA's.
  - b) Safeguards and Safeguard Information System is not a direct part of the TS/CNA, however, after the technical sessions on the NFMS roadmap there is need to initiate a discussion on the country approach to safeguards. MRP to approach the UN-REDD team for a discussion next week.
  - c) The next mission dates have been discussed preliminary and FAO intends to conduct a mission early July. The UNDP supported work streams are starting off in May therefore an earlier mission to support the ICA/CRA is suggested. The next REDD+ expert group might be scheduled for mid June.
  - d) With regards to inception meetings and validations (at a later stage) it is suggested to piggy-pack as much as possible among the assignments to keep the TS/CNA implementation as simple as possible. Technical consultations should rather take place in informal spaces to limit expenditures.
  - e) The overall workshop report will be drafted by MRP and shared with the UN-REDD mission team to provide inputs and compare notes. A first draft might be ready by end of May.

#### *9.b Results achieved (key outputs)*

- 1) TS/CNA was launched by the Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Mining, this ensures ownership and high level Government commitment

- 2) Well-designed and structured technical discussions enabled stakeholders to identify issues beyond the TS/CNA outputs and put them into relation to each other. This provided a first snap-shot of the broader issues and obstacles in the country. A structured summary report of the discussion during the workshop will be provided by ca. 15 May.
- 3) Consultant teams are aware of the complexity of the TS/CNA implementation and the “modus of operandi” have been agreed.

### 9.c Expected outcomes and impacts

Smooth, effective and efficient delivery of the TS and CNA outcomes

### 6. Key counterparts:

Lilongwe: UNDP CO: Mia Seppo (UN-RC/UNDP-RR), Carol Flore (DRR/P), Etta Mmangisa (Senior Program Analyst), Henry Sibanda (CC/NRM Advisor), Sarah Mcivor (Program Analyst);

Government: Stella Gamma (National REDD+ Focal Point), Alinafe Chibwana (MRP/DoF), Yoel Kirschner (MRP/DoF/USFS), William Chadza (Chair of GPTWG)

UN-REDD mission: Elsie Attafuah, Ela Ionescu, Till Neeff (FAO), Amanda Bradley (FAO)

### 11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Next Mission dates to be discussed internally and suggested to MRP/DoF (considering streamlined and effective inceptions of work streams)	UNDP regional team, FAO Rome	Within 2 weeks after completing the mission
Workshop report to be produced	DoF and UN-REDD mission team	First draft by end of May (tentatively)
Discussion on safeguards to be initiated	DoF with Geneva (Estelle, Wahida) and FAO (Kristin, Till), Marius if need be	One week after completing the mission
Conceptionalising complementary actions for ICA and Legal and Policy Framework analysis	Marius with Jessica and Gracian (and Till)	Within 2 weeks after completing the mission
Finalising recruitment of Consultants for ICA and CRA	UNDP CO	asap
Further Discussions on the roadmap formulation and “state of play” report to be initiated with the consultants	Elsie, Marius, Estelle	Within 2 weeks after completing the mission
TA plan to be update and dates for events to be re-considered with MRP	Marius, Ela, Till, Amanda, Estelle and Elsie	Continuously

### 12. Distribution list:

UN-REDD global: Tim Clairs, Tina Solvberg, Estelle Fach, Elsie Attafuah, Anne Martinussen, Ela Ionescu, Fabien Monteils  
Lilongwe: UNDP: Carol Flore (DRR/P), Etta Mmangisa (Senior Program Analyst), Henry Sibanda (CC/NRM Advisor)  
Sarah Mcivor (Program Analyst);

### 13. Attachment: Joint Mission TOR

## Joint Mission Terms of References:

### Launch of UN-REDD Country Needs Assessment and Targeted Support in Malawi

UNDP & FAO

## 1. Background:

As an active Un-REDD partner country, Malawi has embarked a comprehensive reform agenda and has developed a national plan for REDD+, which outlines the key actions to enable the country be prepared for the REDD+ mechanism. In Malawi, the REDD+ work is hosted and championed by the Department of Forestry.

While Malawi has advanced its start-up phase of national REDD+ process with support of MNRP/USAID, the UN-REDD Programme was requested to support specific element of the national REDD+ initiative. Building on the expertise of the UNREDD agencies, namely UNDP, FAO and UNEP, the Government of Malawi has designed two inter connected capacity-building and scoping initiatives for the national REDD+ process.

### **1. The Country Needs Assessment on REDD+**

The CNA on REDD+ is a specific initiative of UN-REDD, which Malawi applied for and was selected. The REDD+ CNA tool is a broad assessment of REDD+ Readiness in a policy context, that seeks to identify existing capabilities and inventory the gaps and needs of Malawi's policy and legal frameworks that would either enable or endanger the successful implementation of REDD+ nation-wide. It comprises two major components:

- Comprehensive Policy and Legal Frameworks Assessment (technical lead: FAO)
- Guidance to design a national strategy for REDD+, including stakeholder dialogue+ and preparing a roadmap (technical lead: UNDP)

### ***The targeted support project on REDD+ (TS)***

This project aims at supporting various governance and monitoring elements of REDD+. It has the following four core outputs:

1. An **Institutional & Context Analysis (ICA)**, which will provide the basis for multi-stakeholder engagement towards the design of national strategies, policies and safeguard systems for REDD+ (led by UNDP).
2. A **corruption risk assessment**, to support improved forest governance and inform the design of REDD+ readiness elements (led by UNDP).
3. An analysis of Malawi's resource/land tenure regimes as they relate to REDD+ (led by FAO).
4. Development of a roadmap for the design of a National Forest Monitoring System (led by FAO).

Since both projects are interrelated and outputs will build on each other, UNDP and FAO will conduct a joint mission to jointly roll out the support to Malawi and to showcase the One UN effort of UN-REDD at country level. The joint mission will also ensure a smooth and coherent start of both UN-REDD supported initiatives.

## **2. Objectives of the joint mission:**

### ***2.1 Coherence and sequencing of the UN support to the Malawi REDD+ process***

The main objective of the joint mission is to initiate activities under the Targeted Support and Capacity Needs Assessment on REDD+. While activities and outputs of both initiatives complement each other, it is important to ensure a common understanding, sequencing and agree on a timeline among the UN agencies involved but also the lead counterpart in the Government of Malawi.

The coordination of the UN initiative has two dimensions, one technical and one operational. While under the technical dimension timelines, methodologies and inputs need to be harmonised and agreed (e.g., output 1 of the TS will inform output 2 of the CNA), the operational dimension comprises of logistics, management arrangements, transfer of funds for the various activities, delegation of tasks and overall supervision of the initiative.

### ***2.2 Ensure sequencing and technical of activities under both initiatives***

During the mission the following work outputs streams will be started

- Institutional and Context Analysis (TS output 1 ): this broad analysis will inform output 2 of the CNA, the CRA, establish a nexus with Knowledge management and to a larger extent provide input to other activities with stakeholder involvement,
- Analysis of resource/land tenure regimes (TS output 3),
- MRV roadmap (TS output 4 ),
- Comprehensive Policy and Legal Frameworks Assessment (CNA output 1).

The Technical Assistance plan (see Annex I) will guide the sequencing and linkages between different work-streams. To initiate technical discussions, it is expected that the national and international experts will be recruited and available during the joint mission.

## **2.2 Awareness-raising of stakeholders with regards to outcomes of UN-REDD support**

While the government has led and invested in its national REDD+ process to date, it has become evident that further sensitization effort is required to inform and nurture high-level political commitment, and to enhance understanding among wide range of stakeholders of national engagement in REDD+.

To be successful, the CNA and TS require political support, leadership and inputs by national stakeholders. To initiate this engagement the mission will be an opportunity to support a 2 day launch event in the country's capital Lilongwe that will formally raise awareness and represent the starting point UN-REDD support to REDD+ in Malawi<sup>1</sup>. The major outcome of the launch event is to harmonise expectation of key stakeholders with regards to the intended outputs of the CNA and TS, gather their initial inputs and start exploring how the TS and CNA results will be used to inform the larger REDD+ process in the country.

The event with national coverage invites a wide range of in-country stakeholders, with an aim to raise awareness and understanding of REDD+ by providing detailed induction to both the concept itself, the objectives of different work streams under the proposed CNA and TS. Responsible in-country partners for each work stream are introduced.

### **Participants**

Participants will be carefully identified and selected in view of achieving inclusiveness and meaningful and effective stakeholder engagement in national REDD+ process – covering different ministry counterparts, REDD+ Expert working group, NGOs, CSOs/IPs, academia, private sector at both technical and high level, with an aim to promote gender balance. Both engagement of high-level governmental officials and technical officers are anticipated at different times of the workshop.

The Department of Forestry will be the principle host of this event and also responsible for the selection and invitation of participants.

### **Date**

The launch event will be held in Lilongwe from 29-30 April 2015.

A concept note and agenda for this high level event is attached under Annex I.

## **4. Meeting Schedule (tentative/draft)**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Objective</b>
Sunday 26/04	Arrival of Mission Team	All	
Monday 27/04		All	
		All	Briefing of mission activities

<sup>1</sup> See TS document, output 5, p24, annex II of this TOR

<p>Morning 10am (DoF)</p> <p>2pm</p> <p>3:30pm</p>	<p>Meeting with Government Counterpart: Department of Forestry (Stella Gamma) and REDD+ advisory team (Alinafe Chibwana, Yoel Kirchner)</p> <p>Director Chilima will be present from 10-11am.</p> <p>Presentations (internal DoF=</p> <p>Joint technical meeting with experts teams</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>and expected outcomes, clarification of issues and planning of launch event</p> <p>Generating synergies, Planning of joint reporting etc. (CNA/TS)</p>
<p>Tuesday 28/04</p> <p>Morning (DoF)</p> <p>11-12</p> <p>Afternoon</p>	<p>Workshop planning and initial briefings with consultants, Tenure (Amanda &amp; Marius); Policy and legal framework assessment (Till &amp; Marius); NFMS (Till)</p> <p>Meeting with the UN Resident Coordinator, Mia Seppo UNDP Offices</p> <p>Meeting/Consultation with GPTWG for ICA (tbc), back to back with the launch event if</p>	<p>Separate by output with each consultant</p> <p>UN-REDD team</p> <p>Marius, MRP</p>	<p>Optimising methodologies before the event</p>

	logistics allow  Meeting with the Communications Group	Ela, MRP	
Wednesday 29/04	Launch event day 1	All	
Thursday 30/04	Launch event day 2  Debriefing with MRP	All  All	
Friday 01/05  8am-11am	Planning meeting with CNA team on Strategy Roadmap and expectations for this component	All  Elsie, Till, Marius	

## 5. Mission team

Elsie Attafuah, UN-REDD Regional technical advisor (UNDP)

Ela Ionescu KM specialist for REDD+ in Africa (UNDP)

Marius Walter – UN-REDD Governance Assessment Specialist (UNDP)

Amanda Bradley (FAO REDD+ Tenure Specialist)

Till Neeff (FAO)

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