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Title: Technical advisor

Date submitted: 27 April 2016

1. Practice area: Environment & Energy	
2. Mission period (incl. of travel days): 19 – 21 April 2016	
3. Type of mission : Technical support	4. Clients: UNDP CO
5. Purpose of mission: Attend the 6 th UN Technical Team Meeting	6. Documents, materials, resources TT minutes
7. Mission members: Bruno Hugel, Tim Boyle, Celina Yong	8. Costs: Vietnam Tier 2
<p>9. Brief summary of the mission: This TT meeting was as usual an opportunity to (i) track progress, especially following the last EG meeting in March, (ii) harmonize views among UN Agencies so as to ensure robust and consistent technical advice to the Government on REDD+ and (iii) revise the internal “risk log”. This time, the TT was however followed by a half-day session with the PMU to present and discuss the main outputs from the TT meeting; this was considered useful by all parties and to be repeated in the next TT meeting.</p> <p><i>9.a Findings</i> The main findings and action points are available in the minutes of the meeting. The couple of highlights below include some TT internal discussions as well as subsequent reactions from PMU:</p> <p>1. Review of EG decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land tenure: TT agreed on the need to recruit a national consultant to support this work area as part of the NRAP process, building on existing work & initiatives while adding the REDD+ prospects. PMU is concerned with duplication of work. CTA will follow up to demonstrate needs and opportunities so as to progress on that thematic issues important to EG/Norway and various donors. • Expand beyond forestry: Though PMU considers that this EG concern is already addressed by NRAP Committee including other sectors, CTA will draft concept note on expanding dialogue with other sectors, with support from TT members. • Governance arrangements: DNP found proposed changes in terms of Governance arrangements acceptable, though advised these changes to be made after June (change of Minister). • NRAP revision process: consultant team now in place which will support the NRAP revision process all along the year, starting with an “Issues & Options paper”. Inception report available, based largely on the overall roadmap discussed with VRO (leading the revision process) last month. Looking positive, though still some challenges regarding certain aspects (e.g. consultations, targeted consultancies on strategic topics for PAMs), which will need to be discussed further with MARD. <p>2. Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant work ahead reg. monitoring for PRAPS/SiRAPs, still quite blurry (not so much which data to collect but especially what to do with it: research/adaptive management, performance, etc.).<i>Personal comment: the NRAP process should be an opportunity to ensure a wider (beyond forest sector) while realistic and more streamlined vision for monitoring, based on needs, existing data/systems & capacity.</i> <p>3. PRAP, SiRAP, BDS piloting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government is pushing deadlines, for PRAPS to be approved by PPCs end of the month. Quality improved, though still quite questionable (i.e. addressing drivers beyond forestry, clearly linking drivers/PAMs). CTA proposed (internally) to identify & prioritize a few most promising PRAPs/SiRAPs and focus efforts in the coming year, so as to be able to demonstrate positive results & enable subsequent wider improvement cycle. PMU leaders requested final comments from TT members on PRAPs & their quality to be given by end of next week (April 29th). 	

- While the TT is not convinced by the mechanism, SiRAP and BDS piloting will be conducted as per Government decision. It will be essential to take stock of results so as to ensure adequate and timely adaptive management.

4. Green supply chain investment

- Progress has been made through contacts with IPSARD, GCP and other relevant international organizations, focusing on coffee as a spearhead so as to feed the NRAP revision process and hopefully be able to then extend this kind of work to other key agricultural commodities.

This session with PMU was an opportunity to discuss directly important respective concerns, especially:

On the Government side:

- Importance to focus on agreed deliverables, avoiding risking engaging into side tracks that may prevent the programme to deliver as per official workplan.
- Importance to ensure that TT provides comments sufficiently ahead of time to be taken into consideration, as it is not possible to stop initiatives once they are launched (SiRAP, BDS, etc). Agreed by TT members who clarified that proposition was not to stop initiatives, only to ensure adequate and timely stock-taking so as to allow for necessary adaptive management

On UN-REDD side:

- *English translations* (already mentioned several times): the often poor quality of translations really hinders capacity to provide quality comments. PMU responded that line managers will assure quality control before forwarding to regional/global team.
- *Comments*: it would be good practice to ensure that comments provided by TT members are responded to, so as to understand if and why they were or not deemed relevant; as often comments provided seem to be just ignored without understanding why.

DNPD informed that the NRSC meeting, planned for the coming week, is postponed again

9.b Results achieved (key outputs)

Way forward agreed among UN-Agencies

Clear discussion with PMU leaders on respective concerns

10. Key counterparts:

- UNDP CO, MARD, PMU, VRO

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken:	By whom	Expected completion date
Action points detailed in the minutes	TT members	Detailed in minutes
Next TT meeting		Within 2-4 months (tbc)

12. Distribution list:

UNDP/UN-REDD Global Team : Tim Clairs

UNDP/UN-REDD Regional Team: Tim Boyle, Celina Kin Yii Yong

UNDP Country Office: Lai Dao Xuan, Loan Ngo Thi, Fabien Monteils