

Complementary information to the Semi Annual Progress Update 2015 (January-June 2015)

MRV&M

The below text expands on the summarized text on MRV&M in the Semi Annual Progress Update.

Output 1.1

- 25 modules with associated exercises and dissemination materials are being developed for training on different aspect of NFMS (SLMS, NFI, GHGi)
- Open Foris software suite expanded with a package for radar image processing. So far, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia are working with the software. Technical improvements done on web portals development softwares and progresses done towards beta version of the Platform
- A manual developed for the evaluation of biomass and calculating the uncertainty in the selection of Allometric equations (<https://cran.r-project.org/>) and eight publications and reports related to Allometric equation development made available.

Output 1.2

Africa

- Kenya completed the accuracy assessment of the existing land cover change assessment, and developed a new methodology to improve the accuracy of the assessment.
- The Republic of the Congo (period, 1990-2012) and DRC (period 1990-2010) completed the historical analysis of deforestation and updated their deforestation rate. Capacity built of national technicians and experts on inventory and data handling and analyses (Rep of Congo: 12, 25% women, DRC: 12).
- Zambia finalized its historical analysis of forest cover change with 12 national experts (5 women) trained in automatic change detection, manual classification and accuracy assessment.
- DRC's has a full-trained and almost autonomous forest monitoring unit composed of ten remote sensing technicians and two IT experts.

Asia Pacific

- Bangladesh enhanced the capacity in GHGi of 25 (8 women) technical officers (8-11 June).
- Bhutan, Mongolia and Pakistan advanced with their NFMS action plans. Related capacities were built on GHG inventory in these countries.
- NFI methodology completed in Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, and Cambodia.

Latin-America

- Ecuador Web dissemination Platform deployed and technical capacities increased within the Dirección Nacional Forestal and SUIA;
- 40 Argentinian technicians (16 women) increased capacities on forest degradation through a south-south cooperation with Bolivia, Colombia and Chile (14-16 April);
- Enhanced capacities on National Forest Inventory and allometric equations in Mesoamerica in collaboration with CONAFOR, Mexico (March 2015) and enhanced capacities of 34 researchers and NFI experts (4 women) in collaboration with CATIE (11-16 January);
- In Paraguay, 79 technicians (41 women) enhanced capacities on GHG Inventory for LULUCF and Agriculture (21-23 April) in collaboration with MAGHG project. Technical support on GHGI-I also provided in Ecuador for forest and the land use.
- Capacities on remote sensing improved within the Guiana Shield (8-15 March) and additional backstopping to Guyana and Paraguay in collaboration with SEPAL project and INDUFOR.

Output 1.3

Global

- The methodology for accuracy assessment of forest and land cover maps has been developed in R language, in collaboration with other FAO projects (FAO-FIN and SEPAL project), and a manual has been finalized for internal use with countries.
- The technical report “Technical considerations for Forest Reference Emission Level and/or Forest Reference Level construction for REDD+ under the UNFCCC” published in June. French and Spanish versions will be published soon.
- Two capacity-building and questions & answers webinars on Forest Reference Level held (in English and Spanish), resulting in enhanced capacity of over 100 forestry experts from Government institutions, civil society and private sector attending.

Africa

- National endorsement and timeline of a FRL roadmap for DRC, for a submission in early 2016 to the UNFCCC as a result of a technical backstopping on FRL by FAO experts (January, Kinshasa), targeting 20 national experts and stakeholders, including 1 woman.

Asia Pacific

- Capacity on Forest Reference Levels (FRL) improved in Bhutan through a capacity building workshop in June for 25 participants (10 women) and FRL action plan developed (11-12 June).
- South-south knowledge exchange and capacity building on FREL/FRL through a sub-regional workshop consisting of 27 participants (8 women) from Indonesia, Vietnam, Nepal, and Malaysia convened in Siem Reap, Cambodia in March (4-5 May).
- South-south knowledge exchange and capacity building on FREL/FRL implemented with a sub-regional workshop consisting of 16 technical experts (6 women) from Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu (Vanuatu were forced to cancel participation due to cyclone PAM) convened in Nadi, Fiji. (23-25 March).
- The FRL for Viet Nam is progressing towards submission to the UNFCCC in January 2016 to undergo a technical assessment. A national level consultation for FRLs to take place in fall.

LAC

- Honduras capacity on developing Forest Reference Levels (FRL) strengthened and action plan drafted (La Ceiba, 23-29 May).
- In Panamá, knowledge and capacities strengthened for 28 participants (12 women) on FRL through a south-south capacity building workshop with technical experts from Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico (Panamá, 24-26 February).

Stakeholder Engagement

The below text provides some more details on regional and global exchanges:

Regional and global stakeholder alliances and capacities to ensure stakeholder engagement in countries were strengthened through regional and global exchanges. These included: regional exchanges for the Asia-Pacific region in Bangkok during 7-8 May (7 countries participated) [[see report](#)] and [the LAC region](#) in Panama during 26-28 May (8 countries participated) [[see related documents](#)]; a REDD+ training on the global framework for REDD+ at a 14th Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) side event on 23 April in New York [[see video](#)]; an [Indigenous Women’s Dialogue on Gender and Forests](#) at a UNPFII side event on 22 April in New York. The capacities and function of the indigenous and civil society representatives to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board were strengthened via a number of national and regional workshops to exchange information and build capacity, and missions carried out by the representatives to observe and report on country-level progress in engaging REDD+ stakeholders.