



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

National REDD+ Awareness Raising Event and Launch of UN-REDD Support to Malawi

Cross Roads Hotel, Lilongwe, 29-30 April 2015

1. Introduction

As an active UN-REDD partner country, Malawi has embarked a comprehensive reform agenda and has developed a 5 year national action plan for REDD+, which outlines initial key actions to enable the country be prepared to implement REDD+ policies and measures.

Since its formal acceptance as a UN-REDD partner country in March 2014, Malawi has advanced its start-up phase of national REDD+ process with support of MNRP (Malawi National REDD+ Program) and requested the UN-REDD Programme to support specific element of the national REDD+ initiative. Building on the expertise of the UN-REDD agencies, namely the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Government of Malawi has designed two related capacity-building and scoping initiatives for the national REDD+ process, namely the Country Needs Assessment (CNA) and Targeted Support (TS).

2. Justification

The MNRP has made considerable strides over the past two years. Through the Malawi REDD+ Readiness Program (MRRP) and other efforts, the pursuit of REDD+ in Malawi has grown and evolved from a nascent, localized initiative to a national-scale program defined by a clear governance structure, work-plan, and vision. Malawi is now a UN-REDD partner country that has embarked on a number of regional REDD+ study tours, and has designated a National REDD+ Focal Point and an official REDD+ negotiation team to the United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Further, the MNRP has launched an ambitious effort to develop a zero-draft national REDD+ strategy, which requires further elaboration reinforcing essential building blocks.

In-country awareness and understanding of REDD+ under the UNFCCC and its implications for Malawi have grown in kind with the progress of the MNRP. Significant work remains in building proficiency in some of the finer details of the REDD+ mechanism and related concepts, primarily carbon financing and climate change. A concerted investment in the cultivation of such proficiencies – especially among a broader, in-country audience than the ones that have been targeted to date – is requisite for REDD+ to secure genuine, cross-sectoral traction and long-term viability in Malawi. A UN-REDD event would provide an opportunity for such an investment, offering an ideal platform to facilitate enhanced appreciation and knowledge of

REDD+ across targeted audiences. The onus would then be on the MNRP to build upon the gains of the event and carry them forward, recognizing that, over the long term, an intensive and concerted awareness-raising and education campaign is required. Further, the event would coincide with and inform the launch of a national-scale, REDD+ communication strategy.

3. Results

In order to launch the UN-REDD supported initiatives, it is envisaged to convene a national awareness-raising event that will also serve as the launch workshop for UN-REDD support to Malawi. Its **major outcome is to consolidate ownership of key stakeholders for REDD+ in Malawi and UN-REDD supported activities.**

To achieve this, the event will have the following **objectives**:

- 1) to enhance understanding among wide range of stakeholders (government agencies, local authorities, NGOs, local communities and academia) of Malawi's engagement in REDD+
- 2) to inform and nurture high-level political commitment, including the range of opportunities and benefits that Malawi could potentially tap on from REDD+
- 3) to inform stakeholders the activities supported by the UN-REDD Programme (concept, timeline, implementation of different work streams under the proposed TS and CNA) and gather their initial feedback
- 4) to launch a national level community of practice on REDD+¹

Key **products** resulting from the event will be an inception report and the results of a questionnaire filled during the event.

4. Proposed Agenda

The first day's agenda seeks to raise awareness and understanding of REDD+ among a target audience of Malawi's higher political tier and media; the second day seeks to cultivate proficiency in specific governance and scientific/technical aspects among a target audience of technical experts within Government of Malawi, academia, civil society, and the private sector.

Wednesday 29 April 2015

9:30- 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:30am Opening session

Welcoming remarks by Dr. Clement Chilima, Director, Department of Forestry and Ms. Mia Seppo, UN Malawi Resident Coordinator
Remarks by Dr. Yanira Ntupanyima, Secretary of Environment and Climate Change Management

¹ Beyond « old-fashioned » networking, a community of practice functions based on a mail group moderated by a Facilitation Team (in this case, the Malawi REDD+ Communication Group a possibly a researcher from Academia), where participants can post queries, participants respond with relevant experiences, examples, contacts or other advice, and consolidated replies are regularly posted by the Facilitation team. A country web-based repository can be created to make these resources visible to professional peers in other countries, who can then build South-South connections and multiply cross-country interaction

Keynote statement, the Honorable Bright Msaka, S.C., Minister of Natural Resources

Chair/Moderator: Mr. Teddie Kamoto, Assistant Director of Forestry

10:30 – 11:15am

Presentation: Introduction to the REDD+ concept and its strategic importance for Malawi (by Stella Gama, Malawi REDD+ Focal Point)

- The evolution, and status of REDD+ in the context of international negotiations focused on climate change and climate change mitigation
- Background on climate change and the launch and development of the UNFCCC
- The establishment and role of REDD+ institutions such as UN-REDD and the World Bank-hosted Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
- A diagnosis of and prognosis for REDD+ that highlights the growth of country engagements, the role of multilateral and bilateral partners, the status of carbon financing, and the evolution of REDD+ into a broader, natural resource management mechanism
- The parallel development of “REDD+” within the voluntary carbon market and the distinctions, similarities, and complementarities between the various REDD-related schemes (e.g., VCS, Plan Vivo, etc.) and REDD+ under the UNFCCC
- The strategic importance of REDD+ for Malawi
- Questions and answers

11:15 – 11:30am

Coffee break

11:30 – 12:00am

Presentation: Introduction to the role of REDD+ beyond carbon financing and forestry (by Yoel Kirschner and Alinafe Chibwana, MNRP Advisory Team)

- The evolution of RED to REDD+ and the emphasis on an ecosystem/landscape-scale approach to natural resource management. An overview of ‘no regrets’ REDD+ that highlights the transformative and potentially catalysing effects of REDD+
- Questions and Answers

12:00 – 1:00pm

Presentation: Introduction to the Malawi REDD+ process and outlook (by Member of Science and Technical Working Group [to be selected] and William Chadza, Chair of the Governance and Policy Technical Working Group)

- Special emphasis on the **Malawi** REDD+ process, including :
 - The development of the National REDD+ Strategy and outlook for the near future
 - Engaging stakeholders : the role of CSOs, different ministries, the private sector and research institutions in the REDD+ process
 - Community-based REDD+

- Questions and Answers
- 1:00 – 2:00pm Lunch break**
- 2:00 – 2:45pm UN-REDD support to the national REDD+ process (by Elsie Attafuah, REDD+ Regional advisor for Africa, UN-REDD Programme)**
- Presentation of the UN-REDD Programme, scope, opportunities and principles of operation.
 - Introduction to the UN-REDD survey
 - The Community of Practice
 - Questions and Answers
- 2:45 – 4:15pm The six deliverables and their relevance to the Warsaw Framework (Interactive session, presented by Harold Chisale, Department of Forestry REDD+ Counterpart)**
- Policy and legal frameworks
 - Institutional and Context Analysis
 - Corruption Risk Assessment
 - National Forest Monitoring System
 - Analysis of Malawi’s resource tenure regimes
 - Roadmap to a 15 year national REDD+ strategy
- 4:15 – 4:30pm Formation of working groups for parallel sessions on Day 2, wrap up**
4:30 – 4:45pm Closing remarks (Dr. Chilima, Director of Forestry)

Thursday 30 April 2015

Interactive methodologies will be applied to promote learning and exchange. Materials may be distributed in advance and participants will be expected to be familiar with these, for example by preparing questions about the materials.

9:00 – 9:15am Welcoming remarks, summary of day one, and introduction to Parallel Sessions (Mr. Teddie Kamoto, Chair/Moderator)

Parallel sessions		
9:15 11:15am	<p>Governance for REDD+ (Corruption Risk Assessment, ICA, legal and policy frameworks, led by Marius Walter, facilitated by Titus Zulu [ICA], Saustin Nkolokosa/Moses Njuwawo [CRA], Nyuma Mughogho [Policy & Legal Frameworks/CNA])</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anti-Corruption, Accountability, Political Analysis, Participation, Legal Frameworks 	<p>National Forest Monitoring System (Led by Bennet Mataya [National Consultant] and facilitated by Henry Kadzuwa and Custom Nyirenda [Government Counterparts])</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What to measure and monitor, ▪ Presentation of set-up, actors etc.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussion of Methodologies, communication of results, seeking inputs from stakeholders ▪ Guidance from the Malawi REDD+ Policy and Governance working groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Synergies between NFMS and SIS ▪ Discussion of methodologies, seeking inputs from stakeholders
11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break		
11:30 – 1:00pm	<p>Analysis of Malawi’s resource tenure regimes (Led by Environmental Law Institute and CEPA and facilitated by Harold Chisale/Teddie Kamoto, Government Counterparts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are major pitfalls and shortcomings in the land tenure regimes in Malawi ▪ Working with local communities on land tenure ▪ Discussion of methodologies, seeking inputs from stakeholders 	<p>National Forest Monitoring System (continued)</p>

1:00 – 2:00pm

Lunch break

2:00 – 3:00pm

Summary of parallel discussions, facilitated by Teddie Kamoto

- Debriefing of group sessions (group rapporteurs)
- Discussion

3:00 – 3:15pm

Coffee Break

3:15 – 4:15pm

Strategy-Building Capacity and Creation of Strategy Roadmap (Elsie Attafuah, UN-REDD and Dr. Clement Chilima, Director of Forestry)

- Approach for the formulation of a strategy roadmap
- Key elements and building blocks for a national REDD+ strategy
- Discussion of methodologies, seeking inputs from stakeholders

4:15- 4:45pm

Conclusion and closure

- Launch of the Community of Practice (Stella Gama, Malawi REDD+ Focal Point)
- Evaluation of the workshop and closing remarks (Dr. Clement Chilima, Director of Forestry)

3. Participants

Participants for the inception workshop 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, NGOs, CSOs/IPs, academia, private

sector at both technical and high level [with an aim to respect gender balance]. Both engagement of high-level governmental officials and technical officers are anticipated at different times of the workshop.

The Department of Forestry is the host of this event and responsible for the selection and invitation of participants.

The number of participants is anticipated to be approximately 100.

4. Venue and date

The inception workshop will be held on 29 and 30 April 2015, at the occasion of the scheduled UN-REDD joint mission.

Venue will be the Cross Roads Hotel, in Lilongwe, Malawi.