# Terms of Reference

**Expert:** International expert on participatory monitoring of forests

**Output:** 2.2

**Responsible UN Agency:** FAO

**National / International:** International P3 level

**Duration:** 2 person/months "When-Actually-Employed" basis
June – December 2010

**Duty station:** Hanoi, Lam Dong and home station

## Background:

The UN-REDD Programme assists Vietnam to strengthen the country's capacity to be ready for REDD implementation. One of the key components of the Programme is to raise local capacity for implementation of REDD, including capacity to monitor carbon emissions from forests. Specifically, Output 2.2 aims to develop a sound system for participatory carbon-stock monitoring and to provide training to key local institutions.
A number of initiatives have developed systems of participatory monitoring in various contexts including some cases in Viet Nam. The programme seeks to build on existing systems, by reviewing their effectiveness in the local contexts of two districts in Lam Dong province, Vietnam.

## Objectives:

The overall objective of the assignment is to develop a sound system for participatory carbon-stock monitoring and to provide training to key local institutions to enable further capacity building at the forest management level.

## Supervision:

Under the general supervision of the Budget Holder of FAO (FAO Representative of Viet Nam) and the NPD; and under the direct supervision of the Lead Technical Officer of the Forest Assessment, Management and Conservation Division (FOMD), the National REDD Team Leader and the UN-REDD Technical Specialist; and in close collaboration with the national expert on participatory monitoring of forests, other national and international parties working on carbon-stock monitoring in forests in Viet Nam.

**The consultant will take on the following specific responsibilities**:

- Review international guidelines and requirements on forest GHG reporting and monitoring and assessment, as well as MRV guidance documents provided by the FAO UN-REDD office.

- Review current national and international forest monitoring systems and assess their practicality in application to the local contexts in Lam Dong province.

- Design sound participatory carbon-stock monitoring system/s for the various types of forest management, based on (1) existing approaches to participatory carbon stock assessments (including Ch. 3.4 of GOFC-GOLD Sourcebook 2009), (2) existing forest inventorying systems. These methods will be adapted to the local circumstances of Lam Dong province, with the assistance of the national consultants. The desired participatory forest monitoring system should not only be compatible with the current national forest monitoring design but also meet the UNFCCC requirements and be applicable to local circumstances. The participatory forest monitoring system will include clear methodological guidance on the design and establishment of sample plots and sampling protocols.

- Provide supervision to the national consultants conducting pilot runs of the proposed system/s to test practicability and effectiveness.

- Take the lead in designing training materials and a manual for implementing the system/s in the field. Provide supervision to the national consultants in the elaboration of the training materials and manual (final product in Vietnamese).

- Report on the results obtained from the participatory monitoring system. This would entail an analysis of samples to test the accuracy of participatory monitoring methods, as well as producing data tables based on the final outputs required for reporting under the UNFCCC.

**Qualifications, Experience and Competencies**

- Post graduate degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Economics, or similar.

- At least 7 years of working experience on forest inventory, monitoring and assessment, preferably with some experience in Vietnam.

- Knowledge of and practical experience on participatory forest monitoring and assessment.

- Proficiency in both spoken and written English.