

UN-REDD KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT 2016 Action Plan for Asia/Pacific

INTRODUCTION:

This document develops and proposes a UN-REDD KM Action Plan for Asia/Pacific. This is based on a summary of past and current knowledge management (KM) activities undertaken by UN-REDD in the Asia/Pacific (A/P) region, and an analysis of data collected on knowledge needs among UN-REDD Partner Countries, and builds on the UN-REDD KM Strategy to identify priority activities.

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE 2015 ACTION PLAN

In 2015, based on interviews with a number of REDD+ focal points from partner countries in A/P, the KM action plan was developed with the main focuses to: (1) Organize regional events; (2) support in organization of in-country events; develop Go-REDD+ messages; (3) develop online resources, including e-learning modules; (4) organize study tours or other exchanges of personnel.

As a result, the KM activities were conducted as the following:

- Five regional events were held:
 - o Safeguards and safeguard information systems (KMAP fund)
 - o National strategies/action plan (KMAP fund)
 - o Experience on engagement with CSO and IP organizations (Non-KMAP fund)
 - o Forest reference levels/Pacific (Non-KMAP fund)
 - o Forest reference levels/Asia-advanced (Non-KMAP fund)

- Knowledge products, lessons learned of information notes and videos were produced for the first three of the regional events:

	Information Note	Video
o Safeguards and Safeguard Information Systems	Hyperlink	Hyperlink
o National Strategies/Action Plans	Hyperlink	Hyperlink
o Experiences on Engagement with CSOs and IP Organizations	Hyperlink	Hyperlink

- In-country knowledge events, in which three national REDD+ academies and four smaller events were organized:
 - o REDD+ academies were held in Bhutan, Myanmar, and Viet Nam. As one of regional knowledge exchanges, a videos capturing lessons learned about national REDD+ Academy has been finalized. *(The video link will be shared later.)* “Learning Journals” (background training materials) and presentations used in the national Academies can be found [HERE](#)
 - o Training on National Strategy/Action Plan (Alotau, PNG; technical support)
 - o Training on REDD+ and VCM (Madang, PNG; technical support)
 - o High-level event on climate change and REDD+, Myanmar
 - o Training on National Strategy/Action Plan, Viet Nam

- Go-REDD+ messages, there were six Go-REDD+ messages were developed and disseminated in the period of January – June when after the initiative was asked to discontinue the Go-REDD+; partly

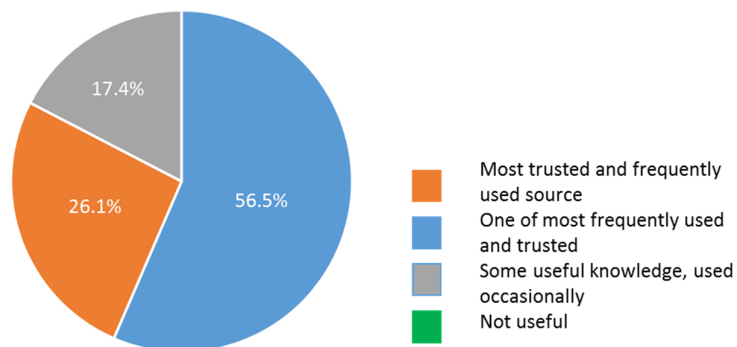
because the UN-REDD newsletter was seen to be an alternative mechanism for knowledge dissemination. Existing messages can be found [HERE](#)

- Online knowledge platform, it was proposed to develop an A/P online knowledge platform through which all knowledge products would be accessible. Such a platform was designed but a corporate decision was made not to pursue a separate online platform for A/P in 2015 but to focus on utilization of the UN-REDD workspace. The design of the on-line knowledge platform can be found [HERE](#)
- Study tour, the KM Action Plan noted that since it was difficult to plan study tours in advance, KM Action Plan funds would be made available if and when demand arose. One proposal was made (Myanmar to Indonesia to study the “One-Map” process), but it proved not possible to proceed with this proposal.

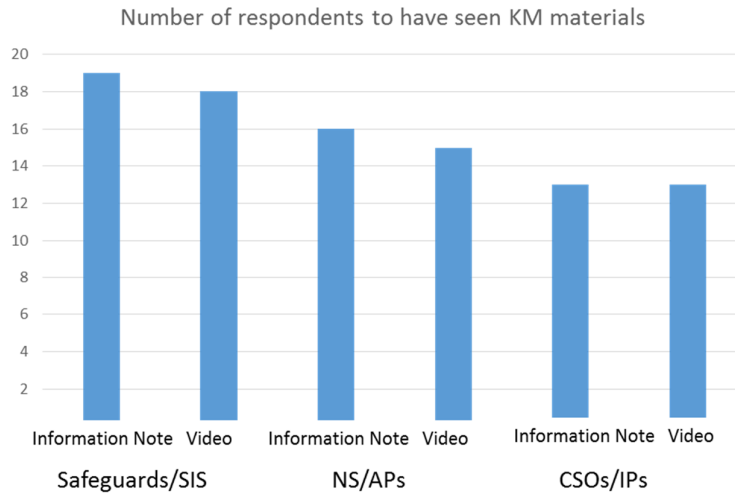
SECTION 2: RESULTS FROM THE ASSESSMENT SURVEY OF 2015 KM ACTIVITIES

A survey was conducted online during November and December, 2015, in order to assess the results of the UN-REDD Asia/Pacific Knowledge Management (KM) Action Plan and to solicit proposals for 2016. A total of 76 primary stakeholders, 3 or 4 from each of the 19 Partner Countries, were invited to complete the survey, and 26 responses (about 33%) were received. Results from the survey have showed that

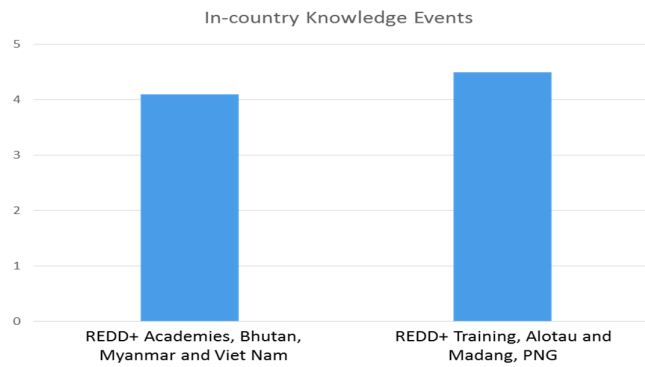
UN-REDD KM activities are highly valued. More than 80% of respondents commented that they viewed UN-REDD as their main source of knowledge on REDD+ or one of their major sources. This result exceeds the (slightly differently phrased) A/P indicator of impact for the goal in 2015 that, “*At the end of 2015, a survey of national focal points reveals that at least 70% of them consider that knowledge events organized by UN-REDD have contributed “significantly” to progress in entering the WFR.*”



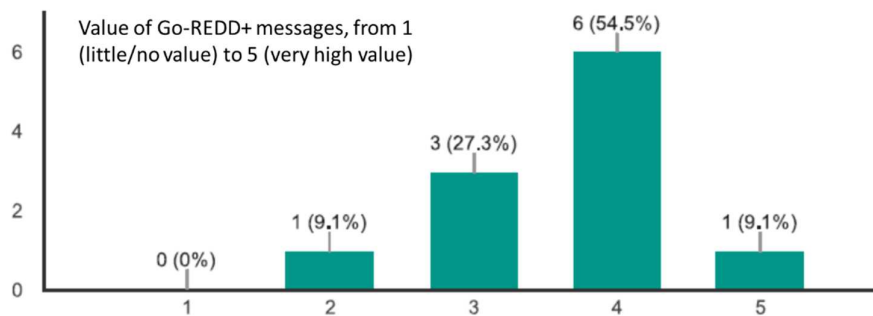
Regional events, a total of six regional KM events were held during 2015. Fourteen of the 26 respondents (53.8%) had attended at least one of the events. For the three regional KM events organized under the auspices of the KM Action Plan, Information Notes and Videos were produced for each one. A very high number of respondents had seen the Information Note and Video on Safeguards/SIS (19 and 18, 73% and 69%, respectively). Fewer had seen the NS/AP materials and fewer still the CSO/IP materials, although those figures still reached 50% of respondents. Two reasons why more had seen the Safeguards/SIS materials might be that they have been in circulation longer, and also there was a concerted effort to publicize them, e.g., through Twitter.



In-country Knowledge Events, during 2015 national REDD+ Academies were held in Bhutan, Myanmar and Viet Nam. REDD+ Training was also held in PNG, through two separate events, in Alotau and Madang. Of the 10 respondents from these four countries, seven had attended the in-country events. Scores for the value of these events were very high.

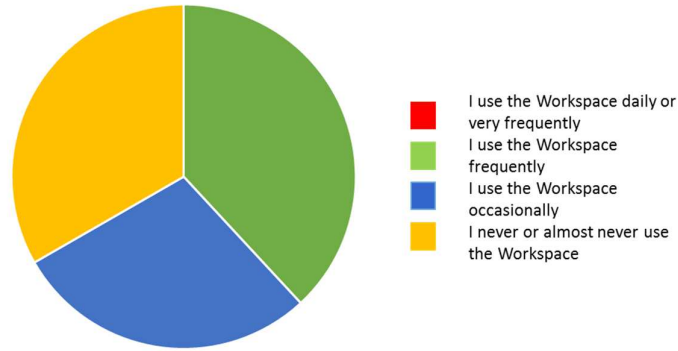


Go-REDD+ remains very popular, monthly Go-REDD+ messages were a key part of the KM Action Plan until banned by the MG. Although only 50% of respondents were regular recipients of Go-REDD+ messages, they valued them highly, confirming previous surveys on the value of Go-REDD+.



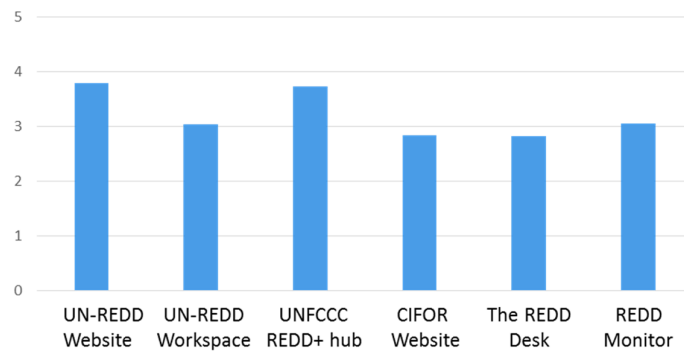
Value of UN-REDD Website and Workspace for KM, one-third of respondents never, or almost never make use of the UN-REDD Workspace, and no respondent uses it daily or very frequently.

Use of UN-REDD Workspace

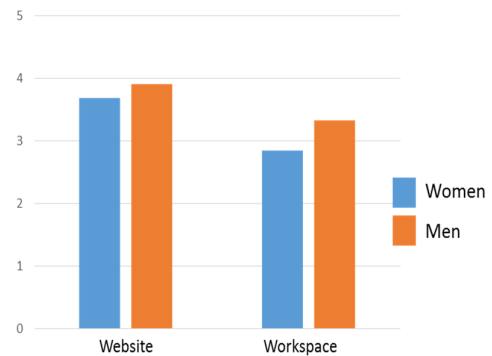
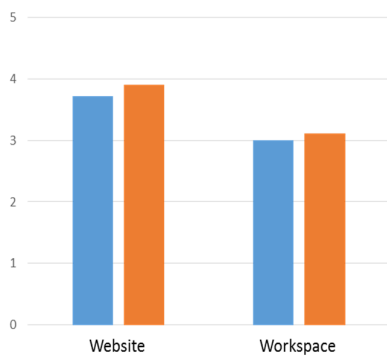


The value of the UN-REDD Website in terms of access to knowledge on REDD+ was rated higher than the Workspace. The website also rated higher than a number of other knowledge platforms that respondents were asked to rate, other than the UNFCCC REDD+ Platform.

Value of various REDD+ knowledge platforms



Non-English-speaking respondents tend to value the Website and Workspace more than English-speaking respondents, while men value the sites more than women. Women, in particular, rated the Workspace low.



SECTION 3: CURRENT NEEDS FOR 2016 ACTION PLAN FROM ASSESSMENT SURVEY

The UN-REDD regional team, based in Bangkok, conducted an online assessment survey during November and December 2015, in addition to the continual interaction with national REDD+ focal points and other stakeholders in the country.

Respondents were invited to identify topics on which they would like to see UN-REDD KM support for 2016. Responses, grouped by topics, are shown in the Table below.

Preferred Topic	Country
General REDD+/ WFR/Paris Agreement	Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines, Vanuatu
NS/APs	Bhutan, Cambodia, Malaysia, Mongolia
FRELS	Malaysia
NFMS	Malaysia, Vanuatu
Safeguards/ SIS	Cambodia, Malaysia, Viet Nam
Finance	Cambodia, Lao, Malaysia, Philippines, Vanuatu
BDS	Lao PDR
Country exchange	Cambodia, Viet Nam
Consultation processes	Malaysia
Carbon rights	Philippines
REDD+ implementation	PNG

SECTION 4: A/P KM ACTION PLAN FOR 2016

An action plan for KM for Asia/Pacific needs to respond to KM priorities and guidance identified in section 3. In A/P, the KM activities will still take into account to support countries to align with the decisions of the UNFCCC, therefore the GOAL of the Action Plan for 2016 is:

“To further provide appropriate fora for countries in the Asia-Pacific region to exchange knowledge on a number of priority issues emerging from recent UNFCCC CoP Decisions, in particular, the WFR, as reflected in the Paris Agreement.”

The result from the assessment survey as of 2015 (above mentioned diagram) have showed that more than 80% of respondents commented that they viewed UN-REDD as their main source of knowledge on REDD+ or one of their major sources. As from this, an indicator of impact for the goal of 2016 is:

“At the end of 2016, a survey of national focal points reveals that at least 75% of them consider that knowledge events organized by UN-REDD have contributed “significantly” to progress in entering the WFR.”

Based on the results of the regional assessment conducted with national focal points, the priority topics for KM for the UN-REDD Asia/Pacific team should be:

- REDD+ Finance
- REDD+ National Strategies/Action Plans
- REDD+ Safeguards and SIS
- General REDD+/WFR/ Paris Agreement

The means of delivery for South-South knowledge exchange in A/P should include:

- a) Regional Events: in most cases, not necessarily engaging all UN-REDD Partner Countries, but ensuring participants are matched to needs and availability of knowledge.

- b) In-country Events: including National REDD+ Academy, involving experts from countries in the region
- c) REDD+ Knowledge Highlights: capturing and sharing impacts, lessons learned, and/or experiences from national programmes
- d) Online Resources: including an on-going improvement of the E-learning platform of the modules and knowledge repositories
- e) Knowledge management and communications capacity / country support
- f) Where feasible, study tours, or other exchanges of personnel
- g) Follow-up assessment of needs

An indicative work programme for each of these mechanisms is outlined below:

a) REGIONAL EVENTS (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 1.1.3, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4)

Regional events will generally be organized and held in Bangkok, both due to considerations of cost and organizational practicality. The target is to organize at least two such events during the year. Topics will be selected from:

- REDD+ Financing Knowledge Exchange Event
- KM and Communications Training

Participating countries in the workshops may be as follows:

Topic	Countries' needs	Funding
REDD+ Financing Event	Cambodia, Lao, Malaysia, Philippines, Vanuatu, Nepal, PNG, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam	FCPF (REDD+ Partnership)
KM and Communications Training	Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, PNG, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam	National Programme Fund

In all cases, there will need to be a strong investment by personnel of all three UN Agencies to ensure that the most appropriate participants (governmental and non-governmental) from all receiving countries attend. Appropriate knowledge products will be produced to further disseminate knowledge.

b) IN-COUNTRY EVENTS (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 1.2.1, 2.5.2)

In-country events differ from regional events in that there is only a single receiving country depending on needs and request by each country, although there may be one or more contributing countries. In-country events can therefore be tailored much more closely to individual countries' needs, and access a much larger number of participants. Because some or all of the each event is conducted in the national language, comprehension is also increased. For some topics, it may be necessary to engage external consultants, so to the extent possible, in-country events will be organized consecutively – i.e., the same or similar event offered in a number of countries over a short time period.

For this year, the focus will be on continuing to provide support through:

- At least two National REDD+ Academies (countries, tbc): These will be organized for 4-5 days' training during which some 15 – 20 stakeholders / professionals will be targeted and engaged on a number of priority topics reflecting in the 12 modules that were developed. Additional national academies may be organized if funding sources are identified;
- Follow-up support to the three countries that held national REDD+ Academies in 2015;
- National Training and Workshops (topic to be identified and requested by the partner countries).

c) REDD+ KNOWLEDGE HIGHLIGHTS (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 1.2.1, 1.2.4)

To accomplish this there are two approaches capturing and disseminating lessons and knowledge from the national programme to wider REDD+ stakeholder groups:

- **Story from the country:** Keep stocking lessons learned, experience, and best practices of countries and by (1). Consulting and working closing with all the Regional Technical Advisers and all experts and specialists to update the progress made in each of their countries and advise which lessons or knowledge could be captured , (2). Communicating with the national communications (KM) Officer/focal point to capture knowledge and lessons from their programme implementation. However, this work could be achieved only if there is a very strong support from all members of the A/P team. It is expected that at least one story for each month to be captured and shared.
- **REDD+ Recap:** To correspond to the needs requested by the countries, another knowledge exchange mechanism is distribute information, synopses of research results and activities related to REDD+, especially to assist countries in A/P to increase their understanding and accelerate their REDD+ readiness efforts. A monthly one-page information brief / message will be developed in consultation with the A/P colleagues. The topics will be heavily weighted towards those priority topics/needs resulted from the assessments described in section 3, namely the General REDD+/four elements of the WFR/Paris Agreement; REDD+ finance; National Strategies/Action Plans; and Safeguards and SIS. For dissemination, the message(s) will be shared though “The REDD+ Resource”, the UN-REDD Online Newsletter platform. Old messages will be achieved in the UN-REDD Workspace. The messages/links will be also later re-disseminated to the A/P partner countries (by using database and other tools of the UN-REDD Programme) to draw their attention to such specific information.

d) ONLINE RESOURCES (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 2.3.4)

The A/P team has already developed an on-line FPIC and KM repository. The materials all reside in the UN-REDD Workspace, and the repository is accessed through the web-site. Unfortunately, it is virtually impossible to navigate through the user-unfriendly web-site in order to locate the repository. However, a continual improvement will be entreated and requested support from the UN-REDD Global Communication Team to improve the A/P regional page/folder/repository so that the audience could easy access to such important and useful information/materials/products. During 2016, the focus of KM support will be on promoting some of the key online knowledge platforms: (1) Promote the use of the Online REDD+ Academy and (2) Support establishment of creation of Discussion Forum/Group though the UN-REDD Workspace.

e) KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY / COUNTRY SUPPORT (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 1.1.1, 1.1.3, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.4.1, 2,2,2, 2,4,1)

During 2015, direct country support was provided to four countries, Cambodia, Myanmar, PNG, and Viet Nam. This work will continue during 2016, and may be extended to additional countries, on demand. The work will focus on knowledge management and communications during programme implementation, ensuring that consistent and accurate of messages on REDD+ are communicated at the national and sub-national levels. Support will be provided to Communications Officers, where they are in place, or otherwise to other Programme personnel. The support will also assist on communications work, including producing communications materials/products and tools.

f) STUDY TOURS OR EXCHANGES OF PERSONNEL (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 2.2.1, 2.2.2)

Although there are many challenges in organization of effective study tours, they are a potentially valuable activity if carefully designed. This is true particularly where a limited number of personnel can benefit directly from a detailed engagement in another country. Therefore, although such events cannot be planned a long time in advance, the A/P KM Specialist will continually record countries’ needs and opportunities for learning, so as to organize study tours as and when justified.

g) FOLLOW-UP ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS (Global KM Monitoring Framework OPs 1.1.1, 1.4.1)

As in 2014 and 2015, a country survey will be conducted towards the end of the year to measure impact of KM events organized during 2016, and to assess country needs for 2017.

IMPLICATIONS OF CURRENT FUNDING LEVELS

Currently there are no new funds for KM activities in 2016, and no information on carry-over funds from 2015. The UN-REDD Secretariat is currently preparing a discussion paper incorporating three possible scenarios for 2016. These are:

- No funding at all – current KM staff are laid off
- No new funding, but KM staff continue (the current *status quo*)
- New funding becomes available

The Table below shows performance targets for each category of work proposed under each of the scenarios.

Activity	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Regional events	0	2	3
In-country events (Academies)	0	2	4
In-country events (Targeted training)	2	2	3
Knowledge highlights	0	Monthly	Monthly
On-line resources	None	Developed	Developed
Study tours	0	1	2

TIMELINE

Responding to comments and recommendations from Partner Countries, below, see schedule proposal:

Action	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Two Regional Events: (REDD+ Financing Event, and KM & Comms Event)				REDD+ Finance Event		KM & Comms Event					
In-country event: (Two REDD+ Academies)											
In-country event: (Target training)											
REDD+ Knowledge											
Online Resources											
KM & Comms Capacity / Country Support											
Study tours											

Note that the total available budget for KM events in A/P in 2016 is to be confirmed.