

# **Framework for Implementation of Measurement, Assessment, Reporting and Verification (MARV) through the UN-REDD Programme**

**Draft Concept note, 30 March 2009**

## **Introduction**

This concept note deals with sustained and consistent implementation of Measurement, Assessment, Reporting and Verification (MARV) for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD). It builds on the MARV scoping for the UN-REDD Programme as presented to its Policy Board in March 2009. For further details on the concept and definitions please visit UN-REDD website [www.un-redd.net](http://www.un-redd.net).

The Framework for Implementation of MARV:

- (a) follows the decisions and conclusions of UNFCCC including its subsidiary bodies and meetings, following the “Bali Action Plan” (Decision 2/CP.13);
- (b) strives to meet the expectations and ambitions of participating countries in this regard; and
- (c) seeks synergies and complementarity with national and international initiatives.

Annex 1 provides a further review of current international institutions in relation to MARV under REDD. It may be noted that the “MARV”, as it occurs in this document, is synonymous with the “MRV” of UNFCCC and IPCC. MARV may be considered an elaboration of MRV for ease in its implementation.

## Urgency to design and implement MARV systems

For the implementation of REDD, there is an urgent need to initiate processes to enhance MARV systems pertaining to:

- compatibility, comparability, consistency and transparency in methods, designs, tools and protocols on measurement and assessment;
- generating data that are transparent, robust, precise and accurate (see also Annex 2);
- generating information that spans both forest carbon and multiple benefits; and
- considering synergies with information requirements beyond REDD (see Annex 3).

Besides investments at the national level, the delivery by international institutions should be enhanced to better (a) serve countries with free, frequent, relevant and easily accessible measurement data and (b) support institutional strengthening. The overarching need is to strengthen countries’ capacities for implementing national MARV systems.

## Objective

The objective of the Framework is to accelerate essential and sufficient improvements in M&A elements of MARV at international and national level by the end of 2010 and to achieve full functional and sustainable national MARV systems in participating countries by 2014. Such systems should ensure fair, equitable and transparent information that significantly contributes to a sustainable and time bound reduction in forestry related greenhouse gas emissions.

## Context and Rationale

There is convergence of countries for a time limit (2050) and there is high likelihood for a convergence on the limit of permissible increase in average global temperature (1.5 to 2 degrees). Further, countries are working towards a convergence on the period (some time around 2020) for peaking of this permissible increase in the average global temperature.

This indicates urgent need to implement time bound quantified significant effective national forestry actions that are mainstreamed with national sustainable development efforts and are coupled with robust, consistent, transparent and institutionalized MARV systems to reduce emissions in forestry, which currently accounts for about one fifth of the global emissions.

Countries and international institutions are preparing to implement REDD. The quick start or readiness actions are starting in the selected nine countries under UN-REDD and in about 30 countries under FCPF programme of World Bank (see also Annex 1). The scoping, formulation and approval has proven successful inter-agency collaboration - delivering as one UN. It has deepened understanding of key issues at national and international levels and some possible ways to appropriately address them, including:

- mainstreaming REDD with national sustainable development efforts;
- multi-stakeholder engagement including indigenous people and civil society;
- recognition of multiple benefits of forests;
- implementation of statistically robust, consistent, transparent and verifiable institutionalised national MARV systems.

These are important elements for enabling sustainable reduction of forestry related greenhouse gas emissions. Quick start and readiness actions will further enhance the understanding and strengthen country capacities to implement national REDD programmes.

## Proposed action, expected outcomes, investment needs

The proposed action draws from experiences and progress under the UN-REDD Programme Quick Start process during which priorities and gaps of MARV under REDD have been identified. They also build on the evolving consensus of the UNFCCC process on REDD. In total, investment needs of about \$265 million have been identified under three action components, anticipating 20 participating countries (see Annex 4 for details):

1. Design phase 2009-2010	2. National action 2010-2014	3. International action 2009-2014
<p>Expected outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multi-year plan of work</li> <li>- Methodological alignment with convention agreement</li> <li>- Comprehensive progress report by COP-15</li> </ul> <p><b>Immediate</b> budget requirement: \$5 million</p>	<p>Expected outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By end-2010 national MARV systems planned</li> <li>- Increased engagement of stakeholders</li> <li>- By end-2014 national MARV systems operational</li> </ul> <p>Indicative investment needs: On average \$10.5 million per participating country, totally \$210 million for 20 countries.</p>	<p>Expected outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International support components for national MARV systems</li> <li>- Increased engagement of stakeholders</li> <li>- Increased institutional capacity to support national MARV systems</li> </ul> <p>Indicative investment needs: \$50 million. <b>Immediate</b> budget requirements for early action: \$5 million.</p>