

**Management Group (MG) of the UN-REDD Programme
Decisions of MG Retreat 11-12 Feb 2014**

Participants:

MG members and alternates

FAO: Adam Gerrand, Maria Sanz Sanchez

UNDP: Tim Clairs

UNEP: Tim Christophersen (Edoardo joined by phone for the Audit session)

Secretariat: Mario Boccucci, Thais Linhares Juvenal

Apologies: Edoardo Zandri, Mette Loyche Wilkie, Charles McNeill

Others

Sharon McAuslan, Mirey Atallah, Mike Speirs

MG decisions

1. 2013 in Review

- a. The MG provided summaries of the highlights, challenges and provisional financial figures relating to delivery in 2013, and identified a number of issues to revisit in the subsequent discussion on 2014 planning (e.g. measuring success of events, SG Climate Summit, Budget Planning)

2. UN-REDD Programme Audit

- a. The MG acknowledged the importance of the Programme Performance Audit taking place in 2014 and decided coordinated preparation is required. The MG hoped UNEPs participation in the audit could be arranged. The MG agreed the need to be proactive and engage as constructively and transparently as possible. Issues identified included the importance of emphasizing the processes that are in place (e.g. to define future strategic vision) and emphasizing the accompanying mitigation to any risks/challenges identified.

3. SNA Budget and Work Plan: Review of 2014

- a. The MG collectively reviewed the main deliverables and capacity to deliver in 2014 for each of the Agencies and the Secretariat, and agreed on the importance of continued monitoring throughout the year.
- b. The following issues were raised:
 - i. The need for careful planning of activities, events, publications etc. to maximize synergies, avoid overlap and ensure balance (e.g. taking advantage of plans to hold multiple workshops in one country/region to bundle these and maximize the opportunities, with a number of initial opportunities already identified). A tool being developed to support monitoring of key deliverables (including publications, events etc.) was welcomed.
 - ii. To prepare a consolidated overview of activities intended at country level – to ensure countries aren't being overwhelmed
 - iii. Importance of measuring in order to assess results and concern regarding lack of baseline
 - iv. Differences between sub national and jurisdictional approach and need for further work on this (Initial analysis of why sub national is more appropriate was welcomed).
 - v. How to work with countries who aren't Programme countries, including Tier 2, and instances where a Partner country requests joint work with a Non-Partner country.
- c. The MG supported organization of a Programme Retreat in 2014 and requested development of a concept note.
- d. The MG welcomed the draft MG workplan as a welcome development to support management of the Programme. Initial feedback included:
 - i. Proposal for MG to receive quarterly reports from Working Groups – NPWG, GPWG, Safeguards to enable MG oversight and address any relevant issues within the portfolio.
 - ii. Request for MG quarterly priorities to include greater breakdown of tentative weekly agendas (and to check the distribution of issues isn't too frontloaded)
 - iii. Request to include discussion of MG role related to climate/ag partnerships

4. 2015 priorities and planning process

- a. The MG agreed that it is important that the 2015 SNA workplan and budget consolidates the work of the first phase of the UN-REDD Programme with the +2015 phase.
- b. Given the expected 2014 budget envelope (c.33m, plus a small amount of carryover projected from 2014, with 5m allocated for the East Africa project), and feedback from the Policy Board, most recently at PB10 regarding the need to strike a balance between the allocation of support to the SNA and NPs, the MG decided that there should be a modest rearrangement of the 2015 SNA workplan and budget in order to line up for greater rearrangement in the future +2015.
- c. This will involve greater alignment to support to national action within the framework of the existing work areas and may involve supporting a number of countries clearly towards fulfilling National REDD+ Strategies.
- d. The workplan and budget narrative will emphasize the degree of support to national action within the UN-REDD Programme portfolio – 17 NPs underway, X completed, X in pipeline, X receiving TS, X supported by T2/RIF, X special projects (e.g. East Africa) etc.
- e. The MG agreed that when reframing the SNA with a focus on support to National REDD+ Strategies, part of the SNA streams of work (outputs and activities) can be clustered for inter-agency joint programming. This exercise could be initiated in the 2015 budget cycle respecting the existing work areas, i.e. some of the proposed outputs/activities and figures would reflect the joint programming but would be presented within the current SNA structure.
- f. With a view to assess the portion of the SNA budget that would be available for joint programming focused on support to National REDD+ Strategies, the MG agreed to have an initial discussion to review the minimum operational needs per Agency. This call will also discuss the next steps for the joint programming process.
- g. The budget to be presented to the Policy Board at PB12 will reflect the funding perspective by April 2014. If additional funds become available, a budget revision can be submitted at PB13. An increased budget option can be developed for internal purposes and for communicating with donors.
- h. The MG also had an initial discussion on future cooperation and agreed there is potential for further exploring greater cooperation/joint programming related to work areas +2015, along with possibilities for deploying staff in line with joint programming priorities rather than along agency lines.
- i. The MG agreed to create an internal WG to review how best to consolidate integrated support to countries and to further consider whether there is a need to create a PB WG to examine how the RPP can be better adapted to country needs.

5. Planning for PB12

- a. The MG provided guidance regarding the PB11 agenda:
 - i. Proposal to have orientation session (for new PB members and observers) on Sunday, prior to Information Sessions
 - ii. Morning information session to cover National REDD+ Strategies, Outcomes of REDD+ Implementation and SFM Japan Seminar and Implications of Warsaw decisions for the UN-REDD Programme
 - iii. Afternoon information session to cover Update on the GCF (to be further explored with GCF Secretariat), 2015 Budget and Workplan, and +2015 Strategy (pending outcome of MG retreat)
 - iv. To include updates on Private Sector Engagement and KM during the SNA progress update
 - v. The following items were identified as more timely/suitable for inclusion PB13 agenda:
 - Info session on MRV/reference levels/NFMS
 - Potential Info session on GEF
 - Formal PB session SNA progress update on tenure

6. AOB

- a. The following issues were raised and not dealt with due to time constraints:
 - Global Forum Landscapes
 - Bonn challenge

Decisions	Actions
1. 2013 in Review	
a. The MG provided summaries of the highlights, challenges and provisional financial figures relating to delivery in 2013, and identified a number of issues to revisit in the subsequent discussion on 2014 planning (e.g. measuring success of events, SG Climate Summit, Budget Planning)	n/a
2. UN-REDD Programme Audit	
a. The MG acknowledged the importance of the Programme Performance Audit taking place in 2014 and decided coordinated preparation is required. The MG hoped UNEPs participation in the audit could be arranged. The MG agreed the need to be proactive and engage as constructively and transparently as possible. Issues identified included the importance of emphasizing the processes that are in place (e.g. to define future strategic vision) and emphasizing the accompanying mitigation to any risks/challenges identified.	Secretariat to provide: i. MG information note with proposed common messages; ii. List of anticipated materials that will be required related to the Audit, so Agencies can be prepared to engage in a timely and constructive manner; iii. List of missions undertaken in relation to the Programme Evaluation.
3. SNA Budget and Work Plan: Review of 2014	
a. The MG collectively reviewed the main deliverables and capacity to deliver in 2014 for each of the Agencies and the Secretariat, and agreed on the importance of continued monitoring throughout the year.	Secretariat to i. Circulate presentations (UNEP has shared their ppt); ii. Schedule next MG review in April; iii. Include approval of UN-REDD Academy Steering Cttee at forthcoming MG call (scheduled 26 Feb) iv. Circulate consolidate 2014 SNA workplan; v. Include SG Climate Summit Update on next MG call (19 Feb) vi. Circulate draft Secretariat workplan, procurement plan and the mission/leave plan.
b. The following issues were raised:	
i. The need for careful planning of activities, events, publications etc. to maximize synergies, avoid overlap and ensure balance (e.g. taking advantage of plans to hold multiple workshops in one country/region to bundle these and maximize the opportunities, with a number of initial opportunities already identified). A tool being developed to support monitoring of key deliverables (including publications, events etc.) was welcomed.	vii. Secretariat to circulate monitoring tool; viii. Agencies to follow up on areas where opportunities for collaboration were identified.
ii. To prepare a consolidated overview of activities intended at country level – to ensure countries aren't being overwhelmed	ix. Secretariat to collate information provided by Regional and HQ teams (entry points for requesting info are the GPWG and MG).
ii. Importance of measuring in order to assess results and concern regarding lack of baseline	x. UNDP to share work being undertaken to measure readiness capacity.
iii. Differences between sub national and jurisdictional approach and need for further work on this (Initial analysis of why sub national is more appropriate was welcomed).	xi. UNDP (tbc) to prepare discussion paper on UN-REDD Programme's position on REDD+ and the role of sub-national approach

<p>iv. How to work with countries who aren't Programme countries, including Tier 2, and instances where a Partner country requests joint work with a Non-Partner country.</p>	<p>xii. MG to give guidance on how to work with non-Programme countries (Sec to schedule on MG agenda).</p>
<p>c. The MG supported organization of a Programme Retreat in 2014 and requested development of a concept note.</p>	<p>xiii. Secretariat to prepare concept note on the retreat for MG feedback (by mid March);</p>
<p>d. The MG welcomed the draft MG workplan as a welcome development to support management of the Programme. Initial feedback included:</p> <p>i. Proposal for MG to receive quarterly reports from Working Groups – NPWG, GPWG, Safeguards to enable MG oversight and address any relevant issues within the portfolio.</p> <p>ii. Request for MG quarterly priorities to include greater breakdown of tentative weekly agendas (and to check the distribution of issues isn't too frontloaded)</p> <p>iv. Request to include discussion of MG role related to climate/ag partnerships</p>	<p>i. Secretariat to circulate working draft to MG for MG feedback and update for part II of MG retreat (end March).</p>
<p>4. 2015 priorities and planning process</p>	
<p>a. The MG agreed that it is important that the 2015 SNA workplan and budget consolidates the work of the first phase of the UN-REDD Programme with the +2015 phase.</p>	
<p>b. Given the expected 2014 budget envelope (c.33m, plus a small amount of carryover projected from 2014, with 5m allocated for the East Africa project), and feedback from the Policy Board, most recently at PB10 regarding the need to strike a balance between the allocation of support to the SNA and NPs, the MG decided that there should be a modest rearrangement of the 2015 SNA workplan and budget in order to line up for greater rearrangement in the future +2015.</p>	
<p>c. This will involve greater alignment to support to national action within the framework of the existing work areas and may involve supporting a number of countries clearly towards fulfilling National REDD+ Strategies.</p>	
<p>d. The workplan and budget narrative will emphasize the degree of support to national action within the UN-REDD Programme portfolio – 17 NPs underway, X completed, X in pipeline, X receiving TS, X supported by T2/RIF, X special projects (e.g. East Africa) etc.</p>	
<p>e. The MG agreed that when reframing the SNA with a focus on support to National REDD+ Strategies, part of the SNA streams of work (outputs and activities) can be clustered for inter-agency joint programming. This exercise could be initiated in the 2015 budget cycle respecting the existing work areas, i.e. some of the proposed outputs/activities and figures would reflect the joint programming but would be presented within the current SNA structure.</p>	
<p>f. With a view to assess the portion of the SNA budget that would be available for joint programming focused on support to National REDD+ Strategies, the MG agreed to have an initial discussion to review the minimum operational</p>	<p>i. Each agency to prepare calculation of minimum needs for 2015 operations/infrastructure and submit to Secretariat by close Friday 21 Feb in</p>

needs per Agency. This call will also discuss the next steps for the joint programming process.	advance of GPCG call on 2015 Budget Planning on Monday 24 Feb (time tbc – tentatively 2pm Geneva, 4pm Nairobi).
g. The budget to be presented to the Policy Board at PB12 will reflect the funding perspective by April 2014. If additional funds become available, a budget revision can be submitted at PB13. An increased budget option can be developed for internal purposes and for communicating with donors.	ii. Agencies will subsequently provide inputs on priorities for joint programming by [24] March (Tbc at 24 Feb meeting)
h. The MG also had an initial discussion on future cooperation and agreed there is potential for further exploring greater cooperation/joint programming related to work areas +2015, along with possibilities for deploying staff in line with joint programming priorities rather than along agency lines.	
i. The MG agreed to create an internal WG to review how best to consolidate integrated support to countries and to further consider whether there is a need to create a PB WG to examine how the RPP can be better adapted to country needs.	iii. UNDP (tbc) to take forward proposal for internal WG on consolidation of integrated support to countries; iv. NPWG to consider whether proposal should be made to create PB WG at PB12 to examine how the RPP can be better adapted to country needs.
5. Planning for PB12	
a. The MG provided guidance regarding the PB11 agenda: i. Proposal to have orientation session (for new PB members and observers) on Sunday, prior to Information Sessions ii. Morning information session to cover National REDD+ Strategies, Outcomes of REDD+ Implementation and SFM Japan Seminar and Implications of Warsaw decisions for the UN-REDD Programme iii. Afternoon information session to cover Update on the GCF (to be further explored with GCF Secretariat), 2015 Budget and Workplan, and +2015 Strategy (pending outcome of MG retreat) iv. To include updates on Private Sector Engagement and KM during the SNA progress update v. The following items were identified as more timely/suitable for inclusion PB13 agenda: • Info session on MRV/reference levels/NFMS • Potential Info session on GEF • Formal PB session SNA progress update on tenure	i. Secretariat to revise draft agenda and circulate for MG approval (week of 24 Feb)
6. AOB	
b. The following issues were raised and not dealt with due to time constraints: • Global Forum Landscapes • Bonn challenge	i. Secretariat to liaise with TC2 and add to future MG call as necessary.