



*Participants in Basic Training on Climate Change and REDD+ in April 2014
(Photo Credit: FFI)*

Basic Training on Climate Change and REDD+ for CSO-REDD+ Network's Members

In order to implement REDD+ effectively, there is a need to involve various groups of stakeholders, especially civil society organizations (CSOs). A group of CSOs is actively involved and engaged with the implementation of the Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap.

This group of CSOs, with 26 members, has formed into a CSO-REDD+ Network. It is actively participating and engaging in the implementation of REDD+ policies and measures during this readiness phase. However, the knowledge and capacity of some members in the provinces are still limited, so they are unable to conduct consultations with their representatives in the provinces, and later to provide recommendations to the Cambodia REDD+ coordination arrangements (e.g., Taskforce, Technical Teams).

Therefore, basic training on climate change, forest governance and REDD+ was conducted from 7-9 April 2014 at the Cambodia Japan Cooperation Center. The training was attended by 30 participants, nine of whom were women.

The training was successfully completed. The members discussed, learned and increased their understanding on climate change, and some of the important concepts in REDD+ such as social and environmental safeguards, benefit sharing, drivers of deforestation and degradation, measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), and gender in REDD+.

It is expected that the enhanced knowledge and skills will help promote the CSO-REDD+'s members' engagement in REDD+ policy consultations and decision-making processes.

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Who's Who in REDD+ Cambodia?



Participants during the FCPF Inception Workshop on 14 March 2014
(Photo Credit: RTS)

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is an initiative of the World Bank. It became operational in June 2008. The FCPF assists developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (all activities commonly referred to as "REDD+") by providing value to standing forests.

In Cambodia, the FCPF is implemented through UNDP, as Delivery Partner. It supports implementation of the Cambodia REDD+ Readiness Roadmap. In this regard, the FCPF works closely with other national level REDD+ initiatives such as Cam-REDD and the UN-REDD Programme. All of these initiatives pursue the four critical outcomes to get Cambodia ready for REDD+, namely:

- Outcome 1: Effective National Management of the REDD+ Readiness process and stakeholder engagement in accordance with the Roadmap principles.
- Outcome 2: Development of the National REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework.
- Outcome 3: Improved capacity to manage REDD+ at subnational levels.
- Outcome 4: Design of a Monitoring System and capacity for implementation.

Within this framework, the FCPF seeks to continue support to national-level bodies such as the REDD+ Taskforce, Taskforce Secretariat, and Consultation Group; initiate pilot REDD+ strategies in the major forest types in Cambodia; integrate projects with sub-national and national implementation; and operationalize national MRV and monitoring systems.

See more at: <http://www.cambodia-redd.org/category/supporting-redd-framework/fcpf#sthash.1Thgh8xi.dpuf>

Up Coming Events

8th Programme Executive Board Meeting, 07 August 2014

The meeting will include an open session in the afternoon, to which all partners of the Cambodia REDD+ Programme will be invited to participate. Partners will be invited to prepare displays of their work. There will also be two "discussion fora" on selected issues, during which some partners will be invited to give brief presentations.

Communications Review Meeting, July 2014

After 9 months to prepare a common set of communication materials for use by all partners in raising awareness about REDD+, a wide range of draft materials has been prepared, including videos and posters, as well as brochures and other materials. A meeting will be held for all four technical teams to ensure technical consistency and accuracy and approve the production of the materials.

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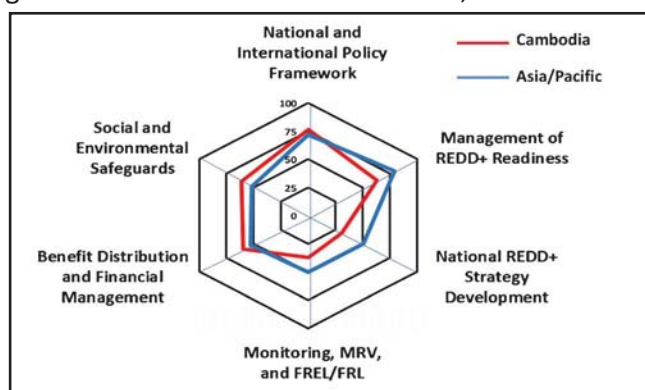
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Understanding REDD+

State of REDD+ Readiness: How Does Cambodia Compare?

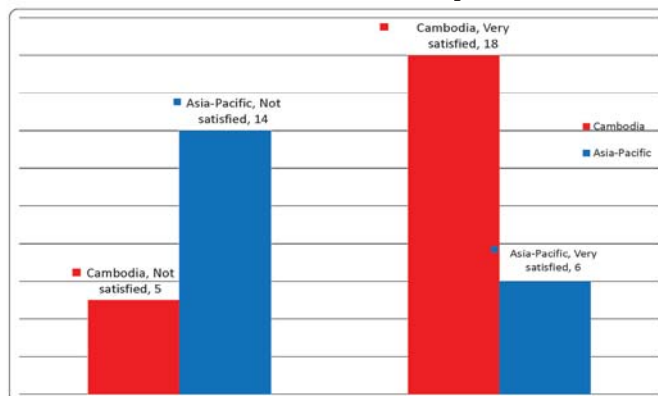
In late 2013, the UN-REDD Programme undertook an assessment of REDD+ readiness in 24 countries across Asia/Pacific. The assessment consisted of two surveys – one of National REDD+ Focal Points to assess what has been achieved on REDD+ readiness so far, and the second of a sample of stakeholders, to see how they feel and how much they know about REDD+ readiness.

Because REDD+ readiness covers many different issues, it is very difficult to assess. A country may have made great progress in one area and minimal progress in another. The results from the National Focal Points survey are therefore shown against 6 main themes of REDD+ readiness, as shown below:



This shows that Cambodia compares well against the regional average in several areas, but lags behind in some areas, such as strategy development, and monitoring/MRV.

Cambodia had the highest number of respondents to the stakeholder survey – more than 160 invitations were sent out, and 56 responses were received. Stakeholders were assessed in terms of knowledge and perceptions.



One outstanding result was that, of all countries, Cambodia had the highest proportion of stakeholders who were “very satisfied” with the level of their engagement.

In terms of knowledge, results were mixed. Many stakeholders were not aware of which international conventions Cambodia is party to – only Thailand and Vanuatu scored lower. On the other hand, stakeholder knowledge about management of REDD+ readiness was very good – only four countries (India, Malaysia, Nepal, and Viet Nam) scored higher. On more technical issues such as the existence of a National REDD+ Strategy, and National Forest Inventory, stakeholder knowledge was average.

This article can only touch on a few interesting results from a wealth of information generated by the assessment, but overall Cambodia seems to be progressing quite well towards REDD+ readiness, with strong involvement by all stakeholders. Very soon, the results will be available for all to see through a web-based interface hosted on the global UN-REDD web-site: <http://www.un-redd.org/>

IPCC Fifth Assessment Report

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the international body for assessing the science related to climate change. A comprehensive assessment report of the state of climate science is produced every four or five years and is very relevant for the international efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The fifth assessment report is being released this year and we have so far seen the first three volumes: I: the Physical Science Basis; II: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability; and III: Mitigation of Climate Change.

This report has highlighted the serious consequences of climate change. Forests and land use play an important role for climate change with 10% of total emissions of CO₂ during the period 2002-2011 originating from deforestation. At the same time forest and other land uses have removed 27% of total global emissions through CO₂ uptake and thereby helped reduce the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere.

While trees need CO₂ to grow, climate change can be a threat to forest ecosystems. Tropical regions are affected by a projected increase in severe drought episodes and this, to-

gether with land-use change and forest fires, is expected to cause much of the Amazon forest to transform into less dense, drought- and fire-adapted ecosystems. Biomass and soil carbon stocks in terrestrial ecosystems are currently increasing but are vulnerable to loss to the atmosphere as a result of rising temperatures, droughts and fires projected in the 21st century.

The volume on mitigation highlighted the important role forests can play in mitigating climate change, including through REDD+. The report mentions that the deforestation rate in the Brazilian Amazon by 2012 had declined by 77% below its 1996-2005 average as a result of policy and market signals. This single trend represents a 1.5% reduction in global anthropogenic carbon emissions.

The IPCC concludes that land-related mitigation, including bioenergy, could contribute 20 to 60% of total cumulative abatement to 2030. Policy coordination and implementation issues are challenges to realizing this potential.

The three volumes of the Fifth Assessment Report can be found at: <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/>

Addressing Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Cambodia



On 6 March 2014, the Forestry Administration, the UN-REDD Programme, JICA, USAID/Cambodia-funded Supporting Forests and Biodiversity program and USAID Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (LEAF) program co-organized a Workshop on "Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation" in Phnom Penh.

At the workshop, 58 participants planned a process to assess deforestation and forest degradation in Cambodia and determine the major causes – a key step in defining collaboratively developed strategies to reduce deforestation and degradation. The workshop was guided by the draft Decision Support Tool on Identifying and Addressing Drivers of Deforestation which is being developed by the ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on Forest and

Climate Change with support from USAID LEAF.

In addition to providing guidance for an assessment of drivers in Cambodia, the workshop also provided a chance for the government and development partners to assess the Decision Support Tool and compile comments for submission back to the ASEAN network. This work supports key components of Cambodia's REDD+ Strategy and Roadmap, and is part of USAID LEAF's work to mobilize actions that address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation around the region.

Kindly contact Mr. Limchhun Hour, USAID LEAF Country Coordinator for Cambodia for a summary of the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation via limchhun@winrock.org.

Latest from the REDD+ Cambodia web-site

For more information on REDD+ in Cambodia, don't forget to visit the REDD+ Cambodia web-site: www.cambodia-redd.org

Recent updates on the site include:

- COP Decisions Booklet
 - Analysis Report of Gender and REDD+
 - Documents of the 5th Taskforce Meeting
 - Documents of the 6th Consultation Group Meeting
- <http://www.cambodia-redd.org/category/document-centre>

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