

# UN-REDD PROGRAMME



## Pre-Policy Board Information and Knowledge Sharing Sessions Wednesday, 5 November 2014

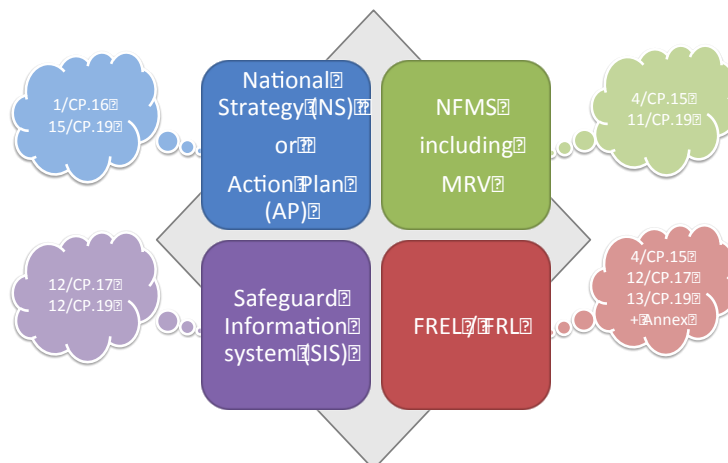
### « REDD+ National Strategies / Action Plans »

Arusha - Tanzania  
5 November 2014

(21/10/2014)

#### I. Background and context

Under the UNFCCC, countries are requested to develop four elements for REDD+ implementation (decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71), as illustrated below:



As countries prepare to implement REDD+ activities, they are formulating REDD+ national strategies or action plans (NS/AP) as framed by UNFCCC COP16 Decision 1 and COP19 Decision 15.

UNFCCC COP decisions on REDD+ do not set specific and prescriptive contents for NS/AP, or for the process to be followed for their formulation. However, some general guidance is provided, including:

- Paragraph 72 of decision 1/CP.16 “... requests developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, to address, inter alia, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the [REDD+] safeguards, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia, indigenous peoples and local communities”;

- Paragraph 1 of Annex 1 of decision 1/CP.16 sets out guidance that should be followed through the implementation of REDD+ activities:
  - o *Be country-driven and be considered options available to Parties;*
  - o *Be consistent with the objective of environmental integrity and take into account the multiple functions of forests and other ecosystems;*
  - o *Be undertaken in accordance with national development priorities, objectives and circumstances and capabilities and should respect sovereignty;*
  - o *Be implemented in the context of sustainable development and reducing poverty, while responding to climate change;*
  - o *Be supported by adequate and predictable financial and technology support, including support for capacity-building;*
  - o *Be results-based;*
  - o *Etc.*

A REDD+ NS/AP acts as the anchor for the national REDD+ implementation process. Developing a robust, comprehensive and internationally credible strategy that addresses the above-outlined guidance, and that is fully grounded in national circumstances, is therefore a key task for all REDD+ countries. It is a multi-faceted process with technical and political dimensions. Developing a REDD+ NS/AP offers an important opportunity for countries to create a multi-sectorial platform to anchor REDD+ in the country's broader development agenda.

Government entities wishing to implement REDD+ often face the challenge of building a groundswell of support for REDD+. Developing a NS/AP is an opportunity to engage in dialogue with various key (non-environment/forestry) sectors and actors, including through setting up or strengthening platforms for exchanges. This process will be key to the effective implementation of REDD+.

The NS/AP design process enables stakeholders to be fully informed about REDD+, to demystify the concept and prevent misperceptions and fears, to understand how it may impact them, how they can engage in the process and what their contribution to implementation can be. In this way, a consensus can be built at the national level for a REDD+ implementation process that is inclusive, iterative, grounded in national circumstances and accessible to actors new to REDD+.

Countries are at various stages of progress in the development of their NS/AP. A number of countries have finalized their NS/AP, including the DRC, Tanzania, Mexico, Vietnam and Indonesia: these have been developed with varying levels of international support and follow-up. Brazil is expected to launch its national strategy by the end of 2014, making it the first country to have all four REDD+ elements in place to request results-based payments for results-based actions from the UNFCCC. Other countries - including Ecuador, Peru, Zambia and Cambodia - are in advanced phases of the NS/AP formulation process. Beyond these early movers, most REDD+ countries remain at an earlier stage. Diverse approaches have been adopted by countries for NS/AP development, a comparison of which uncovers some common elements and others that vary according to national circumstances.

The UN-REDD Programme has facilitated regional exchanges of experiences of NS/AP development between countries:

- In Quito, Ecuador, July/August 2014, with 14 Latin American countries
- In Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, September 2014, with 8 francophone African countries
- In Nairobi, Kenya, October 2014, with 21 African countries

## **II. Objectives of the session**

This information session will offer the opportunity for participants to:

- Get a broad overview of where REDD+ countries stand in terms of NS/AP formulation;
- Learn from various experiences and share knowledge on how REDD+ countries understand and design their NS/AP;
- Take stock of lessons learned and current debates and receive recommendations for developing NS/AP;
- Understand how the UN-REDD Programme supports countries in developing their NS/APs

### III. [Structure of the session](#)

The session is a joint UN-REDD exercise coordinated by UNDP. It will be based on a panel of three representatives (one from each region), a representative from civil society, and a moderator from UN-REDD.

Time	Activity	Responsible
9:00	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome words</li> <li>- Introduction of the panelists</li> <li>- Overview of REDD+ national strategies and formulation processes in the world</li> </ul>	- F. Monteils, Moderator
9:10	<b>Presentations from panelists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lessons learnt from Africa and debriefing from Nairobi regional exchange of October 2014</li> <li>- Lessons learnt from LAC and debriefing from the Quito regional exchange of July/August 2014</li> <li>- Presentation of process and achievements by a leading REDD+ country in Asia/Pacific</li> <li>- Perspective of CSO/IP on multi-stakeholder engagement in developing a REDD+ NS/AP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- D. Kasaro, REDD+ National Coordinator, Zambia</li> <li>- A. K. Perea Blasquez, Director de Negociación, Cambio Climático y Negociaciones Internacionales, Mexico</li> <li>- C. Delux, Deputy Chief of Forest Carbon Credits and CC, Cambodia</li> <li>- G. Balawag, Tebtebba, CSO/IPO representative</li> </ul>
9:50	<b>Debate among panelists, with driving questions from the moderator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Panelists</li> <li>- Moderator</li> </ul>
10:10	<b>Debate with panelists based on questions from the audience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Panelists</li> <li>- Moderator</li> </ul>
10:30	<b>End of session</b>	

### IV. [Background material](#)

- Report from the regional workshop, Quito 2014, July 30 to August 1
- Report from the regional workshop, Nairobi 2014, October 14 to 15