



MINISTRY OF NATURE,  
ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM



# Workshop to establish a REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce in Mongolia

## Workshop report

*Held at: Bayangol Hotel, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia*

*13 September 2011*



Prepared by Ms Lisa Ogle, Consultant for UNDP/UN REDD: [lisa@lisaogle.net](mailto:lisa@lisaogle.net), and Dr  
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## Purpose of Workshop

At the invitation of the Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism (MNET) in Mongolia, a workshop to discuss a proposal to establish a REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 13 September 2011. The workshop was conducted jointly by the Forestry Agency, the UNDP Country Office, Mongolia, and the UN REDD Programme / UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre.

## Workshop objectives

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To raise awareness of REDD+ among key stakeholders in Mongolia;
- To inform participants of the role of the UN REDD Programme; and
- To discuss the proposal by the Forestry Agency to establish a REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce in Mongolia, and to obtain feedback on the proposal.

## Participants

A broad range of stakeholders from government, civil society, donors and development partners (including Forest User Groups, local governments, and the private sector) were invited to attend the workshop, with 49 invitees actually attending on the day.

**Annex A** contains a list of workshop invitees and attendees.

## Summary of workshop

The Director of the Forestry Agency, Ms Tungalag, opened the workshop, welcoming participants and indicating Mongolia's interest in developing a plan for Mongolia to engage with the emerging international REDD+ mechanism. Mr Thomas Eriksson, the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative then addressed participants, emphasising the importance of taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change and confirming UNDP's commitment to assisting Mongolia with the REDD+ readiness process.

**Annex B** contains a copy of the agenda for the day.

## Presentations on REDD+

The morning session focussed on raising awareness of REDD+, with presentations from Ms Lisa Ogle, a UNDP / UN REDD Programme consultant, on 'What is REDD+?', and 'The international legal framework for REDD+'. Mr Akihito Kono, the UN REDD Regional Technical Advisor based in Bangkok, gave a presentation on the role of the UN REDD Programme. This session also identified the requirements for REDD+ readiness and the role that a Roadmap plays in identifying a country plan for REDD+ readiness.

**To view a copy of the all the presentations given at the Workshop, visit**

**<http://www.undp.mn/news-snrm.html>**

## Observations of REDD+ from participants

Following the presentations and before lunch, participants were invited to provide feedback on the morning's presentations, and to indicate how they thought REDD+ might be relevant to their work and their communities.

Questions and statements were made by participants relating to:

- Whether Mongolia's Green Wall Programme could be included in REDD+? (comment from Director of Green Wall Programme)
- Whether local communities could be paid directly for their work in reducing emissions from their forests?
- The possibility of herders using biofuels and therefore reducing their reliance on fuel wood from forests, and the need for MNET to work with herders on this issue (comment from herder/ Forest User Groups)
- The need for more active forest management through better forest management plans, which would assist with addressing forest degradation (comment from Selenge aimag)
- The need for better land use planning to delineate areas for agriculture (crop production) and for forestry (comment made by MFALI)
- The need to change policies relating to forest cleaning to allow local communities to extract old or diseased wood from forest areas and Special Protected Areas (comment from community group in Khentii aimag)

- The importance of trying to use REDD+ to assist with efforts to combat desertification
- The importance of addressing corruption where government people are involved
- The need to improve standards for the collection of wood fuel
- The process should consider using existing results and lessons from various government programmes
- There is a difference between the forest definitions that the Forestry Agency uses and those used by FAO, resulting in a data discrepancy.

### Proposal by Forest Agency Director to establish REDD+ Taskforce

The afternoon session focussed on the process for establishing a REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce in Mongolia. The Director of the Forest Agency introduced participants to the provisions of a draft Ministerial decree by the Minister for Nature, Environment and Tourism to establish a REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce. The taskforce membership was discussed by all participants. Participants then broke into three working groups to consider particular elements of the proposed Roadmap.

The Director of the Forest Agency proposed the following initial list of 15 Taskforce members:

	Nominee	Organisation
1.	Ms. M.Tungalag (Taskforce Chair)	Forest Agency
2.	Mr. S.Dashdavaa (Taskforce Secretary)	Forest Agency
3.	Ms. N. Altantsetseg,	Cabinet Secretariat of Mongolia
4.	Mr. D.Dagvadorj,	Mongolia Special Envoy for Climate Change
5.	Ms. Oyuntuya	Ministry of Finance
6.	Nominee	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
7.	Nominee	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry
8.	Mr. Boldbaatar	Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism
9.	L. Nyam	Director of Forest Exploitation, Forest

	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
		Agency
10.	B Otgonsuren	Chair of the Forest Organization Service, Forest Agency
11.		
12.	Mr. D.Ganbold	Mongolian Environmental Civil Council
13.	Mr. Sainbayar	Private Sector
14.	Mr. N.Baatarbileg	Mongolian National University
15.	Mr. Ts.Banzragch (Taskforce Advisor)	Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism

The proposal included nominating the Director the Forest Agency as Chair and the Forest Agency as Secretary.

Various comments were made by participants in response to this proposal including:

- Suggestions that additional people be added to the Taskforce, including: representatives from local communities (although it was acknowledged that this might involve difficulties in attendance due to distance and travel and it was also noted by the Director of the Forest Agency that they do not have a unified organisation representing these communities); a representative from the CDM; a representative from the business sector; a representative from community forest partnerships (as these are not represented by the Mongolian Environmental Civil Council); a suggestion that the environment units of aimags could represent local communities; a representative from emergency management for forest fire issues; the Rangeland Pasture Management Association (suggested by ADB);
- The importance of the Taskforce engaging in regional and local consultations on the proposal to engage with REDD+
- A request for a glossary of REDD+ terminology for Taskforce members.

Following this discussion, the Director agreed to consider all of these suggestions and to propose to the Minister that three additional members be added to the Taskforce.

Postscript: As a result, the following members were added to the Taskforce:

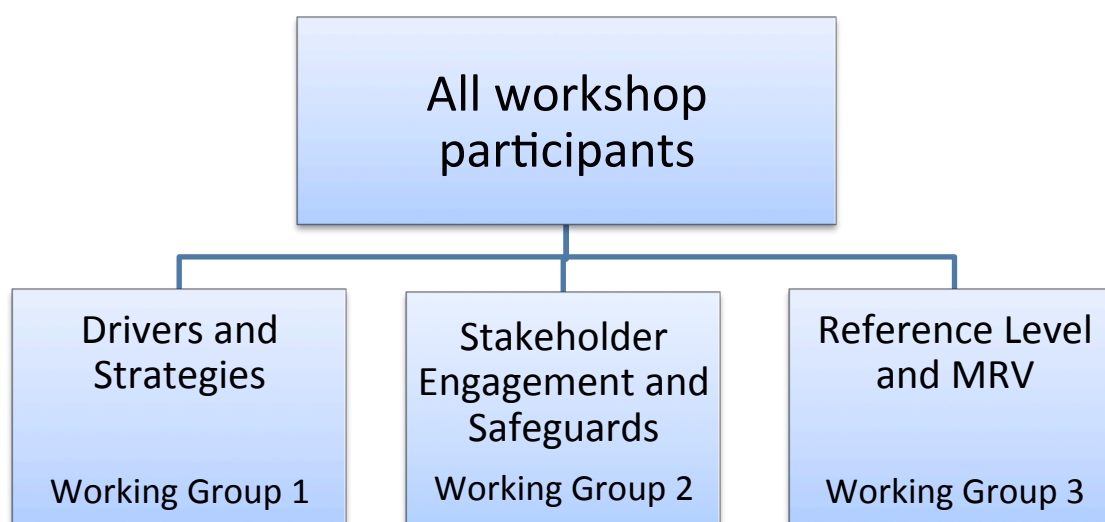
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1.	A Enkhtur	Director of the Division of Complaints, Monitoring and

	Nominee	Organization
		Evaluation, National Human Rights Division of Mongolia
2.	B. Tsendsuren	Chair of the Division of CDM
3.	B. Baasanbyamba	Head of Association of Forest Entrepreneurs

The Forestry Agency Director requested and obtained general endorsement from the participants (indicated when all participants raised hands) for the proposal to extend the membership for the proposed Taskforce, with no objections being made.

### Working Group structure and findings

In the afternoon session it was suggested that Working Groups be formed as follows:<sup>1</sup>



Workshop participants then divided into three working groups, using a process of self-selection, to discuss the following topics:

- Working group 1: Drives and strategies
- Working group 2: Stakeholder engagement and safeguards
- Working group 3: Reference levels and MRV

After discussion within groups, a representative from each working group reported back to the plenary.

<sup>1</sup> Note: This Working Group structure was eventually adopted for the initial work of the National REDD+ Taskforce.

**Annex C** contains the questions given to each Working Group and the findings from each group.

### Closure of workshop

Ms Ogle (Consultant UN REDD/ UNDP) noted that the Taskforce would be asked to prepare material through working groups for the Roadmap, and that there would be a further mission and national level workshop held in November 2011 to review the work of the Working Groups and to identify the next steps required. There may also be a regional consultation held in November 2011 in Selenge Aimag.

The Director of the Forest Agency noted that there was much work to do to develop a REDD+ programme in Mongolia and undertook to have the REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce formally established and to convene the Taskforce.

### Further publicity of workshop

A televised report on the workshop was made on Mongolian National Broadcast (MNB) and Eagle TV.

Click here to see the televised report: <http://www.undp.mn/news-snr130911.html>.

## Annex A: List of workshop invitees and attendees

#	Name	Organization	Position	Attended
1	L.Gansukh	MNET	Minister and Member of the State Great Khural	No
2	Ts.Banzragch	MNET	Director of Department of Sustainable Development and Strategic Planning	Yes
3	A.Namkhai	MNET	Director of Department of Protected Area Administration	No
4	D.Batbold	MNET	Director of Division of Foreign Cooperation	No
5	L.Tumurkhuu	National Committee for Forest	Secretary of the NCF	Yes
6	D.Dagvadorj	Climate Change Coordination Office	Mongolia Special Envoy for Climate Change	Yes
7	D.Bayarbat	National Committee for Combating Desertification	Secretary of the NCCD	No
8	M.Tungalag	Forestry Agency	Director and Focal Point on REDD+	Yes
9	D.Boldmyagmar	Forestry Agency	Deputy Director	No
10	L.Nyam	Forestry Agency	Director of Forest Exploitation Regulatory Division	Yes
11	Ch.Purevsuren	Forestry Agency	Director of Forest Reserve & Forest Protection Division	No
12	S.Dashdavaa	Forestry Agency	Director of Forestation Policy Division	Yes
13	Sh.Erdenedavaa	Forestry Agency	Senior specialist of the Forestation Policy Division	Yes
14	B.Uyanga	Forestry Agency	Specialist of forestry Senior specialist of the Forestation Policy Division	Yes
15	G.Gankhuyag	MFALI	Director of the Department of Livestock Policy Implementation	No



#	Name	Organization	Position	Attended
16	Oyuntuya	Ministry of Finance	Specialist of the Department of Budget Expenditure	No
17	D.Batkhuuyag	Agency of the Mineral Resources	Director	No
18	A.Avirmed	Green Wall Program	Coordinator	Yes
19	Yu.Delgermaa	Agency of NET of Capital City	Director	Yes
20	B.Batzorig	Agency of NET of Selenge <i>Aimag</i>	Director	Yes
21	Ts.Dashdemberel	Agency of NET of Tuv <i>Aimag</i>	Director	Yes
22	Ch.Urtnasan	Agency of NET of Khovsgol <i>Aimag</i>	Director	Yes
23	B.Darkhantur	Agency of NET of Khentii <i>Aimag</i>	Director	Yes
24	A.Gantumur	Agency of NET of Bulgan <i>Aimag</i>	Director	Yes
25	R. Suglegmaa	Agency of NET of Arkhangai <i>Aimag</i>	Director	Yes
26	Ts.Baigalmaa	Forest Unit of the UB city	Chair	Yes
27	I.Naimanjin	Forest Unit of Khovsgol <i>Aimag</i>	Chair	Yes
28	B.Altansukh	Forest Unit of Bulgan <i>Aimag</i>	Chair	Yes
29	Ts.Tsogtbaatar	Forest Unit of Mungunmorit <i>Soum</i> , Tuv <i>Aimag</i>	Chair	Yes
30	B.Damba	Forest Unit of Jargalant <i>Soum</i> , Tuv <i>Aimag</i>	Chair	Yes
31	T.Munkh-Erdene	Forest Unit of Ikh	Chair	Yes

#	Name	Organization	Position	Attended
		Tamir <i>Soum</i> , Arkhangai <i>Aimag</i>		
32	Z.Odonchimeg	Forest Unit of Altanbulag <i>Soum</i> , Selenge <i>Aimag</i>	Chair	Yes
33	Oyuntsetseg	Forest unit Mandal <i>Soum</i> , Selenge <i>Aimag</i>	Director or chair	Yes
34	B.Munkhbayar	Forest Unit of Binder <i>Soum</i> , Khentii <i>Aimag</i>	Chair	Yes
35	S.Dorjgotov	Khan Kentii Protected Area Administration	Director	Yes
36	N.Baatarbileg	National University	Head of Forest Department	Yes
37	Khodolmor	National Environmental Information Center	Director	Yes
38	B.Batbold	Mongolian Environmental Civil Council	Head	Yes
39	Ankhubayar	Mongolian Environmental Civil Council	Head of the Forest Commission	No
40	D.Oyungerel	Khurgalag FUG, Mandal <i>Soum</i> , Selenge <i>Aimag</i>	FUG's head	Yes
41	P.Olonbat	Kyargastain Bayanburd FUG, Tsagaannuur <i>Soum</i> , Selenge <i>Aimag</i>	FUG's head	Yes
42	Ch.Nergui	Bayantsagaan FUG, Dadal <i>Soum</i> , Khentii <i>Aimag</i>	FUG's head	Yes

#	Name	Organization	Position	Attended
43	G.Luvsantseren	United Association of Foresters	Head	Yes
44	N.Oyundelger	FAO	Assistant of Resident Representative	No
45	Dominique Reeb	FAO	Chief Technical Advisor "Capacity Building and Institutional Development for Participatory Natural Resources Management and Conservation in Forest Areas of Mongolia"	Yes
46	Ts.Dashzeveg	FAO	National Project Coordinator "Capacity Building and Institutional Development for Participatory Natural Resources Management and Conservation in Forest Areas of Mongolia"	Yes
47	B.Erdene-Ochir	World Bank	Rural Development and Environment Officer	No
48	Klaus Schmidt-Corsitto	GIZ	Leader of the Programme "Climate Change and Biodiversity-Conservation and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources"	No
49	Wolfgang Hesse	GIZ	GIZ Office, Ulaanbaatar, Country Representative	Yes
50	Munkhoo (Munkhjargal Begzsuren)	ADB	Manager of the project "Strengthening Carbon Financing for Regional Grassland Management in Northeast Asia" project	Yes
51	Johan Ramon	SDC	NRM Advisor of the Resident Representative office	Yes
52	Yo. Onon	WWF	Species manager of the WWF	Yes

#	Name	Organization	Position	Attended
			Mongolia	
53	Sezin Sinanoglu	UNDP	Resident representative	No
54	Thomas Eriksson	UNDP	Deputy Resident Representative	Yes
55	Akihito Kono	UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre	Regional Technical Specialist for UN-REDD and Ecosystems and Natural Resources	Yes
56	Onno Van Den Heuvel	UNDP	Programme Officer	Yes
57	B.Bunchingiv	UNDP	Programme officer / analyst	Yes
58	Lisa Ogle	UNDP	Environmental Legal Consultant	Yes
59	B.Enkhtsetseg	UNDP	National consultant	Yes
60		UNDP	National project coordinator of the "Environmental Governance" project	Yes
61	M. Gulifera	Private		Yes

## Annex B: National REDD+ Workshop agenda

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
<b>SESSION ONE: Welcome and introductions</b>		
9:00 – 9:30	Opening remarks	Mr. Thomas Eriksson UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms.M.Tungalag Director of the Forestry Agency
9:30 – 9:40	Introduction to UN-REDD team members, UNDP Mongolia team members, donors/development partners and participants	Participants to introduce themselves
<b>SESSION TWO: Introduction to REDD+ and the UN-REDD Programme</b>		
9:40 – 10:10	What is REDD+?	Ms Lisa Ogle Environmental Legal Consultant UN-REDD / UNDP
10:10 – 10:30	Introduction to the UN-REDD Programme	Mr Akihito Kono Regional Technical Specialist for UN-REDD, and Ecosystems and Natural Resources, UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre, Bangkok
10:30 – 11:00	Prospects for obtaining funding through UN- REDD Programme	Mr Akihito Kono
11:00 – 11:15	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>SESSION THREE: International framework for REDD+</b>		
11:15 – 11:45	International legal framework for REDD+	Ms Lisa Ogle
11:45 – 13:00	Discussion of REDD+ Roadmap development process in Mongolia and experiences from other	Ms Lisa Ogle

<b>TIME</b>	<b>SESSION</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>
	countries	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break	
<b>SESSION FOUR: REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce in Mongolia</b>		
14:00 – 14:30	Discussion on establishment of REDD+ Roadmap Taskforce in Mongolia	Ms Tungalag
14:30 – 15:00	Breakout: Working Group discussion and report back	Facilitator: Ms Lisa Ogle
15:00 – 15:30	Discussion on timetable for further work of Taskforce	Facilitator: Ms Lisa Ogle
15:30 – 16:00	Closing remarks	Ms Tungalag
16:00 – 16:20	<b>Coffee and tea</b>	

## Annex C: Findings of Working Groups

### Working group 1: Drivers and strategies

**Questions given to Working Group:** What are the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Mongolia? What are the existing strategies being used to address these drivers? Which ones are working well? Which ones are not working well? What new strategies can be used to address deforestation/forest degradation that could be supported by REDD+?

#### Working Group answers

Members of the working group emphasized that fuel wood shouldn't be included as a driver.

The Working Group listed the following drivers:

- Forest disease
- No incentive for local people and voluntary rangers
- High settlement and overgrazing
- Limited knowledge of forest protection
- No complete reforestation after usage
- Lack of forest measurement.

Working Group noted the following advantages:

- Someone is responsible for the forest protection, but economic interests are very high
- Good legal environment, but lack enforcement
- Trees planting movement, but inadequate thinning and cleaning.

Working Group noted the following weaknesses:

- Lack of right of rangers and volunteer rangers
- No in timely fighting against injurious insects
- Lack of finance and resources
- Lack of mechanism for programme and project implementing in local level
- Unsustainable rules, regulations and management plan.

### Working group 2: Stakeholder Engagement and safeguards

**Questions given to Working Group regarding stakeholders**

- Please identify stakeholders who might be affected by REDD+. Categories might include: Government sector: national, aimag, soum, bag, Public enterprises, Private sector, Land owners and land users, Forest resource users, Civil society organizations, Donors and development partners

### **Working Group answers**

Categories listed by this working group were:

- *Government sector: national, aimag, soum, bag*
  - Forest Agency (national level)
  - Agencies of nature, environment and tourism (aimag level)
  - Forest units (Soum level)
  - Citizens' Choral (meeting) (bag level)
- *Public enterprises*
  - Hay makers, kitchen gardeners, herders
- *Private sector*
  - Forest professional companies
  - Mining companies
- *Land owners and land users*
  - Peasants
- *Forest resource users*
  - Forest user groups
- *Civil society organizations*
  - Mongolian environmental civil council
  - Other SCOs & NGOs
- *Donors and development partners*
  - UNDP
  - GTZ
  - FAO
  - SDC
  - World Vision
  - New village movement (South Korea)
  - ADB
  - KHAAN bank
  - Private people (Foreign and domestic):
    - : Dorji Fund (Australia)
    - : Asashuro Fund (Mongolia)

Question: Who should participate in the Roadmap Development?

Answer: All stakeholders will participate in the development of the REDD+ Roadmap.

### **Questions given to Working Group on social safeguards:**

Which groups of local people are likely to be affected by REDD+? Which ethnic minorities are likely to be affected? How can safeguards be put in place to protect their rights?



**Working Group answers**

REDD+ might affect following stakeholders:

Stakeholders	Affects
Herders	FUG members are mostly herders. If the REDD+ implement in Mongolia, they don't have big affects. Might be grazing areas in edge and clearing of forests decreased.
Hay makers	Might be hey areas in edge and clearing of forests decreased.
Peasants	Decrease agriculture areas will be reduced.
Illegal loggers	Illegal logging will become obsolescent
Mining companies	Mining activities will be stopped in the forest areas.

- Need to respect the rights of the indigenous and local communities
- Link to Mongolian law enforcement
- Provide participation of local people
- Improve legal environment

**Questions given to Working Group regarding environmental safeguards:** How can we ensure REDD+ actions are consistent with protecting biodiversity? How can we prevent leakage?

**Working Group Answers:**

- Protection of biodiversity
- Enforcement of the Law on Forestry
- Measures of anti-corruptions

**Working group 3: Reference Level and MRV****Questions and answers on how to develop a Reference Level?**

*Question: What current data do we have on forest cover in Mongolia? Include both boreal and Saxaul forests:*

*Answer: There is Info on Forest Inventory and management assessment at national level.*

*Question: What historical data do we have to establish the past rate of deforestation and forest degradation?*

Answer: There is info of last 40 years

*Question: What current data do we have on forest biomass and carbon stocks in Mongolia?*

Answer: National scientists are studying at the Mongolian National University forest biomass.

*Question: What capacity building assistance is needed to build a comprehensive forest inventory?*

Answer: Capacity building is very important. We should prepare specialists on carbon estimation and learn new techniques and technologies.

**Questions given to Working Group on Measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) :**

Does Mongolia have reliable access to remote sensing data? How can it incorporate ground-based truthing of forest carbon changes? What are the opportunities for participatory forest monitoring? What lessons can be learned from existing projects? What are the current capacity and resource gaps for developing an MRV mechanism? How can emissions and removals from REDD+ be used to generate data on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry, so that it can be linked to the national greenhouse gas inventory which is the basis for reporting to the UNFCCC?

**Working Group answers**

- It is possible to use satellite images.
- We could not estimate and measure sequestering (removing) CO<sub>2</sub> by increasing carbon stocks by using satellite images as there is no methodology or guidelines.
- Capacity Building and training is needed.