

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



**FOREST DEPARTMENT
SRI LANKA**

National Programmes Semi-Annual Update SRI LANKA

[UN-REDD Programme](#)

(January – June 2014 Update)

15 August 2014

1. National Programme Status

1.1 National Programme Identification

Country: Sri Lanka
Title of programme: Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme

Date of signature : 27 February 2013
Date of first transfer of funds : 3 April 2013
End date according to National Programme Document: 30 January 2016 (given the date of fund transfer, the official end date is now 2 April 2016)
No-cost extension requested¹: No

Implementing partners²:

- Forest Department of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy (Lead implementing partner)
- Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy
- Department of Wild Life Conservation (DWLC) of the Ministry of Wildlife Resources Conservation

¹ If yes, please provide new end date

² Those organizations either sub-contracted by the Project Management Unit or those organizations officially identified in the National Programme Document as responsible for implementing a defined aspect of the project. Do not include the participating UN Organizations unless Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) is being applied.

1.2 Monitoring Framework

Outcome 1: National Consensus Reached on the National REDD+ Programme	
Expected Results (Output 1.1): Broad-based, multi-stakeholder national REDD+ advisory group established	
Indicators:	<p>1 Terms of reference endorsed by the Ministry of Environment and members of the RPMCC appointed</p> <p>2 Number of coordination workshops and meetings conducted</p>
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No advisory group, but draft ToR available
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
<p>Expected annual Target</p> <p>Two workshops per year</p> <p>Four meetings (of RPMCC) per year</p>	<p>Achievement of Annual Target</p> <p>Based on a PEB decision, the establishment of the RPMCC has been postponed, with a proposal that the 23-member PEB may be converted into RPMCC at a later date. Workshops and meetings of the RPMCC are therefore not occurring. PEB meetings (reported under output 2.1) contribute towards the initial objective of RPMCC meetings.</p> <p>The Task Force on Public Policies and Strategies, for which a ToR was initiated during this reporting period, will consist of senior officers from at least seven ministries and three departments. There is a proposal that this body might also constitute a precursor to the RPMCC. No formal decision has been made in this regard.</p>

Expected Results (Output 1.2): National legal, procedural, institutional and capacity needs arrangements for sectors relevant for REDD+ reviewed (i.e. Agriculture, forestry and other land uses)	
Indicators:	1 Strategic directions available for effective implementation of REDD+ Programme in Sri Lanka
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited capacity and gaps in implementing National REDD+ Readiness programme - Work initiated in R-PP preparation - Key guiding policies/programmes such as Haritha Lanka Programme, legal documents available for review. - Set of national guidelines for REDD+ programme management not available.
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target - Within 12 months, recommendations are prepared based on reviews and consultations.	Review of Sri Lanka's policies, policy instruments and institutional arrangement for REDD+ initiated with a team of two national consultants under the direct supervision of the CTA and the regional team. A number of meetings and consultations were organized to collect important information required for the analysis. No significant delays in implementation.

Expected Results (Output1.3): National REDD+ Roadmap prepared	
Indicators:	1A set of well-structured REDD+ Readiness strategies and activities for those strategies agreed by all relevant stakeholders
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No baseline
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	

<p>Expected annual Target</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within 9 months, a draft roadmap available for public review and comments. - Within 12 months, the Roadmap officially adopted and guiding further REDD+ readiness process. 	<p>A concept note for the Roadmap developed and approved with the assistance of CTA and the regional advisers. Based on this, the ToR for recruiting a national consultant was also prepared and approved. Work under this output will follow on from the conclusion of the institutional/PLR review work under output 1.2, hence initiation of the Roadmap is later than envisaged in the NPD.</p>
--	---

Outcome 2: Management Arrangements contributing to the National REDD+ Process

Expected Results (Output 2.1): UN-REDD Programme implementation arrangements established

<p>Indicators:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level of PMU staffing, and participation status of TFs and TWGs 2 % of annual targets of the programme met 3 Number of multi-stakeholder meetings/workshops held for coordination and capacity building
---------------------------	--

<p>Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme</p>	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No PMU, TFs, TWGs or stakeholder networks
---	--

Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)

<p>Expected annual Target</p> <p>Two meetings/workshops (of Task Forces, Technical Working Groups, PMU staff and implementing partners) for coordination and capacity building are held monthly</p>	<p>All positions of PMU were recruited by November 2013. CTA was recruited in November 2013 and he made his first mission to Sri Lanka in February, 2014.</p> <p>TF on MRV continues to meet regularly. The initial discussions were held for TF on national policies and strategies.</p> <p>Two PEB meetings were held during this reporting period. Continuous monitoring was done through weekly (PMU level) and monthly (key agency level) meetings.</p>
--	--

Expected Results (Output 2.2): Capacity Building Action Plan developed for REDD+ (linked to Output 1.2)

<p>Indicators:</p>	<p>1 A REDD+ management structure, institutional arrangements, and required competencies for institutions (Output 1.2) approved by RPMCC</p>
---------------------------	--

	2 A stakeholder endorsed capacity building action plan
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - No capacity assessment done
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target Within 10 months, a REDD+ management structure, institutional arrangements and required competencies are identified and approved by RPMCC. Within 12 months, a CBNA completed	Draft TOR for the CBNA exercise was developed but delayed until 2015 pending results of the institutional review work (Output 1.2) which was just initiated during this reporting period and expected to be completed in the 2 nd half of the year. Expected results of the institutional review will set the foundation on which to develop a CBNA.

Outcome 3: Improved Stakeholder Awareness and Effective Engagement	
Expected Results (Output 3.1): Strategic communication and consultation plan prepared	
Indicators:	1A set of well-structured communication strategies and activities for those strategies agreed and approved by the RPMCC 2REDD+ web site developed
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Not REDD+ specific but some communication materials and processes are available
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	- Key target groups for awareness raising and information sharing identified.

<p>Within 6months, communication strategies are designed and adopted.</p> <p>Within 9 months, the website and media platform disseminating information, lessons and receiving feedback.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication network with development partners among the government institutions for increased coordination and collaboration formed and a ToR finalized. - Development of an action plan for the network including expanding the membership and linking with 'Deyata Sevena' campaign and 'Divi Neguma' department³, plantation sector, CBOs, NGOs, civil society groups is in progress. - Validation of overall communications strategy is also in progress. Plan is prepared to use media for awareness raising in support of green economy, and suitable communication formats, products and feedback/evaluation mechanisms identified. - Contract is to be awarded to the selected web developer to develop a Trilingual REDD+ website. Work delayed due to late recruitment of the Communications Officer position and complex official protocols for contracting web developer. - Team of journalists, to establish a media platform, already identified and establishment of a media platform and awareness raising sessions planned. - Key officials of the state stakeholders were made aware on REDD+ including members of the IP Forum and CSO Platform. Key lessons are documented and shared among partners. Baseline survey on REDD+ conducted and analysis is in progress. - National Programme Partners attended regional gender workshop in Bangkok
---	---

Expected Results (Output 3.2): Stakeholder engagement in REDD+ readiness process enhanced (incl. FPIC, the private sector engagement)	
<p>Indicators:</p>	<p>1 Representative stakeholder forums identified/ developed, and contributions of the forums are considered by the PEB/RPMCC in its decision making.</p> <p>2 National FPIC Guidelines developed and piloted</p> <p>3 Grievance handling mechanism operational</p>
<p>Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme</p>	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preliminary consultation workshops and processes during R-PP preparation mainly at national level
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
<p>Expected annual Target</p>	<p>CSO Platform & IP Forum have been established. As a priority for 2014, efforts are underway to strengthen these networks'</p>

³ "Divi Neguma Department"(controlled by an administrative body appointed by the people and through which an opportunity has been afforded for all its activities to be administered by the community organisations) which is the first ever department with mandated to make Sri Lanka a poverty-free country for which purpose food security will be ensured and micro finance, physical and social infrastructure facilities will be provided to strengthen livelihoods and development at community level

<p>Within 8 months appropriate stakeholder forums, including indigenous peoples and women and other key stakeholders, identified and receive sufficient capacity building to contribute to REDD+ decision making</p>	<p>knowledge, skills and abilities to engage with the national programme. A number of awareness raising sessions organized for senior officials of the government departments and CSOs led to meaningful participation and involvement in UN-REDD activities. CSO Convening Committee gathered 4 times during the reporting period and enhanced their engagement of the national programme as per the work plan drafted by them. TOR for a private sector engagement consultant was prepared, and advertised. TOR for a national stakeholder engagement officer was prepared and finalized.</p>
--	---

Outcome 4: National REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework	
Expected Results (Output 4.1): Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and legal and policy alignment needs identified	
<p>Indicators:</p>	<p>1 Drivers and causes of deforestation and forest degradation fully identified.</p> <p>2 Integrated spatial and economic analysis completed</p> <p>3 Legal and policy gaps identified to be aligned for REDD+</p> <p>4 A set of policy recommendations and action plans identified and supported by stakeholders</p>
<p>Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme</p>	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No assessment of drivers, opportunity costs, or gap analysis on policy and measures - Biodiversity and ecosystems assessments, preliminary consultations during R-PP preparation
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
<p>Expected annual Target</p> <p>Within 8 months, an analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation is completed.</p> <p>Within 10 months, an opportunity cost assessment for REDD+ and implementation framework for addressing drivers are completed.</p>	<p>The drivers of deforestation & forest degradation study was awarded and in progress. The consultant team was guided by the Forest Department and PMU with technical inputs from the Chief Technical Advisor and regional UN-REDD team. A comprehensive Inception Report including a methodology for land use/land cover change was prepared. The work is expected to be completed in October 2014. Work was delayed due to poor initial response to call for expressions of Interests (EOI) and consequent re-advertisement.</p>

Expected Results (Output 4.2): Land tenure and use rights clarified towards the benefit sharing of REDD+	
<p>Indicators:</p>	<p>1A detailed report describing different land tenure patterns in Sri Lanka is available</p>

Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Unclear land tenure and land rights in rural areas
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	N/A

Expected Results (Output 4.3): Options for addressing deforestation and forest degradation at sub-national level identified	
Indicators:	1 Number of options for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, stakeholder engagement, technical approaches at sub-national level identified.
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Some REDD+ relevant lessons already generated
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	N/A

Expected Results (Output 4.4): Options for equitable and transparent benefit sharing identified	
Indicators:	1A set of policy recommendations on benefit sharing mechanism is approved by the RPMCC
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Some relevant lessons from other sectors

Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	N/A

Expected Results (Output 4.5): National REDD+ Strategy developed	
Indicators:	1 Officially endorsed National REDD+ strategy available
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - No REDD+ roadmap, strategic actions identified during RPP preparation
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	N/A

Outcome 5: Forest monitoring system for REDD+ Activities Provided	
Expected Results (Output 5.1): MRV process initiated	
Indicators:	1A set of technical guidelines/instruction manuals available
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - No MRV process in Sri Lanka
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	

<p>Expected annual Target</p> <p>Within 12 months, a national forest definition is adopted, training on GHG inventory for the forestry sector are provided and the national central database is developed.</p>	<p>Work on adopting national forest definition will be done after the LCCS training planned in September 2014. Enhancing general capacities of the stakeholders of MRV commenced and in progress, following the MRV Action Plan Training in GHG inventory for the stakeholders conducted during the reporting period. The development of the National Central Database will take place only in the first half of the second year as the data required for the database are still being collected.</p>
---	---

Expected Results (Output 5.2): National forest monitoring systems established

<p>Indicators:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 National forest monitoring system available 2. A set of pre-tested technical guidelines/instruction manuals available 3 Technical officers are capable of handling the equipment efficiently and effectively producing required info. 4. Reference forest map developed.
<p>Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme</p>	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Satellite Forest Monitoring System in Sri Lanka

Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)

<p>Expected annual Target</p> <p>Within 15 months, at least 5 trainings on Remote sensing and GIS are provided.</p>	<p>A 5 day comprehensive training on Remote Sensing & GIS was conducted to key MRV stakeholders and will be continued. Digitization of past land use map data is in progress (by the Survey Department)</p>
--	---

Expected Results (Output 5.3): National forest inventory designed

<p>Indicators:</p>	<p>1 National Forestry Inventory is designed, field inventory manuals are developed and adequate technical tools are developed to assess emission factors.</p>
---------------------------	--

Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> No existing national forest inventory to provide emission factors
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target Within 12 months, one training on tree allometric equation is provided.	One comprehensive 5 day training programme on tree allometric equations was conducted for the key stakeholders Collection of data on tree species completed

Expected Results (Output 5.4): National circumstances considered for REL/RL	
Indicators:	1 Assessment report on national circumstances addressing different scenarios available for future implementation
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - National circumstances analysis is not adapted for REDD+
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target -	N/A

Expected Results (Output 5.5): National REL/RL tested	
Indicators:	1Nationally agreed REL/RL available

Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - No REL/RL exist in Sri Lanka
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	N/A

Expected Results (Output 5.6): Framework for social and environmental risk mitigation and potential multiple benefit enhancement designed	
Indicators:	1 A set of pre-tested Nationally appropriate safeguards are endorsed and used by the national REDD+ programme.
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - No safeguards in place
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target -	N/A

1.2 Financial Information

Programme Outcome (Reference: National Programme Document)	Part. UN Org.	Approved Budget/Amount Transferred (USD) A	Cumulative Expenditures as of 30 June 2014			
			Commitments	Disbursement	Total Expenditures (B+C)	% Delivery (total expenditure /Budget) D/A
			B	C	D	D/A
Outcome 1	FAO	155000	60847	69058	129905	83.81
	UNDP	105000		5949	5949	5.67
	UNEP	0			0	0.00
Sub-total Outcome 1		260000	60847	75006	135854	52.25
Outcome 2	FAO	700000	19987	161231	181218	25.89
	UNDP	40000		5851	5851	14.63
	UNEP	0			0	0.00
Sub-total Outcome 2		740000	19987	167082	187069	25.28
Outcome 3	FAO	0			0	0.00
	UNDP	220000		0	0	0.00
	UNEP	373000	80000	50000	130000	34.6
Sub-total Outcome 3		593000	80000	50000	130000	21.90
Outcome 4	FAO	270000			0	0.00
	UNDP	490000		44062	44062	8.99
	UNEP	0			0	0.00
Sub-total Outcome 4		760000	0	44062	44062	5.80
Outcome 5	FAO	1285000	16787	74564	91351	7.11

	UNDP	60000		1345	1345	2.24
	UNEP	40318			0	0.00
Sub-total Outcome 5		1385318	16787	75909	92696	6.69
Total Programme cost per Agency (all outcomes):	FAO	2410000	97621	304853	402474	16.70
	UNDP	915000	0	57207	57207	6.25
	UNEP	413318	80000	50000	130000	34.6
Total Indirect Support Cost (7%)	FAO	168700	0	21340	21340	12.65
	UNDP	64050	0	1458	1458	2.28
	UNEP	28932	0	9100	9100	31.5
Grand Total (total Programme + indirect support cost)		4000000	177621	443958	621579	15.5

2. National Programme Progress

2.1 Narrative on Progress, Difficulties and Contingency Measures

2.1.1 Please provide a brief overall assessment of the extent to which the National Programme is progressing in relation to expected outcomes and outputs and the opportunities and challenges. Please provide examples if relevant (300 words).

The national programme has now completed one year from the date of the Inception workshop. Work on some outputs has been postponed pending the results of others, for example output 1.3 will follow result of output 1.2, and work on outputs 4.2 – 4.6 will follow results of output 4.1. This has resulted in lower than expected delivery rates, but activities are following a rational plan. For output 4.3, a discussion was initiated to propose revisions to the activity budgets of UNDP-led activities in order to ensure strategic integration of Community-Based REDD+ (CBR+) into the national programme.

The national programme has been able to orient a number of stakeholder audiences including implementing partners, key government counterparts, CSOs and IPs for effective stakeholder engagement. A CSO platform and the IP forum have been established to contribute to the long-term national REDD+ institutional arrangements. The capacities built also contribute to the attainment of the outcomes and outputs through effective engagement in REDD+ discussions, reviewing the documents and results of major studies and raising their voice in the development of the National REDD+ Strategy. Development of the major communications products has been initiated, and the communications strategy has been finalized. MR -related activities under outcome 5 are in progress guided by the MRV action plan and MRV working group. The two major activities; review of Sri Lanka's policies, policy instruments and institutional arrangement for REDD+ and the study on drivers of deforestation & forest degradation have been initiated. A concept paper together with ToRs for the national consultant to develop the Roadmap was also developed.

Strong support and active involvement by the NPD provides focused guidance to the national programme. The 23-member PEB, which includes key and relevant government counterparts will facilitate widespread national buy-in of a future national REDD+ strategy.

However, with the complex administrative and financial regulations of the government, increasing the rate of expenditure will still be a challenge. PMU wishes to have more involvement of the FAO country office in the MRV component of the NP. The very busy schedules of the regional advisers have made some delays in obtaining required technical inputs timely. Identifying the links between outputs and the ultimate goal of the national programme has to be further strengthened while coordination and monitoring needs to be further improved at the PMU level. PMU staff (in particular NPM and the technical officers) needs to build further capacity in delivering their respective results and this should be considered through training and development. Managing the expectations of a multi-stakeholder audience will continue to be a challenge.

2.1.2 Please provide a brief overall assessment of any measures taken to ensure the sustainability of the National Programme results during the reporting period. Please provide examples if relevant.(200 words)

The PEB is a key institution for ensuring sustainability of the national programme results, by keeping a wide range of government and non-government stakeholders informed and involved in decision-making processes and building a foundation for a future multi-stakeholder forum for oversight of a national REDD+ programme. Meeting logistics and information flow have improved over the three PEB meetings conducted to date. In addition, the MRV TF, Communications Network, CSO Platform and IP Forum are entities which help to ensure sustainability of results of the NP.

In this reporting period, regular meetings with the key implementing partner (FD) were initiated and have been very productive and helpful. NPD has assigned different components of the NP to his 5

senior officers and delegated authority to make necessary decisions.

The finances for stakeholder engagement activities and for communications activities are now being directly handled by the respective District Forest Officers (DFOs). This has led to ownership and meaningful participation of the government officers.

Several measures taken by the PMU assure the sustainability of the national programme results. Weekly meetings with the PMU staff, frequent skype meetings with the CTA and the regional advisers, monthly meetings with the UN agencies and the FD and also joining the FD monthly meeting and updating the progress are among them. Similarly the continuous reporting is done on various formats as per the requirements of the different stakeholders such as UN-REDD Secretariat, UN agencies, FD, Ministry of Environment, External Resources Department, etc.

3. Government Counterpart Information

This section is dedicated to the Government Counterpart to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complementary information to Section 1-2 which are filled out by the participating UN organizations.

Comments by the Government Counterpart:

It is much pleased to see that implementation of NP has gained its momentum and progressing smoothly. Development of Communication strategy, which was essential for initiation of awareness and other related activities, has been finalized and ready for implementation. This will solve no of issues related to delay in disbursements. Two other important studies essential for initiation of road map preparation are in progress.

Contribution of development partners at all relevant meetings and workshops is very good. PMU has provided highly commendable service to the success of the implementation.

4. Other stakeholders (non-government) Information

The aim of this section is to allow non-Government stakeholders to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complementary information to Section 1-3 which are filled out by the three participating UN organizations. Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms.

Comments by other stakeholders (non-government):

REDD is a novel concept for Sri Lanka. The community experiences are lacking both locally and globally. Therefore, members of the Civil society Platform have questions on how they can contribute to the REDD readiness project currently being implemented in Sri Lanka. Other stakeholders are similarly going through a learning process.

The project is in progress in the past six months especially in building awareness among the stakeholders. Meanwhile MRV process, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and communication strategy are also in progress.

PMU responses to the questions raised by the IP representatives shared at the last PEB meeting show that broader local community issues will be surfacing in REDD readiness stage which needs some attention. My learning when addressing the REDD awareness programs organized for the Wildlife officers by the PMU also showed that broader issues beyond the control of the REDD readiness project needs to be addressed. They include uncontrolled forest destruction by the various people and for the development projects.

Although the civil society organization can be more active on monitoring the forest destruction, the current expectations are only limited to awareness building and commenting on the various outcomes of the review

documents. Therefore we are unable to utilize their capacity wisely. CSOs are now learning how they can involve in REDD advocacy, especially on engaging in the governance.