REDD+ Readiness Roadmap

**Working Group 2 (WG2): Drivers and Causes of Deforestation and Forest Degradation (DD) and Strategies to address them**

**Terms of Reference**

# Background

The MoCC, ICIMOD and WWF Pakistan are jointly implementing the “REDD+ Preparedness Phase” project with the financial and technical support of the One UN JPE and UN-REDD Program. The project has three major outputs i.e. sensitization of stakeholders about REDD+; capacity building of stakeholders; and, development of a REDD+ roadmap. A national consultative REDD+ workshop was organized on 21 February 2013 to launch the process of elaborating the REDD+ Roadmap process. At that workshop it was decided to establish four Working Groups (WGs) to give their input in the development of the REDD+ roadmap, this being one of them. This WG2 will review and synthesize all information regarding direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and identify issues to be addressed with devising strategies to cope with these drivers.

The REDD+ Readiness Roadmap will be drafted on the basis of input of the four WGs between now and the end of May 2013. The Roadmap will describe the current situation in Pakistan with respect to activities, governance and capacity in the forest and land use sectors, but not make recommendations on activities, governance and capacity in the forest and land use sectors. Rather it will **identify the issues** that need to be reviewed and possibly enhanced thereafter in the Roadmap implementation phase, to optimize Pakistan’s opportunity to access positive incentives under the future REDD+ mechanism that is currently being negotiated under the UNFCCC. For more background on the REDD+ Readiness Roadmap see Annex 1.

The UN-REDD Roadmap Process has been or is being undertaken is various countries and albeit that a particular structure of the Roadmap is not prescribed, experience has demonstrated that particular subjects do emerge in each of the cases to date. Therefore, Annex 2 contains a possible Table of Content for the Roadmap.

# Objectives

The objectives for WG2 are related to the drivers and causes of deforestation and forest degradation (DD). More specifically:

1. *To collate and synthesize information on drivers and causes of deforestation and forest degradation;*
2. *Identify issues to be addressed when developing strategies for addressing the identified drivers; and,*
3. *Contribute to the development of the REDD+ Roadmap.*

# Structure of the Working Group

The working group will consist of 10-14 members with representation from each province, federal government and civil society organizations. Moreover the working group should have at least one member from a non-forestry sector. The working group members should have knowledge of forestry issues and their management.

# Issues to be addressed by the Working Group

* Review and describe the current situation of forests and forestry in Pakistan
* Review and describe the drivers and causes of deforestation and forest degradation in the context of REDD+ in Pakistan; and, agree on what the direct and indirect drivers are.
* Identify and describe the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation for each forest type and forest ecosystem in Pakistan. If they differ per region, describe.
* Review the existing strategies, tools and approaches and identify potential strategies, tools and approaches that must be investigated during the Roadmap Implementation Phase to deal with the drivers and causes of DD in future.
* Identify capacity building needs for the stakeholders regarding development of strategies, tools and approaches to deal with the drivers of the deforestation and forest degradation in the context of REDD+ programs.

# Outputs

Preliminary gap analyses of, and identification of critical issues related to:

1. The list of drivers and causes of DD in Pakistan
2. Potential future strategies to address the drivers and causes of DD
3. Review of existing capacities and capacity building needs, including a workplan to address those needs to adequately deal with drivers and causes of DD.
4. Review and description of the current and required institutional arrangements, capacities, available resources and information, leading to a workplan to make suggestions for institutional reforms, if appropriate.

# Methods of Working

* WG2 will meet once in a month and hold a skype meeting once in a month.
* All the members will collect relevant information and resource materials and share with the focal person within a couple of weeks, who will share them among the members for review.
* First meeting WG2 in the week of 18 March 2013 to discuss. Objective: agree on the definition of the terms drivers and causes, and refine the list of drivers and causes prepared during the district level workshops.
* Share resource material about strategies, tools and approaches to address the drivers and causes through email exchanges.
* Arrange a skype meeting by end of March 2013 to discuss potential future strategies to deal with drivers and causes of DD.
* Second meeting by mid-April 2013. Objective: finalize the identification of issues related to future strategies, tools and approaches and capacity building needs of stakeholders.
* Share and comment on the work of other groups and hold skype discussion where necessary by the third week of April 2013.
* Share WG2 findings with other groups through emails by end of April 2013.
* Meet and finalise input to Roadmap by the end of the 1st week of May 2013.

Annex 1: the REDD+ Roadmap Process

A REDD+ Readiness Roadmap is a country-specific, national document that:

1. sets out the current situation in a country with respect to activities, governance and capacity in the forest and land use sectors; and,
2. identifies the issues and activities that need to be addressed and implemented in order to prepare Pakistan for a national-level REDD+ program.

A REDD+ program is a voluntary, national-level strategy designed to access financial incentives through a future international climate change mitigation agreement under the UNFCCC, in return for demonstrated, verified reductions in net Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions[[1]](#footnote-1) resulting from the land use and forest sectors. The policies and measures to achieve these net emission reductions must largely be implemented at the local, or grassroots level, and be coordinated at national and sub-national levels of forest administration, according to the prevalent governance systems in the countries concerned.

It will be possible for REDD+ programs to access incentives only when this future international climate change mitigation agreement under the UNFCCC has been finalized. In the meantime however, countries can access support from various sources to get ready to implement a REDD+ program in due course. This is often referred to as the “Readiness phase”, whereby a country prepares itself for the participation in this future REDD+ mechanism.

The Roadmap can serve multiple purposes. The elaboration of the Roadmap itself facilitates a critical review of the land use and forest sectors, its governance, associated legislation, and the current performance. It can also function as the basis for planning REDD+ Readiness activities, allowing the government and other stakeholders to determine what can be done with existing resources, what additional financial and technical support is required, which capacity needs to be build, how collaborations and enforcement can be strengthened, develop manners to engage stakeholders, optimize land use, and coordinate requests for this support to various agencies. Agencies which can provide such support include the UN Collaborative Programme on REDD+ (UN-REDD: a joint venture of FAO, UNDP and UNEP); the World Bank’s Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), bilateral and multi-lateral donors, and private sector entities and foundations and charitable organisations.

The UN-REDD Programme has assisted various countries in Asia in the development of REDD+ Readiness Roadmaps, including Cambodia, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Based on this experience, UN-REDD and the One UN JPE in Pakistan have prepared a strategy for the Roadmap process and will provide financial support for its implementation. The process is being facilitated by ICIMOD and WWF Pakistan, assisted by Eveline Trines from Scope14+, an international consultant. The REDD+ Roadmap process was launched officially with a national consultative REDD+ Roadmap workshop on 21st February 2013. But in advance of that launch, several consultative and outreach meetings were held in various districts and provinces.

The REDD+ Roadmap will be compiled by Eveline Trines on the basis of information that is to be provided by various stakeholders. To that end 4 Working Groups (WGs) have been launched at the workshop on 21 February 2013. Those WGs will meet several times between now and the end of May 2013 and compile and make available relevant data and information in order to elaborate the REDD+ Roadmap. The completion of the draft REDD+ Roadmap is foreseen for June 2013, after which it will undergo a broad review during a consultative process. Therefore, subsequent steps in the process will be as follows:

* Formation of four multi-stakeholder working groups to collect relevant information and materials for the Roadmap;
* Provincial workshops to identify governance issues and management arrangements for the REDD+ Readiness phase, locally-relevant drivers of deforestation and degradation and identify potential strategies to address them;
* Collation of information and materials into a draft Roadmap document;
* National workshop for presentation and discussion of the draft REDD+ Roadmap (tentatively scheduled for June 2013); and,
* Nationally-coordinated multi-stakeholder consultation process, and incorporation of resulting comments and amendments into a second draft Roadmap.

Annex 2: Possible Table of Content for the REDD+ Roadmap

**Introduction**

Country Profile

Pakistan and Climate Change

Pakistan Forest Sector

Background: International Framework for REDD+ Implementation

Background: Pakistan REDD+ Readiness Roadmap

**Section 1: Management of REDD+ Readiness**

Existing Climate Change policy framework in Pakistan

Key Policies and Laws relevant to Climate Change and Forests

Pre-existing government institutional framework

Pre-existing institutional framework for REDD+ Readiness

Potential Partners in REDD+ Roadmap

Gaps in Existing Management Structure

Draft Proposal for Management of Readiness

**Section 2: Stakeholder Consultation and Participation**

Stakeholder mapping and potential roles of stakeholders in REDD+

Background to Stakeholder Consultation in the forest sector

Stakeholder Consultation process to date

Planned Consultation Processes

Gender Inclusiveness

Compliance with the Principles of FPIC

**Section 3: Development and Selection of REDD+ Strategies**

Initial Assessment of Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation

REDD+ strategy options per forest type (mountain forests, arid forest, mangroves, etc.)

Further Studies on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation

Assessment of Policies, Laws and Rules

REDD+ Strategy Options

Feasibility Assessment of Potential REDD+ Strategies

Planning Process for REDD+ Strategy Implementation

**Section 4: Implementation Framework and Safeguards**

Objective of this component

Outcomes of this component

Elements of the REDD+ Implementation Framework

Operationalising the Institutional Structure

Legal Aspects

Clarifying land tenure and land use rights (including indigenous peoples’ rights)

Financial Aspects

Social and Environmental Safeguards

**Section 5: Develop a National Forest Reference Emission Level (REL)/Reference Level (RL)**

Introduction

Objectives

Data availability:

1. Natural forests
2. Plantations
3. Mangroves, etc.

Carbon pools, Greenhouse Gases, Force Majeure

Historic trends in emissions and deforestation

REDD+ activities that can be undertaken

Projections:

* Approaches, methods, and models that can be used
* Harvesting rates, wood products
* Age class structure of plantations

**Section 6: Development of Monitoring and MRV systems**

Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the NFMS/MRV activities

Issues to be addressed in order to build capacities to implement the GHG inventory for the forest sector

Issues to be addressed in order to develop a Satellite Forest Monitoring System

Issues to be addressed in order to design a National Forest Inventory

Issues to be addressed in order to support scientific research on key issues

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1. *Net* GHG emissions are emissions minus removals, meaning the result of (emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) minus (removals through forest conservation, enhancement of carbon stocks and sustainable forest management). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)