

UN-REDD PROGRAMME



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REQUEST FOR TARGETED SUPPORT

Developing National Forest Monitoring System for the Philippines

I. SUMMARY OF REQUEST

<p>Main objective</p>	<p><i>The main objective of this targeted support is to provide assistance to the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) in the preparation of an Action Plan for the implementation of a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) that addresses the country's needs for forest resources monitoring, including the monitoring of REDD+ policies and measures, and the reporting commitments at national and international level (such as the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and the UNFCCC National Communications). The NFMS will constitute the primary monitoring system, as well as serve as the backbone for the country's Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) System for REDD+.</i></p>
<p>Main results expected</p>	<p><i>The main results and outputs expected from this support include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A complete and finalized NFMS Action Plan that can address the objectives outlined above</i> • <i>General description of the NFMS showing and articulating its monitoring and MRV functions for REDD+ and other concerns</i> • <i>Assessment of the data availability and requirements of each NFMS pillar</i> • <i>Description of the current data infrastructure and how it should be enhanced to form the backbone information system of the NFMS (e.g. FRA database, forest management information system expanding beyond the current tenure database of FMB)</i> • <i>Current and potential sources of data, including field data, satellite and other remote sensing data</i> • <i>Capacity needs assessment for the implementation of the NFMS</i> • <i>Identification and description of tools for data collection, management, and sharing consistent and compliant with modalities and guidelines on REDD+ as mandated by IPCC, UNFCCC and FAO/FRA</i> • <i>General descriptions for QA and QC of data collected</i> • <i>Institutional and organizational arrangements outlining the roles and responsibilities of agencies concerned with the data collection, analysis, and management of the NFMS</i> • <i>Technical trainings on (i) satellite based monitoring system, (ii) national forest inventory and (iii) greenhouse gas inventory.</i>

Total amount requested (US\$)	USD 100,000
Related Work Area ² as defined in the <u>UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015</u>	The support requested is central to, and related with, the Measurement, Reporting and Verification System, and to some extent, the Stakeholder Engagement
Planned period of implementation	June 2015 – December 2015
Please select below type of funding as appropriate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for funding for REDD + activities implemented in support of existing UN-REDD National Programmes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for funding for REDD+ activities complementary to other nationally-defined REDD+ activities (national strategies, RPP and/or bilaterally funded REDD+ activities) or for initiation of REDD+ activities. (The country has no UN-REDD National Programme.	

II. BACKGROUND¹

Global efforts to mitigate climate change led to international agreement to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation or REDD+. The Philippines has signified its strong interest in getting involved with this initiative and has demonstrated its commitment through the formulation and adoption of the Philippine National REDD+ Strategy.

NFMS is needed for a variety of reasons foremost of which are to: 1) assess the general condition of the forest, 2) monitor the performance of a developing country and evaluate its merit under the economic incentive system of REDD+, 3) assess its forest resources consistent with the requirements of FAO, and thereby fulfil the country's commitment to submit a periodic FRA Report, and 4) conduct national greenhouse gas inventory pursuant to the required national communication and reporting of GHG emissions mandated by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) of which the Philippines is one of the signatories.

The support described in this proposal will complement current efforts and resources toward the development of a NFMS. The envisaged activities will also build on previous support provided by the UN-REDD Programme, such as the Initial National Program (INP) that was implemented in 2012-2013. The INP included a component initiating the design of an MRV system and the design of the NFMS Action Plan will be based on the results achieved by the INP.

The focus of this targeted support request is the design of a NFMS Action Plan. It will supplement previous efforts and fill-the-gaps not adequately addressed by other current initiatives supported by development partners. Significant efforts have already been initiated and will serve as building blocks for the development of NFMS. Notable among these are the previous works of GIZ².

A number of efforts and initiatives on REDD+ Readiness in the country have been conducted while others are currently being undertaken. A National REDD+ Strategy is now in place. Plans are also in place to pilot test draft national REDD+ safeguards in a number of REDD+ projects supported by development partners. Moreover, efforts are on-going in terms of establishing Reference Emission Levels (REL) and MRV systems. The NFMS is the much needed centrepiece that will integrate these REDD+ elements and thereby contribute to the country's REDD+ Readiness.

Although the country has received INP support, it has not yet received full UN-REDD support such as UN-REDD National Programme. It should also be noted that the activities and initiatives outlined in this proposal are consistent with the technical support provided by the UN-REDD Programme. Specifically, the proposal is in-line with UN-REDD's objective to assist country-level programmes for comprehensive initial REDD + readiness including in-depth targeted support covering one or more of the work areas, which in this case is the development of NFMS to support monitoring and MRV systems for REDD+.

The country has received small grants and other support from donor agencies including the UN-REDD, USAID, GIZ, EU, IUCN and others. Activities and initiatives undertaken by these projects are coordinated by the REDD+ unit of FMB to make sure that they are complementary and non-overlapping. Coordination and complementation may involve specific projects providing full funding support for some activities, and joint or leveraged funding for others. Support provided through this proposal will focus on NFMS and will also be part of the complementation of funds.

FMB will be the primary implementing agency for this proposal. The agency will be supported by the USAID-B+WISER Program and GIZ's National REDD+ Program.

¹ Depending on the phase of the country in its REDD+ efforts, some of these details are relevant. Others may be too detailed and can be further elaborated if the request is approved.

² GIZ has prepared two seminal papers: 1) *Concept Note: Pathway for the Development of a Philippine National Forest Monitoring System*, and 2) *Road Map to a National Forest Monitoring System for the Philippines*

III. SUMMARIZED WORKPLAN WITH BUDGET AND TIMELINE

(Please expand space as needed. Alternatively, add Annex with workplan, budget and timeline)

Description of planned outputs and activities	Amount (US\$)	Implementation period (from month /year to month/year)
<p>National Stakeholder consultations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial consultation to dialogue with stakeholders and generate the components/elements to be included in the NFMS • Consultation for final validation of the NFMS 	20,000	<p>July 2015</p> <p>December 2015</p>
<p>Technical Consultations/Workshops on NFMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings of the established National NFMS Working Group • State of the art of the NFMS – Where do we stand? What has been done with UN-REDD INP, GIZ REDD+ Roadmap, USAID-B+WISER NFMS and carbon assessment, etc. • Review of current available data infrastructure and how it can be harmonized and integrated in the NFMS • Capacity-based needs assessment for the NFMS • Review of Tools and Methods appropriate for the data demands of the NFMS, including cost efficiency and uncertainty • Revisit the conclusions of the NFI workshop in Feb 2013 and the FMB DG's decision on the NFI design • Design of the NFMS • Development of the NFMS Action Plan 	20,000	July-November 2015
<p>Capacity Building/Trainings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on satellite land monitoring system (Open Foris) • Training on forest inventory and sampling design • Training on greenhouse gas inventory for the LULUCF/AFOLU sector <p>The trainings will follow the principles of the UN-REDD strategy (i.e. Step-wise approach; Build upon existing capacities; Make use of available tools that are freely available - open source; Alignment with the UNFCCC COP decisions and IPCC GPG; Build on lessons learned from former capacity building projects.</p>	60,000	August-October 2015
Total amount requested (US\$)		100,000

**IV. UN-REDD COUNTRY FOCAL POINT
(name and title):³**

(Signature)

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³ It is recommended that the UN-REDD Country Focal Point submits the request.