

**Terms of Reference for Tier 2
UN-REDD Programme
27 October 2012**

1. Background

The UN-REDD Programme assists developing countries to build capacity to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+). The Programme supports nationally-led REDD+ processes and promotes the informed and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent communities.

The UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015, endorsed as a living document at the fifth Policy Board meeting in October 2011, proposes a new modality for associating activities funded outside the existing UN-REDD Programme Fund with the UN-REDD Programme, called “Tier 2”.

The Tier 2 modality is intended to enable countries to benefit from the expertise of the UN agencies’ UN-REDD Programme team to ensure the quality standards of activities funded from sources beyond the UN-REDD Programme Fund, and to provide greater flexibility of funding arrangements.

2. Criteria

To be eligible for Tier 2, the association with the UN-REDD Programme will be requested by the country or by a group of countries, together with one or more UN-REDD Programme Agencies, including for global activities, and the proposal should:

- be supported by one or more donors
- be implemented in partnership with one or more UN-REDD Programme agencies (FAO, UNDP, UNEP)
- advance the objectives of the UN-REDD Programme
- be consistent with the UN-REDD Programme principles, criteria, guidelines and quality assurance measures, including the Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria
- contribute to learning opportunities for the UN-REDD Programme.

3. Responsibilities

REDD+ Countries:

- initiate the Tier 2 association (for national and regional activities)
- confirm partnership with one or more donors

- invite one or more UN agencies to partner in implementation
- lead the implementation of the Tier 2 activity at the national and regional levels
- present updates on implementation of Tier 2 activities to the Policy Board.

Donors:

- commit to provide financial support in agreement with the requesting country.

UN-REDD Programme Agencies:

- assess whether proposed activities meet the above Tier 2 criteria
- provide clearance of the Tier 2 proposal and forward it to the Policy Board through the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat
- ensure that the UN-REDD Programme quality assurance measures are properly applied throughout implementation
- support resource mobilization for Tier 2 activities
- ensure, through the Management Group, that Tier 2 activities are coordinated and coherent with the UN-REDD Programme objectives and approach
- for global Tier 2 activities, initiate and lead the implementation.

UN-REDD Programme Secretariat:

- coordinate the process for reviewing draft proposals
- develop and maintain a registry of Tier 2 activities in the Voluntary REDD+ Database
- provide regular consolidated updates on Tier 2 activities to the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board
- support resource mobilization efforts for Tier 2 activities
- facilitate information sharing on Tier 2 activities among stakeholders.

Policy Board:

- endorse the association of the proposed Tier 2 activities with the UN-REDD Programme at a Policy Board meetings, with an option for inter-sessional endorsement to be followed by a presentation at the subsequent Policy Board
- create opportunities to share lessons with, and learn from, Tier 2 activities.