



MISSION REPORT	
<p>DISTRIBUTION</p> <p>Kaveh Zahedi Isabelle Louis Tim Christophersen Edoardo Zandri Keiko Nomura Nguyen Thanh Phuong Jaime Webbe</p> <p>TN: 15535</p>	<p>NAME(S): Thomas Enters</p> <p>PERIOD: 13 to 15 September 2015</p> <p>PROJECT NUMBER & TITLE: UN-REDD Programme</p> <p>INSTITUTION(S) OR MEETING(S) and VENUE(S): UN Technical Team meeting under the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme, national REDD+ Academy.</p> <p>MAIN PERSON(S) CONTACTED: Colleagues of FAO and UNDP</p> <p>OBJECTIVE(S): Participate in the fourth UN Technical Team meeting and facilitation of one module in the national REDD+ Academy</p>

BRIEF SUMMARY:


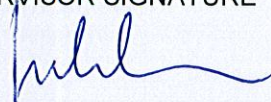
During the preparations for the EG meeting of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme in March 2015, it was decided to set up a UN Technical Team with the following objectives:

- o Jointly ensure the coherence of programme strategies and technical advice to national counterparts;
 - o Work towards a common technical strategy and resolve matters of technical divergence in the interest of the best overall optimal solution for the country;
 - o Provide coherent advice to LFA on risks and issues that escalate from the risk log; and
 - o Build capacity for Programme technical staff (i.e. Outcome officers and other national technical officers hired under the PMU).
- The Team met for the fourth time (this time only for one day) to discuss *inter alia* the following issues:
 - o Update of the internal risk log (The purpose of the UN internal Risk Log is to provide the UN Agencies with a joint clear overview of the most important technical and management risks and issues that affect programme implementation, and to provide a transparent framework for identifying and monitoring actions to mitigate risks, address issues, and record the progress in resolution of those issues).
 - o The slow delivery rate of outputs under Outcome 6 (Regional cooperation enhances progress on REDD+ implementation in the Lower Mekong Sub-region).
 - o Weak coordination among high-level officials of VNForest.
 - Overall, the meeting was quite constructive (due to my commitments in the REDD+ Academy, I was able to attend only during the afternoon). It remains difficult to coordinate with different officials of VNForest, and the Programme continues to be affected by *ad hoc* decisions, such as the reluctance to engage regional development partners in activities under Outcome 6. Regarding UNEP's work on enhancing biodiversity conservation through REDD+, we have agreed that WWF would involve the Department of Nature Cooperation of VNForest in the implementation of activities.
 - As noted above, the UN Technical Team meeting lasted only for one day. There was a general feeling that the UN agencies have a coherent strategy and participants questioned whether it was necessary to organize monthly meetings. As a result, no date for the fifth meeting was set.
 - Although I attended only one and half day of the REDD+ Academy and can therefore not assess the value of the whole course, it apparently went quite well. The course was organized for future trainers and most participants had already a good understanding of REDD+. Participants had been requested to review the Learning Journals (produced by UNITAR) before the event, but few did so. This meant that some participants requested more information on particular issues, which they could have found in

the journals. It also emerged that the text in some Powerpoint slides was difficult to read (font too small). While participants liked the exercises they requested them to be simpler and directly related to Viet Nam. The stronger link to country-specific issues is however supposed to be developed by the trainers themselves when they deliver courses in Vietnamese in the future. The participants requested that more time be devoted for most topics. At the same time, they suggested longer lunch breaks and shorter training days. Finally, it was requested that in the introduction to the course the linkage between the 12 modules should be explained, which has already been taken on board for future REDD+ Academies.

RECOMMENDATION(S)/ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN:

- Finalize the SSFA with WWF
- Review all modules of the REDD+ Academy to make improvement for the next national REDD+ Academy to be held in Bhutan in October 2015.

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CLASSIFICATION: <input type="checkbox"/> CONFIDENTIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED	SIGNATURE(S)  Thomas Enters	SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE  Isabelle Louis