**Expert:** International Consultant on Forest Institutions

**Output:** 1.3

**Responsible UN Agency:** UNDP

**Duration:** 4 person-months on “When-Actually-Employed” basis
May – December 2010

**Duty station:** Hanoi and home-based

**Background:**

The UN-REDD Programme assists Vietnam to strengthen the country’s capacity to be ready for REDD implementation. One of the key components of the Programme is to develop a framework for the governance structures of REDD as a National Programme and its relationship to other government programs.

The National REDD Programme is one of the key priorities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and it is considered crucial in meeting the objectives of the National Target Program on the Reduction of Climate Change impacts (NTP-RCC). REDD will be pervasive throughout the operations of the Directorate-General of Forestry within the Ministry and it will have important consequences for the other sections of the Ministry. REDD has an impact at the national level where the National REDD Programme will be administered, but also at regional offices of the Ministry where many of the operational tasks will be concentrated. Important elements of the National REDD Programme involve coordination and collaboration with other government agencies as well – e.g. land titling and registration (MONRE), distribution of benefits (MOF), timber-based industries (MOIT), engagement of ethnic minorities (CEMA) – as well as with stakeholders outside of the government.

In order to establish an effective National REDD Programme the governance structures have to be designed and implemented in such a way that all offices and stakeholders inside and outside of the government are included in an objective, efficient and transparent way.

**Objectives:**

The overall objective of the study is to design a framework for REDD governance in Viet Nam. The framework document has to be comprehensive – cover all aspects of the National REDD Programme and indicate tasks and responsibilities of all offices and stakeholders inside and outside of government – and it shall include a strategy for implementation.

At least the following elements shall be incorporated in the study:

* Review of relevant land-use and forest policies and governance currently in place in Viet Nam.
* Review of existing information required for REDD, identification of missing information and a strategy to generate additional information.
* Formulation of a data and information management strategy for REDD.
* Formulation of the overall structure of governance for REDD.
* Detailed formulation of tasks and responsibilities of government offices in REDD.
* Formulation of roles and responsibilities of non-state stakeholders in REDD.
* Design of a procedure for comprehensive Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment for the National REDD Programme and for individual activities undertaken as part of REDD.
* Design of an integrated Monitoring & Evaluation system for REDD – i.e. for monitoring of achievements and results of REDD activities.
* Formulation of an implementation strategy for the National REDD Programme.

The study is executed jointly and in full coordination with other international and national consultants and in full consultation with all relevant stakeholders. The consultant will perform his duties under the direct supervision of the National Project Director of the UN-REDD Programme and in close collaboration with the National Team Leader and Technical Specialist of the UN-REDD Programme.

**The consultant will take on the following specific responsibilities**:

* Liaise closely with the National Project Director on substantive inputs into the study. Work, on a daily basis, with the National Consultant on Forest Institutions. Coordinate and plan activities with the other National and International Consultants.
* Prepare a mapping of all forestry institutions in Viet Nam and analyze their (potential) relevance for the REDD mechanism, either on the basis of current mandate or under a possible new mandate when REDD is implemented. This should include government agencies, but also operational entities, research organizations, etc.
* Prepare a mapping of all national and international non-state organizations involved in forestry, rural development, socio-economic development of rural populations, etc. that reach out to the beneficiaries of the REDD mechanism and identify how they and their activities relate to state organizations involved in the REDD mechanism.
* Liaise with the National Consultant Government Institutions on essential elements of the REDD programme that are within the mandate of government institutions outside of the forestry sector.
* Analyze the current regulatory and policy context of the forest sector in Viet Nam, jointly with the National Consultant on Forest Policies.
* Analyze the institutional mapping and design a governance framework for REDD in Viet Nam, with due attention to critical requirements of the REDD programme: transparent, objective, verifiable, inclusive, equitable, respect for ethnic minorities, conservation of biodiversity, etc. Jointly with the National Consultants on Forest Institutions, Government Institutions and Forest Policies.
* Participate in consultative processes with key national stakeholders (including public sector, private sector, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, NGOs, etc.) in support of all aspects of the assignment.
* Prepare a detailed report on all substantive elements of the assignment, jointly with the National Consultant Forest Institutions.

The International Consultant Forest Institutions will work closely with other team members in the performance of his duties, in particular with the National Consultant Forest Institutions. It is expected that the assignment will to a very large extent be undertaken in Viet Nam, primarily in Hanoi but with some domestic travel.

**Qualifications, Experience and Competencies**

* Post graduate degree in Forestry, Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Economics, or similar.
* At least 10 years of international experience on forestry and forest institutions.
* Good knowledge of the international debate on forestry and the REDD mechanism under the UNFCCC. Good knowledge of the Vietnamese REDD position and proposal; knowledgeable of the submissions of the Government of Viet Nam to The World Bank on REDD (R-PIN).
* Extensive experience with tropical forest institutions and implementation of best practices related to improved management procedures. Good knowledge of forest policy and institutions in Vietnam.
* Proficiency in both spoken and written English.