**Terms of Reference**

**International Consultant**

Activity: Lesson learned in programme implementation identified, documented and shared (output 1.5)

Project title: The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries in Viet Nam (UN-REDD)

Location: Ha Noi

Date: 10 working days in the period July – September 2011

1. **Background**

The UNFCCC recognizes Viet Nam as one of the top five most affected countries in the world as a result of climate change. Although not suffering from excessive levels of deforestation typical of some other countries in the region, deforestation is locally significant in Viet Nam, especially in the Central Highlands. Furthermore, natural forests continue to be more fragmented and degraded and its quality is therefore declining. Over two-thirds of Viet Nam’s natural forests are considered poor or regenerating, while rich and closed-canopy forest constitutes only 4.6 percent (in 2004) of the total. Fast economic growth within the country and the drive to export commodities is an underlying driver of the deforestation and forest degradation within Viet Nam. There are growing efforts by the authorities to combat these problems but the pressures are intensifying. If the value of the forest is able to compare with that of the alternatives, then this could act as a strong incentive to arrest these trends.

The UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme seeks to address deforestation and forest degradation through capacity building at national and local levels. Firstly, it builds capacity at the national level to permit the Government of Viet Nam to coordinate and manage the process of implementing a National REDD Programme. Secondly, it will build capacity at local levels through pilots in two districts in Lam Dong province that demonstrate effective approaches to planning and implementing measures to reduce emissions.

The Objective of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme is “To assist the Government of Viet Nam in developing an effective REDD regime in Viet Nam and to contribute to reduction of regional displacement of emissions.” This will contribute to the broader goal of ensuring that “by the end of 2012 Viet Nam is REDD-ready and able to contribute to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation nationally and regionally.” An important activity in achieving the Objective is to build awareness of REDD and the underlying principles of sustainable use and management of the forest resources in the Peoples of Viet Nam and government staff at provincial and district level.

1. **Overall Objective**

The overall objective of the assignment is to document lessons learned of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme and make them available to stakeholders in Viet Nam and globally.

The assignment will be undertaken jointly with a National Consultant. The International Consultant will provide the National Consultant with information on effective communication strategies for national and international audiences. The National Consultant will collect information and prepare communication materials for Vietnamese and international stakeholders. Staff of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme is available as resource persons to the Consultants; the UN-REDD Communication Officer will work with the Consultants on a daily basis.

The UN-REDD Viet Nam Programme has developed a Communication Strategy which will be the guiding document for the assignment. This Communication Strategy will be made available to the Consultants.

1. **Scope of Work**

* Identify lessons learned from Programme implementation  
  The Consultant will be supported in this task by the National Consultant and UN-REDD staff members. Consult with NGOs and CSOs on their lesson learned and communication strategies.
* Analysis of lessons that are relevance nationally and internationally  
  With support of the National Consultant and UN-REDD staff members.
* Develop packaging formats of the Lessons Learned materials  
  Jointly with the National Consultant.

1. **Milestones & Final Products**

Expected delivery of milestones and final products

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Products | Deadline of submissions |
|  | Report with full account of all activities undertaken, materials produced, recommendations:   * Identify & analyze of lessons that are relevant for pilot provinces in Phase II of the Programme * Analysis of synergies with communication strategies of NGOs & CSOs * Packaging formats for the lessons learned materials. | End of contract |

*Notes:* The report should be made available in English

1. **Required skills and experience**

* University degree in Communications, Creative Arts, or similar
* At least 5 years of working experience in communications for forestry or rural development
* Knowledge of the REDD+ mechanism
* English, native speaker