**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Consultant:** Support toDevelopment of Provincial Implementation Plans for UN-REDD Phase 2

**Responsible UN Agency:** UNDP

**National/International:** National

**Duration:**  2 months

# Background

The UN-REDD programme for Viet Nam seeks to address deforestation and forest degradation through capacity building at national and local levels. Firstly, it will build capacity at the national level to permit the Government of Viet Nam, and especially the REDD focal point in the Department of Forestry (DoF) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), to coordinate and manage the process of establishing tools to implement a REDD programme. Secondly, it will build capacity at local levels (provincial, district and commune) through pilots in two districts in Lam Dong province that demonstrate effective approaches to planning and implementing measures to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Regional displacement of emissions is known to be a significant problem in the lower Mekong Basin. If REDD is to be implemented effectively so as to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation within the Lower Mekong Basin, as a contribution to global efforts in this regard, there will be a need for coordinated regional action.

Having implemented a UN-REDD Country Programme, the GoV is now moving into Phase 2 of REDD+ implementation by demonstrating a provincial planning based approach to REDD+ under the National REDD+ Programme, with 9-12 pilot provinces across the country. It is anticipated that 6 of these pilot provinces will be supported through a UN-REDD Phase 2 initiative.

**Objectives**:

The primary objective of this contract is to support the process of finalizing the UN-REDD Phase 2 proposal by contributing to the identification of interventions to be supported in each of the 6 pilot provinces, and the preparation of provincial briefs.

Specifically, the following activities are to be undertaken:

1. Completion of provincial briefs

* Review of current drafts
* Identification of sections with missing or sub-standard information
* Acquisition of information required to complete those sections to a high standard of quality
* Completion of draft briefs for review
* Responding to review comments and finalization of briefs

1. Identification of interventions in pilot provinces

- Participate in awareness raising of provincial and district officials

- Assist provincial and district authorities in analysis of information on:

* Location of forest and non-forest land, and current and planned land uses
* Location of areas of high deforestation or degradation risk
* Location of areas with reforestation or restoration potential
* Forest carbon distribution
* Opportunity costs of alternative land uses
* Multiple benefit distribution (e.g., high biodiversity, high poverty areas)

- On the basis of these analyses, identify proposed intervention areas (anticipated 20-40 per province)

- Contribute to initiation of awareness raising in candidate intervention areas

**Expected Outputs**

In electronic and printed formats:

1. A provincial brief, following an agreed format, containing detailed information relevant to REDD+ implementation for each of the 6 pilot provinces;
2. A complete description of all interventions planned in each province (anticipated 20-40 interventions per province; and subject to FPIC from rights-holders). The description should include:

* The type of REDD+ intervention (avoided deforestation; reduced degradation; enhancement of forest carbon stocks);
* The justification for the intervention in terms of current threats from deforestation or degradation, the drivers, estimated opportunity costs, other benefits to be derived (e.g., biodiversity conservation);
* Stakeholders to be involved, including SFEs and/or Management Boards, Communes and Villages, including a breakdown of ethnicities;
* Specific activities to be proposed to stakeholders.

1. A map showing the location of each proposed intervention;

**Competence Requirements**

The consultant shall meet the following criteria:

1. Advanced University Degree in Natural Resources Management, Journalism, Communication or a related field
2. A minimum of 5 years of years of relevant experience on natural resource and/or land use planning;
3. Substantial experience in conducting consultation with diverse stakeholders, including Peoples Committees and provincial DARDS, as well as CSOs and NGOs.
4. Good analytical and communication skills, including the ability to draft and to articulate ideas in a clear and concise manner;
5. Good interpersonal skills, previous exposure to cross cultural environments is an advantage; ability to work well in a team whilst also having the capacity and initiative to work independently;
6. Sound knowledge of disciplines relevant to development work, with added consideration given to those with experience in REDD policy-related work and the forest and carbon market in general;
7. Highly developed oral and written communications skills with excellent writing skills in English and Vietnamese.