



Concept Note on Assessment of UN- REDD Programme Partner Countries' Needs

UN-REDD PROGRAMME SEVENTH
POLICY BOARD MEETING

13-14 October 2011
Berlin, Germany



Support to Country Action on REDD+ - UN-REDD Global Programme Framework Concept Note on Assessment of UN-REDD Programme Partner Countries' Needs¹

The UN-REDD Programme is focused in assisting developing countries to develop capacities to implement readiness on REDD+ - Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks in developing countries, in accordance to Decisions adopted by the Convention of the Parties of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change – UNFCCC - and its subsidiary bodies.

The UN-REDD Programme builds on the expertise of its three participating UN organizations (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) to deliver technical support and funding for REDD+ readiness and the development of REDD+ national strategies. The program delivers its support to countries through National Programmes and through a Global Programme. While the National Programmes seek a tailor-made approach and are designed by each country in close collaboration with UN-REDD Programme national focal points, the Global Programme is designed to allow countries to benefit from exchange of knowledge and from collaborative initiatives to develop common approaches, analyses, methodologies, tools, data and guidelines, with a view to facilitating REDD+ implementation. Promotion of South-South cooperation and convening global and regional meetings are some of the Global Programme strategies to achieve its goals.

At its sixth meeting the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board decided to establish a process for engaging countries and stakeholders in a countries' needs assessment with a view to build a framework to guide closer alignment of the Global Programme to countries' needs². The framework shall build on the UN-REDD Programme Strategy for 2011-2015 and will provide comprehensive guidance for funding and programming. In order to define an approach and guide the process for assessing countries' needs, the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat proposes to launch a consultation process for creating a working group during the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board seventh meeting in Berlin. The consultation should allow the self selection of one representative of each member group of the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board, as follows: Donor countries, UN-REDD Programme partner countries, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples and UN agencies. In order to ensure balance and appropriate assessment of country needs, in the case of UN-REDD Programme partner countries, one representative per region should be self selected, thus allowing three-UN-REDD Programme Policy Board country representatives in the working group. The consultation's result should be announced by the Co-Chairs of the UN-REDD Programme by the co-chairs at the final session of the seventh Policy Board meeting.

The working group, in coordination with the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, shall: provide guidelines for assessing countries' needs; approve the terms of reference for commissioning a consultancy for undertaking the countries' needs assessment; follow up and monitor the progress of the consultancy work, including approval of the consultancy report; and coordinate with the Secretariat elaboration of a preliminary report to be presented by the eighth meeting of the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board. In sum, the working group activities, under the facilitation of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, should be guided by the terms of reference below:

¹ With a view to offer guidance on Support to National REDD+ Action – Framework for Country Programmes as requested by the Policy Board at its sixth meeting in Da Lat, Vietnam, 21-22 March 2011.

² Decision 12 at : http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=5260&Itemid=53

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- Within 30 days after being convened, the working group shall provide guidelines for assessing countries' needs, including identifying the main objectives of the assessment and suggesting approaches.
- Within 45 days after being convened, the working group shall approve , a terms of reference (TOR) for commissioning a consultancy for assessing countries' needs, elaborated in coordination with the UN-REDD Secretariat, including in this TOR: clear identification of the methodology to be adopted; consideration of existing reports and databases such as the reports commissioned by the REDD+ Partnership and the Voluntary REDD+ Database; a time line for completing the countries' needs assessment among the UN-REDD Programme partner countries; and initial assessment on pilot countries.
- Follow up and monitoring the progress of the consultancy, in coordination with the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat.
- Review and comment on the consultant's work.
- Elaborate and present, in coordination with the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, a draft report on preliminary findings of the countries' needs assessment by the eighth UN-REDD Programme Policy Board Meeting, including a proposal on how the results of the countries' needs assessment can feed in the UN-REDD Programme, especially the UN-REDD Global Programme.

The proposed activities of the working group on countries' needs assessment shall be supported by the appropriate budget as below:

Personnel, including staff, consultancy & travel	31,300
Training of counterparts (1 meeting)	17,750
Other direct costs	1,500
7% Indirect Costs	3,539
Total	54,089

(US\$)

TIMELINE

ACTIVITY	WHO	WHEN	COMMENT
Facilitate process for self selection of WG and Create the WG	UN-REDD Programme Secretariat	Berlin, 14 th October 2011	Consultation to be undertaken during the PB meeting.
Develop and approve Consultancy TOR	WG, supported by the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat	28 th November 2011	
Commission Consultancy for Countries' Needs Assessment	UN-REDD Programme Secretariat supported by WG	14 th January	
Presentation of working plan for undertaking countries' needs assessment including methodology, summary of existing studies on countries' needs and three pilot countries to have their needs immediately assessed.	Consultancy	24 th January	
Presentation of draft report	Consultant	13 th February	
Working Group meeting to discuss and comment consultant's report and prepare draft report to the Policy Board	WG supported by the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat	23 rd February	
Elaboration of draft report on preliminary findings to be presented at PB8	UN-REDD Programme Secretariat and WG	1 st March 2012	
Presentation at PB8	WG	March 2012	