

National Consultation of Indigenous Peoples on REDD+ Readiness

Dhaka

23-24 October 2013

Indigenous participants' recommendations to the government representatives at the National Consultation of Indigenous Peoples on 'REDD+ Readiness'

We would like to extend our full support to Bangladesh's position in global REDD+ discussions. We believe that through ensuring full and effective participation of the marginalized, deprived and affected groups and stakeholders including the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) in the process of formulation and implementation of REDD+, it is possible to reach our desired goals, which will play a helpful role in implementing the REDD+ Readiness Phase. We would like to give thanks to the Government of Bangladesh for ensuring the presence of the IPs at the National Consultation on REDD+ Readiness. The IPs are dependent on nature. Their culture, economy, production system, livelihood, custom, traditional practices and beliefs are interwoven with forest and land. Therefore, in this process of formulation and implementation of REDD+ Readiness, the full and effective participation of the IPs should be increased, and in addition to this, there should be a guarantee of the rights of the marginalized, deprived and all affected IPs and local peoples. In order to achieve this, we would like to propose the following recommendations for the consideration of the Government of Bangladesh:

1. To ensure full and effective participation of the IPs.
 - 1.1 There should be ensured effective participation of the IPs at the National REDD+ Steering Committee, REDD+ Stakeholders' Forum and in different steps and processes of the REDD+ Readiness apart from the forthcoming Validation Workshop. In this case while selecting IP representatives, the principle of 'self-selection' among the IPs should be recognized and applied.
 - 1.2 Full and effective participation of the traditional institutions of the IPs should be ensured in REDD+ Readiness Phase and other forthcoming activities.
 - 1.3 To ensure full and effective participation of the IPs in REDD+ Readiness, a permanent communication system between the Government and the IPs should be set up. For this, a national level network on climate change and biodiversity established by the IPs of Bangladesh, called BIPNetCCBD (Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples' Network on Climate Change and Biodiversity) and its secretariat, Maleya Foundation will act as focal point.
 - 1.4 While implementing REDD+ Readiness Phase, the relevant guidelines, rules and laws should be reviewed in consultation with the IPs.
2. At the time of introduction and implementation of any activities under REDD+ programme, the rights of the marginalized, deprived and affected peoples and stakeholders including the IPs should be protected.
 - 2.1 To abide by internationally recognized guidelines of FPIC [Free, Prior and Informed Consent]. To ensure full and effective participation of the IPs while formulating such guidelines at national level;
 - 2.2 To honor and apply the traditional rules and practices of the IPs, and follow these while exercising the country's relevant laws.

- 2.3 To abide by the guidelines of UNDRIP [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples], CBD [Convention on Biological Diversity], and Cancun Safeguard.
- 2.4 To follow the declarations of the IPs of Bangladesh, i.e., Dhaka Indigenous Peoples' Declaration 1997, Dhaka Forest Declaration 2001, Rangamati Declaration 1998, Rangamati Land Declaration 2002, and CHT Accord 1997.
- 2.5 The above mentioned recommendations should be considered at the time of preparing REDD+ related National Programme documents.

Names and signatures of the participants/attendees:

Sl no.	Name	Organization	Signature

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