

### 1. PLANNING THE NS/AP DESIGN PROCESS

Malaysia first evaluated the implementation of her National Forest Policy, 10<sup>th</sup> Development Plan and other relevant policies and matched these policies with the REDD+ requirement. The findings provided a number of options to frame and scope REDD+ implementation in a cost effective manner. It is a dynamic process as additional information became available while aligning to UNFCCC decisions. A National Technical and National Steering Committees were established to address the technical issues and endorsement of procedures, guidelines, etc. Short term working groups were established to address institutional arrangement, governance, policies and legislation, safeguards information system, construction of reference level as well as long term financial options. Outputs of these working groups will be incorporated into the REDD+ Strategy.

Due to limited funds, working groups are established on a need basis or often merged with relevant activities. Findings from the working groups are presented to stakeholders through workshops for comments, improvements and verification.

### 2. ANALYZING DRIVERS OF DD, AND OTHER ANALYTICAL WORK

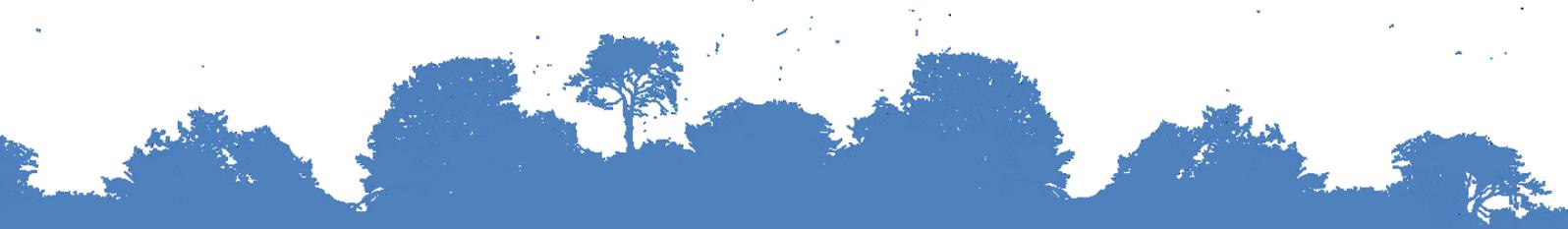
The national Greenhouse Gas Inventory for LULUCF provided basis for Malaysia to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. A national study was undertaken to understand the changes in forest cover in the Permanent Reserved Forest and Totally Protected Area from 1990, 2000 and 2010. Results indicated that forest change was primarily due to infrastructure development needs and degradation was due to legacy management pre 1966s. National definitions and drivers of deforestation and degradation were identified accordingly. Pilot activities are still on-going at sub national level to further understand the drivers of degradation.

The expansion of oil palm areas have been addressed by firstly mapping the potential arable areas and increase the yield to meet the perceived increase in global demand. This is done through the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP). A series of workshops were conducted amongst stakeholders including NGOs to disseminate, build capacity and verify the findings.

### 3. SHAPING THE STRATEGIC VISION FOR REDD+

It is envisioned that the REDD+ Strategy will further support the implementation of Malaysia's five-year development plan. Malaysia pledged to maintain at least 50% of it land mass forested and the implementation of the REDD+ action can help achieve this aspiration. Additionally, the National Physical Plan (NPP) aims at creating connectivity and corridors between forest and forest types. The key strategies of the NPP are to concentrate the nation's scarce resources to a few priority urban areas with the greatest growth potential for job creation along the key economic corridors while protecting the rural areas and natural environment. Incentives from the REDD+ would directly contribute to achieving this aspiration and development plan. The REDD+ supports the second principle of the Climate Change Policy; Conservation of Environment and Natural Resources and the Pursuing Green Growth agenda under the 11 Malaysian Plan.

The REDD+ Strategy will address all five REDD+ activities in long term. However, in line with the current development needs and plan, Malaysia will focus on the Sustainable Management of Forest and Conservation activities. Enhancing the forest management in the context of the NPP will be reduce the deforestation and degradation. Due to the national circumstances of Malaysia, the REDD+ implementation will be at national level.



The REDD+ actions will build upon existing mechanisms in place. A number of legislation, policies, and national committees, working groups and specific agencies are already in place to ensure the forests are managed sustainably and protected while ensuring societal and economic needs are not compromised. The REDD+ actions will be coordinated at national level and implemented at sub national level. The ministry of Natural Resources and Environment coordinates the implementation of these action with relevant Ministries, agencies and sub national government. The sub national government will implement the REDD+ activities in consultation with its stakeholders.

#### **4. IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION OF PAMS**

- a. National Forestry Policy: Revised National Forest Policy (1992) aims at a more comprehensive approach that addresses in greater depth the requirements for sustainable management, development, conservation and control of the resource to fulfill the needs of the people, industry and the protection of the environment.
- b. National Policy on Climate Change: The main objectives are to include mainstreaming climate change through the wise management of resources and enhanced environmental conservation. The policy also aims to strengthen institutional and implementation capacity to better harmonize opportunities to reduce negative impacts on climate change.
- c. National Biological Diversity Policy: Aims to conserve Malaysia's national biological diversity and to ensure that its components are used in a sustainable manner for the continued progress and socio-economic development of the nation. The policy is undergoing a review process currently.
- d. Directives from the National Land Council: The maximum cutting limits and annual coupe are set by the Council and reviewed periodically.
- e. The 10<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Development Plan (2011-15): Outlines that in responding to global climate change, the Government will focus on adaptation strategies to ensure sustainable growth and mitigation strategies to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases. Two major initiatives were launched to ensure sustainable use of forests and their natural resources: the Central Forest Spine project covering 4.3 million hectares in Peninsular Malaysia and the Heart of Borneo project covering 6.0 million hectares in Sabah and Sarawak.

#### **KEY CHALLENGES**

Key challenges faced in the implementation of REDD+ are:

- \* Adapting REDD+ requirements like FRL and SIS into existing systems;
- \* Managing expectation of relevant national and international stakeholders;
- \* Additional reporting requirements to meet the UNFCCC reporting deadlines;
- \* Defining cost effective REDD+ actions ;
- \* Finance and manpower.

#### **LESSONS LEARNED**

- \* The REDD+ Strategy/ Action Plan must be developed in accordance with national development plans taking into consideration the existing mechanism in place;
- \* Implementation of REDD+ actions will not resolve all policy conflicts but may be an enabler to minimize the conflicts;
- \* It is a top down, bottom up approach.

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