
MRV/REL Technical Team

Terms of Reference

Draft v.3 (September, 2013)

1. Background

A future mechanism for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) being developed through the UNFCCC provides an opportunity to support Cambodia's efforts to reduce levels of deforestation and forest degradation as well as to enhance forest carbon stocks. Five activities are listed under current REDD+ mechanism (16th Conference of the Parties, Decision 1, Paragraph 70): Reducing emissions from deforestation; Reducing emissions from forest degradation; Conservation of forest carbon stocks; Sustainable forest managements; Enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

In 2010, with support from UNDP Cambodia and FAO Cambodia, the RGC prepared a REDD+ Readiness planning process, which led to the development of the Cambodia Readiness Plan Proposal on REDD+ ("Roadmap"), a document outlining how the country with develop policies and measures to become 'REDD+ ready'.

An essential component of being REDD+ ready is to have in place a system following transparent and coherent methodological rules for monitoring and information-sharing. This system encompassed two functions to monitor outcomes of REDD+ activities: 1. a Monitoring function and 2. A Measurement Reporting and Verification (or "MRV") function.

1. a Monitoring function

For REDD+, monitoring systems are required to assess forest areas and monitor forest area change over time in order to assess whether REDD+ is resulting in net positive outcomes. Cambodia can also use the systems for domestic uses, e.g. to evaluate a reforestation policy

2. an MRV function

For REDD+, to **Measure** the emissions & removals coming from forests and land use change, to **Report** these emissions (or mitigation performance of REDD+ activities) to the UNFCCC through its national management system, and to make the emissions inventory available for review by the UNFCCC to undergo **Verification**.

In order for the system to be result-based, emissions & removals coming from forests and land use change under the five activities eligible under REDD+, are compared to a specific baseline; **Forest Reference Levels (RL) or Reference Emission Levels (REL)**.

2. Objectives

The objective of the MRV/REL Technical Team for REDD+ is to ensure that the relevant technical capacities are built within REDD+ Taskforce institutions and the REDD+ taskforce secretariat, key technical components (under REDD+ taskforce secretariat) are established for the functioning of a transparent, consistent and accurate Monitoring, MRV and REL system.

3. Responsibilities

The Technical Team is responsible for working with the REDD+ Taskforce to support the development of national MRV/REL framework including the following tasks.

:

- Developing the national forest classification

- Develop a functional design of the Cambodia REDD+ Monitoring and Measurement Reporting and Verification system
- Design the satellite forest monitoring system to support the generation of forest activity data as required by GHG inventory models
- Design of the National Forest Inventory to support the development of emission and removal factors for REDD+ related activities
- Establishment of the reference period
- Establishment of National reference levels (REL/RL)
- Develop the REL/RL national and subnational accounting framework(if required)
- Development of the technical infrastructure to prepare for the implementation of Forest Monitoring and MRV systems
- Determining institutional roles in the REDD+ monitoring and MRV systems
- Maintains the central Forest monitoring and MRV database
- Facilitates data access and data sharing among relevant key actors, Quality Control /Quality Assurance-control, verification
- Prepare ~~the interim~~ GHG inventory for the LULUCF sector
- ~~pp~~ Prepare annually and quarterly implementation plans, and also improvement plan for database management
- Develop proposals for capacity building and technical support for MRV/REL technical team
- Coordinate technical support on MRV/REL to relevant institutions
- Perform other tasks relevant for the design and development of the REDD+ Monitoring and MRV systems

Specific responsibilities of each team members include:

- Attending ~~monthly~~ monthly meetings , training, workshop, and conferences
- Reviewing documents and presentations and providing comments and input to them
- Providing inputs, guidance and assistance to consultants and REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat Personnel to carry out their assignments
- ~~Attending selected capacity building training events and workshops~~
- Implementation

4. Membership

Membership will be limited to ..members, and consist of representatives from:

- One representative from each relevant offices within line ministries (i.e.MAFF, MoE, MoLMUPC, etc.) to be nominated by the line agencies.
- One representative of the Ministry of Industry, Mine and Energy (General Department of Energy)
- 5 CG members with skills and experience within relevant technical areas nominated by the Consultation Group.
- Up to two members of the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat to be nominated by the Head of the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat.
- When deemed necessary the Team Leader can appoint additional members.

All members must designate alternates to attend if they are not available. Additional representatives

from Experiences NGO may be invited to meetings as temporary participants as required.

5. Operations

Due to the number of tasks the team is invited to develop a work plan with milestones in consultation with the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, and agree on the responsibility of each member to support specific areas of technical and advising work in order to prioritize the work and work effectively. The Technical Team should meet on a monthly basis. The Team Leader will be selected among the Technical Team members and endorsed by the Chair of the REDD+ Taskforce. The Team Leader will chair meetings. One of the Taskforce Secretariat members will be nominated as Secretary to the Team. The secretary will ensure that a notification of each meeting is sent out ahead of the meeting, accompanied by any relevant documents to be discussed at the meeting. The secretary will also circulate draft minutes of each meeting within three working days. All members of the team (or their alternates, if they attended the meeting) will provide comments on the draft minutes within three further working days, after which the Secretary will circulate the final minutes. The Technical Team will be supported by international supporting experts and technical advisor(s).

6. Decision-making

The Technical Team will not be a decision making body but will provide key technical recommendations and solutions to the REDD+ Taskforce through the Taskforce Secretariat for consideration.

7. Reporting

Technical working group members are responsible for reporting to and consulting with respective line agencies and constituent groups. The REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat is responsible for reporting to higher management levels.

8. Duration and timing

It is expected that members will be required to work between 1 and 3 working days per month, depending on activities.

9. Funding

Financial support will be provided from the UN-REDD Programme, FCPF (R-PP), (and CAMREDD) to cover expenses incurred during the implementation of tasks related to the role. Support from other supporting frameworks will also be considered.
