

**Report of a Technical Meeting on Key issues and status of Cambodia REDD+ readiness efforts:
which ways forward?
20th December 2013**

The meeting was attended by 47 participants, including representatives from the REDD+ Taskforce, Forestry Administration, GDANCP, and Fisheries Administration. The main purposes of the meeting were to:

- 1) Inform all relevant government officials about key technical issues and requirements for Cambodia to be ready for REDD+ and of status of Cambodia REDD+ programme and
- 2) Discuss future steps to move REDD+ effectively forward.

Below is a summary of key points of each session.

1. **Opening speech: H.E Chea Sam Ang, PhD :** For an opening speech, H.E. Dr. Chea Sam Ang introduced the main purposes of the meeting and explained key technical requirements of REDD+ including MRV, benefit sharing and safeguards. He ended his speech by encouraging participants to learn about key aspects of REDD+ to help REDD+ move forward for future activities.
2. **Climate change and REDD+: Mr. Peter Iversen:** Mr. Peter Iversen made a presentation to explain key concepts of REDD+, and status of global negotiations of REDD+. He remarked that all the key elements are now in place at the global level that will enable developing countries like Cambodia to actually start implementing REDD+ to claim global REDD+ funding.
3. **REDD+ in Cambodia: Mr. Vathana Khun:** Mr. Vathana Khun introduced key REDD+ activities and status in Cambodia. Among others, he introduced key elements required for National REDD+ system. He went on to explain that REDD+ process entails three main phases, 1) REDD+ readiness, 2) implementation, and 3) performance based payment where Cambodia stands at the first phase.
4. **MRV and monitoring systems: Mr. Peter Iversen:** Mr. Peter Iversen had a session of MRV and monitoring system. He highlighted the importance of forest monitoring, and introduced key building blocks of a National Forest Monitoring System for REDD+ and key steps to be taken under MRV, and to establish a REL/RL.
5. **Safeguards and benefit sharing: Mr. Long Ratanakoma:** Mr. Long Ratanakoma made a presentation on main social and environmental risks of REDD+ and explained how UNFCCC safeguards address these risks. He also introduced three major global level safeguards that are relevant for REDD+. He further explained main steps involved for the development of national safeguards and pointed where Cambodia stands in the steps. For benefit sharing, he made a brief introduction of REDD+ incentives and explained key questions for benefit sharing and status of and next steps for REDD+ benefit sharing in Cambodia.
6. **Lessons learned from pilot projects:** Mr. Men Soriyun and Mr. Long Ratanakoma introduced pilot projects in Seima and Oddar Meanchey, respectively and shared lessons learned from these projects. Mr. Peter Iversen discussed how to scale up projects to national level REDD+ implementation.
7. **Discussion: next steps for Cambodia:** Mr. Vathana Khun introduced key REDD+ activities for 2014.
8. **Closing remark: H.E. Chea Sam Ang, Ph.D:** H.E. Dr. Chea Sam Ang made closing remarks. While he noted challenges with REDD+ for example in designing mechanisms for MRV, REL, safeguards, benefit sharing, he noted on the importance to ensure that REDD+ will be able to help us protect our forests, to help improve the livelihoods of local communities, and to reduce poverty.

(For more information about the agenda and meeting minutes, please see the attachment 1 and 2).