

Mainstreaming gender into the Cambodia REDD+ National Programme

RTS news

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A Capacity Building Workshop on Concept of Gender and REDD+ was organized by the Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS) on April 1-3, 2015, at Preah Sihanouk province. The workshop aimed to enhance understanding of the concept of gender, women's empowerment; discuss and identify entry points for gender mainstream considerations into REDD+ activities and programmes; and to familiarize with the gender checklist.

At the opening session, Dr. Khorn Saret, Head of the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, highlighted the importance of gender issues to be included in the National REDD+ Strategy. He encouraged participants to gain knowledge on concepts of gender and apply these to the REDD+ programme. He also focused on the key role of the Technical Teams in supporting the Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce for REDD+ Readiness in Cambodia and in the development of National REDD+ Strategy.

A total of 45 professionals participated in the workshop representing the four REDD+ Technical Teams from the ministries of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; Environment; Interior; Economy and Finance, Mine and Energy; Women Affairs; Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction. In addition REDD+ development partners from CAM REDD, and UNDP Cambodia also participated in the workshop.

Training and facilitation was done by members of REDD+ Gender Group, from the ministries of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; Environment; and Women Affairs. A diversity of training tools and methods were used such as presentations, group discussions, video, and tools to keep the participants energized through the workshop.

Outcomes

- ◇ Learned the concepts of gender and tools for gender analysis
- ◇ Learned methods to mainstream gender into the forestry sector with lessons drawn from REDD+ programmes from Indonesia and Vietnam
- ◇ Reviewed the Gender Checklist that had been drawn earlier to provide guidance on possible ways ensure gender issues could be promoted and mainstreamed within the National REDD+ Strategy
- ◇ Pre-tested the review of the National REDD+ Strategy to identify that gender issues had been included for its first draft. They find the gaps that gender issues should be mainstreamed.



Discussions

The participants recommended that the gender check list should be simplified as it was complex and difficult to understand and apply. Questions should be made more concise and the ranking system should be made simple.

Recommendations related to the National REDD+ Strategy included addition of key elements from the Constitution of Cambodia, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); increased emphasis on mainstreaming and inclusion of indigenous peoples, women's perspectives, and community participation; clear guidelines and mechanisms for free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC); sex-disaggregation of all data and indicators; establish an effective grievance redress mechanism; fund mechanism and benefit sharing; and clarify the role of gender in measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), and reference emission levels (REL).

Next Steps

The RTS has agreed to revise the Gender Check list based on the comments and the revised version will be shared with all stakeholders for their comments. In addition the summary of comments on the National REDD+ Strategy will be integrated into the drafting process and the next draft version will be shared for review and further inputs.

For further information

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