

UN-REDD Programme
Technical Assistance for REDD+ Implementation 2018 – 2020

The following summaries provide an overview of in-country consultations carried out by the UN-REDD Programme in developing a workplan and budget for technical assistance in 2018. These consultations included representatives of government and non-government sectors, and included women, civil society, and indigenous peoples. In addition to the outline below, evidence of these consultations can be viewed at <http://www.unredd.net/shareddocs-draft-documents.html>

Colombia

Colombia's Technical Assistance (TA) work plan for 2018 was drafted jointly by the UN-REDD team and the Government of Colombia, based on the progress of the ongoing National Programme and related assistance, as well as on the results of specific meetings which were held with the national counterparts (Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible – MADS - and the Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales - IDEAM) on 3 to 4 May 2017 in Bogotá.

As a first step, the parties developed a joint needs assessment followed by an analysis of the comparative advantage of UN-REDD and the potential of the TA to be an effective modality to address the identified needs.

The consultation of the workplan included a meeting between representatives from indigenous organizations (OPIAC, ONIC, and Gobierno Mayor) with officials from the government and advisors from the UN-REDD Programme. The leaders expressed appreciation for the Programme's support, in particular its contribution to advancing the participation of indigenous and local communities in the REDD+ process in Colombia. In that regard, the leaders expressed concern regarding the scaling down of the support in Colombia. The draft workplan was also shared and discussed with representatives at the Norwegian Embassy in Bogota. The Colombian government committed to send the final document to the organisations to receive further feedback.

Cote d'Ivoire

Discussions on the potential UN-REDD technical assistance (TA) started with the national counterpart in April / May 2017. The proposed TA was presented to the REDD+ National Commission on 25 July and a dedicated consultation workshop was held on the 28 July.

Under the chairmanship of Colonel Koffi Konan Jean Claude, Technical Advisor to the Director General of SODEFOR and Member of the Permanent REDD+ Executive Secretariat, 29 members from civil society, local communities, the University of Félix Houphouët Boigny, technical and research centres, and ministries participated in the consultation workshop.

The meeting was organized in three phases: (i) welcome and introduction; (ii) presentation of 2018-2020 proposed Technical Assistance followed by exchanges and discussions; and (iii) consolidation of the recommendations.

During the presentation of the TA for 2018-2020, Carlos Riano, Chief Technical Adviser of the UN-REDD Program, also provided a brief history of UN-REDD programme support. He presented the progress made so far on the four Warsaw pillars of REDD+, which underscored the complementarity of the national programme, the 2017 TA and the 2018-2020 TA to further consolidate the REDD+ process in Côte d'Ivoire.

During the discussion that followed, a number of questions were clarified and recommendations were taken on board and integrated. These are available in the documentation of the consultation report provided.

Indonesia

Initial discussions carried out during the first quarter of 2017 with the Director General for Climate Change Control and the lead scientific advisor identified key technical assistance needs for REDD+ implementation and major policy initiatives (e.g. land reform agenda). The Government of Indonesia's priority needs have been identified as support to sub national investment planning and sub national monitoring, reporting, and verification protocols to enable sub-national greenhouse gas emission target setting.

Discussions were then held from April to July with the senior management of the Peat Restoration Agency on aligning financing for the peat restoration policy agenda. An assessment of options for improved management of fire (45% of emissions) was conducted to support the 2018-2020 UN-REDD TA work plan development. Separate consultations were held with civil society (Kemitraan, Urdi), private sector (e.g. Fire Free Alliance, IDH on fire), and with sub national governments (central Kalimantan, Riau, south Sumatra) on the development of sub-national investment plans and greenhouse gas emission targets for the land use sector.

The results of the consultations by all UN agencies were combined and shared with the government of Indonesia. Options have been explored with the scientific advisors to better meet the needs of provinces with different emission profiles (peat vs non-peat, historic high vs low deforestation rates), including how these are reflected in different REDD+ investment options.

Mexico

Mexico's TA proposal was drafted with the Government of Mexico basing on ongoing collaboration, an assessment of needs, and the identification of relevant contributions undertaken during an in-country mission held on 28 April 2017 at CONAFOR (National Forest Commission) headquarters.

On 11 May, FAO met with the Norwegian Embassy to discuss plans for the Virtual Center of Excellency on National Forest Monitoring System (CEV) as well as, on behalf of the other agencies, to discuss the 2018-2020 UN-REDD workplan. The Embassy noted the suitability of the plan and highlighted the importance of supporting the consolidation of national forest monitoring systems for Mexico's results based payments reporting under different schemes.

Consultations on the plan continued in a meeting of the Forest and Climate Change Committee of the National Forestry Council (CONAF) convened by CONAFOR on 16 August. CONAF is an advisory body under Mexico's General Law of Sustainable Forest Development (article 155), consisting of stakeholders from academia, indigenous peoples, private sector, civil society, government, and producer organizations. The meeting resulted in the agreement to proceed with a broader consultation process requesting feedback on the workplan from different platforms established in the REDD+ process, especially from the REDD+ Technical Advisory Committee (CTC REDD+) at national and state levels. The request was sent by the government (CONAFOR) on 29 August with feedback expected to be received by 22 September (three weeks after the closure of the meeting, as agreed). The Mexican government and UN-REDD will progress on the basis of the suggestions and share the results in a future dialogue.

Myanmar

The design of the UN-REDD TA began with a meeting held with the National REDD+ Focal Point on 26 April 2017. Discussions were informed by a meeting previously held with the forests advisor of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Hanoi (who covers Myanmar) on 19 April 2017. The meeting concluded that the objective of the TA should be “to accelerate progress towards results based payments in Myanmar”, and that to meet this goal, the following outputs are required.

- Output 1. REDD+ policies and measures developed and implemented with robust institutional anchoring at national and sub-national levels, and engagement of a broad range of stakeholders
- Output 2. Capacity to measure degradation and monitor REDD+ policies and measures designed to address degradation, supported by capacity to report on safeguards

The following day (27 April 2017), discussions were held with the Programme Executive Board member representing indigenous peoples and alternate Executive Board member representing CSOs, following the first meeting of the National REDD+ Taskforce, who confirmed that they were in agreement with the proposed objective and deliverables. A draft TA workplan was shared with the National REDD+ Focal Point on 27 April for feedback and validation.

Peru

Peru’s TA proposal was designed between the UN-REDD Programme and representatives of the Government of Peru through a series of working sessions held on 25 – 27 April 2017. Representatives from the government (Ministry of Environment, National Forest Service, and Ministry of Culture) worked together with UN-REDD personnel to: analyse a UN-REDD survey on needs; assess gaps based on Peru’s Country Needs Assessment report; and update information on the needs and plans to cover them with other programmes. Needs were prioritized solely among government representatives.

UN-REDD personnel matched those prioritized needs with the expertise of the UN implementing agencies to propose a results framework and draft a country proposal for TA. The proposal was consulted with Norway representatives.

Later, inputs were requested from civil society organizations, including indigenous peoples’ organisations, during a workshop in Lima as part of the “Dialogues Towards REDD+ Implementation” currently being conducted by the Ministry of Environment. More than 40 representatives participated in the dialogue, where inputs were collected and organized in a response matrix (all available in the aid memoire of the dialogue).

An online platform was also established on the UN-REDD workspace, where further comments and suggestions were requested over a two-week period. The Government of Peru and UN-REDD will process all suggestions and share the results in a future dialogue

Republic of the Congo

The Republic of the Congo’s TA needs were identified through consultation in the country and by email. A discussion with the REDD+ focal point was held on 26 April 2017 in Brazzaville by FAO to discuss about the priorities for UN-REDD/TA support (FAO/UN-REDD mission). An additional follow up call with the REDD+ focal point was held on 5 May to further discuss priorities and needs, which was attended by representatives of the three UN-REDD agencies.

The technical assistance needs respond directly to areas for future improvement which the Republic of the Congo has included in its FRL submission (improving the degradation estimate, including the soil pool including better data on peatlands) and respond clearly to some of the ambitions the country included in its nationally determined contribution (notably on reducing deforestation and increasing enhancement of forest carbon stocks).

The TA seeks to coordinate and align with ongoing programmes and investment planning for REDD+ including CAFI, the FIP, FCPF, and the ER-PD if approved by the BioCarbon Funds.

Viet Nam

The UN-REDD Programme partner agencies are in constant contact with VNFOREST, MARD and other government agencies, as well as with non-governmental partners in Viet Nam, through the management structure of the UN-REDD Viet Nam Phase II Programme and the implementation of Programme activities. The TA proposal is informed by this interaction and collaboration, and is consistent with the country's priorities and needs.

As part of a specific exercise to develop the proposal for UN-REDD TA 2018-20 activities for Viet Nam, a joint mission of UN-REDD Regional Technical Advisors was organized from 19 - 21 April 2017. The mission began with a briefing and discussion with the deputy National Programme Director (dNPD) of the UN-REDD Phase II Programme and Viet Nam REDD+ Office (VRO) Director, Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy, and concluded with a presentation to Mme Thuy of the draft framework for the TA proposal. This draft was based on intervening discussions with Programme Management Unit (PMU) staff, the Embassy of Norway, and with the civil society and ethnic minority peoples' representatives on the UN-REDD Programme Executive Board (PEB).

Zambia

The UN-REDD team consulted with the Zambian Director of Forestry at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ignatius Makumba, on the formulation of TA activities during a consultation call on 4 May 2017. His recommendations on how the UN-REDD TA can best provide assistance to enable the Forestry Department to better coordinate and eventually implement REDD+ activities have been critical to the development of the outputs and activities. The Director reiterated the necessity of the TA activities to align with the recently launched REDD+ strategy and underscored the need to provide assistance to institutional arrangements, such as support to the establishment of a unit within the Forestry Department to coordinate REDD+ activities. Additionally, capacity development on national forest monitoring systems and data management was highlighted as a priority area and an important step in meeting targets outlined in the REDD+ Strategy.

Overall, the TA draws on earlier missions conducted by the UN-REDD team to Zambia where a series of areas requiring UN-REDD's support were discussed. It also captures emerging opportunities from the 2017 support to Zambia and gaps to be filled, including support to meeting UNFCCC safeguards requirements and relevant governance arrangements for REDD+ implementation.
