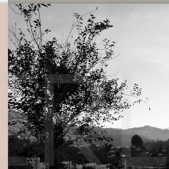
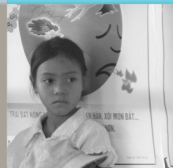
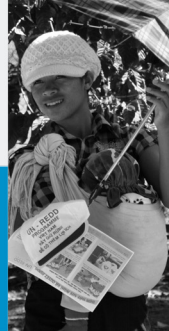


MANUAL FOR INTERLOCUTORS

To Conduct FPIC Village Consultation Meetings

MANUAL FOR INT



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The United Nations Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Program in Viet Nam (or UN-REDD program) is funded by the Government of Norway and other countries through the Quick Start Initiatives of the UN Collaborative Program. The program is executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and implemented by the General Department of Forestry, MARD in collaboration with Lam Dong Provincial People's Committee (PPC) (through its Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development-DARD).

As the first UN-REDD Country Program being implemented for REDD Readiness Preparation, the UN-REDD Viet Nam Program has pioneered a Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) process in two pilot districts of Lam Ha and Di Linh in Lam Dong province. Principles of FPIC base on the rights of people that

expresses the right to self-determination and other rights relevant to land-use, territory and natural resources, culture and anti- racial discrimination.

Four guiding principles of pilot FPIC activities include:

1. Seeking the free prior informed consent of all local communities living in and/or around forests.
2. Proactively undertaking outreach FPIC activities essentially aimed at local human communities (rather than waiting for them to come and ask).
3. Being impossible to assume the homogeneity of local communities
4. Appropriate FPIC processes must be relevant beneficiaries driven.

Among simple principles of the UN-REDD Program is one that deals with indigenous peoples and other forest based communities is respected as well as essential to ensure their full and effective participation in policy/decision making processes within the UN-REDD program activities.

Viet Nam has fifty-three ethnic groups of approximately sixteen million people who speak eight distinctive languages. Most of them live in and around forests in the highlands. There are thirty ethnic minority groups in the two pilot districts of Lam Dong province where expected activities of the UN-REDD Viet Nam program to take place. And among them only six tribes are indigenous while the others came to have settled down from other corners of the country for the last decades.

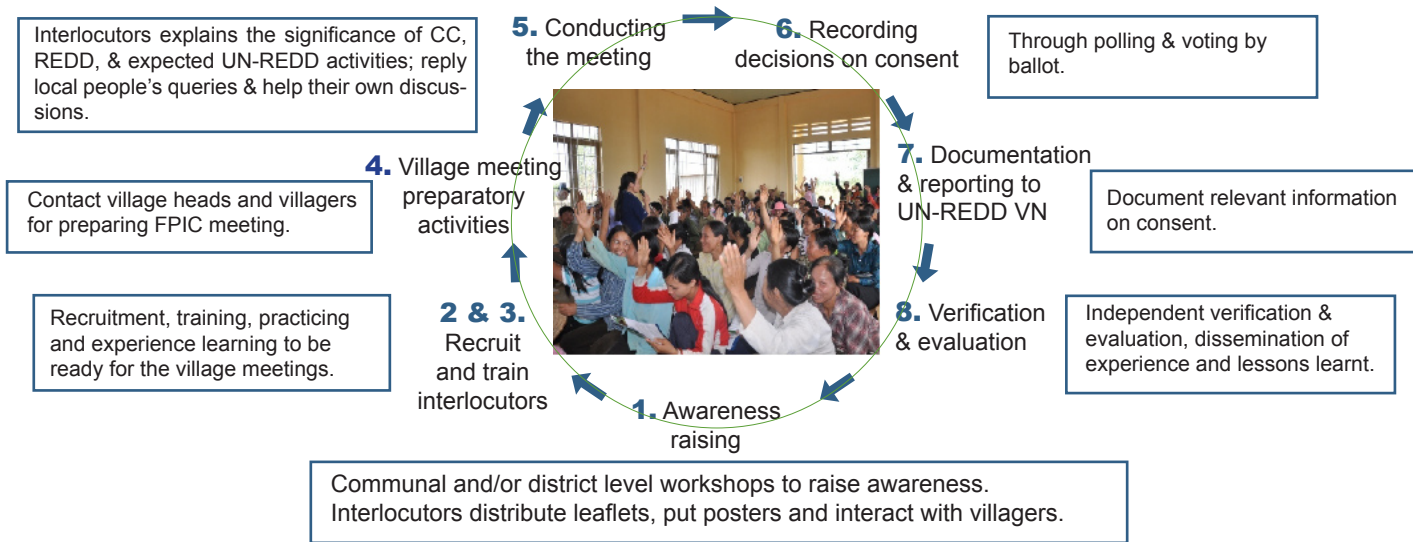
Viet Nam is one of nine countries to begin the implementation of this UN-REDD program activity. FPIC

activities implemented in Viet Nam have attracted attentions from other international programs and many of national agencies and institutions, especially NGOs and other national programs/projects as well. Experiences learnt from Viet Nam would become good lessons for reference by others.

This Manual compiled by the UN-REDD Viet Nam program serves as a tool for use by the UN-REDD interlocutors in the village FPIC meetings called in Lam Ha and Di Linh districts of Lam Dong province. Mr. Tran Phong, an expert of the program, has actively assisted in the compilation of the Manual.

It is expected that the Manual would be useful in helping the UN-REDD interlocutors effectively perform FPIC activities, and a good reference for other similar programs/projects ■

Figure 1: The 8-step process based FPIC principles



Preparatory step:

- Gather legal rationales for village level FPIC activities.
- Prepare communication materials.
- Consult with relevant authorities at provincial/district levels about FPIC implementation.

I. OBJECTIVES OF THE VILLAGE – MEETING

The village-meeting aims at raising awareness of climate change¹, REDD and expected activities of the UN-REDD Viet Nam program among local people and seeking their free prior informed consent in the UN-REDD program.

II. COORDINATION OF THE VILLAGE-MEETING

This is an important section that is the key to success of the meetings, and thus requires the interlocutor's careful review to translate it into practice.





1. PRINCIPLES OF COORDINATION

1.1. Participatory Implementation

This means that all people have access to information and are allowed to take part in discussions, and make his/her own decision on what he/she expects at the meetings. Therefore, the meetings should be designed, arranged and advised by the interlocutors in a way that every one has an opportunity to attend the meeting equally and effectively.

The effectiveness of joint-participation in the meetings is the key to success that every interlocutor pursues.

■ PRINCIPLES

- Every attendee is equal.
- Every attendee's opinion is of value.
- Mutual assistance and faith in each other.
- Attendee's needs are focused.
- Positive criticisms are encouraged.
- Contradictions and arguments should be visualized and resolved timely.
- Uncomfortable feelings should be dealt timely and sensibly.

■ METHODS AND TOOLS TO PROMOTE JOINT-PARTICIPATION

- Dialogues for sharing ideas, views and others.
- Asking questions and ways how to gather opinions.
- Use of visual aids.
- Ongoing evaluation and feedback.
- Creating working environments and good practices.

1.2. Free to Make Decisions

■ Interlocutors are not allowed to intimidate or manipulate local people to give their consent, but help them enable to:

- (1) Have access to information on climate change, REDD, and UN-REDD activities in their respective districts; and
- (2) Participate in discussions making in order to make their own decisions on forest preservation.

■ This is the way that local people can exercise their rights.

■ It is a process to take decision by consent but not a requirement for 100 per cent of unanimity in a formalism or common tendency.

In case that consent is not given by local people, it is necessary to undertake in-depth analysis of causes, and step by step solve identified problems, continue to interacting with them during and after the meeting (using the program's leaflets).

■ Decision be consent also needs the admissible representativeness of different groups (e.g. women, elders, ethnic minorities, the Kinh group...) in the village.






2. VILLAGE-MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

2.1. Main Stages of the Village-Meeting

1. Arrival by villagers and acquaintance with each other
2. Introduction of the meeting's agenda, objectives and working methods
3. Introduction of the meeting's topics and substances
4. Collection of information and opinions
5. Analysis and decisions
6. Feed back and evaluation of results

Prior to the meeting		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate the meeting's timing, purposes, and substances to villagers? • Establish liaisons? • Approach heads of village, hamlets and local associations (of elders, women and youth) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect basic information on hamlets • Directly disseminate information among select households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles of communal representatives and village heads? • (The Kinh village's Party Secretary, Village patriarch, Parish heads)
Check: venue, participant number and composition, seat arrangement		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Places where a set of posters and banners are put? • Check sound and lighting facilities,... 	Scenarios for welcoming villagers to the meeting?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review • Scenarios for the meeting coordination • Presentation of Climate change - REDD - UNREDD • Questionnaire for discussions 	Assign tasks to interlocutors (flexibly interchangeable roles)	
Question: "Is there <u>any thing left?</u>" Contact the village head at least one day before the meeting, provide him/her with detailed information on scenarios and preparatory activities (in written form) and tell him/her how to explain the meeting's topics when inviting the villagers to the meeting.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present with using the program's set of posters as visual aids? • Use simple, understandable and concise sentences and words?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate to encourage the involvement of participants? • Questionnaire for discussions?

During the meeting	After the meeting	
Role of patriarch?	Take photographs?	How to maintain liaisons?
How to brainstorm the villager’s knowledge?		
presented and discussed Climate Change Forest REDD?	Collect additional information from villagers and local officials?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offer a set of posters and leaflets to the village?• Make a schedule and a list of target audiences for next communication launch?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage the timing?• Behave in a friendly way• Handle situations where local people have reacted against?	Participatory Rapid Appraisal of the meeting?	A review meeting held by the interlocutor group to learn from experience?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roles of the village-heads and patriarch in voting on consent• Observe and perceive tendencies toward consent?• Take notice of guiding illiterates (especially ethnic minority people) when voting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Question: “What are needed to be improved?”</i>• Take photograph with the villagers.• Hold a meeting between the interlocutor group and the village head and association representatives to learn from experience.	

SUGGESTED PROGRAM

No.	Steps/ Activities	Implementer	Timing
I. Preparatory steps <u>Requirements:</u> Interlocutors may arrive a target village in an appropriate period in advance to get acquainted with the village head, understand its socio-economic circumstances, and discuss with him/her about preparatory works, preferably through mobile communication activities.			
1	Send invitation (maybe accompanied by interlocutors)	Village head	Before the meeting
2	Distribute leaflets	Village head	When sending invitations
3	Put posters at the village's PC headquarters, conference room	Village officials, Interlocutors	Before the meeting
4	Daily radio broadcasting combined with mobile communication activities	Communal/Village officials, Interlocutors	Before the meeting
5	Select venue and meeting arrangements	Village head, Interlocutors	Before the meeting
6	Prepare materials to be distributed among local people	Interlocutors	Before the meeting

No.	Steps/ Activities	Implementer	Timing
II. Implementation steps:			
<u>Note:</u>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting may last 90 to 120 minutes in the daytime or at night depending on locally specific circumstances. • Where electric power is unavailable, the meeting is not organized at night and hand-speakers need to be provided. 			
7	Organize performance and make acquaintance with each other.	Interlocutors	Just before the meeting opens
8	Introduce meeting agenda and purposes.	Village head	5 minutes.
9	Give speech by local authority's representative.	Commune official	5 minutes.
10	Present CC, REDD and expected activities to be locally implemented.	Interlocutors	20-30 minutes.
11	Give speech by local community's representative.	Village Elder, or pastor (if any)	5-10 minutes.
12	Organize discussions	Villagers, officials and interlocutors	30-45 minutes.
13	Introduce FPIC principles by interlocutors before voting on consent by villagers.	Village head with support given by interlocutors	15 minutes.
14	Closing	Interlocutors	



2.3. Preparatory Activities Prior to the Village-Meeting

- Making contact with commune and village officials to carry out a survey and decide: the meeting venue, timing, number of representatives from local people and others.
- The composition of attendees to the meeting includes: Representatives from district/commune PCs and households, interlocutors and facilitators (forest rangers, women's and youth unions).
- Finding out the typical cultural features and taboos of, and how to get in touch with, ethnic minorities living in the area where the meeting takes place.
- Careful study of information on: “help you to make decisions on the UN-REDD program.”
- Decorating the conference room with pictures and by arranging sound and lighting systems, seats for attendees, a recording area and others...



3. METHODS FOR CONDUCTING THE VILLAGE-MEETING

3.1. Visualization:

■ Information on:

(a) Climate change, (b) REDD and (c) UN-REDD program at Lam Dong is presented through a set of pictures as visual aids for easy and understandable illustrations (see Annex 1).

Advantages in using the set of pictures:

- More easily understandable as “complex” information/ messages are presented in “visual languages” to reduce confusions.
- Deeply attracts participants.
- Much easier discussion to get consensus as information is clearly presented.

■ Visualization of opinions from discussions:

If possible, such facilities as (felt-tip pens, A0 size papers, boards,...) can be used to note down opinions from the attendees. It is noted that these opinions should be noted down in a noticeable manner (by using diagrams, lists, or pictures...).

3.2. Preparing an Introductory Part of a Presentation

■ Introduction:

begins in some minutes with:

- 'Hot' issues that interest much more people and are topical.
- A 'shocking' remark.
- A series of simple statistics related to the topic or impressing figures.
- A funny tale that is easily understandable and succinct.
- A 'famous' or locally legendary short poem or song. Using quotations from famous figure's statements or from mass media.
- A question (that needs not to answer)

■ Introducing a Particular Topic:

The introduction of a particular topic is to orientate the meeting toward the guiding idea (like a road sign). As a title of a book, the introduction must be: 'very succinct' – Not: be too long, too complicated, of too much information. For instance: The theme of my talk is ...; Today we (you and I) are going to discuss about..., talk about ...

3.3. Handling the Substance of a Presentation:

Approach	Formula	Handling
Drawing attention through changes	Past - Present – Future	What happened in the past? – What is happening? – What shall happen in the future? (closely associated with your view).
Directly expressing opinions	Views – Reasons – Illustrated by examples - Views	Judging by your personal opinion to emphasize something – Explain the reasons why you believe or think like that? – Give practical examples to illustrate your view? – Repeat your view (may be expressed in different way).
Discovering and systematically analyzing	Logical analysis with six question words: What? Where? Why? Who? How? When?	What happened and the reasons? Who causes problems, who concerns these problems?
Calling for actions	Opening – Identifying impacts – Calling for responses – Announcing actions	Using information or an event to attract audience's attention – Make them concerned themselves with it by indicating how much does it affect them – Expect them to respond for changes – Suggest and announce common actions
Other structures: Problems - Causes - Targets – Solutions; Before – After; Targets - Advantages – Difficulties – Solutions; and others		

(Sources: Jong Fernandez, InWEnt, 2008)

3.4. How to Give a Presentation Effectively

1. Information be prepared in a logical order.
2. The set of posters should be used during presentation.
3. Do not stand in front of the posters to let people have a clear on the posters.
4. Clear, concise and easy-to-understand when presenting.
5. Clear introduction: context, objectives etc.
6. Use local factual events, data etc for illustration.
7. Make a focus of the contents presented to the scheduled timing.
8. Be careful in use of wording (must be accurate, simple and easy to understand etc)
9. Do not make a lengthy explanation.
10. Presentation be made in a lively manner. Do not always look and read loud the handouts.
11. Do not talk too much and continuously. Stops and stresses should be made during the presentation.
12. Showing emotional interest in the contents of the topic presented.
13. Do not stand in an affected style but use your body language effectively.
14. Stir up the meeting environment, avoid monotonous and boring manner.
15. Timely and accurately take comments from participants.
16. Always keep eyes to the listeners.
17. Clearly raise the discussion topic.
18. Proper control and coordinate conflicts between participants.
19. Assess and adjust the working situation.
20. A clear summary or wrap up note should be made when end up the meeting.



3.5. Discussion:

3.5.1. Asking Questions:

Question types

- *Close questions*: are answered by YES or NO for a quick response to something that needs to make decision on, but not much information provided.

E.g. Do we resign ourselves to the death of crops due to warming weather and depleting water resources?

- *Open questions*: are used to encourage audiences to brainstorm and are responded by various answers during their interactions. These begin with question words: What? Why? When? How? Where? and Who?

E.g. After presenting Forest- Climate Change- REDD pictures, a plenary discussion can be facilitated by the interlocutors with following suggested questions:

“From the presentation and pictures,

1. What do you find **interesting**?
2. What do you **concern** and **do not expect to happen**?
3. Is this information **understandable**? Is there anything that is **difficult to understand**?
4. Do you **agree** that deforestation and forest degradation lead to climate change?
5. What shall we **do for forests** (to generate stable incomes and prevent adverse impacts of climate change)? Or: Do you **support the protection of forests** so that every people have access to water, food and others provided by forests as well as benefit from REDD.
6. Is there anything of REDD that you have not understood?
7. Do you support the preservation of forests for better benefits from REDD in the future? *(Besides these seven questions, what else do you think to ask to facilitate the voting)*
8. Interlocutors ask local people what else they want to raise?”

Additionally, they should design and use a questionnaire to facilitate the process

3.5.2. Group Discussion

If necessary, participants can be grouped into discussion groups to discuss complicated issues that interest them and this can help them enable to make decision on consent.

■ **Proposals for discussions in group:**

- Identify advantages / difficulties
- Describe issues / identify desires and follow up activities
- Identify causes/ solutions/ barriers

■ **Principles for working in group:**

- Provide adequate spaces to facilitate the participation of all group members.
- Appoint someone to a coordinator, and representatives who note down and give presentation.

- Make all group members agreed on discussion issues, working principles and the timing.
- Give them time for thinking and making comments.
- Take discussions in group and synthesize different comments.
- Present results by the group's representative.

■ **Size of Discussion Group:**

- Each group may consist of 2, 3-5, or 6-8 members...
- Plenary discussion

3.5.3. Roles of Interlocutors:

- Ensure that seats should be adequately provided (and positioned round or in a U shape so that participants can look each other, or in desired places for different groups).
- Let them be relaxed – not worried. Open discussion by (e.g. asking a question that make them curious or telling a funny tale) to help them enable to feel less worried or tense.
- Explain purposes of the discussion.
- Present discussion topics in a clear, concise, understandable and attractive manner.
- All questions should be written down on board or paper, and clearly repeated.
- Explain discussion principles, confine the timing of speaking..., and ensure all the principles be monitored.
- Encourage all members to be involved in discussions and sharing of their ideas and experiences even when their views are different from yours.

To act as a moderator who is not biased or does not manipulate.

- Begin with generic issues first and then specific ones later.
- Make use of visual aids (pictures, diagrams and others) to ensure that main points of discussion are known by every one and discussion stages are identified.
- Be ready for “exploratory questions”, e.g. “Can you explain more clearly as I am not sure that my understanding is correct?” or “Can you give an example to demonstrate what you are talking about?”
- Misunderstandings should be cleared.
- Don't talk too much.
- It would be better to ‘proactively’ listen.
- Control those who have different personalities.
- Control the timing.

3.6. Coordinate the People's Decision Making Process to Participate in UN-REDD Program.

- The interlocutors *should emphasize 4 FPIC principles* – request them to listen to the principles before making decisions on their participation in UN-REDD program.
 - **F: Free**
 - **P: Prior**
 - **I : Informed**
 - **C: Consent**
- Question: *“the concurring with the UN-REDD program is very significant for us to maintain and protect our better lives today from negative impacts of climate change...anything else should be clarified?”*
- If not invite them to vote. If any, discuss directly. If the atmosphere becomes ‘tense’ through worried faces, then discussion groups would take place in between 5 to 10 minutes. Spend a period of 10-15 minutes

explaining inquiries or comments, making full use of the set of pictures! (The interlocutors are ready to explain or provide additional information).

- For those who have not consented, invite them to stay for talks in order to find out what they desire? or expect? Provide them with further information for their readings and discussions at home, and make appointments to see them at their homes (together with village officials) for further discussions and receive feedback.

Note:

- The village head only acts as a facilitator in the meeting, but not a coercer (or make use of his/her position to intimidate) local people into consent.



4. PAY ATTENTION TO THE VILLAGE-MEETING PHOTOGRAPHING

1. Scenes of the meeting venues.
2. People coming to the venue.
3. People reading leaflets and/or posters.
4. Interlocutors presenting.
5. People sitting in the meeting room.
6. People expressing their opinions.
7. Interlocutors interacting with people.
8. People are voting.
9. People and interlocutors are interacting – Take photographs in the end of the meeting.
10. People cheering.
11. Other 'special' scenes.

(Due attention should be paid to elders, women and children...)

Select 20 pictures every day, which are forwarded to the program.



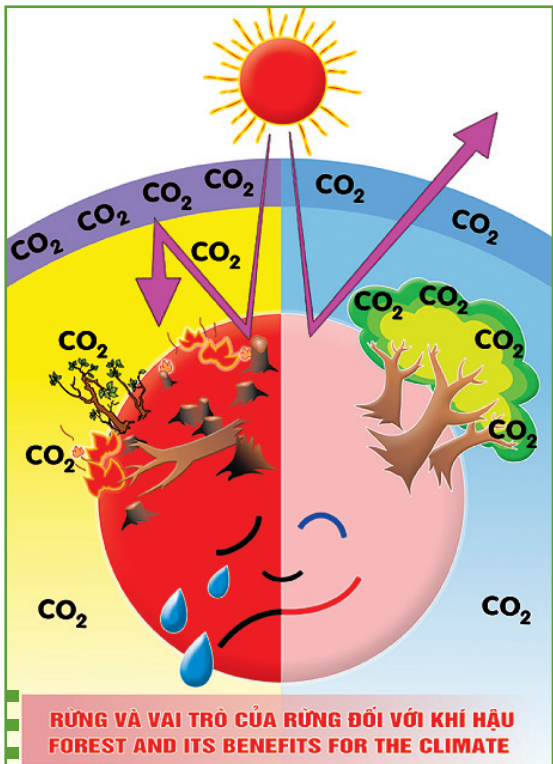


5. REPORT RESULTS OF THE VILLAGE-MEETING

Every meeting-day, the interlocutors meet to learn experiences and make their personal reports to the UN-REDD program (using the sample in Annex 6). The head of interlocutor group is responsible for synthesizing these personal reports.

ANNEX 1:

CLIMATE CHANGE – FORESTS – REDD LINKAGES



1

The air we breathe is composed of some different gases. Oxygen is the most important for human beings, plants and animals to live. Humans breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide (CO₂).

While plants need carbon dioxide to live.

Carbon dioxide will be released to the atmosphere if forests are on fire.

If too much carbon dioxide released to the air, our Earth is likely to get warmer.

Hence, it is the absorption of carbon dioxide by forests that prevents the Earth from warming and climate change impacts.

2

Carbon dioxide is released to the atmosphere when slashing or burning forest plants or trees. Motorbikes, automobiles and trucks, and many industries also emit carbon dioxide to the atmosphere when they are operated.

If too much carbon dioxide is released to the atmosphere, our Earth is likely to get warmer and accordingly trees or plants can not grow and may die.

The Earth warming is likely to cause much more floods, droughts, soil erosions and other negative impacts.

Over the last 50 years, too many people have been operating motor bikes, automobiles and trucks, and many forest areas have been destroyed leading to increasing amount of carbon dioxide concentrated in the atmosphere. **Thus, climate is changing and this will cause numerous negative impacts to human beings.**

BIẾN ĐỔI KHÍ HẬU LÀM CHO CUỘC SỐNG KHÓ KHĂN HƠN
CLIMATE CHANGE MAKES LIFE BITTER

3

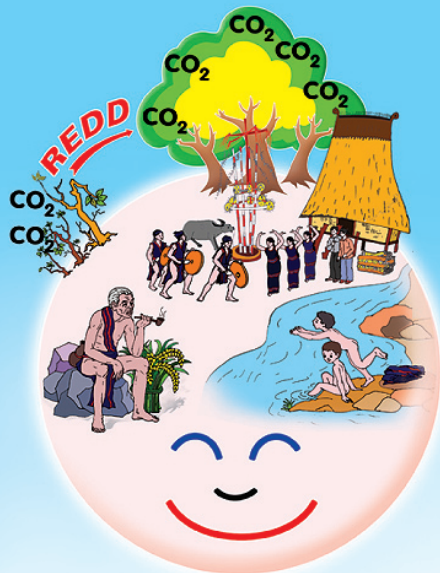
Worldwide, all countries have agreed that reduction in carbon dioxide emissions must be an immediate action.

In Vietnam, reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by forest protection and planting is the most important.

Rich countries have agreed to provide a financial payment for Vietnam to implement this activity and the amount paid will be used to support local poor people living within and around forest areas. No one can say how much they will be paid but **it is definite that those households or communities who take actions to protect forests or improve the quality of forests will be paid.**

To make it possible for a fair payment system to take place, it would take time to identify a measurement of contributions by each household or community, and it would take several years to make the amount of money available to pay for these activities.

Therefore, the preservation of forests would daily bring in direct benefits for local people and prevent adverse impacts of climate change, but also help those who protect forests able to earn money from REDD in the future.



REDD - HÃY GIỮ RỪNG ĐỂ CÓ THÊM LỢI ÍCH
REDD - PRESERVE THE FOREST FOR BETTER BENEFIT

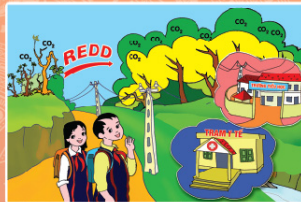
INTRODUCTION OF UN-REDD ACTIVITIES IN LAM DONG PROVINCE

THINK AND MAKE YOUR DECISION

UN-REDD 4 ACTIVITIES IN 2 PILOT DISTRICTS, LAM HA – DI LINH, LAM DONG PROVINCE



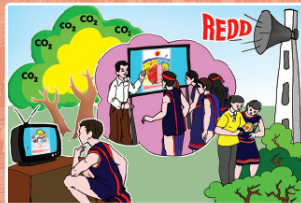
- 1** Help the Commune, District, and Provincial Peoples Committees to learn how to improve their land-use and socio-economic development plans so that the forest can be conserved, and the local people can earn money from REDD.



- 3** Design a system to make sure that the money is paid to the right people, and the amount of money received by households or communities reflects the efforts they have made.



- 2** Help to develop ways in which local people can measure how successful they have been in reducing the amount of carbon dioxide released into the air.



- 4** Raise the general awareness of the population about climate change, REDD, and how Viet Nam plans to implement REDD.

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME
VIET NAM

The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries in Viet Nam.

This document is to help you to decide whether or not you want a project called “UN-REDD” to undertake some activities in your village or in the area where you live.

For further information, please contact:

UN-REDD PROGRAMME IN VIET NAM

Viet Nam Directorate of Forestry,
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

A No. 2 Ngoc Ha Str, Hanoi, Viet Nam
T (84) 4 6 273 7912/13
F (84) 4 6 273 7914
W www.vietnam-redd.org

ANNEX 2:

24 SITUATIONAL QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED DURING THE VILLAGE- MEETING

1. Can you tell us about financial benefits of the UN-REDD program implementation?

In this phase, the program does not bring in any direct benefit in terms of finance. This means that there is no payment in cash or investment in infrastructure. Financial benefits would be reviewed, measured and paid in the second phase (when implementing a pilot project on payment mechanisms).

In this phase, the program aims at raising awareness of roles that forests can play in climate change among local people and authorities at all levels, and improving technical and institutional capacities of Viet Nam to build readiness to implement REDD by 2012.

2. Which benefits we will have from the UN-REDD program?

Local people and communities will have two benefits from the program:

- Awareness and skills of those households, communities and forest owners who participate in REDD activities would be improved and they could be eligible for the participation when a REDD mechanism formally operates. This is a comparative advantage over those households and forest owners who do not participate and there would be less or even no opportunity for them to be involved in the second phase.
- Be entitled to the payment (financial benefits) on the basis of results made from forest protection activities (in the second phase) by households, communities and forest owners.

3. If no deforestation, what shall local people do to ensure their lives pending benefits from REDD?

Actively participate in the UN-REDD program activities during this preparatory phase in order to make necessary knowledge ready for the formal implementation phase of REDD.

4. For those households who have no forests allocated to or not contracted to protect forests with local forest protection branch, forest management boards or Communal People's Committee, are they eligible to benefit from the program?

At present, a mechanism for sharing of benefits from REDD is being reviewed by the program. It is expected that those households who have no forests allocated would indirectly benefit from REDD when it is officially implemented. This means that they may benefit from public infrastructure such as electric-power networks, roads, schools, healthcare stations and others to be invested by the Government by using part of revenues from REDD implementation.

5. How much money shall I receive if I have done good job?

Levels of payment for each household directly participating in the REDD program depend on:

- Results of forest protection to be measured by increased carbon stocks of forest areas protected by the household *(using such simple sentences and words as “have forests been well protected or destroyed? Are there*

many young trees /plants grown? etc;

- Prices of carbon in the world market or funds to be paid by purchasers or donors

6. Can you tell opportunities for participating in UN-REDD program? And conditions in which local people are allowed to participate in the programme activities?

All local people and communities or forest owners have opportunities for implementing REDD. But the extent of their participation depends on their enthusiasm, knowledge and skills to implement REDD activities to be introduced in this stage. Hence, it is important for households and forest owners to participate in this stage.

7. What specific activities could we participate in UN-REDD program?

Attend awareness raising meetings;

Communicate with and mobilize your family members and neighbours to protect forests;

Attend training courses to develop skills in implementing REDD activities;

Participate in debates about the adjustment of local forest protection and development planning and plans supported by the program.

8. When shall we be paid if protecting forests?

Local people and forest owners shall be paid when:

- The first phase ends and the households and forest owners shall have better improved their understanding and skills, and the second phase (pilot REDD implementation) starts;

- Results of forest protection by local people and forest owners shall have been verified by purchasers; and
- Payments shall have been made by purchasers to the Government of Viet Nam.

9. What shall we be equipped with to protect forests?

In principle, local people and forest owners have to equip themselves to protect forests.

But the REDD program equips you with:

- Knowledge of climate change and roles of forests in climate change.
- Skills to measure and make inventory of forests.

10. Shall we be paid in cash or in kind when attending the meetings?

As regulated by the UN, the UN-REDD program is not allowed to pay for participants to any meeting held by it. The program shall consider how to offer gifts for the participants.

11. Why do we have to protect forests while others in neighboring communes continue destroying forests?

The protection of forests is a responsibility of the whole people. Their deforestation violates the law and will be dealt according to the prevailing laws and regulations. If those households participate in forest protection, they shall have an opportunity for receiving financial benefits (shall be paid).

12. My family relies on forests for livelihood, how can we live if forests must be protected as requested by

the project? We are now facing with many difficulties and our lives will become tougher if slash and burn is prohibited. How can the program help us in the short term?

In the short term when payment is not available from REDD, the Government has implemented a range of policies, programs and projects to stabilize and improve the people's living conditions. The UN-REDD program shall, in collaboration with other programs, improve their livelihoods.

13. Public infrastructure has been developed by other projects. What about the program?

The UN-REDD program focuses on reducing GHG emissions by reducing deforestation and forest degradation and thus mitigates negative impacts of climate change. The program supports indirectly poverty reduction and socio-economic development goals through the payment of forest protection efforts made by the people and forest owners.

The program will be implemented based on the integration with on-going programs and projects on local poverty reduction and/or socio-economic development to support local infrastructure development.

14. Is there any problem if we do not participate in the project? What is different between those who consent or do not?

The UN-REDD program shall find out reasons why these households do not consent. If lack of information is a main reason, they will be provided with adequate information and encouraged to participate by the program. In case, they are unwilling, it is up to their decisions.

If those households who do not participate in the program, they would not have adequate understanding to par-

ticipate in the programme and as a result, they will lose opportunities for participating in the second phase.

15. If we consent to the UN-REDD program, what shall it commit to us?

The program will try to implement successfully this phase of improving local capacity, and mobilize donors to implement the second phase (of pilot REDD implementation) as soon as possible.

16. When does the program implement specific activities after FPIC?

This is the first FPIC implementation, the program shall return and implement activities of raising awareness and developing skills to implement REDD sooner.

17. What does the program have to alter the slash and burn practice but ensure good fields and their high productivity?

The burning practice is a traditional farming method to destroy weeds and plants that are competitors to crops and to provide additional fertilizers for crops. The program does not encourage the use of herbicides as its high cost and likely pollution to the environment. In this stage, households can destroy weeds with fire. However, they'd better not burn in inappropriate times (from 12 to 3 pm when the ambient temperature is high, strong winds and without control by any one). Households must immediately notify others, the village heads and forest rangers of fires that are reaching into forests or out of control,.

18. How can we measure emissions if we have no expertise?

Each household or community is not requested to measure emissions as it is complicated. This work will be carried out by relevant specialized agencies.

Support will be given by the program to equip the local people with methods and skills to evaluate the efficiency of their forest protection efforts as basis for calculating payment by the Government.

19. What are the conditions to be eligible to participate in the programme?

The participation is definitely voluntary.

20. Which indicators are used to evaluate the readiness of the local people and the program?

- Is the local people's awareness of climate change and roles of forests adequate?
- Do they have some understanding on REDD?
- Are they ready to take part in REDD activities?

21. Local officials take hold of forests while local people have no forest, who benefits from the UN-REDD program?

In case, forests are taken hold off by local officials but not allocated to local people, the people should appeal local authorities against them in accordance with the Law on Appeal and Denunciation.

The Government has now speeded up the land and forest allocation process in order to ensure an equal opportunity of land and forest allocation for all people.

22. How can you know who does not destroy forest?

It is the people themselves who have the responsibility to denounce illegal loggers.

The efficiency of forest protection by local households and forest owners will be evaluated by specialized agencies and verified by an independent institution.

23. The capital of land is locally available. Is there any specific measure that the program will take to plant forests on it?

In the short term, the REDD program only focuses on forest protection and increase in carbon stocks of forest areas but does not invest in forest planting as the Government has implemented a number of forest planting programs and projects, e.g. the five million reforestation program (or the 661 program), The Decision 147 on some incentives for developing productive forests and the Resolution 30a on 62 poor districts.

24. How long does the program implement? (The sustainability of REDD)?

To assure effective contributions to protecting forests and responding to climate change as well as to reassure the local people to take part in forest protection, the National REDD program is scheduled for a long period but phased over this period of time.

ANNEX 3: HOW TO OPEN AND CONDUCT THE MEETING

(Synthesized training experiences from interlocutor groups)

OPTION 1

Dear fellow-villagers! We are facing with a hot environmental issue – the temperature is increasing; disease and poverty continue rising; floods and droughts more frequently happen, and all together threaten our lives and children.

Imagine, this state of weather continues lasting, what will happen to us? Now is the time when we must all do something to respond. Only one or the authority can not do. Together we can do.

This is the reason why we are here to talk about REDD and UN-REDD activities to respond to climate change.

The topics we are going to present are:

Climate change and Forests;

REDD and UN-REDD activities to be implemented in your district.

OPTION 2

Dear fellow-villagers, do you feel that it is getting warmer? So how can we solve this problem? And this is the reason why we are here to talk about climate change, important roles of forests and REDD activities now implemented in your district.

Perhaps you are well aware that, forests play a very important role in our lives. The resources of forests are huge, and today we are going to present other benefits that forests can bring in.

OPTION 3

Dear fellow-villagers! Water is absolutely essential to our lives. We use water for drinking, cooking, and watering crops, and other domestic uses. You can imagine how we can live without water? Can you tell about your water resources here? Are they enough for daily uses?

Yes, water is very important for us and this is the reason why we are here to talk about benefits from forests and REDD activities.

OPTION 4

Previously, local weather was mild and rain and wind are equable. Clean water was sufficient for local domestic use. Our soils were fertile. But now, droughts last longer, lands become depleted, rains are abnormal, floods and typhoons occur everywhere leading to loss of crops as you know from television. Gia Lai and Dak Lak provinces have experienced serious losses of property and human life. If this situation continues lasting, can we live? And our future could be similar to this picture 1, you see. All are badly happening because no forest exists, what shall we do?

OPTION 5

Dear fellow-villagers, we have felt that climate is becoming extreme. The ambient temperature is increasing. Rainfall is running shorter. Droughts increasingly occur. This is the reason why we – the UN-REDD interlocutors, are here today.

OPTION 6

Opening with **water issue**.

Questions:

- Where do you fetch water for watering your coffee plantations?
- Is there any difficulty for water supplies?
- What about water supplies for coffee plantation for the last ten years?
- Why is difficult to find out water sources now?

Therefore, we have to preserve and protect forests.

Developing talks:

- Talk about the past and present situations, etc.
- Watershed forests are taboo and all activities of local villages consume water fetched from the watershed forests.

In the old days: Clear, clean and cool water brought in the well-off life for the villagers, and helped them enable to prevent diseases. Human beings lived in harmony with forests.

Today: watershed forests have lost their vitality due to unconscious harvests. Once the mother source of water loses its vitality, forest vegetables and crops are lost, shrimp and fish become scarce in streams and rivers, diseases spread out, and all make the life tougher.

Questions:

- Can you show where your village's watershed forests are? Upper Ka La
- How did you feel in the past when forests existed? and what about today?

An idea: Gathering of some pictures of poverty, floods, droughts and others (about 10 pieces).

- Keep quiet and invite the villagers to give comments.
- Ask: Do you want such a life?
Show the feeling of pity for them.
- Give an initial explanation of posters.
- Urge them to take actions, they may do something they can and do they wish to do?.

They can preserve forests.

OPTION 7

Make comparison between the two villages (based on a story told by interlocutors)

- The interlocutor tells villagers a story of interactions between his/her with two villagers from two villages.
- Ask the villagers: do you know what season is it?
- Does it rains there?
- Why does it rains and sun-shines abnormally?
- The villagers answer...
- Ask the villagers why there is difference of weather between the two villages although they are adjacent.

- Interlocutors: Hence, forests play a significant role in regulating local climate and rainfall.
- Lead the villagers to forest protection issues.

OPTION 8

Raise an issue of forest vegetables that the villagers used to collect for food in the past.

Question: ROLES OF FOREST

- Have you seen your villagers carrying full baskets of forest vegetables now?
- Why not?
- Can they find out and collect forest vegetables?
- Bamboo shoots, rattans and vegetables.

NOWADAYS:

- Sources of forest vegetables and medical herbs become scarce.
- Streams are being depleted and contaminated.
- Forests stunt growth.
- Frogs, shrimps and fishes disappear

IN THE PAST:

Show pictures of:

- A girl carrying a basket and harvesting mushrooms, vegetables and medical herbs in forest for food and treatment;
- Stream of water coming out for farming, drinking and other domestic uses;
- Green trees growing well along streams;
- Stock of fish, shrimp and snail; and
- Areas of growing forest vegetables.

PREDICTED TRENDS:

If forests continue to be lost, much more familiar species of organisms will increasingly disappear, leaving only poor meadows that are impossible to raise animals. Human and crop diseases will spread out. Damages now become severer.

APPEAL TO TAKE ACTIONS TO PROTECT FORESTS.

Hence, forests play a crucial role in the process:

- To provide humans with valued foods; and
- To protect water resources.

ANNEX 4: HOW TO HANDLE SITUATIONS WHEN COORDINATING DISCUSSIONS

For those who talk much

- Thank him/her and invite others to give comments...
- Let each participant has one comment
- Invite others to speak out ...and shall come back for further comments
- Invite him/her to do something (noting down, handing over microphone, holding pictures,...)
- Invite to note down comments on paper...
- We have X minutes left and invite others for further comments...
- Ask permission for someone to note down comments carefully because they are necessary for following up activities
- Other initiatives...

In Passive Ambience

- Invite representatives from groups, unions, sex or age groups, occupations – with support given by the village-head
- Divided into groups (for complicated issues, to be facilitated by assigned interlocutors, control of the timing, put clear questions, manage the number of comments expressed if necessary...)
- Assign (those who are confident, willing, not too young or too old, prestigious ones, representatives of communities) to answer.
- Other initiatives...



ANNEX 5.1: SHEET OF VILLAGE MEETING PARTICIPANTS

District:

Commune:

The meeting held from/ /2010 to/ /2010

Name of Interlocutor:

Village / Date	Number of participants	Age				Sex		Ethnic				Percentage of Consent (%)
		<20	20-40	40-60	>60	Male	Female	Kinh	K'Ho	Mạ	...	
Date...												
• Village...												
• Village...												
Date...												
• Village...												
Total:												

ANNEX 5.2: SHEET OF PROPOSALS ON THE VILLAGE MEETING IMPROVEMENT

Daily synthesized from village meetings ____

	Achievements/ usefulness need to be promoted	Constraints/ inefficiencies need to be improved	Improved by...
Before the meeting			
During the meeting			
After the meeting			

ANNEX 6: SOME TYPICAL CULTURAL FEATURES OF THE K' HO IN LAM DONG

I/ The Origin of the K'Ho ethnic minority :

The origin of indigenous peoples in Lam Dong province dates back the prehistoric people appeared in Vietnam. This was proved by archaeological sites excavated at the Du Park (in Binh Duong province), Don Cave and Sat Bridge archaeological relics in Xuan Loc district of Dong Nai province or several Sa Huynh cultural relics found in Quang Ngai province.

Archaeological results reveal numerous remains of a primitive culture characterizing the bronze and iron ages of ancient inhabitants who settled down along the Central Coast and the Dong Nai River Basin from the first mid-millennium BC to several centuries AD.

The two native communities of primitive humans called the “Mongoloist” race (in the south) and the “Australoish” race (in islands) lived in the Indochinese Peninsula for a long time. The sexual reproduction between the two races resulted in a new race – the Indonesian who have grown crowded and settled all the corners of southern Indochinese Peninsula.

The first Indonesians lived in a clan that was later developed into tribes. First they used rudimentary tools made of stone for cutting and then bronze tools for production (excavated in Bau Can of Gia Lai province) found in the Sa Huynh Culture Dong Nai River Basin. These relics prove that tribes with their developed bronze and iron cultures who lived within the Dong Nai River Basin of which Lam Dong is now the upstream province, 3000 years ago were the forerunner of the indigenous people.

II/The K' Ho People's Customs and Religion:

According to the 2009 National Population Census, the K' Ho ethnic minority has 122.737 people making up 11,31% the provincial population. They settle mainly in Lam Dong province, consisting of five major groups:

- K' Ho Sre, Chil, Nop, Lach, KoDon.
- The Sre is the largest group concentrating in districts Di Linh, Duc Trong, Lam Ha and Lac Duong.
- The Chil: previously lived scatterdly in the Krong No River upstream highlands, Northern and Northeastern Da La City. Now they reside in districts Duc Trong, Lam Ha, Lac Duong and adjacent areas to Da Lat City.
- The Lach: resides in Lat Commune and adjacent areas of Da Lat City.
- The Nop: settle in southern Di Linh along the Road No. 8 from Di Linh to Phan Thiet City .
- The Ko Don: lives in mountainous areas southeast of Di Linh, but in the largest number at communes Dinh Trang Hoa and Gia Bac.

Life and Production Cropping: the Chil, Kodon and Nop live in high mountainous areas and practice slash and burn cultivation of rice, maize and cassava as their major foods. The Sre cultivates wet paddy and rice is their major food.

Animal Raising: The K' Ho families usually raise cattle used as pulling forces and for meats for sacrifices.

Traditional careers: the most common careers include brocade cloth weaving, bamboo and/or rattan knitting, forging of farming tools and rudimentary weapons, and few engage in ceramic production for their family uses or bartering.

Dresses: In the old days males wore shirts made of bark and loin-cloth while females only wore skirts. The highest social stratification that the K' Ho has made is the subsistence economic unit. The village is headed by the village patriarch who is absolutely prestigious to other villagers. The K' Ho practices the matriarchy system and the one- wife and one- husband marriage regime. The K's Ho females proactively play key role in marriage. The K' Ho traditional custom strictly prohibits a marriage between family relatives, particularly those who live in the same locality. If the wife died, the husband is allowed to marry her sister. Religiously, the K' Ho believes that every things is determined by super powers and they believe in or practice worship of polytheism. Their traditional rites are well conserved but some are protestants and Christians.

Major ceremonies: buff allow sacrifice, worship of fresh paddies, husband marriage, new house warming, worship of rice god, worship of forest god...

IV/ How to contact and get acquainted:

The K'Ho people live away from cities or towns in mountainous and forest areas in Lam Dong province. They rarely contact the Kinh people who are better educated. They are embarrassed when interacting with others, particularly strangers due to their limited educational attainments. Hence, following are experiences in contact with them:

- When making a visit to their commune or village, it is necessary to bring with you a letter of recommendation

and submit it to local authorities. In turn they directly introduce or arrange someone to guide you somewhere as requested. To ensure good results, you need to discuss with them about relevant issues in concise and understandable manner and it is better to make friend with the guide or translator.

- When working with local people, it is necessary to hold a talk (attended by adequate compositions) to facilitate discussions. It is better to prepare tobacco, alcohol and drinks available in the talk to excite their enthusiasm in working with your team.
- Upon the completion of your mission, it is necessary to “feed up” the guides or companies with some money or gifts.
- For more favorable conditions, you need to understand to some extent their cultures or know some simple greetings in their languages.
- It is noted to address old persons by father if they are male or by mother if they are female, and younger persons by brother or sister.

V/ Taboos and Prohibitions:

The K'Ho people in Lam Dong are honest and good-hearted although they are of limited educational attainments and because of that we are not allowed to despise them:

- You are not allowed to call them as barbarians but fellow-villagers or ethnic minorities are preferred.
- When entering their houses, take seat in places where they have arranged but moving to others is not al-

lowed and avoid criticizing the dirtiness and it is recommended to behave yourself in harmony with everyone.

- Taboos: It is prohibited to have sexual activity in their houses. You are not allowed to enter those houses where tree branches hang in front of their doors or on their roofs are a signal of home birth.
- When staying in their houses, you are not allowed to cook casually or play unconsciously.
- If you make a promise you should keep it.
- You are not allowed to take anything from their house if not permitted by them.

ANNEX 7: MPERSONAL REPORT TEMPLATE

For the interlocutors

Name of interlocutor: _____

Date:

Name of the village: Commune _____ District _____

COMMENTS/ REMARKS ON PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES BEFORE THE MEETING

COMMENTS/ REMARKS ON ORGANISATION ACTIVITIES DURING THE MEETING

1- Difficulties in conducting the meeting need to be resolved in the next meeting

2- What are difficulties you think, from this meeting

Questions asked by the villagers

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question ...

Other comments or recommendations by interlocutors



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LÂM ĐỒNG, 10 - 11/4/2010