

Gender mainstreaming and REDD+

Progress update

Under the UN-REDD programme and Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) project, UNDP has been working to ensure gender equality in policy making and implementation. The Cambodian REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS) with support from UNDP is currently exploring the most effective means to mainstream gender concerns at the national level decision-making processes.

A REDD+ gender group has been established with members from different ministries including the Ministry of Woman Affairs (MoWA), Forestry Administration (FA), Fishery Administration (FiA) and Ministry of Environment (MoE). This gender group will play a key role in raising awareness on the issues related to gender and women's empowerment under REDD+ among members of the REDD+ Taskforce, Consultation Group and Technical teams. It will also play an important role in providing regular feedbacks to policy deliberation processes to incorporate gender concerns and promote active participation of women in designing and implementing a REDD+ national strategy. Thus far, the gender group produced an action plan, which lays out key entry points for gender-responsive REDD+ action within the draft proposed chapters of the National REDD+ Strategy. It also produced the draft principles and key messages to raise awareness on the importance of integrating gender concerns and women's empowerment concepts into national REDD+ action. Presentation outline for future and upcoming gender awareness raising and capacity building activities/workshops with the REDD+ Taskforce, consultation groups, and Technical Teams has also been developed.

In addition, a national approach to REDD+ safeguards is also underway (a draft proposal is expected to be completed by December, 2014). Among others, REDD+ safeguards will be used to ensure equal participation of women in REDD+ policy making and implementation and benefit sharing mechanisms and to mitigate/avoid any negative impacts of REDD+ on women.