

Agenda Item:
Contribution to REDD+ Roadmap through JICA

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Attachment:

- “Minutes of Meeting (M/M)” – March, 2011
- “Record of Discussion (R/D)” as the Framework Agreement – May, 2011
- Proposed Logical Framework (PDM-1)
- Proposed “Plan of Operation” (PO-1)
- “Provisional Budget Allocation” for the Fiscal Year, 2011-12 of JICA
- Research Proposal: “Enhancement of Carbon Stock” and “Wood Density”
- Draft “Minutes of Meeting (M/M)” out of this meeting

1. Background

Based on the official request by the Royal Government of Cambodia to the Government of Japan in 2010, a framework to support the execution of the REDD+ Roadmap, in addition to the IN-REDD Program and FCPF, was

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agreed for the period of 5 years. The initial detail is defined in the “Record of Discussion (R/D)” signed between the Director-General of FA and the Chief Representative of JICA to the Kingdom of Cambodia on May 27, 2011 in accordance with the standard procedure defined by the Government of Japan. It has been operationalized since June 01.

The activities to be supported through framework are defined in the logical framework (PDM) and in the plan of operation (PO). The three-digit activities stipulated are exactly the same as the ones in the Roadmap documents except Activities 3-2 and 4.

JICA uses “CAMREDD” as the provisional abbreviation to this framework for the bank transfers.

Although either the National Board or the Taskforce under the REDD+ Roadmap should be the ultimate decision making body for this framework, it is suggested that the REDD+ Committee of Forestry Administration to be the interim decision making body of this framework until they are fully operational.

In accordance with the rules and guidelines determined between the Royal Government of Cambodia and JICA, relevant decisions/endorsement by this meeting need to be summarized in the form of “Minutes of Meeting (M/M)” and signed between the Chair of the REDD+ Committee of FA and the Chief Representative of JICA – Cambodia.

2. Progress to date

The Progress to date has been limited due to the absence of active Roadmap Final Draft for the first meeting of “REDD+ Committee of FA”
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process:

- 1) In accordance with the “Record of Discussion”, Hiroshi Nakata was assigned as the “Chief Advisor” on June 01, 2011;
- 2) The official account has been created at ANZ-Royal Bank in June 2011;
- 3) A few protected forests have been benefited from this framework under Activity 2-3-4; and
- 4) “Enhancement of carbon Stock” and “Wood Density” have been proposed as the initial research items. The provisional research plans are attached to this document.

More rigorous development is expected once the REDD+ Taskforce, as the main vehicle for the REDD+ Roadmap process, is established.

3. Requests for concurrence and approval by the Committee

In accordance with the standard procedure of Japan International Cooperation Agency, the REDD+ Committee of FA as the interim decision making body of this framework is requested to approve following instruments at its first meeting:

1) Logical Framework (PDM-1)

Only minor editorial changes from the one attached to M/M in March 2011.

2) Plan of Operation (PO-1)

The timeline has been readjusted to accommodate delay in the Roadmap process.

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3) “CAMREDD” as the abbreviation to the framework

In addition, the Committee is requested to endorse following documents and the authority to allow the National REDD Focal Point to make operational modifications in the course of the execution:

4) Research Proposals: “Enhancement of Carbon Stock” and “Wood Density”

The Committee is also requested to endorse the provisional research plans.

The research on “Enhancement of Carbon Stock” allows the Roadmap process and thereafter to provide scientific insight with regard to the techniques and to the economy of REDD+. The research design was originally developed for the silvicultural purposes. It was supported by the Darwin Initiative until 2010. The Committee may wish to endorse continuation of this research under CAMREDD and to request developing further research design and plans for quantification of CO₂e.

The research on “Wood Density” is one of the indispensable research items that would allow Cambodian MRV to be recognized as Tier II or above in the IPCC inventory guidance. Tier II and above require reliable scientific evidences in converting “m³” to “CO₂e”.

5) Executive Framework

“ANNEX IV” refers to the executive body of this framework. Therefore, the terminologies and the institutional arrangements need to be consistent with the REDD+ Roadmap. The terminologies need to be distinct.

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Terminology:

“Counterpart” is be replaced by “stakeholders”.

“Project Administrative Coordinator” is replaced by “Project National Administrative Coordinator” to prevent confusions with similar title that appears in R/D.

Institutional Arrangements for the execution of the REDD+ Roadmap:

“(2) Project Manager” as “National REDD Focal Point”: Keo Omaliss

“(3) Project National Administrative Coordinator” as “the active coordinator to the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat” in the Roadmap and “Acting Manager, Office of Carbon Credit and Climate Change” on behalf of the Department of Forest Industry and International Cooperation assigned: Khun Vathana

In the inception stage, FA is the main vehicle for the REDD+ Roadmap processes. It is expected that the institutional arrangements will develop beyond it as the processes progress.

“ANNEX VI” defines the decision making body as a joint coordinating committee (JCC). It needs to be consistent with the decision making body for the Roadmap.

Decision Making Body/Joint Coordinating Committee:

In theory, The National Board makes the supreme decisions for the Roadmap processes. For the time-being, the REDD+ Committee of FA will be the interim decision making body until the Roadmap processes will be on track.

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In practice, the REDD+ Taskforce may virtually make operational decisions and the guidance to CAMREDD on behalf of the National Board.

Member of the Committee:

The REDD+ Committee, as the interim joint coordinating committee for CAMREDD, assigns one of the Deputy Director-Generals of FA, H.E.Chea Sam Ang, as its Vice-Chairperson in addition to “2. Members of the Committee” in ANNEX VI.

4. Expected development

In the course of 2011, this framework will extend support in accordance with the development in the REDD+ Roadmap Processes as it is laid out in the Plan of Operation (PO1) and in the provisional budget allocation spreadsheet.

For Activity 3-2, assignment of technical support agent(s) is underway at JICA-HQ. Procurement of RS/GIS facilities (estimated US\$ 87,500), preparation of trainings under Activity 3-1-1 and execution of its initial part are scheduled by them before the end of 2011.

For Activities 4, execution of the endorsed research plans and further identification of priority research agenda are expected.

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