

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) Template

Guidelines:

1. The purpose of this document is to: a) request an overview of your country's interest in the FCPF program, and b) provide an overview of land use patterns, causes of deforestation, stakeholder consultation process, and potential institutional arrangements in addressing REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest degradation). This R-PIN will be used as a basis for the selection of countries into the FCPF by the Participants Committee. Information about the FCPF is available at: www.carbonfinance.org/fcpf
2. Please keep the length of your response under 20 pages. You may consider using the optional Annex 1 Questionnaire (at the end of this template) to help organize some answers or provide other information.
3. You may also attach at most 15 additional pages of technical material (e.g., maps, data tables, etc.), but this is optional. If additional information is required, the FCPF will request it.
4. The text can be prepared in Word or other software and then pasted into this format.
5. For the purpose of this template, "Deforestation" is defined as the change in land cover status from forest to non-forest (i.e., when harvest or the gradual degrading of forest land reduces tree cover per hectare below your country's definition of "forest." "Forest degradation" is the reduction of tree cover and forest biomass per hectare, via selective harvest, fuel wood cutting or other practices, but where the land still meets your country's definition of "forest" land.
6. When complete, please forward the R-PIN to: 1) the Director of World Bank programs in your country; and 2) Werner Kornexl (wkornexl@worldbank.org) and Kenneth Andrasko (kandrasko@worldbank.org) of the FCPF team.

Country submitting the R-PIN: Cambodia

Date submitted:

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Local communities

Local community will be consulted before any REDD project start. The extensive experiences on establishment of Protected Forests in Cambodia are completely involved by local communities at early stage, including decision on boundary of the areas and their involvement.

2. Which institutions are responsible in your country for:

a) forest monitoring and forest inventories:

Forest Management Office, Forestry Administration (FA), MAFF

Forestry and Wildlife Science Research Institute (FWSRI), Forestry Administration (FA), MAFF

Forest Land and Watershed Management Office, Forestry Administration (FA), MAFF

Wildlife Protection Office, Forestry Administration (FA), MAFF

General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDNCP), MoE

b) forest law enforcement:

Legislation and Litigation Office, Forest Crime Monitoring and Reporting Unit, Forestry Administration (FA)
 Wildlife Protection Office, Forestry Administration (FA)
 Local Authority Forestry Administration
 General Department of Administration for for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDNCP), MoE

c) forestry and forest conservation:

Wildlife Protection Office (WPO), Forestry Administration (FA), MAFF
 Forestry and Wildlife Science Research Institute (FWSRI), Forestry Administration (FA), MAFF
 Local Forestry Administration
 General Department for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDNCP), Ministry of Environment (MoE)

d) coordination across forest and agriculture sectors, and rural development:

The Technical Working Group on Forestry & Environment (TWG F & E) is the **formal coordination mechanism and high level coordination** for multi-stakeholders dialogue on forestry and environmental issues among the Royal Government of Cambodia represented by different ministries/agencies and development partners, civil society and the private sector. It consists of **Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economic and Finance, Ministry of Land Management Urbanization, Planning and Construction, Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of National Defense), and development partners (AFD, Danida, DFID, NZAid, JICA, FAO, UNDP, USAID and World Bank) and private sectors (civil society and NGOs)**. The TWG F & E convenes periodic meetings, and reports back to four-monthly Government Donor Coordination Committee (GDCC) and annual Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF) meetings. Each year Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMIs) are agreed for each TWG against which performance in the sector is measured. Other TWGs exist with regard to Land and Agriculture & Water. The JMIs for the TWG F & E for 2009 are presented in Annex 1. **The TWG F&E will develop and facilitate REDD strategy in Cambodia, including financial flow from individual REDD project.**

3. Current country situation (consider the use of Annex 1 to help answer these questions):**a) Where do forest deforestation and forest degradation occur in your country, and how extensive are they? (i.e., location, type of forest ecosystem and number of hectares deforested per year, differences across land tenure (e.g., national forest land, private land, community forest, etc.):**

In 2006 the forest cover in Cambodia was estimated to **10.730.781 hectares**, or **59.09 %** of the total territory (FA, 2007; FA, 2008). Forest is predominantly distributed (*a*) in the north-eastern part of the country, bordering Laos and Vietnam, covered by a mix of lowland tropical moist forest and deciduous dipterocarp forests; (*b*) in the hilly country around the Gulf of Thailand and west of the Mekong River, covered by a medium-altitude closed forest; (*c*) in the north and north-western part of the country, we found a mix of closed deciduous forests and open forests. Four main forest types were recognized in Cambodia for the two last national land cover study produced in 2002 and 2006¹: evergreen forest (3.668.902 hectares, 20.2%), semi evergreen forest (1.362.638 hectares, 7.5%), deciduous forest (4.692.098 hectares, 25.9%), and other forest class (1.007.143 hectares, 5.6%) which combine regeneration, stunted forests, mangroves, flooded forests, forest plantations and bamboo.

A total of 5 national land cover maps were produced in Cambodia since 1965, with support of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Mekong Secretariat (MRC), German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Danida, DFID, NZAid and French Development Agency (AFD). The first forest cover assessment of 1965 shows that approximately 73% of the country was covered by forest at this time. The last forest assessment in 2006 shows that the forest cover was reduced to 59%. Therefore, the total lost of forest cover between 1965 and 2006 is about 2.496.319 hectares (23%) that represent an annual rate of deforestation of 0.56%/year. The forest cover change between 2002 and 2006 showed a decline of 2.06% in forest

¹ Maps produced by the GIS and RS Unit of the Forestry Administration with external quality assessment carried out by GRAS A/S, GeoCentre University of Copenhagen.

cover that represented an estimated loss of 373.510 hectares. During this period 60% of all forest loss occurred in four north-western provinces, viz., Oddar Meanchhey, Banteay Meanchhey, Siem Reap and Pailin (FA, June 2008).

Deforestation² during the period 1997-2006 also resulted in the loss of

- Deciduous, semi-evergreen and evergreen forest areas in the **northeast region**;
- Evergreen forests along road No. 4 and the recently rehabilitated roads in the coastal regions
- Deciduous forests across the **Northern Plains**;
- **Flooded forests** associated with the **Tonle Sap Lake**.

A map of deforestation will be available in April 2009, at 1/250.000 scale, for the whole country. It will show the evolution of forest cover in Cambodia from 1989 to 2006.

No information is available in terms of a national assessment of forest degradation³, as this parameter was not taken into account during the preparation of the national land cover maps. Large-scale logging during the 1990s in many areas almost certainly has caused considerable forest degradation. Present day deforestation and forest degradation are mainly concentrated on the boundary between agricultural and the major forests cover and in the flooded forest. The development of new access roads through isolated forest is enabling deforestation and the degradation of primary forest.

Under the 2002 Forestry Law, the Permanent Forest Estate is divided into the Permanent Forest Reserve, private forests, and protected areas. The Permanent Forest Reserve is State Public Property and falls under the jurisdiction of the Forestry Administration (FA). It is divided into 1.434.032 hectares of **Protected Forests** (8% of the total land area), and 3.374.328 hectares of former or suspended **Forest Concessions** (19%), 330.732 hectares of **Community Forestry** (2%). Other remaining forests are not classified yet, but the Forestry Administration is committed to increasing the area under community forestry to a total of 2 million hectares (11%). Under the Community Forestry Sub Decree (2003), community forest land is owned by the state but may be allocated for local management according to Community Forest Agreements for up to 15 years. All Forest Concessions in Cambodia have been under a logging moratorium since 2002. Protected Areas are also State Public Property and fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment and cover 3.098.000 hectares (approximately 17%). Map of Protected Area and Protected Forests are presented in Annex 2.

b) Are there any estimates of greenhouse or carbon dioxide emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in your country? If so, please summarize:

Cambodia ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1995 and acceded to its Kyoto Protocol in 2002. The country's *Initial National Communication* submitted to COP-8 in 2002 followed a *National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for 1994* completed in 2001.⁴ In 1994, Cambodia was a net carbon sink country with a net total carbon removal of 5,142 Gg of CO₂ equivalent. Calculations were based on 1994 national statistical data from FA and were completed by factors originating from the IPCC's guidelines for national GHG inventories⁵. The Cambodia Climate Change Office is currently preparing the *National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for 2000* as part of the country's *Second National Communication*. Rapid economic growth in the garment and tourism industries, electricity consumption and vehicle ownership will all have contributed to a significant change in the relative contributions of GHG emissions in Cambodia

² Following the decision of the 11/COP.7, of the UNFCCC, **deforestation** or forest clearance was defined as a direct anthropogenic conversion of a forested area to a non-forested area.

³ Forest **degradation** is understood here as the definition given by the IPCC, i.e. a long term reduction of carbon stocks of anthropogenic origin without a change in land use (within those forest zones which remain forests)

⁴ <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/khmncl.pdf>

⁵ Cambodia's Initial National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. UNFCCC. <http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/items/2979.php>

⁶ GRASA/S, 2007a. Accuracy Assessment Report. March 2007. University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen.

⁷ NIS, 2005. Statistical Yearbook 2005. National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Planning, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

⁸ IFSR, 2004. Independent Forest Sector Review. Royal Danish Embassy Development Cooperation Section and Forest Administration, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. www.cambodia-forest-sector.net/docs-part2.htm

⁹ The address by the Prime Minister at the First Cabinet Meeting of the Fourth Legislature of the National Assembly on 26 September 2008 regarding the RGC's 'Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency, Phase II' included reference to Forestry Reform with a clear commitment to, and focus on community forestry.

¹⁰ CDRI, 2006. Forest Management Options in Cambodia. Cambodia Development Resource Institute Policy Brief, March 2006 – Issue 4

during the past decade consistent with global and regional drivers of accelerating CO₂ emissions.

In 2006 a preliminary estimate of carbon emissions due to land-use change and logging was conducted in Cambodia (N. Sasaki, 2006). Land-use and forest inventory data were used to develop simple models capable of estimating the change of carbon stocks and carbon emissions from dryland and edaphic forests. Between 1993 and 2003, annual carbon emissions amounted to about 13.7 TgC, owing to deforestation and logging.

The Oddar Meanchey REDD pilot project (see below) has included the development of a PDD and REDD Methodology in 2008 (currently subject to VCS and CCBA validation) which include estimates of CO₂ emissions from deforestation and degradation in that area.

c) Please describe what data are available for estimating deforestation and/or forest degradation. Are data published? Describe the major types of data, including by deforestation and forest degradation causes and regions if possible (e.g., area covered, resolution of maps or remote sensing data, date, etc.).

The 10th TWG-F&E meeting held on 26 September 2006 agreed to support a national forest cover change assessment for 2005/06 with financial assistance provided by the Royal Danish Embassy-Danida. The Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (RS-GIS) Unit within the FA's Watershed Management and Forest Land Office conducted the forest cover change assessment using Landsat ETM+ data. Independent quality assurance and data verification was carried out by GRAS A/S, University of Copenhagen. The GRAS report concluded: (The) "RS and GIS unit is doing a very good job based on relatively simple mapping methods. However, several improvements can be made using the full multi-spectral capabilities of the satellite data that is difficult to do base alone on a manual classification. Shifting to more automated methods will ensure more systematic and consistent results".⁶ A three-stage capacity building plan to address these capacity constraints has already been put into effect.

The key findings of the forest cover change assessment published in June 2008 were:

- Forest cover declined during the period 2002-2006 from 61% to 59% of the total land area. Thus, Cambodia's forest cover fell slightly below the CMDG (Cambodian Millennium Development Goal) target of 60%.
- The 2% decline in forest cover represents an estimated loss of 373.510 hectares of forest. The most significant loss of forests occurred in the north-west of the country (notably Bantey Meanchey, Battambang, Siem Reap, Odar Meanchey and Pailin Provinces).
- The net annual rate of deforestation is estimated as 0.5% representing less than half current FAO estimates (1.3%) for Cambodia.

Cambodia received assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in carrying out two major forest inventories and one pilot scale inventory:

- 1958-1962, inventory of East of Mekong region (5.5 million hectares);
- 1968-1970, inventory of Cardamom range (300.000 hectares);
- 1996-1998, inventory of Sandan district, Kompong Thom, (275.000 hectares).

In **1989**, the Mekong Committee produced an atlas of land cover of Cambodia based on LANDSAT TM/MSS imagery. In **1993**, the Japan Forest Technical Association (JAFTA) assisted the Department of Forestry and Wildlife (DFW) in analysing satellite imagery of LANDSAT TM data **1992/1993** to assess the country's forest resources. In 1997, the Forest Cover Monitoring Project carried out an estimate of forest cover, with support of GTZ/MRC, based on **1996/1997** LANDSAT TM.

The scale of interpretation and smallest interpretable units differ between the land cover databases developed in 1989, 1997, 2002 and 2006 (Annex 4). The smallest interpretable unit of **1 km²** was conserved in all databases.

The maps of the forest cover in 1989, 1996/97 and 2002 are presented in Annex 3.

AFD is providing TA to the FA to facilitate cartographic harmonization of the land cover databases for 1989 / 1997 / 2002 and 2006. This project should produce a geodatabase of national land cover, providing an 18 years baseline of forest cover

change over the whole country, at a scale of 1/250.000 and 1 km² minimum mapping units. An initial work of quality assessment was carried out by the University of Copenhagen on land cover maps 2002 and 2006 (GRAS A/S, 2007). The same work will be carried out on land cover maps 1989 and 1997.

d) What are the main causes of deforestation and/or forest degradation?

The principle causes of deforestation and forest degradation are (in no particular order and without distinguishing between direct and indirect causes):

- (i) **Limited capacity and funds to implement sustainable forest management:** Under the 2002 Forestry Law, forest lands may be managed for conservation, community forestry or production. However, limited institutional capacity and financial resources means that reforms of forest management and demarcation of management units have progressed slowly. This includes measures to decentralise management control of forest resources to local communities. This has been compounded by limited capacities to manage, monitor and enforce laws and regulations in the forestry sector;
- (ii) **Illegal timber harvesting** takes place inside and outside the concession system area. The debate around illegal logging has focused on detection, monitoring and prosecution. The high value of the wood, the remote areas and unclear boundaries make it difficult to prevent illegal logging;
- (iii) **Forest land clearance:** the forests in Cambodia are facing multiple threats of conversion to other land uses. Some clearance is driven by land speculation, smallholder expansion of agriculture and rural in-migration. Other clearance may be due to conversion of land to agricultural purpose.
- (iv) **Rural poverty:** Cambodia is one of the poorest countries in the region and local communities are heavily reliant on forests for their livelihoods, even if such exploitation is unsustainable. For example, fuel wood is the major source of energy in Cambodia. Based on the last Cambodia census population, it was estimated that 84% of the population rely on fuel wood and 5.5% on charcoal, for cooking⁷. This represent roughly a volume of 6,968,000m³ of fuel wood collected annually⁸. Unsustainable fuel wood collection is therefore a key contributing factor to forest degradation. The charcoal is much more damaging as it requires green wood collection. In some provinces like Kampong Speu, producers claim that charcoal is more profitable than agriculture and constitute their main incomes.
- (v) **Population growth** and rural migration As the majority of the population is living in rural area (85%), we can expect that agricultural encroachment will accelerate. This phenomenon could lead to:
 - Migrations towards less populated area in the forested regions of north-west, north-east and south-west of Cambodia. In Oddar Meanchey Province for example, rural population growth was 9.23% between 1998 and 2008 placing intense pressure on forest lands.
 - And expansion of land dedicated to agriculture due to the poor agricultural productivity of the land. There is clearly a danger of ongoing deforestation and forest degradation as the rural population will increase (19 million in 2020, with a growing rate of 1.7%).
- (vi) **Lack of financial incentives for forest conservation:** There are few functioning markets for environmental services so financial incentives for maintenance of intact forest are limited;
- (vii) **Regional dynamics:** Countries in the region have also played a part in the deforestation process. Having suffered historically high rates of deforestation themselves, and/or introduced moratoria on logging some countries have turned to Cambodia to help satisfy their demand for timber and Non Timber Forest Products.
- (viii) **Forest Fires:** While forest fires are predominantly lower intensity “ground fires” they are widespread in the dry season, especially in dry deciduous forests, and restrain natural regeneration.

e) What are the key issues in the area of forest law enforcement and forest sector governance (e.g., concession policies and enforcement, land tenure, forest policies, capacity to enforce laws, etc.?)

The Royal Government of Cambodia’s (RGC) National Strategic Development Plan (2006-2010) and Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency, Phase II clearly recognise the importance of forests for Cambodia’s development, particularly given the large number of forest-dependent rural poor. Improving forest management and governance will address poverty, increase forest conservation, and open up new incentives for sustainable forest management for tourism, watershed protection and climate change mitigation.⁹

Before 2002, the predominant form of forest management in Cambodia was commercial forestry concessions. This led to anarchic logging practices. Consequently in 2001, the RGC issued a Declaration on the Suspension of Forest Concession Logging Activities, which suspended all logging activities in concessions starting from January 2002 until new forest concession management plans could be prepared and approved. The licenses of 17 companies covering 3.50 million hectares in 24 concessions were cancelled and twelve concessions covering a total area of 3.37 million hectares were suspended. In addition the FA closed, and sometimes destroyed, 1,552 illegal sawmills and 737 small wood-processing plants. Through the 2002 Forestry Law the RGC undertook a comprehensive reform of the forestry sector. The Forestry Administration was established with responsibility for the Permanent Forest Reserve. Concession management was reformed by introducing mandatory compliance requirements such as Strategic Forest Management Plans (SFMPs) and Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), consistent with international standards. Three types of forest concession management are recognised: *(i)* Concessions (long term, 25-30 years); *(ii)* Compartment level forest exploration (medium term, 5 years); and *(iii)* Annual bidding coupes (Annual term, 1 year). Since 2002 only the third type, annual bidding coupes, have been approved by the government.

New alternative approaches to forest management have been introduced in Cambodia, moving beyond forest concessions. Ten Protected Forests covering 1.434.032 hectares have been declared for forest conservation, watershed protection and sustainable use by local communities. Community Forestry was introduced in 2003¹⁰ as a way of encouraging sustainable forest management by decentralising management responsibility to local communities that are heavily dependent on forest resources. A coherent national framework has been developed comprising a clear policy, Sub Decree, guidelines, functional mapping/GIS unit, training materials and a National Community Forestry Coordinaton Committee. Although, the proportion of forest under the under community forestry activities is currently low (<5%), the FA is planning to set a target of 2 million hectares or 19% of the forest estate. To date, prakas have been issued by MAFF for 124 community forestry sites covering 145,039 hectares in five provinces (Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Oddar Meanchhey, Koh Kong , Banteay Meanchhey and Kampong Leng-Kampong Chhnang). It is not clear that either of these conditions (secure and adequate returns) have yet been put in place on a widespread basis throughout the whole country. This is partly due to the fact that, at present, Community Forestry offers limited opportunities for local people to generate income from sustainable production of timber and non-timber forest products. Further forest management approaches that are being trialled include Community Commercial Forestry (focused on harvesting timber and NTFPs) and registration of communal lands of indigenous communities (which decentralises management of shifting cultivation).

4) What data are available on forest dwellers in lands potentially targeted for REDD activities (including indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers)? (e.g., number, land tenure or land classification, role in forest management, etc.):

The key sources of data on forest dwellers in lands potentially targeted for REDD activities are:

1. Forestry Administration including Forestry Statistics, forest management plans for annual bidding coupes, and all GIS databases of forest cover, community forestry sites etc. A national community forestry database is managed by FA's Community Forestry Office.
2. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for data regarding Economic Land Concessions
3. Ministry of Environment for data on protected areas and CDM-related climate change activities
4. Ministry of Interior for data pertaining to Commune Councils, Districts and Provinces and the registration of indigenous peoples
5. Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction for land titling data (individual property rights) in selected provinces
6. Ministry of Planning/National Institute of Statistics which produces the Cambodia Statistical Yearbook

A distinguishing feature in Cambodia is the existence of a web-based portal – Atlas of Cambodia – developed by Save Cambodia's Wildlife with support from the Royal Danish Embassy-Danida in 2006-07 which includes multiple layers of

socio-economic and environmental data for the country.

According to the last census of population, Cambodia's total population in 2004 was 13.4 million. **85%**¹¹ of the population is living in **rural areas** sometimes very isolated. Around 7% to 9% is living in Phnom Penh. Population density is higher in the central region of Phnom Penh (4,969pp/km²) and Tonle Sap (67pp/km²), traditionally dedicated to agriculture and fisheries. The remaining provinces are averagely or weekly populated as in the north-east region of the Plateau and Mountain region (23pp/km², 11% of the total population) and the south-west region of the Coast (65pp/km², 7% of the total population). These regions are mainly forested and have poor infrastructure, roads and few economical activities.

Cambodia's national statistics do not allow for the precise estimation of the indigenous population, as they do not make a distinction for ethnic groups. Statistics for indigenous populations are therefore not often very accurate being obtained from different sources. Taking these uncertainties into consideration Cambodia has a fairly homogeneous population mainly represented by Khmer people (around 87% to 90%). At least 18 indigenous ethnic minority groups (collectively known as Khmer Loeu) are heavily represented in the mountainous areas and probably make up the majority of the population in provinces (especially Mondul Kiri and Ratanak Kiri); distinct minority groups in the lowland area are known as Vietnamese (4%), Chinese (3%) and Cham (2%).

There are a range of tenure options for people in and around the forest estate:

- 1) **farm/residential land** can be privately titled (few cases of this near forests as yet), communally titled (none as yet, but potentially large areas), or simply possessed, with recognition under traditional, local systems (the main type at present, and one that gives little security and can often bring conflict with the law or with land developers)
- 2) **forested land** is almost all presumed to be state property, sometimes in defined management units (e.g. logging concessions), otherwise unclassified. Existing forest users have general rights recognised under law, and there are mechanisms to specify and map these rights in some classes of forest (e.g. Protected Forests, Logging Concessions), but this has only been implemented on a limited scale to date. Appropriate mechanisms include Community Forestry Agreements (in the Permanent Forest Reserve) and a range of options in MoE Protected Areas, such as Community Protected Areas, Sustainable use zones and Community zones. As noted below, Community Forests are increasingly being declared, with increased harvesting rights and responsibilities for resource protection, based on management plans.

Community Forestry:

The first Community Forestry (CF) project was developed in 1992 in Takeo province. By 2002, areas under CF management represented 0.7% of the total area suitable for CF management¹². According to data from the Forestry Administration (FA), there are currently **365 CF initiatives** in Cambodia, covering a total area of **330.732 hectares** or approximately **2%** of the total land in Cambodia. Of these, over **145.000 hectares** are under management by local community forestry agreements following the 2003 law; the remaining areas are awaiting approval. Due to the importance of Community Forestry for rural development in 2004, the RGC took the decision to establish a **Community Forestry Office (CFO)** within the Forestry Administration (FA). This office is in charge of supporting the establishment of Community Forests in and developing the National Community Forestry Programme.

Indigenous Peoples

Under the Council for Land Policy three pilot projects have been established to develop enabling legislation consistent with the 2001 Land Law for registration of communal lands of indigenous peoples. One of these pilots is in a heavily forested region and is a model for integration of indigenous communal land rights with the 2002 Forestry Law.

REDD Pilot Project

FA is experimenting with a first REDD pilot project involving twelve community forest sites in Oddar Meanchey province, with the support of Community Forestry International. The province's forests have been under intense pressure from illegal loggers due to their close proximity to the border with north-eastern Thailand for the past two decades. A growing number of communities in the province are organizing to protect the remaining natural forests under threat. This project should demonstrate that carbon financing can establish incentives for allocating and approving community forestry groups, as well as generating a long-term support to both community forest population and local forest administrators. The project was officially endorsed by H.E. SAMDECH AKKA MOHA SENA PADEI TECHO HUN SEN, Prime-Minister of the King-

¹¹ NIS statistical Yearbook, 2005

¹² Fichtenau et al. 2002, www.mekonginfo.org

dom of Cambodia through Decision n° 699 dated 26 May 2008 (Annex 5). The guiding principles ensure that carbon revenues are used to: 1) improve the forest quality; 2) provide maximum benefits to local communities which participate in the project activities; 3) study the potential area for new REDD projects in Cambodia. The Decision no 699 confirm the high-level commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia to make the REDD project a success and its revenues effectively.

5. Summarize key elements of the *current* strategy or programs that your government or other groups have put in place to address deforestation and forest degradation, if any:

a) What government, stakeholder or other process was used to arrive at the current strategy or programs?

Technical Working Group on Forestry and Environment (TWG-F&E): Following the Plan of Action for Harmonization and Alignment, the RGC and development partners established the TWG-F&E under the Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF). The overall objective of the TWG-F&E is to support and strengthen the RGC in its role of forest development. The TWG-F&E is presently co-chaired by the Director General of Forest Administration and the counselor of Danida, with members from relevant ministries (**Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Ministry of Economic and Finance, Ministry of Land Management Urbanization, Planning and Construction, Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of National Defend**), and development partners (**AFD, Danida, DFID, NZAid, JICA, FAO, UNDP, USAID and World Bank**) and private sectors (**civil society and NGOs**). The Co-chairs are responsible for the delivery of the TWG-F&E work plan, which reflects Forestry and Environment Action Plan 2006-2010. The TWG-F&E is supported in its work by the TWG-F&E Secretariat. The overall objective and purpose of the Secretariat is to assist TWG-F&E to support and strengthen forest sector development including strategic development, national sector planning and monitoring, networking, promoting of transparency and good governance, and managerial and logistic advice. The secretariat is fully owned and managed by government with donor assistance.

National Forest Programme (NFP): NFP is working under TWG F&E and it is supported and consulted by members of the TWG F&E. The FA and partners are currently developing a National Forest Programme (NFP) as a significant step towards sustainable forest management. The NFP was mandated by a Joint Monitoring Indicator (JMI) set by the Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF) and a range of development partners including Danida, DFID, NZAid, FAO, UNDP, JICA and the World Bank. The NFP aims to meet local, national and global needs by providing a strategic coherent transparent framework to plan, manage, use, protect and regenerate forest resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The forest programme will be directly aligned with the national development strategies and the Millennium Goals. A Task Force and a number of working groups with representatives from many sectors, civil society, non government organisations and knowledge institutions have been established to develop the NFP. The NFP will be structured as a framework document with six specific programmes: Forest Demarcation, National Forest Management and Conservation, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance, Community Forestry, Capacity Building and Research, and Forest, Climate Change and Innovative Financing. It is set to be completed by September 2009. A NFP National Coordinator and NFP Task Force oversee the work of six working groups established to develop each of these programmes.

Under Council of Ministers decision 699 the FA was specifically put in charge of national development of REDD. This is included in the NFP through the programme on Forest, Climate Change and Innovative Financing. In addition, the FA has received support from the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) to develop a National Forest Carbon Accounting System (Annex 5). The FA has already established a climate change team with seven dedicated staff. The re-structuring of the FA pursuant to prakas of 14 November 2008 is under finalization and is expected to create a new office responsible for climate change (including REDD).

b) What major programs or policies are in place at the national, and the state or other subnational level?

On 26 July 2002, the ***Statement of the Royal Government on National Forest Sector Policy*** was adopted with the following objectives: **(i)** to conserve and sustainably manage the country's forest resources; **(ii)** to establish the remaining forest reserves as Permanent Forest Estate; **(iii)** to promote the maximum involvement of the private sector and the participation of local people; **(iv)** to establish a coordinated multi-stakeholder process for forestry development; and **(v)** to promote programs of forestation on arable lands and farms. Implementation of the National Forest Policy is based on the **Forestry Law promulgated on 30 July 2002**. The Forestry Law defines the framework for management, harvesting, use, development,

conservation and protection of the forest. The major objective is to ensure sustainable forest management and customary user rights of forest products for local communities. A coherent national community forestry framework has since been developed comprising a clear policy, Sub Decree, guidelines, functional mapping/GIS unit, training materials and a National Community Forestry Coordinaton Committee.

The National Forest Programme (NFP): The NFP is an internationally agreed protocol covering different approaches to the process of planning, programming and implementation of forest activities in a country. The protocols can be applied at national and sub-national levels, based on a common set of guiding principles. The NFP will include six programmes:

- National forest demarcation, classification and registration;
- Forest resource management and conservation;
- Forest law enforcement and governance;
- Community Forestry;
- Capacity building and research development;
- Forest, climate change and innovative financing.

Subnational programmes: With international and national NGOs as partners, the Royal Government of Cambodia is implementing sub-national forest conservation programs in each of the three major forested regions identified:

- (a) North-east: The Eastern Plains conservation program with World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and others. The Eastern Plains connects with Virachey National Park on the border with Laos, which was the focus on the World Bank Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Project (BPAMP).
- (b) South-west: the Cardamoms program with Conservation International (CI) and Fauna and Flora International (FFI) and the lowland elephant corridor with the Wildlife Alliance
- (c) North: The Northern Plains conservation program with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the REDD pilot project in Odder Meanchhey Province with Community Forestry International (CFI), and Terra Global Capital

6. What is the current thinking on what would be needed to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in your country? (e.g., potential programs, policies, capacity building, etc., at national or subnational level):

The RGC's policy on reducing deforestation and forest degradation is through implementation of the National Forest Programme (NFP), under the six thematic areas highlighted above. Development of a REDD programme will also need to include a National Carbon Accounting System (NCAS), and provision of maximum incentives to local communities and Government agencies to implement forest conservation policies. Under decision 699 of the Council of Ministers the FA is specifically designated as the national REDD agency. A letter outlining the scope of the proposed National Carbon Accounting System with support from the Clinton Climate Initiative is presented in Annex 6.

a) How would those programs address the main causes of deforestation?

1. Forest Demarcation - The RGC is committed to demarcating the forest estate across the country using the provisions of the Sub-Decree 53 on Procedures for Establishment, Classification and Registration of the Permanent Forest Estate, and the Forestry Law 2002. The boundaries of Cambodia's forest estate have never been clearly demarcated or registered. Demarcation and land registration will make uncontrolled clearance and the issuance of informal and illegal land concessions more difficult. This is an important tool to slow the rate of forest loss, reduce associated livelihood and environmental impacts and improve governance. During 2007-08 the FA is piloting forest demarcation processes in four provinces with the aim of developing national guidelines defining the criteria, procedures and technical means to identify and demarcate forested lands to be declared as part of the **Permanent Forest Estate** (PFE). This will enable the FA to scale-up the process and to then classify the PFE according to function. It is not clear whether the demarcated PFE can be added to the Cadastral Land Register. Classification of forest lands into management units will improve forest conservation, whilst demarcation of these units will reduce opportunities for illegal forest clearance. Additionally, classification and demarcation will recognize and respect private lands and areas under communal management. All Community Forestry, Commercial Community Forestry and Partnership Forestry sites will also be permanently demarcated, and the land registered as State Public Land, and part of the Permanent Forest Estate.

2. Sustainable Forest Management - Forests are important for resource harvesting, particularly for rural populations, many of whom rely on non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Many forest areas are also important for globally threatened wildlife species and other biodiversity values. Development of sustainable resource management strategies and protected forest units will ensure conservation of these values. Accurate information about the PFE including boundaries, area and forest composition is indispensable for sustainable forest management in general, and more particularly for management activities such as concession allocation, determination of annual allowable cuts and growth modelling. At least seven forest management models are currently being explored in Cambodia. These include the vestiges of the forestry concession model; annual bidding coupes; protection forests and protected areas for biodiversity conservation, wildlife management and ecotourism; community forestry; commercial community forestry; partnership forestry; and contracted forest managers for new plantations established using the provisions of the Economic Land Concessions Sub Decree. These models will be tested, developed and lessons learned before expansion to cover larger areas of the country. The longer-term priority of the RGC is to continue to meet domestic demand for wood and Non Timber Forest Products, to promote greater private sector investment in forest plantations, and to reduce the loss of government revenues due to non-compliance with forest management plans and/or illegal cross-border trade.

3. Community Forestry - The FA has developed a coherent community forestry programme in Cambodia during the past five years comprising a clear policy, Sub Decree, Guidelines, functional mapping/GIS Unit, training materials and a National Community Forestry Coordination Committee. The FA is currently the only government institution in Cambodia to have legalized community-based natural resource management agreements. Much more remains to be done to scale-up this process to ca. 300 other proposed Community Forestry sites across the country. The development of Community Forestry training services and the de-concentration of GIS skills and mapping services to 15 FA Cantonments during the period 2008-2010 will enable the FA to meet this growing demand. The FA is committed to achieving 20% of the PFE under Community Forestry Agreements and attendant Management Plans by 2020.

4. Forest Law Enforcement and Governance - The RGC is committed to improving forest law enforcement and governance by substituting externally driven verification systems based on a legalistic approach with the development of stronger domestic and regional coalitions with adequate degrees of government commitment to the process. Nationally, FA closely has worked with Development Partners and NGOs (CI, WildAid, WWF, etc.) enforcing Forestry Law and related Regulations in core forest areas such as the Cardamom Mountains and north-eastern part of the country. Cambodia has been actively working with ASEAN country members to counter further forest degradation and the loss of biodiversity. Ministerial and Prime Ministerial agreements on curbing illegal activities in cross-border trade in timber and endangered wildlife species have been signed with Lao, PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam. The FA continues its own internal forest crime monitoring, and pending the approval of a new Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) project submitted to the International Tropical Timber Organisation, is actively trying to strengthen the monitoring and control of illicit cross-border trade in timber in Cambodia's eastern provinces. Improving enforcement will require significant investments in capacity-building for FA and MoE staff and other law enforcement agencies, and provision of appropriate infrastructure.

5. Forestry, Climate Change and Innovative Financing - The RGC strongly supports the inclusion of GHG emission reduction from forest conservation and avoided deforestation in post-Kyoto regimes. **Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)** are not eligible to the Clean Development Mechanism during the first commitment period (2008-2012). The FA is supporting a pilot REDD initiative in Oddar Meanchey Province where the net annual rate of deforestation was estimated as 1.6% per year during the period 2002-2005/06. This includes developing risk mitigation strategies to reduce 'leakage' and further conversion of community forestlands to Economic Land Concessions in accordance with draft REDD methodological guidelines. The community-based forest management model in Oddar Meanchey Province being developed by Community Forestry International and Terra Global Capital constitutes one of up to six different carbon-financing models to be explored in the future; others potentially include conservation forestry; commercial plantation forestry; ecotourism; Corporate Social Responsibility of the garment industry and; the use of pension funds to invest in forestry in Cambodia. Both the COP 15 in 2009 in Copenhagen, and the strong interest of the RGC to support this initiative represent a unique 'win-win' opportunity to demonstrate that the new REDD framework can contribute to alleviating poverty, improved governance, and sustainable forest management in Cambodia as well as mitigating global climate change. In future, additional initiatives to support potentially both CDM-Afforestation and Reforestation pilots and payments for other ecosystem services will be explored in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and the Cambodian Climate Change Office.

6. Capacity Development and Research - Current capacity to implement forest legislation and other relevant laws is weak. This program will therefore build awareness within FA staff, other Government agencies, and with local communities and authorities. Capacity-building will include research development to further expand and refine models of forest management. The FA is committed to institutional reforms including *inter alia* the introduction of a Performance Incentives Management Programme to strengthen the delivery of national and sub-national forestry services; the decentralisation and de-concentration of core functions; strengthening forestry extension services for all Cambodian citizens; broadening on-the-job and specialised training for FA personnel and; a study in 2008 as input to the NFP to develop the sustainable financing of the forestry sector. The FA will continue its collaboration with several research institutions including the Forest & Wildlife Research Centre and Cambodian Development Resource Institute in producing policy-relevant studies and policy briefs.

b) Would any cross-sectoral programs or policies also play a role in your REDD strategy (e.g., rural development policies, transportation or land use planning programs, etc.)?

Cross-sectoral policy is driven by the National Strategic Development Plan (2006-2010) and the Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency, Phase 2. Within the Government, cross-sectoral decisions are made within the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers has already endorsed REDD through decision number 699. Relevant cross-sectoral programs include the RGC's decentralization reforms overseen by the National Committee for Decentralization and Deconcentration (NCDD), and the land reforms coordinated by the Council for Land Policy. Nevertheless, the development of cross-sectoral programs is not very common in Cambodia and the FA recognizes that it will be important within the framework of a REDD strategy to have synergy between sectors or at least an exchange of information. The implementation of such an exchange platform at the interministerial level will be one of the priorities of the REDD strategy. At the subnational scale (provinces, districts, communes), coordination and collaboration between different line agencies is much more effective, and this is likely to become more important as the reforms mandated by the Organic Law (2008) are enacted.

Existing programs at the provincial or landscape level will play a key role in achieving cross-sectoral consensus on REDD implementation. For example, many conservation areas now have community development activities integrated with protection activities, in an effort to promote alternatives to unsustainable resource use.

c) Have you considered the potential relationship between your potential REDD strategies and your country's broader development agenda in the forest and other relevant sectors? (e.g., agriculture, water, energy, transportation). If you have not considered this yet, you may want to identify it as an objective for your REDD planning process.

The NFP is being developed based on the following three broad development agendas:

- **Sustainable management** of forest resources to respond in priority to domestic demand;
- **Conservation** of the environment, including protection of watersheds;
- Helping the rural and urban poor move out of poverty

All of these objectives will be targeted in Cambodia's future REDD strategy. During the development of this strategy further consultation with policies in other sectors will be undertaken in order to identify appropriate synergies.

d) Has any technical assistance already been received, or is planned on REDD? (e.g., technical consulting, analysis of deforestation or forest degradation in country, etc., and by whom):

REDD-specific activities or programmes already done or in execution:

1. Council of Ministers Decision number 699, which authorises the FA to develop REDD projects for forest conservation and local livelihoods;
2. **Participation to Regional REDD workshop for the lower Mekong (Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos):** Organised by RECOFTC, Queensland University and ITC Netherlands, Oct 2008.
3. **Participation to COP 14** in Poznan: funded by AFD. Component of the project "Support for the definition of agricultural sector policies in Cambodia – sub component forest";

4. Participation to UNFCCC meeting in Tokyo. Funded by Danida, DFID, NZAid;
5. Participation to UNFCCC meeting in Accra. Funded the by Woods Hole Research Center.
6. Participation to Policy Workshop on Greenhouse Gas Inventory: experience from Annex 1 countries, Germany.
7. Participation to COP 14 in Poznan. Funded by AFD.
8. Development of a **REDD project in Oddar Meanchey** Province. Forestry Administration, Community Forestry International (CFI) and Terra Global Capital; in execution;
9. **Development of a REDD** project in Mondul Kiri Province. Forestry Administration and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS); feasibility study complete, execution begun.
10. **Financial support to the Forestry, Climate Change and Innovative Financing Working Group**: funded by Danida, DFID, NZAid, in execution. Component of the Natural Resource Management and Livelihoods Program, Cambodia 2006-2010;
11. **Capacity building** and development of the GIS and RS Unit within the FA: funded by Danida, DFID, NZAid including quality assessment of the 2002-2005/06 forest cover change assessment. This was undertaken by GRAS A/S, University of Copenhagen, w/e March 2007, and on-going. Component of the Natural Resource Management and Livelihoods Program, Cambodia 2006-2010;
12. Development of an **18 years deforestation baseline** over the whole country (1989-2006) at scale 1/250.000: funded by AFD and realized by ONF international, in execution. Component of the project “Support for the definition of agricultural sector policies in Cambodia – sub component forest”;
13. Development of a **National Carbon Accounting System** to be supported by Clinton Climate initiative as part of their global Carbon Measurement Collaborative with the Australian Government.
Selected other relevant activities:
14. **Japanese Social Development Fund** grant through the World Bank and executed by RECOFTC and the FA for the Capacity Building for Sustainable Forest and Land Management Project, which focuses on community forestry.
15. **Forest estate demarcation**, funded by the World Bank and Danida.
16. Capacity building for the forestry sector phase I: funded by JICA from 2002 to 2005. Component of the training program for local forestry staff;

Activities to be done:

1. **Pilot REDD capacity building for grassroots forest sector stakeholders**; carried out by Forestry Administration in cooperation with RECOFTC (funded by SDC and AusAID), planned for March 2009.
2. **Set up a National Forest Carbon Accounting System in March 2009, supported by Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI).**
3. **Participation to UNFCCC in AWG-LCA** in March-April, and SBSTA, AWG-LCA in June 2009.
4. **Participation to COP15 of UNFCCC** on December 2009, Copenhagen.
5. **Participation to Workshop on Asia-Pacific REDD expert**, late Feb 2009: organised by RECOFTC.
6. **Capacity building** for the forestry sector phase II: funded by JICA from 2005 to 2010. Component of the training for the local forestry staff and Community Forestry in the field;
7. Capacity building within Forestry Administration on spatial modeling for deforestation in Cambodia: funded by AFD, to be planned in 2009. Component of the project “Support for the definition of agricultural sector policies in Cambodia – sub component forest”;
8. **Regional workshop** for the lower Mekong to prepare negotiations for COP 15 in Copenhagen: Funded by AFD, planned in May 2009 in Phnom Penh, FA. Component of the project “Support for the definition of agricultural sector policies in Cambodia – sub component forest”.
9. Participation to **Capacity Building workshop on Forest Inventory and GIS**, Feb 2009 in Brazil organised by Coalition for Rainforest Nation
10. Participation to South-South Collaboration workshop on **Implementation of pilot REDD projects**, March 2009 in Brazil, funded and organised by Woods Hole Research Center.
11. Carry out **Training Workshop** on Capacity Building on Climate Change and REDD during 2009 to Central and

Regional FA to Central and Regional FA throughout the country.

12. Receiving **capacity building** on forest inventory and GIS modelling by WinRock in March 2009.

7. What are your thoughts on the type of stakeholder consultation process you would use to: a) create a dialogue with stakeholders about their viewpoints, and b) evaluate the role various stakeholders can play in developing and implementing strategies or programs under FCPF support?

a) How are stakeholders normally consulted and involved in the forest sector about new programs or policies?

National and specific forest sector policies and strategy formulation is the responsibility of the RGC. The *Government Donor Coordination Committee (GDCC)* & the *Technical Working Group on Forestry and Environment (TWG-F&E)* have an important advisory function in the process and can play a supporting role in identifying options and approaches..Under the Council of Ministers decision 699, the FA was authorised to develop REDD, with the TWG-F&E as an oversight body. The TWG-F&E members are listed in the Annex 7 but include donors, representatives from international agencies and NGOs. Quarterly meetings of the working group provide a regular opportunity for stakeholder consultation on the progress of policy in the entire forest sector.

As new programs and policies are developed additional consultation is undertaken. For example, the development of the National Forest Programme (NFP) is led by a task force and a number of working groups with representatives from civil society, non government organisations and research institutions. Regular meetings are held. There has been a linked program of broader public consultation on selected elements of the NFP, and plans are being developed for a full public consultation process in 2009.

b) Have any stakeholder consultations on REDD or reducing deforestation been held in the past several years? If so, what groups were involved, when and where, and what were the major findings?

Extensive consultations were undertaken within the Council of Ministers leading up to decision 699 on REDD (May 2008), and Sub-decree 188 (November 2008). The sub-decree specifically authorized the FA to “study, assess and determine the amount of national forest carbon stock and to regulate and execute the trade of forest carbon and forest environmental services for the objective of effective forest management”. The new FA structure is listed in Annex 7.

The various consultations of the Technical Working Group on Forestry and Environment and the NFP did not focus on REDD *per se*, but on methods to reduce deforestation and support efforts to strengthen the sector’s capacity to contribute to economic growth. For the NFP open consultation meetings were held, with invitations to international organizations, NGOs, civil society and research institutes. These discussions are leading to the drafting of the NFP.

Within the TWG-F&E, a new group was created in September 2008 to be dedicated to CDM and REDD topics. This group, called **Forestry, Climate Change and Innovative Financing Working Group**, is dedicated to develop consultations about REDD mechanism in Cambodia and can be called when necessary, especially about implementation of REDD pilot projects financed by FCPF and other involved partners. To prepare this document, the working group was called two times and to improved the discussion, various actors from others entities were invited. The first meeting was dedicated to the preparation of the Cambodia R-PIN submission and on the methodological aspects on cartographic and historical baseline preparation. A second meeting was organized to discuss and validate the draft of the Cambodia R-PIN submission. These two meetings took place in Forestry Administration, various office of FA and NGOs members were invited. This participative consultation on REDD aimed to build a good synthesis of all activities related to avoided deforestation, actual RGC, donors and NGOs projects, and future initiatives and improvement that need to be conducted in the future to fight climate change, poverty and forest resources reduction.

For the REDD pilot project in Oddar Meanchey **extensive community and local civil society consultations were undertaken by the FA with CFI**. These meetings enthusiastically endorsed the development of the REDD pilot project by the local community forestry organizations.

Similarly, past experiences on establishment of many Protected Forests have ensured that **consultations are undertaken at grassroot level, i.e bottom-up approach. Consultations with local community are conducted at a very early stage. Any REDD project will use this similar process.**

A number of international and national organizations have expressed support for REDD. These include the Clinton Climate Initiative, WWF, WCS, CI, FFI, CFI, Wildlife Alliance and CFI.

c) What stakeholder consultation and implementation role discussion process might be used for discussions across federal government agencies, institutes, etc.?

The *Government Donor Coordination Committee (GDCC)* is a higher level RGC Development Partner Forum mechanism for review of overall all policies, reform programmes and specific activities covering cross-cutting issues. Meeting not more than three times a year, it is a forum to review and agree upon the Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMI) prepared by TWGs, and will also decide upon arrangements for specific JMIs not covered by TWGs or covering areas in the mandate of more than one TWG. It involved bilateral countries, multilateral institutions and various NGOs. GDCC's role and functions are:

- Establish a *common understanding on major thematic* and policy matters, particularly those related to the broader reform agenda and those that are generic, cross-cutting and of an overarching nature;
- Discuss progress on issues identified for further discussion during the Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum, and to *discuss matters specifically brought up by TWGs* for resolution and/or advice;
- Serve as a forum to identify and select a set of core JMIs that are informed by those JMIs used at TWG level, as well as to review progress all JMIs before submission for endorsement by the annual Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum;
- Serve as a forum for "advocacy" matters, including the representation of invited NGO and civil society representatives.

d) Across state or other subnational governments or institutions?

The *Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF)* meetings are designed to be an important and overarching forum for a higher level (than GDCC) government-donor discussions regarding Cambodia's socio-economic development. Main features and essential functions are:

- Undertake impartial stock-taking and evaluation of Cambodia's overall progress and challenges in a broader context, informed by the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), and with a long-term perspective;
- Analytically discuss policy and reform based on background documents prepared by RGC and analytical and thematic papers prepared by development partners to arrive at a common understanding of the overall situation, future needs and challenges;
- Review the progress made in regard to implementation of the Paris Declaration on the basis of a special RGC paper on aid coordination containing a report on the functioning of TWGs, GDCC and JMIs;
- A high-level forum where policy statements of significance are made by development partner representatives. These bring to bear clear "outside" and neutral perspectives on Cambodia's socio-economic development from development partners, and provide an opportunity to discuss matters considered of overarching importance relating to Cambodia.

At the subnational level consultations are undertaken within particular landscapes and provinces using regional committees and working groups.

e) For other stakeholders on forest and agriculture lands and sectors, (e.g., NGOs, private sector, etc.)?

Ref to 7a) and 7c)

f) For forest-dwelling indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers?

It is clear that the involvement of civil society in a REDD process is crucial to ensure the transfer of carbon benefits to rural populations, to guarantee economic development of these populations, and to encourage communities to manage their

forest resources on a sustainable way. Forest communities and indigenous peoples are represented by various local groups and local organizations with support from international non-governmental organizations. A process to engage indigenous peoples and forest communities will be initiated as part of a national REDD strategy.

In 2003, the government endorsement of the **Sub-Decree on Community Forestry Management** was a milestone in the establishment of CF in Cambodia and dialogue with rural communities. For the first time, communities were legally allowed to request a community forest agreement in order to manage an area of forest. The promulgation of the Guideline on Community Forestry and Its Relevant Policies (Prakas) in 2006 marked a further milestone. The Prakas clearly define and outline the operational steps communities must take in order to secure a forest management agreement and gain approval of their CF management plan. The Government is also currently formulating a policy on indigenous peoples, including communal land rights.

8. Implementing REDD strategies:

a) What are the potential challenges to introducing effective REDD strategies or programs, and how might they be overcome? (e.g., lack of financing, lack of technical capacity, governance issues like weak law enforcement, lack of consistency between REDD plans and other development plans or programs, etc.):

The actual main challenges that will face the development of a REDD strategy in Cambodia are:

1. The limited human capacity and financial resources to carry out rigorous carbon accounting at the project and national levels, forest protection activities, such as demarcation, monitoring and law enforcement, awareness-raising for local people and private sector, and control and verify the sustainable management plan in Economic Land Concessions;
2. The limitations of capacity in forest monitoring and inventory and GIS skills, especially at district and provincial levels;
3. The fight against illegal exploitation. Despite the strong decision of the RGC in 2001, with the Declaration on the Suspension of Forest Concession Logging Activities, the government is still facing numerous difficulties to control the old concessions and control remote forested area. Important efforts are inevitable in order to (i) reinforce control and administration structures; (ii) develop studies in order to determine the level of biomass removals in these areas; (iii) reinforce community forestry in remote area; (iv) and reduce pressure linked with fuelwood (for example more efficient ovens, alternative energy, cogeneration...).
4. The development of the agricultural sector is linked to demographic growth and represents a major challenge which clashes with the principle of development of countries and the fight against poverty. Solutions adapted to local conditions such as the transformation of more intensive cultural practices and the channeling of REDD payments into incentives to forest-edge communities for avoiding deforestation;
5. The coordination problems between inter-sectoral and inter-provincial planning.
6. Developing and testing benefit sharing arrangements with all stakeholders as and when carbon sales have been made.
7. REDD will be under coordination of TWG F&E, which is a high level coordination between ministries, donors, private sectors and local NGOs. However, expected challenge may exist between all stakeholders.

b) Would performance-based payments through REDD be a major incentive for implementing a more coherent strategy to tackle deforestation? Please, explain why. (i.e., performance-based payments would occur after REDD activities reduce deforestation, and monitoring has occurred):

Performance-based payments will be an important part of the implementation of a REDD strategy. The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has already recognised this, and the importance of open and transparent allocation of funds. According to the RGC decision (Council of Ministers decision number 699), the transfer of revenues associated with REDD from the State, or project, towards populations and local stakeholders should lean partly on the existing community forestry system. A better analysis must be developed in order to determine how to adapt the actual system and how improve it. An initial work is currently underway on juridical and fiscal questions associated with carbon. From May 2008, RGC choose the FA as the seller of forest carbon in Cambodia. Revenues from future REDD project will be channeled through the Technical Working Group on Forestry and Environment (TWG-F&E) during the first five years of the project (Council of Ministers No. 699). The implementation of a more exhaustive legislation on carbon will be a fundamentally strategic step for-

ward for the development of REDD projects and a Cambodia's REDD policy.

Preliminary ideas on future benefit-sharing arrangements have been discussed informally within the FA and encompass at least five different models based on national and international experiences (e.g. trust fund, small grants programme, and categorical NRM grants). It is anticipated that performance-based payments will be more effective at incentivizing forest conservation activities both by Government agencies and local communities. Part of the REDD strategy will need to include using performance-based payments to develop alternative livelihoods for communities currently engaging in forest clearance.

9. REDD strategy monitoring and implementation:

a) How is forest cover and land use change monitored today, and by whom? (e.g., forest inventory, mapping, remote sensing analysis, etc.):

The **GIS and Remote Sensing Unit** (RS/GIS) at the Forest Administration is producing national forest cover maps and local maps supporting forest demarcation, evaluation of the function of the forest and forests management plans. The present GIS and remote sensing settings and capabilities were established in 1993 up to 1998 with the support from GTZ. Other donors have supported the unit for short periods or for specific purposes (Danida, DFID, NZAid, AFD). Consequently, the unit has received substantial support in the past both in terms of equipment and training. Today the unit is well functioning, well organized and is capable of producing forest maps by **visual interpretation** and is currently receiving training on automatic remote sensing analysis.

Furthermore, the staff should receive regularly remote sensing and GIS training on specific national case, to allow them to fulfill all their statutory commitments, produce maps of a high standard and to undertake new assignments, it's necessary to ensure **quality and product verification**, and thus, credibility of the forest cover assessment in Cambodia. Additional capacity building will be targeted at sub-national levels to develop GIS/RS and carbon stock measurement capacities at the FA Cantonment level. The Forestry Administration (FA) will also require **independent and external verification** by an institution/consultant. Also a support capacity development of the GIS and Remote Sensing Unit will enable the Forestry Administration, other RGC partners to solicit their services on support to the national REDD strategy.

b) What are the constraints of the current monitoring system? What constraints for its application to reducing deforestation and forest degradation? (e.g., system cannot detect forest degradation of forest stands, too costly, data only available for 2 years, etc.):

For an effective monitoring that include not only forest areas and land use changes between two periods, but also biomass and carbon quantities in forest, the main constraints of the actual monitoring system are the following :

- (i) **Forest degradation detection:** the actual methodology developed to perform forest land cover classification by visual interpretation, is not taking into account the detection of forest degradation¹³. A specific study should be implemented to test the feasibility of measuring and monitoring forest degradation in Cambodia, expanding on existing work that is currently being done.
- (ii) **Scale of data:** Land cover database for 2002 and 2006 are at 1/100.000 and 1/250.000 for year 1989 and 1996. The processes of harmonization over 18 year will produce maps at 1/250.000.
- (iii) **Low estimation of deciduous forest** areas as they are generally mixed with bare soil or burnt areas, if no cloud free Landsat TM imageries are available during the humid season;
- (iv) **High estimation error of "wood & shrubland"** units, as they are really difficult to separate form forested area units;
- (v) The **non detection of forest mosaic**, due to low Landsat TM resolution and shading;
- (vi) **Satellite images:** Institutional and private actors are confronted with difficult access to recent satellite images of the country and difficulty in obtaining good definition data at a reasonable cost. This difficulty explains in part the lack of initiatives in the area of forest cartography in Cambodia. The presence of a direct reception station in the sub-region seems to be the only solution to this problem.

¹³ In reference to the definition proposed by IPCC

c) How would you envision REDD activities and program performance would be monitored? (e.g., changes in forest cover or deforestation or forest degradation rates resulting from programs, using what approaches, etc.)

- (i) **Forest cover monitoring:** the FA is in charge of the forest cover monitoring. After several years of capacity building and donor's support, the team is well prepared for the commitment of FA on forest monitoring. The last national forest land cover was produced by the GIS and RS Unit from FA with support of Danida, DFID, NZAid. Danida, DFID, NZAid was providing funding for capacity building on GIS and remote sensing analysis, equipments and satellite imagery. In the context of a future REDD mechanism, it will be necessary for Cambodia to develop a sustainable way to finance FA in updating regularly the national forest land cover database and ensure a continuous work on forest mapping and training of the GIS and RS Unit team. Work will need to include updating carbon density estimates for different forest types.
- (ii) **Deforestation and forest degradation baseline:** taking into consideration the historical deforestation rates in Cambodia, the REDD strategy within the country will especially be based on an **historical baseline** from deforestation and on the **modeling of futures changes** in forest cover, based on spatial models.
- Regarding the historical baseline, the Forestry Administration, with support of AFD, is driving a cartographic work aiming the harmonization of all land cover databases from 1989, providing Cambodia an 18 year baseline of deforestation. This project, started in July 2008, is working on nomenclatures, scales, minimum mapping unit harmonization and quality assessment. Quality assessment and harmonization are already done on the land cover 2002 and 2006; some more efforts are needed for land cover 1989 and 1997 and should be finished by the end of 2009. Estimates of forest degradation was included as part of the development of a new REDD Methodology in Oddar Meanchhey Province. The funding of the FCPF should be an opportunities to develop research and pilot works about a methodology to detect forest degradation and establish a baseline.
 - Taking into account the threats that are facing Cambodia's forests, the Forestry Administration planned to initiate a pilot work on modeling deforestation base on spatial models. This training will be implemented in 2009 within the FA, with support of AFD.
- (iii) **Clarification of biomass and forest carbon data:** define specific expansion and conversion factors for Cambodia that are necessary for the calculation of biomass and forest carbon. Crossing these biomass and carbon data with pertinent geographic information, it will be possible to support a REDD strategy in Cambodia. This system could efficiently identify priority conservation or management zones in the framework of REDD. These activities could be implemented by collaboration between Forestry Administration, producing forest land cover data, and the Ministry of Environment.
- (iv) **Capitalize the existing consultations network:** by using the existing task forces and specialist technical working groups within FA, and set-up as part of the NFP process.
- (v) Harness the existing platforms of **discussion alongside community forestry:** Community Forestry Office and RECOFTC on the improvement of the revenue from forest management and the transparency of the revenue from forest management redistribution process alongside communities and communes. Identify mechanisms for the redistribution and control of the revenue from forest management which are adapted to necessities of communes (infrastructures, employment, credits, reinforcing of controls, etc.)
- (vi) **Biodiversity monitoring:** regular monitoring in the forest estate to ensure that biodiversity is also being protected (i.e. preventing 'empty forests')
- (vii) **Socio-economic monitoring:** monitoring of livelihoods in areas where REDD performance-based payments are made.

10. Additional benefits of potential REDD strategy:

a) Are there other non-carbon benefits that you expect to realize through implementation of the REDD strategy (e.g., social, environmental, economic, biodiversity)? What are they, where, how much?

The adoption of a REDD strategy will have direct consequences on:

- the **understanding of ecosystems** and **biodiversity protection** through the pursuing of conservation projects ;
- the **alleviation of rural poverty for local people** depending on forest (through better protection of the forest resources

they use and incentive payments for carbon preservation);

- the **improving of the forestry sector in Cambodia** with the promotion of the Community Forestry projects;
- the **development of tourism** in protected areas and community zones through the improvement of long term forest management vision capacity building of local population;
- Watershed management in mountain ranges so as to reduce erosion and provide clean water.

b) Is biodiversity conservation being monitored at present? If so, what kind, where, and how?

Currently, Cambodia does not have a national monitoring program on biodiversity. At the local level, biodiversity is monitored in Protected Areas or regions of interest through studies and programs implemented by international NGOs (WCS, CI, WWF, FFI...). This data represents an abundant source of information and it would be important to consider harmonizing and synthesizing all existing data to prepare a status of biodiversity in Cambodia that could be held by the Wildlife Protection Office within Forestry Administration.

A first step to a **national biodiversity monitoring** could be attributed to the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), a joint initiative of Conservation International (CI), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank. The fundamental goal is the identification of biodiversity hotspots in Cambodia (and other south-east Asian countries) based on regions that harbor especially high number of **endemic species** and, at the same time, have been significantly impacted by human activities. This inventory is updated on a regular year basis.

Landscape-level biodiversity monitoring programs are already underway in the Cardamoms (CI, FFI), Eastern Plains (WCS and WWF) and Northern Plains (WCS).

c) Under your early ideas on introducing REDD, would biodiversity conservation also be monitored? How?

A national REDD program in Cambodia and the recent development of various voluntary REDD initiatives, will imply strengthening the knowledge about biodiversity in every area designated a potential REDD area. All finalized activities and studies should be capitalized to build a national inventory on biodiversity. This work will contribute to the dissemination of information and therefore to the development of sound conservation strategies.

d) Are rural livelihood benefits currently monitored? If so, what benefits, where, and how?

The National Committee for Decentralization and Deconcentration (NCDD) currently has four databases, including socio-economic and livelihoods related data for all 1,621 communes in Cambodia. These databases are updated annually and therefore provide a standardized dataset for monitoring trends.

Rural population, mainly implicated in community forestry programs are already monitored by NGOs in charge of CF programs and by the Community Forestry Office (CFO) within the Forestry Administration (FA). The CFO key function is to develop and improve the national database on CF activities. Therefore this database will be an important information resource for rural population depending on forest, and as the RGC and FA is promoting this form of forest management, it is expected that more information will be collected in the next few years. Livelihoods are also monitored in some conservation areas, although methods vary widely from site to site.

e) Under your early ideas on introducing REDD, would rural livelihood benefits also be monitored? How?

The first REDD pilot project in Cambodia is focusing on CF management and is involving 12 community groups, comprised in 55 villages. The CFO office is closely working with Community Forestry International (CFI) in the development of the project, assuring that the benefits for these communities will be transparently monitored by the Forestry Administration in Phnom Penh through the support of FA local offices in Oddar Meanchey province, where the project takes place.

The REDD pilot project in Mondulkiri is proposed to administer funds through a transparent arrangement such as a Trust

Fund, which will allow clear monitoring of direct benefits delivered to communities. Mechanisms are being put in place to monitor overall rural livelihoods at the target site through statistically rigorous surveys together with participatory approaches, to inform development of REDD methods at this and other sites.

11. What type of assistance are you likely to request from the FCPF Readiness Mechanism?

- **Identify your early ideas on the technical or financial support you would request from FCPF to build capacity for addressing REDD, if you are ready to do so. (Preliminary; this also could be discussed later.)**
- **Include an initial estimate of the amount of support for each category, if you know.**
- **Please refer to the Information Memorandum and other on-line information about the FCPF for more details on each category:**

a) **Setting up a transparent stakeholder consultation on REDD (e.g., outreach, workshops, publications, etc.):**

The FCPF support in Cambodia should respond to the following goals:

- Diffusion UNFCCC progress in Cambodia's pertinent governmental institutions;
- Optimized funding in Cambodia toward Cambodia's REDD strategy;
- Support the multi-partners discussion on REDD in Cambodia;

Action to be fulfilled:

1. Strengthen existing Community Forestry Coordination Committee by conducting regular consultation with representatives of Community Forestry and representatives from relevant communities and indigenous group where REDD will be implemented.
2. Initiate dialogue with regional countries in order to strengthen REDD implementation, especially sharing information on FLEG, consistent capacity building etc.
3. Support the participation of members of the Working Group on REDD to various *UNFCCC and CBD meetings* (COP, SBSTA...), international, regional or methodological meetings on REDD.
4. Make *a list of actual financial partners* in Cambodia according to their objectives about REDD. This list should help the RGC to evaluate the potential resources available in the country to build a national strategy on REDD in agreement with Cambodia's needs and partners objectives in Cambodia;
5. *Translation in Khmer* of key conclusions on REDD from UNFCCC meetings. This should improve the diffusion of knowledge on REDD within governmental institution. The FA has already taken the initiative to translate into Khmer selected policy briefs which have been included in the FA's internal periodic staff magazine.

Estimated budget : \$1.000.000

b) **Developing a reference case of deforestation trends: Assessment of historical emissions from deforestation and/or forest degradation, or projections into the future.**

Action to be fulfilled:

1. *Prospective study* of deforestation and forest degradation *trends* in Cambodia. Starting from the historical forest cover database, an analysis of the evolution of international markets in the forestry and agriculture sectors and the demographic evolution, it will be important to develop modeling of deforestation and forest degradation per province in Cambodia;
2. For all major types of forest ecosystem in Cambodia, develop *equations* for deriving carbon stocks from standing volume based on forest types. Research including field and laboratory measurements correlated with neighbouring countries.
3. *Calculate trends in forest carbon stocks*, and thus emissions, using historical inventory data and spatial modeling;
4. Training programs for local FA staff, NGOs and private sector;
5. Analysis of the potential improvement of the Community Forestry sustainability with the development of REDD mechanism in Cambodia;

6. Realize a synthesis of recent survey work produced on timber and woodfuel production and consumption in Cambodia. This work should improve any spatial modelling on deforestation and degradation in Cambodia. And the estimation of the future fuel wood demand in Cambodia might be an important tool to evaluate new REDD targets area in the country.

Estimated budget : \$500.000

c) Developing a national REDD Strategy: Identification of programs to reduce deforestation and design of a system for providing targeted financial incentives for REDD to land users and organizations (e.g., delivery of payments, governance issues, etc.):

Action to be fulfilled:

1. **Study on political and economical consequences** of proposed mechanisms in the REDD framework ; what are the challenges and risks for Cambodia of the implementation of such mechanisms in terms of governance and developments and at the local level on populations dependant on the forest for their livelihoods;
2. Study the needs for *transparent revenue distribution mechanisms* (how to bring a fair share of carbon credits from foreign buyers to local communities on the ground in Cambodia) and how revenue streams are to be governed all the way down to local government and communities;
3. **Determine REDD targets** in Cambodia through analysis of RGC national development priorities, deforestation and forest degradation trends scenario, UNFCCC progress on REDD mechanism and incentives.
4. **Development of the REDD strategy** through a consultative process between governmental institutions, private sector, province and NGOs.
5. Establishment of a livelihood development strategy in order to improve livelihood of or compensate local community based on regional circumstances

Estimated budget : \$500.000

d) Design of a system to monitor emissions and emission reductions from deforestation and/or forest degradation:

The FCPF support in Cambodia should respond to the following goals:

- Improve national capacities on forest monitoring and CO₂ emission;
- Develop new programs following UNFCCC recommendations.

Action to be fulfilled:

1. **Statement of forest inventories** that have been conducted by governmental institutions, private sectors and NGOs, in Cambodia. This work should help the Forestry Administration to build a national forest inventory protocol;
2. Develop, test and validate a National Forest Carbon Accounting System
3. Realized a **national forest inventory** adapted to the data requirement for REDD. The design of the national forest inventory must take into account IPCC requirements for the LULUCF sector;
4. **Capacity building** on remote sensing analysis within the Forestry Administration;
5. **Update the national forest land cover mapping in 2009**. This work should integrate the last recommendations from UNFCCC and the panel of experts from “Global Terrestrial Observing System” (GTOS);
6. **Transparent auditing** for forest inventory, biomass assessment and carbon stocks assessment through national or international expertise in agreement to standards approved by UNFCCC;
7. Set up a **national repository** where all organizations could deposit forest cover maps, land use and land use change maps, carbon stock data, biomass assessment etc. Such a collective repository should than slowly build up the data required for a national carbon baseline, or at least make it possible to identify where in the country there are data gaps;
8. Training program for national and provincial FA staff, NGOs and private sector;

Estimated budget : \$1.500.000

12. Please state donors and other international partners that are already cooperating with you on the preparation of relevant analytical work on REDD. Do you anticipate these or other donors will cooperate with you on REDD strategies and FCPF, and if so, then how?

A certain number of donors have already expressed their interest in supporting Cambodia in its reflection on REDD and in the development of tools to better understand what could be possible to develop on REDD. Among those partners wishing to cooperate on this theme, we can mention :

- Danida, DFID, NZAid, through the financial support to the sub-group Forestry, Climate Change and Innovative Financing Working Group ;
- Japanese Forestry Agency, received 2 Cambodian FA staff who are in charge of REDD in the REDD seminar in Japan and providing REDD information to FA;
- ITTO, by providing support for Cambodia in the participation to UNFCCC meetings;
- DFID;
- AFD, providing support on training on CDM and REDD, as the treatment of cartographic data in the Forestry Administration;
- Clinton Climate Initiative of The William J. Clinton Foundation;
- Woods Hole Research Institute, by providing support for Cambodia to participate in international meeting.
- Coalition for Rainforest Nations

Subnational programs are already underway in many forested areas, and the various international organisations supporting these (WWF, WCS, CI, FFI, Wildlife Alliance) are broadly supportive of REDD.

13. Potential Next Steps and Schedule:

Have you identified your priority first steps to move toward Readiness for REDD activities? Do you have an estimated timeframe for them yet, or not?

The readiness priorities for REDD are identified as following:

- set up a regional dialogue on forest issues, including FLEG, deforestation and forest degradation monitoring and better visibility in climate negotiation.
- outline national REDD strategy
- coordination and consultation between relevant government agencies, local communities and stakeholders through meeting, seminar and workshop
- perform gap analysis in order to identify need for capacity building for REDD implementation

14. List any Attachments included

(Optional: 15 pages maximum.)

Abbreviations

AFD: Agence Française de Développement, French Development Agency

CARC: Center of applied Research and Conservation

CCI: Clinton Climate Initiative

CDCF : Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum

CEPF : Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

CF: Community Forestry

CFI: Community Forest International (NGO)

CFO: Community Forestry Office

CI: Conservation International
 DANIDA: Danish International Development Agency
 DFID: Department for International Development
 DPs: Development Partners Forum
 FA: Forestry Administration
 FFI: Fauna and Flora International
 FLEG: Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
 FMO: Forest Management Office
 FRP: Forestry Reform Program
 FWSRI: Forestry and Wildlife Science Research Institute
 GDCC : Government Donor Coordination Committee
 GDNCP: General Department for Nature Conservation and Protection
 GEF: Global Environment Facility
 GTOS: Global Terrestrial Observing System
 JICA: Japan International Cooperation Agency
 JMIs: Joint Monitoring Indicator(s)
 LULUCF: Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry
 MAFF: Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Fishery
 MAR: Monitoring Assessment and Reporting
 MEF: Ministry of Economy and Finance
 MIME: Ministry of Industry, Mining and Energy
 MOE: Ministry Of Environment
 NSDP: National Strategic Development Plan (2006-2010)
 NZAid: New Zealand International Aid Agency
 MRC: Mekong River Commission
 NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation
 PFE: Permanent Forest Estate
 RECOFTC: Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific
 RGC: Royal Government of Cambodia
 SFM: Sustainable Forest Management
 TWG: Technical Working Groups
 TWG-F&E: Technical Working Group on Forestry and Environment
 WCS: Wildlife Conservation Society
 WWF: World Wide Fund for Nature

References:

- Forestry Administration, 2007.* Cambodia: Forestry Statistics 2006. Planning and Accounting Finance Office.
Forestry Administration, 2008. Forest cover map change 2002 – 2006.
 GRAS A/S, 2007. Accuracy assessment report. Internal report Forestry Administration.
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Nophea Sasaki, 2006. Carbon emissions due to land-use change and logging in Cambodia: a modeling approach. *J For Res* (2006) 11:397–403.
SCW, 2006. Atlas of Cambodia: National Poverty and Environment Maps. Save Cambodia's Wildlife, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
ITTO, 2006. Status of tropical forest management 2006. ITTO Technical Series No 24.
 MoE, 2002. Cambodia's initial national communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Available on <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/khmnc1.pdf>

Annex 1 : Joint Monitoring and Indicator for 2009

Annex 2 : Protected Areas and Protected Forests map Forest cover map

Annex 3 : Forest cover maps 1989, 1997, 2002

Annex 4 : Comparisons of land cover methodologies used for Cambodia

Annex 5 : Council of Minister No 699 Sar Chor Nor, 26 May 2008

Annex 6 : Letter of National Forest Carbon Accounting System

Annex 7 : The new structure of Forestry Administration No 188 Sub-decree, Nov 2008.

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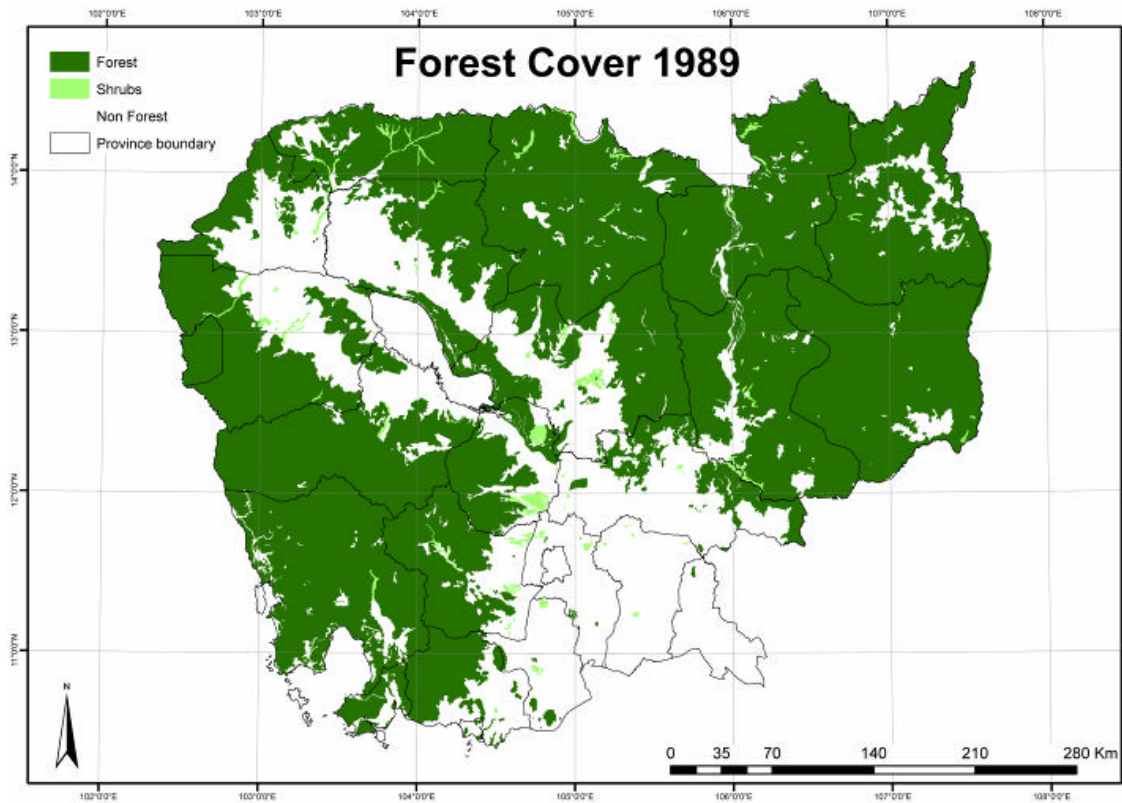
Annex 1. Joint Monitoring Indicators for 2nd CDCF Meeting (04-05 December 2008)
To be implemented and monitored in the period between the second and third meeting of the CDCF

Target	Action Needed	Responsible Government Institution	Concerned TWG	Resource Required to Achieve Target	
				Amount	Source
9. With the aim of stopping the loss of Cambodia's forest resources responding to CMDG and Rectangular Strategy to support Sustainable Forest Management for rural poverty reduction and climate change mitigation. The legal frameworks established by the Forestry Law, Protected Area Law, Land Law, Mining Law, and in particular the Sub-Decree on Economic Land Concessions must be fully implemented at all levels of Government agencies, whilst prioritizing the finalization of National Forest Program and Community Forestry development.	1. Implement all provisions of the applicable laws and regulations, including establishing and making public the log book of Economic Land Concessions, Mining Concessions and other concession forms under the jurisdiction of MAFF, MoE, MIME.	MAFF, MOE, MIME	TWG-F&E		
	2. At least 1,000 Km of forestland boundary and two more protected areas demarcated both on the map and ground.	FA, MAFF, MOE		\$720,000	MDLF, Others
	3. At least 100 Community Forestry Sites and 10 Community Protected Areas officially approved.	FA, MAFF, MOE		\$1,100,000	MDLF, Others
	4. Finalize and approve the National Forest Program in September 2009; and start its implementation by the end of 2009.	FA, MAFF		\$200,000	MDLF, Others
10. Take appropriate action to reflect the priorities of the Fisheries sector to improve the livelihoods of rural communities in commune, district and provincial development plans as well as donor funding levels.	1. At least 80% of the FiA Annual Plan funded by development partners through Sector Wide Programmatic support by end of 2009.	MAFF	TWG - Fisheries		
	2. CamCode agreed, approved and operational by end of 2009.				

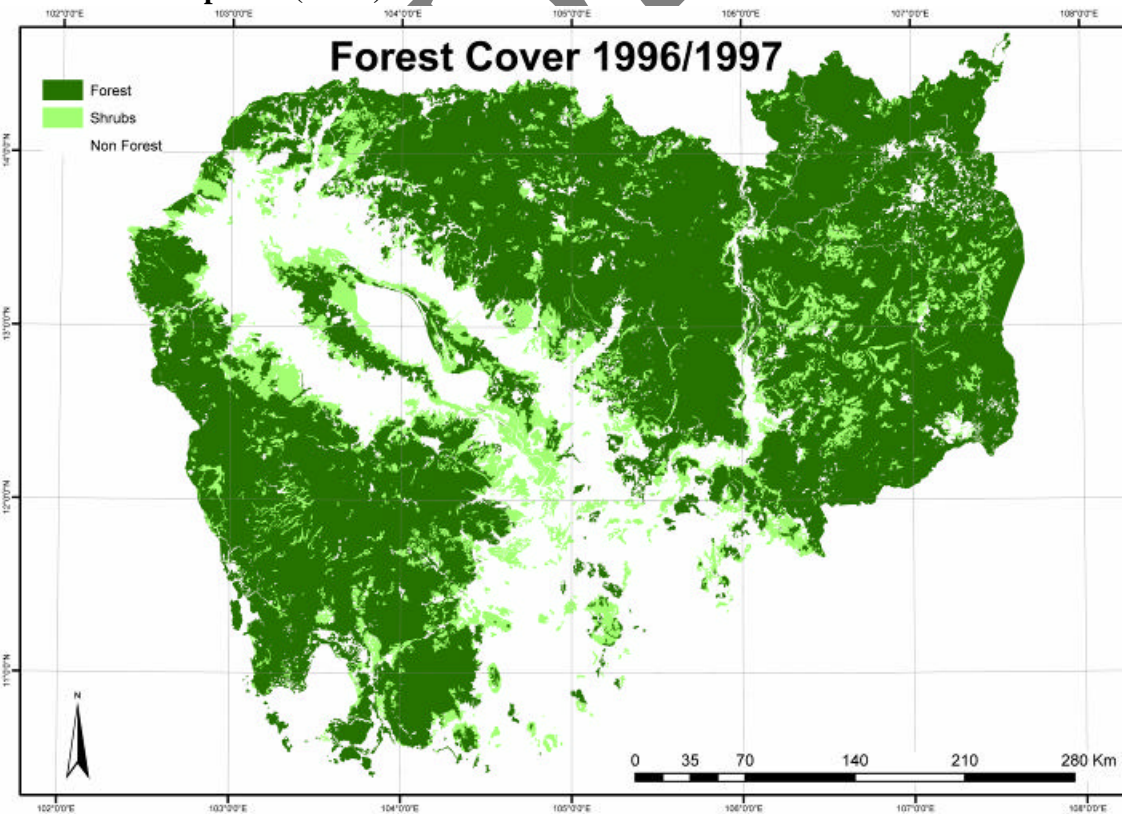
Annex 2 : Protected Areas and Protected Forests Map (Atlas of Cambodia - Save Cambodia's Wildlife)



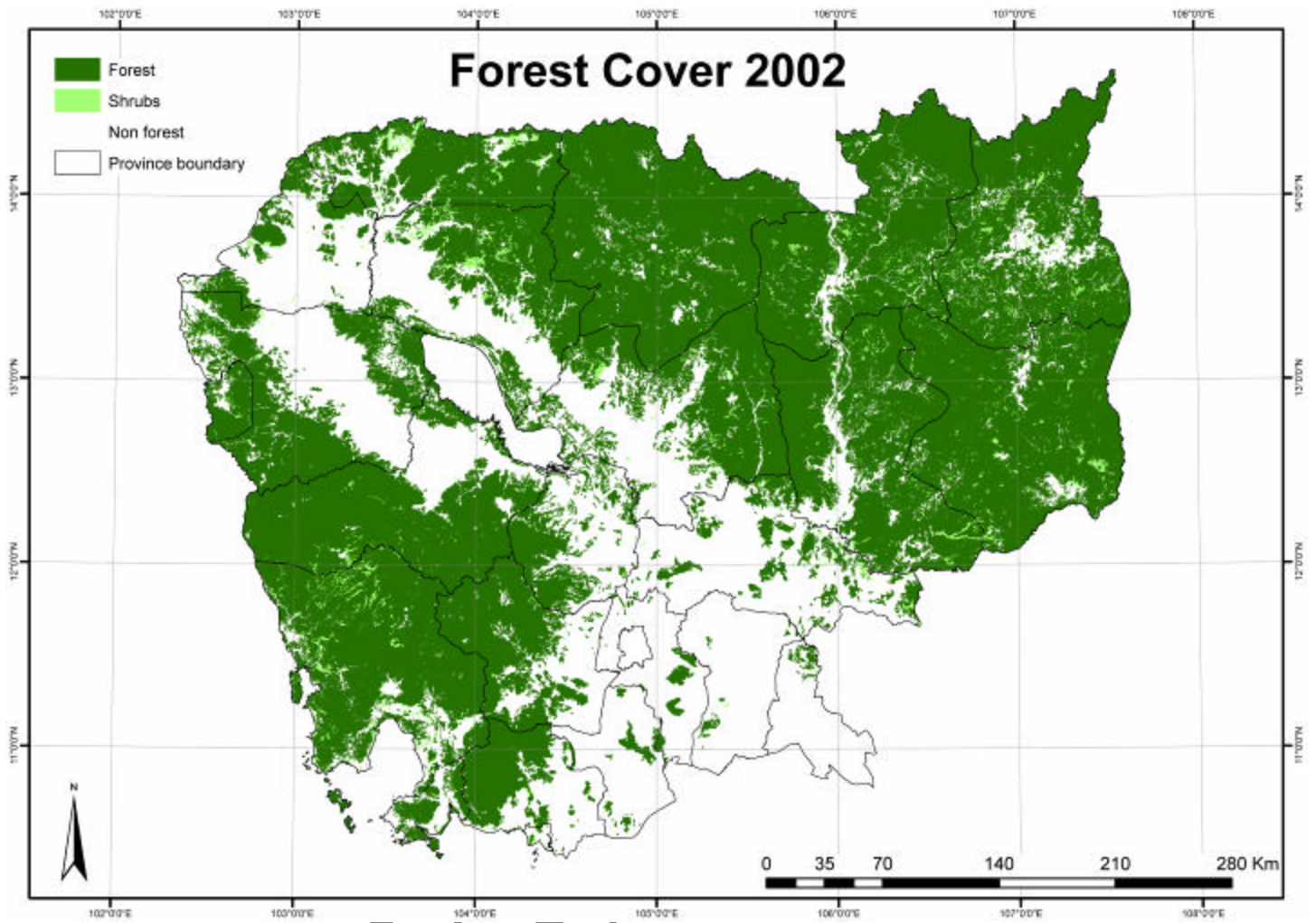
Annex 3a : Forest cover map 1989 (Mekong Secretariat)



Annex 3b : Forest cover map 1997 (MRC)



Annex 3c : Forest cover map 2002 (GIS/RS Unit-FA)



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Annex 4 : Comparisons of land cover methodologies used for Cambodia.

	1989	1996/1997	2002	2005/2006
Institution:	Mekong Secretariat	Mekong River Commission	Forestry Administration	Forestry Administration
Cartography:	Land cover	Land cover	Land cover	Land cover
Nomenclature:	20 classes	30 classes	8 classes	8 classes (5 classes after merging)
Forest definition:	Crown cover >10% Tree height >5m	Crown cover >10% Tree height >5m	Crown cover >20% Tree height >5m	Crown cover >20% Tree height >5m
Interpretation:	Visual on hardcopies	Visual on hardcopies	Visual on screen	Visual on screen, and first use of digital classification techniques in Cambodia
Minimum Mapping Unit:	1 km ²	1 km ²	0.2 km ²	0.2 km ²
Scale:	1/250.000	1/250.000	1/50.000	1/50.000
Source imagery:	Landsat TM	Landsat TM	Landsat ETM+	Landsat ETM+ gap-filled
Imagery provider:	Remote Sensing and Mapping Unit	Department of Forestry and Wildlife GIS Unit	FA's GIS/RS Unit	FA's GIS/RS Unit
Additional imagery:	-	SPOT and Aerial photo	Landsat TM 2000	Landsat TM, Quickbird
Ground truthing:	-	-	88 samples	100 samples
Limitations:	Forest definition, Scale, MMU, Accuracy	Scale, MMU, Accuracy	Superposition with 1988/89 and 1996/97	Superposition with 1988/89 and 1996/97
Benefits:	Reference Year for CDM eligibility	Reference Year for REDD 10 years baseline	Compatible with 2005/06	Compatible with 2002

ANNEX 5

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation - Religion - King

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
No. 699 Sar.CHor.Nor

Phnom Penh, 26 May 2008

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER IN CHARGE OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
INFORM TO

- H.E Senior Minister, Minister of Ministry of Environment
- H.E Minister of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- H.E TY SOKHUN, Adviser to Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the Chief of Forestry Administration.

Subject: Request the support from Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia on Forestry Carbon Credit Project in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Reference: - Letter dated on 28 April 2008 of Dr. Mark Poffenberger, Executive Director of Community Forestry International (CFI).
- Letter dated on 5 May 2008 of H.E Ty Sokhun, Adviser of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
- Decision dated 8 May 2008 of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

As stated in the above subject and references, the Council of Ministers would like to inform Your Excellencies that the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) decides to support the forest carbon credit project in Cambodia as follow:

1. Designates the Forestry Administration (FA) as the seller of the forest carbon in Cambodia with the CFI.
2. The RGC, as seller of the forest carbon, is responsible for helping to fulfill the terms and conditions in the contract "selling carbon" with the buyer.
3. Have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CFI and the RGC, represented by FA that would allow CFI to identify buyers, and explore terms and carbon prices subject to the review and approval of the RGC. The Royal Government of Cambodia decides in the MOU that revenue from selling Carbon in the Carbon Credit for community forestry Project will be used to:
 - a. Improve the quality of the forest;
 - b. Maximize the benefits flows to local community who is participating in the project;
 - c. Study potential sites for the new forest carbon credit REDD project
4. Revenue from forest carbon REDD project will be channeled through the Technical Working Group on Forestry and Environment (TWG-F&E) during the first five years of the project.
5. Delegates the Forestry Administration as the representative of RGC to execute the sale of Cambodia forest carbon with consultation within the Technical Working Group on Forestry & Environment (TWG-F&E), as necessary.

As stated above, may Your Excellencies understand and follow the instructions.

Please accept, Your Excellencies, the assurance of my sincere consideration.

Minister of Council Ministers
Secretary of State

Signature and stamp: Prak Sokhon

Copy to:

- Cabinet of Prime Minister
- Council for Development of Cambodia
- Forestry Administration
- Community Forestry International
- TWG-F&E
- Documentation.

Annex 6: Letter of National Forest Carbon Accounting System



H.E. Ty Sokhun
Advisor to Samdech Prime Minister HUN SEN
Delegate of the Royal Government of Cambodia
Chief of Forestry Administration
40, Preah Norodom Blvd
Phnom Penh
Cambodia

19 January 2009

Excellency

Re: Clinton Climate Initiative – National Carbon Accounting System, Cambodia

Further to your letter of 12 December 2008 (Ref. 3101 FA), I am pleased to confirm that the Clinton Climate Initiative will assist the Forestry Administration to develop a National Carbon Accounting System as part of our agreed Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2009.

The William J. Clinton Foundation and the Department of Climate Change of the Government of Australia, with support from the Environmental Systems Research Institute have agreed to pilot the Carbon Measurement Collaborative to develop and test a prototype for a globally available emissions accounting system for forestry and agricultural land uses in four countries, viz., Guyana, Kenya, Tanzania and Cambodia. The initial prototype version will demonstrate a publicly available, web-based application that combines emissions estimation models, geographic information systems and visualizations. These constitute the three key elements of the measurement, monitoring and reporting system.

The globally applicable platform will be created from the combination of ESRI GIS software and Australia's National Carbon Accounting System, and will eventually serve both national and project scale accounting. The first scoping team will initiate work to develop the National Carbon Accounting System with the Forestry Administration's GIS/RS Unit with effect from 23 March 2009.

I look forward to further strengthening our support to the Forestry Administration's climate change team.

Best regards,


Dr. D. Andrew Wardell
Clinton Climate Initiative-Forestry
Regional Director
Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Cambodia

Jl. Pekalongan 7, Menteng, Jakarta Pusat 10310, Indonesia

Tel: +62 (0)21 319 366 90 Mob: +62 (0)81 386 723 865

Annex 7: The new structure of Forestry Administration

