

UN-REDD Programme 2018 Semi-Annual Progress Update

Introduction

The purpose of the following report is to provide a narrative update to the Executive Board of the UN-REDD Programme on implementation between 1 January and 31 July 2018. Overall, the Programme continues to demonstrate progress across the three work streams, with the majority of outputs on track to be delivered by the end of 2018. In the few cases where delays have occurred, these challenges have been outlined in the progress overview below, along with the solutions that will ensure these programmes deliver in a timely manner.

2018 Programme Overview

The UN-REDD Programme delivered support across three modalities in the first half of 2018:

- i. 2018 Technical Assistance for REDD+ Implementation
- ii. Ongoing National Programmes
- iii. Technical Assistance to Support Ongoing National Programmes

For the purpose of brevity and readability, results of the technical assistance to support ongoing national programmes have been combined with national programmes in this update.

The following report provides a progress overview by country for each of the three types of support, based on a traffic light system. Green represents those areas in which all deliverables programmed for 2018 have been completed; blue indicates that the programme is on track in accordance with the agreed workplan and that deliverables will be completed by the end of 2018; yellow indicates that delays have been encountered; and red indicates that implementation has not yet started. In the case of a yellow or red result, further information is provided on the specific challenges causing the delay and solutions being put in place.

			
Completed	On-track	Delayed	Not started

When referring to the pillars of the Warsaw Framework, the following abbreviations are used: NFMS (national forest monitoring system), FREL/FRL (forest reference emissions level/forest reference level), and SIS (both for safeguards and safeguards information system). When referring to the first pillar – national strategy/action plan - no abbreviation is used.

The following abbreviations are used to designate the type of support: TA: Technical Assistance for REDD+ Implementation; and NP: National Programme.

Country or KM component	Type of support	Status (traffic light)	Highlights (including challenges & solutions where relevant)
Argentina	NP		<p>Dialogue and discussions were conducted at the national and provincial levels on the implementation framework and priorities of the National Plan of Action for Forests and Climate Change (PANBCC), engaging local governments, producers, NGOs, and key stakeholders, including indigenous peoples. Visual communication tools were prepared by ecoregion. A gender perspective was further included in the National Programme implementation.</p> <p>Technical dialogues on the conceptual framework, operational structure and automatization of the country's NFMS took place in two regions. The NFMS web-dissemination portal was presented to authorities in the Forest Direction (MAyDS). Methods for regional maps have advanced, including automatization, monitoring of fire, and drafting maps by ecoregion.</p> <p>Technical Assistance to the Monitoring unit and forest directorate in MAyDS included Technical Coordination of the NFI in use and application of tools (such as Open foris collect and Calc) and method for the measurement of selected carbon pools. FREL first draft preparation was supported and technical exchanges with FAO experts were undertaken.</p> <p>Argentina made important advances in safeguards work including a dialogue in March 2018 with participants from Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico. The country shared advances in their analysis of benefits and risks relevant for REDD+ safeguards and initial considerations for SIS design and content. Mapping work on social and environmental benefits of the PANBCC in six forest regions is being finalized.</p>
Bangladesh	NP		<p>UN-REDD supported the further development of the National REDD+ Strategy. Drivers of deforestation and degradation were identified with support from UN-REDD. Policies and measures (PAMs) to tackle the drivers were identified and vetted through stakeholder consultation, their revision is ongoing. Upcoming activities will target institutional arrangements and financing strategy. A draft NS may be available by end of 2018, though public vetting and government approval may require additional time. A gender analysis was done to mainstream gender in governance structures, land tenure and safeguards in the context of REDD+ in Bangladesh. Some gender focused PAMs were also suggested.</p> <p>The first draft of the FREL/FRL report was prepared and shared with the Ministry in December 2017, technical trainings on FREL/FRL were conducted in March and April 2018, and a national consultation on the proposed FREL/FRL was held in April 2018. A revised version of the FREL/FRL report was resubmitted to the Ministry for final approval. The NP anticipates that the report will be submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2019. In addition, meetings with the MRV technical working group were conducted in March and April 2018.</p> <p>The structure of the Bangladesh Forest Information System (BFIS) and several modules was finalized and</p>

			presented in a meeting held with the officials from the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFS). The BFIS launching will be held in July 2018. In addition, national land cover maps of 2005 and 2010 developed. A technical training on database management was conducted in April 2018. One draft data sharing policy for BFD was submitted to MoEFCC. The NP is expecting to provide initial requirements needed for SIS.
Chile	NP		<p>Key achievements per component of the National Programme 2018 work plan:</p> <p>1) Strengthening of the Integrated System for Monitoring and Evaluation of forests: Work is currently underway to complete a report about reduction and/or emission capture through a consultancy that calculates and optimizes the estimation over the uncertainty of maps for land use change and contributing the development of the REDD+ annex.</p> <p>2) Implementation of the new forest management models for demonstrative projects of direct action measures of the ENCCRV: Out of the five early implementation projects, three are under implementation and making progress without delays. The other two have delays in their implementation due to climate conditions that should present important progress starting September-October</p> <p>3) Institutional strengthening: CONAF has been strengthened with new staff at the regional and central levels. These new hires will support the action measure of the ENCCRV. During February a consultancy for the development of a Safeguard information system started. The consultancy is currently on its second report with important definitions and progress.</p>
Colombia	TA		<p>Technical assistance to Colombia on REDD+ financing during the first half of 2018 focused on supporting the finalization of the Pacific Investment Portfolio. Work is currently ongoing to support the development of investment projects to support PAMs implementation. Additionally, engagement continued with FINAGRO on the design of credit lines for sustainable commodity production and identification of deforestation related risks. Through UNDP, the UN-REDD Programme i) supported Colombia's REDD+ participatory process for the implementation of the strategy <i>Bosques Territorios de Vida</i>, fostering complementary interventions between GIZ, FCPF, <i>Vision Amazonia</i> Program and UN-REDD; ii) provided technical inputs to two publications on Afro-Colombian and Indigenous peoples views on deforestation and degradation; iii) provided technical inputs to the <i>Bosques Territorios de Vida</i> document; and iv) provided technical inputs to drivers and agents of deforestation, agents of drivers of degradation, community-based forests monitoring, degradation monitoring and sustainable forest management.</p> <p>The UN-REDD Programme provided support to the development and implementation of a methodology to identify and map social and environment benefits of four REDD+ actions: community forest management, with a focus on providing forest and non-forest products; productive systems with agroforestry and silvopastoral systems; commercial forest plantations; and payment for ecosystem services in ethnic communities. Technical inputs and review of the case study for the Pacific region also was carried out, focused on community forest</p>

			<p>management and agroforestry. Continued support was provided on safeguards, in particular the development of terms of reference and regular review and discussion of consultancy outputs focused on safeguard information system (SIS) design. This contributed to the development of a proposal of the technical specifications for the SIS, which will serve as a key input for future SIS implementation.</p> <p>The FAO produced a draft methodology for the monitoring of restoration activities adapted to the context of Colombia which is currently under review by the government.</p> <p>The UN-REDD Programme is also supporting the further south-south exchanges between Mexico, Guatemala and Colombia on community forest management. As part of the preparatory work, an assessment of past exchanges was produced.</p> <p>The capacities of local communities on forest monitoring and the integration of community-based monitoring into the NFMS were enhanced, systematizing and disseminating the experience of COCOMASUR.</p>
	NP		<p>The National Programme closed operationally on June 30, 2018, with 95% of the results delivered in a satisfactory manner, and 100% of financial delivery. The National Programme was instrumental for completing the REDD+ readiness process in Colombia having produced significant results captured in <u>28 publications</u> and the <u>final report</u>, and positively assessed in the independent final evaluation.</p>
Costa Rica	TA		<p>Through FAO, the UN-REDD support continued to the development of the National Land Cover, Land Use and Ecosystem Monitoring System (SIMOCUTE) with the facilitation of the establishment and follow-up of working groups for the system design. The groups meet regularly, and are made up of cross-sectoral stakeholders from 16 organizations, including government departments such as the Ministry of the Environment (MINA E), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), and various academic institutions. The groups document methodologies and processes, in particular, for the NFI and the monitoring changes in land use and land coverage. Support continued for the drafting of the decree for the establishment of the SIMOCUTE, due to the interest and involvement of the National Geographic Institute, as signatory and an active part thereof. The new authorities of MINAE and the MAG are also working on the promotion of SIMOCUTE support and the signing of the decree. There is ongoing support for the design and pilot of the technology platform for SIMOCUTE, as well as research of options to finance the system start-up, to ensure financial sustainability in the medium- and long-term.</p>
Côte d'Ivoire	TA		<p>Following a request from the newly-appointed national REDD+ coordinator, UN-REDD assisted with the reorganization of the national unit for REDD+ (SEP-REDD).</p> <p>In addition, UNDP has supported (i) the finalization of the REDD+ National Investment Framework, (ii) cocoa private sector engagement in REDD+, (iii) the reflection on the REDD+ funds by providing inputs into the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the development of a financial mechanism for the Cocoa & Forest Initiative, and (iv) civil</p>

			<p>society engagement.</p> <p>FAO has supported the development of the community-based MRV and its strategy, the development of the methodology for the assessment of the emission factor from fire, and started the development of the methodology for the definition of the Activity Data from forest degradation. These activities are continuing. As the new forest policy and the reform of the Forest law have not been adopted by the Government yet, this activity is still pending.</p> <p>UN Environment, in collaboration with the EU-REDD Facility, has finalized a study on economic modelling and financing mechanisms for scaling up sustainable cocoa production. Planning and partnership building have advanced for launching a Dialogue Platform on finance solution for sustainable cocoa in Q3 and Q4. Following completion of the Safeguards Information System Design Document, UN Environment has made progress on a Summary of Information (SoI) on safeguards zero draft, which will be considerably enriched through public consultations during Q3 and Q4.</p>
	NP		<p>The national programme is now almost closed, with only the final evaluation to be carried out, and the integration of some comments from the new REDD+ coordinator in the last version of the National Investment Framework. All the remaining activities were finalized including a framework for the Safeguards Information System, which has allowed the completion by the country of the Warsaw framework for REDD+.</p> <p>A final steering committee was held on June 1, 2018 in Yamoussoukro, and concluded that the implementation of the UN-REDD National Programme has enabled Côte d'Ivoire to (i) strengthen stakeholder engagement in support of REDD+ processes, (ii) submit its forest reference emission levels to UNFCCC, (iii) develop its national strategy, (iv) establish its national forest monitoring system and (v) develop its safeguards information system design document.</p> <p>Ongoing UN-REDD technical assistance as well as the implementation of the FCPF (2nd tranche) will be instrumental to the sustainability of the achievements and gains of the national programme.</p>
Democratic Republic of the Congo	TA		<p>UN Environment concluded a report to the attention of the National REDD+ Fund (FONAREDD) at the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Planning on recommendations for the inclusion of REDD+ and green economy indicators in the upcoming Strategic National Development Plan's 1st five-year plan (2018-2022). In the lead up to this process, a collaboration with the UNDP Country Office Governance team was put in place to consult an Expert Group comprising representatives from the Ministries of Environment, Planning and Finance on the substance of recommendations.</p>
Ecuador	TA		<p>The UN-REDD team, through UNDP, supported the transition of Ecuador to implementing their first policies and measures for REDD+. This included the institutionalisation of the sustainable palm oil platform, as well as the engagement of the Green investment fund. In the same vein, UNDP supported the crafting of participative</p>

			<p>platforms and processes for other agricultural commodities concerned with REDD+, such as their mapping and their strategies.</p> <p>Technical advice was also provided to the Ministry of Environment for the negotiation of bi and multilateral agreements aiming at supporting the implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan. An agreement with REM was signed during the REDD+ Oslo exchange in June 2018 and the investment plan of the FIP was approved during Q2 2018. Support was also provided to the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in advancing the Amazon initiative, led by Ecuador's President Moreno, which aims at fostering the conservation of the Amazon watershed, the rights of indigenous peoples and the reduction of deforestation within the 8 Amazon countries (a presidential meeting is anticipated for early 2019).</p> <p>UN-REDD also assisted Ecuador to update the safeguards roadmap and to operationalize the safeguards information system – as part of this process, UN-REDD supported the participation of Ecuador in a safeguards training programme in Colombia, hence fostering South-South knowledge exchange on this matter. Finally, UNDP supported Ecuador with the inception of their GCF project, a pioneer project that will likely provide lessons for other countries in the region.</p> <p>FAO will continue to support the NDC preparation of the AFOLU sector in coordination with the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, and a FAO Technical Cooperation Programme was approved in order to secure this work in third quarter of 2018.</p> <p>The GHG inventory improvement plan was reviewed and updated for the AFOLU sector.</p> <p>Implementation of SEPAL as the monitoring tool for Ecuador Forest cover change: The government is still discussing the terms of an agreement with FAO to implement SEPAL as its monitoring tool, in parallel FAO is negotiating with KFW to define potential funding to operationalize this agreement in coordination with the Ecuadorian government.</p>
Ethiopia	TA		<p>As part of the TA implementation and within the overall context of supporting the implementation of the National Forest Sector Development Programme (NFSDP), the National REDD+ Strategy and its associated Investment plan, a number of strategic documents were developed. Notably, a concept note for a multi-sector development programme was developed to kick-start the operationalization of the NFSDP. A draft report on options for private sector engagement in national REDD+ objectives related to restoration, sustainable coffee and commercial forestry was prepared. This builds on field research undertaken in Addis Ababa, Benishangul Gumuz province and Amhara province. It is expected that, outcomes of the private sector scoping study could potentially inform the further development of the concept note into a full proposal. In addition, a capacity building framework that seeks to strengthen institutional, technical and financing capacity for the implementation of the NFSDP has been developed. Key elements of the capacity building framework will also be integrated into the proposed multi-sector development programme for the NFSDP.</p>

			<p>Furthermore, the country was supported to develop a draft national Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) framework. The application of this framework will be tested in the Beningshangul Gumuz region. The UN-REDD team is also working with the newly established Forest Sector Transformation Unit (FSTU) including discussions on areas of co-operation in support of Ethiopia's REDD+ efforts.</p> <p>Finally, planning is advanced for a formal high-level launch of the Ethiopia forest ecosystem valuation accompanied by a technical training to senior technical staff at relevant ministries. However, due to a series of political issues in-country this activity was postponed to Q3 and Q4 2018.</p>
Honduras	NP		<p>Under the framework for the REDD+ strategy, the National Program for the Recovery of Goods and Services of Degraded Ecosystems was finalized, which is part of the strategic options for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation.</p> <p>The Minister of the MiAmbiente+ presented this national program in the 20x20 initiative developed in Peru and in the Bonn Challenge Latin-American 2018 event that took place in Guatemala.</p> <p>The country also made progress in developing a new cultural safeguard requested by the indigenous peoples. A first workshop took place with the active participation of the Tolupan, Garífuna and Maya Chorti indigenous peoples, and further workshops with are planned during the next semester.</p> <p>A regulation of the National Forest Monitoring System, which includes the conceptualization and scope of the Information System for Forest Management and Monitoring (SIGMOF), was proposed for consideration by national institutions. Honduras also showed progress on an operational remote sensor processing system for detection of Changes in Forest Cover Losses at the National Level.</p> <p>A first draft of the Summary of Information on Safeguards was developed.</p> <p><u>Challenges and solutions:</u> Due to political instability following the national elections in November 2017, the activities at the beginning of this year encountered significant delays. Moreover, the need to institutionalize the SIGMOF to be operational and to make official the information generated by the technical staff of the Forest Conservation Institute (ICF) constituted a challenge. Honduras was granted a no-cost until July 2019.</p> <p>Additionally, a decree to make operative the SIGMOF is in consultation with the committees of national institutions to make official the information generated by the different components that comprise the System and to have technicians dedicated exclusively to generate information in the monitoring unit.</p>
Indonesia	TA		<p>UN Environment TA on the revision of Indonesia's Integrated Fire Management (IFM) policies, co-financed by USAID through the Generating Anticipatory Measures for Better Utilization of Tropical Peatlands (GAM BUT) project. This has resulted in the creation of IFM cluster approach based on lessons of South Africa fire protection associations - a step toward collaborative landscape management at the hydrological unit level, critical to address peat fire risks.</p>

			<p>UN Environment proposed budgetary and fiscal transfer instruments and incentive schemes to address GHG emissions from fire and peatlands through these clusters. A policy benchmarking study was conducted and shared with Gol to compare the cluster model against current practice and what the cost difference is to meet their 2020 haze free target which also brings its NDC targets within reach.</p> <p>UN-REDD delivered technical advice in support to the establishment of the International Tropical Peatland Centre as discussed during the Global Peatland Initiative meeting in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo and Peru. Planned activities for 2018 by UNDP have not progressed due to delays related to the recruitment of the new Director General Climate Change. Once in place, maximum efforts will be made to speed up the delivery.</p> <p>Indonesia has significantly moved forward this term with its REDD+ financing instrument. UN-Environment's TA has enabled progress on monitoring GHG emissions from peatlands and peatland fires (in collaboration with University of Bogor). Academic papers informed the drafting of government regulation 46/2017 on environmental economic instruments, which includes REDD+ financing.</p> <p>FAO supported two Gol staff (1 male, 1 female) to participate in the Regional Exchange Workshop on Forest Monitoring and Assessment to share and learn best practice and experiences in forest monitoring held on 7-10 May 2018 in Bangladesh. FAO has recruited a national consultant to work on the Gol request for a NFI-redesign proposal and work is well underway with wide consultations to get technical inputs.</p> <p>FAO technical mission to provide advice to Gol on peatland land-use and mapping and GHG using FAO systems (e.g. SEPAL satellite monitoring system, Ex-ACT GHG tool etc.).</p>
Liberia	TA		<p>A capacity-building programme addressed to GIS experts and a briefing on mapping non-carbon benefits to support land-use planning and REDD+ implementation were successfully undertaken in Liberia with support from UN Environment. Twenty technical officers from the Forest Development Authority and other government and civil society organizations received two sets of training over a 3-week period on using QGIS to support REDD+ land use planning in coordination WRI and FAO and including a field component. The briefing included spatial workflows and maps on ecosystem services and biodiversity intended to guide decision-making on future REDD+ investments.</p> <p>An internal decision-support report on opportunities for engaging the private sector in REDD+ supportive investments was also produced with UN Environment's support.</p> <p>Capacity development on NFI was supported through the procurement of NFI training equipment.</p> <p>Discussions with the FDA regarding a planned capacity building event which was carried over from 2017 resulted in a change in the nature of the event. FDA would like to lead and have support from UN-REDD to organize an event that would take stock of REDD+ implementation and identify gaps in implementation of the Strategy in terms of policies and measures and pilot projects. This event may be held in Q4 of 2018.</p>

Mexico	TA		<p>The UN-REDD Programme supported Mexico by developing a draft analysis on current status of finance for REDD+ implementation and the opportunities for accessing the Green Climate Fund. Feedback to this product and discussions on next-steps were delayed due to the elections and changes in CONAFOR's unit for international relations.</p> <p>The Programme also supported with a working document about a "Legal analysis on ownership of reduced emissions in Mexico", based on interviews with main stakeholders and meeting with the Technical Committee on Forest and Climate Change. This document aims to support the Carbon Fund agreement with the World Bank, and the National REDD+ Strategy (ENAREDD) implementation.</p> <p>Support to Mexico on safeguards over the first half of 2018 has focused on safeguards training materials, including on using existing elements of Mexico's national safeguard system to help meet safeguard requirements beyond the UNFCCC. Work is currently ongoing on the development of a short information note and presentation on using a country approach to safeguards to help meet GCF safeguard requirements. Further technical assistance has focused on updating technical factsheets on REDD+ safeguards for different sectors in Mexico, based on the final version of REDD+ strategy, safeguards documents, and other inputs. Under the south-south cooperation workplan on forest monitoring, two workshops and one Webinar were developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) 2nd expert meeting on National Forest Inventories harmonization- in collaboration with CATIE; (ii) Tools and cost-effective methods to structure a Landscape Restoration Monitoring System- in collaboration with World Resources Institute, and Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo-GIZ; (iii) Webinar on Institutional arrangements for sustainability and interoperability of the National Forest Monitoring Systems. <p><u>Challenges and solutions:</u> Delivery of the TA was affected by the Presidential elections carried out in July 2018. CONAFOR's teams were understandably focused on preparing the transition and had little time to provide feedback and engage with the TA in a timely manner.</p>
Mongolia	NP		<p>The national programme advanced well according to its timeline and the annual work plan. A benefits & risks assessment was completed, with results to be included in the REDD+ National Strategy. Relevant policies, laws and regulations for REDD+ safeguards were reviewed and a final draft of a clarification note on safeguards prepared. A SIS information needs report was drafted with an initial information systems assessment carried out. A SIS design document drafted and discussed with stakeholders, and an initial design for SIS was formulated. A communications piece on significance of boreal forests with focus on Mongolia is under preparation, with a media trip to Khentii province in June 2018.</p> <p>A gender-responsive Stakeholder Engagement Handbook, to be finalized in August 2018, was developed for government gender specialists and forest extension officers at aimag and soum levels. A complementary</p>

			<p>capacity building program was tested at a pilot training from 10 to 11 April in Mandal soum, Selenge aimag with 20 government participants (10 female, 10 male).</p> <p>Steps taken towards development and approval of a REDD+ National Strategy include initial consultations on the general framework and content of draft Strategy, Action Plan and Technical Documents with stakeholders. Studies were undertaken on policies, financing, risk and saxaul forest to help determine technical details of the strategy. Consultations and development of sub-national plans in three forested provinces (2 boreal forest and 1 in saxaul forest) commenced.</p> <p>3 SOPs to institutionalize the NFMS are being developed; 1) SOP for NFMS; for both international and domestic MRV and monitoring functions, 2) SOP for Forest User Group Monitoring, 3) SOP for National Forest Inventory operation, including methodology, staffing and financing requirements. Further research work to enhance monitoring capacity and data improvements such as saxaul forest assessment, BGB and pest/fire modelling work underway.</p> <p>Mongolia's FRL was submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2018 and a technical assessment session with UNFCCC held in March. The FRL has been improved and modified FRL submitted at the end of June 2018.</p>
Myanmar	TA		<p>UN-REDD provided advice on options and approaches for deforestation-free finance, resulting in a detailed workplan, as well as a draft of a first brief on "Aligning the banking sector with REDD+ objectives".</p> <p>Through UNDP, UN-REDD assisted government with the identification of the institutional structures for implementing REDD+. In addition, the priority states/regions for REDD+ implementation were also identified: Tanintharyi and Bago – they will pioneer efforts with the technical assistance of UN-REDD. Initial thinking on how to engage sub-national coordination structures has taken place; some options for further discussion have been defined and will undergo further development in the second-half of 2018.</p> <p>Through FAO, UN-REDD undertook a technical mission in February-March 2018 served government to host preliminary discussions on the monitoring of PAMs for REDD+.</p>
	NP		<p>The national programme advanced well according to its timeline and the annual work plan.</p> <p>Progress on stakeholder engagement is advancing, although engagement with ethnic armed organizations is time-consuming, which has impacted progress on some other stakeholders, such as the private sector. REDD+ management entities supported by the programme have met regularly.</p> <p>The main focus of knowledge management and communications efforts has been awareness raising, and the preparation of a report on PLR related to REDD+ and proposals for GRM (completed). Under communications, the new REDD+ Myanmar Website has been finalized (see here) information on REDD+ has been broadcast by three national TV channels and 17 different ethnic language radio channels, and a monthly knowledge product, "REDD+ Myanmar Knowledge" has been regularly disseminated to around 1,000 subscribers.</p> <p>Substantial progress has been made on the design of a SIS. A draft clarification has been prepared,</p>

			<p>incorporating information from the PLR review and extensive consultations on benefits and risks of proposed PAMs. A workplan has been prepared for development of SIS and SOI.</p> <p>Myanmar's draft FRL was submitted in January 2018, and responses to comments from the TA team submitted in March, May and again in June. Formal TA report is expected for end of July upon which further amendments in the FRL proposal might be necessary. Present FRL proposal includes C-emissions from deforestation and C-removals from enhancement (afforestation) only.</p> <p>Capacity building on the NFMS continues, with integrating the area change assessment approach used for the FRL into the overall forest monitoring system, use of open source NFM tools and the planning of the NFI (general design and sampling approaches, sample sizes, stratification, field methodology, etc.).</p> <p>The draft NRS was prepared, and subjected to extensive consultation, including a period of public comment. A revised draft has been prepared reflecting comments received.</p>
Peru	TA		<p>Technical assistance was provided through conference calls and meetings in Lima on setting up the structure, rational, and results framework of the final draft of Peru's JDI Phase II Implementation Plan. This version was presented by MINAM, on behalf of the GoP, to interested stakeholders in late June for a final round of consultations, and to Norway for feedback, with the aim of reaching an agreement on the final version early in Q3.</p> <p>Inputs and feedback were provided to MINAM for the definition of a roadmap for consultations towards endorsement of JDI's Phase II Implementation Plan. The roadmap included activities to be carried out from June to September, aimed at collecting final views on the Plan and drafting a final version for endorsement. This activity contributed to moving forward a pending activity from 2017.</p> <p>Inputs have also been provided towards defining the final draft of ToRs to address JDI's Phase II deliverable b). Norway provided comments on the final draft, which will be addressed, following definition of operative arrangements to carry out activities under deliverable b).</p> <p>Technical recommendations and inputs were provided for addressing GHG-I issues (LULUCF sector) as part of the process to develop the 2nd Peru's BUR. Technical inputs concerned the treatment of secondary vegetation and associated carbon fluxes, to take a decision on estimating emissions/removals. Inputs were presented through teleconferences and on a written format provided by MINAM.</p> <p>Key elements of Peru's safeguards roadmap have been defined and implementation supported. Topics addressed in technical discussions include: REDD+ actions subject to safeguards; participatory processes and expert inputs for national interpretation; elements/ inputs for SOI. Technical inputs have been provided through teleconferences, written correspondence, and participation in Peru's safeguards expert working group meetings.</p> <p><u>Challenges and solutions:</u> • Critical inputs to deliver TA outputs are delayed i.e. NDC LULUCF measures, or</p>

			<p>stakeholder engagement, including activities carried from 2017. Quarterly stock-taking calls are in place to anticipate difficulties and agreeing with the counterparts on alternatives. • Critical inputs expected from Peru NP are delayed. The second half of 2018 will be critical to speed up this process, as NP implementation is about to start. This situation concerns some activities carried over as part of the no-cost extension of 2017 TA.</p>
	NP		<p>Core PMU staff was hired. The AWP and Implementation Manual were finalized to be approved by the second NP Board (scheduled for July 25th).</p> <p><u>Challenges and solutions:</u> • Delay on the PMU staff procurement process. • Delay on setting up and preparing relevant documentation for the first NP Board. As a mitigation measure regular calls have been scheduled to coordinate and support the NP's inception phase.</p>
Republic of the Congo	TA		<p>The update of the historical assessment of deforestation for the 2014-2016 period was completed. The validation and publication of results by the Government is pending.</p> <p>The methodology, analysis and mapping of historical degradation using remote-sensing were completed. A validation workshop in collaboration with the JRC is foreseen in August 2018.</p> <p>The work to assess forest gains is scheduled to start in September.</p> <p>The REDD+ strategy, Investment Plan and GCF proposal are fully aligned, and one mission was undertaken to amend the GCF proposal accordingly. Those changes are being incorporated into the GCF proposal.</p>
Viet Nam	TA		<p>NFMS development, institutionalization and documentation is progressing. Development of the standard operating procedures (SOP) including the QA/QC protocol of the National Forest Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment Program (NFIMAP) Cycle V is underway, and implementation of the NFIMAP campaign has started. As part of this process, forest cover maps for 2018 and 2020 will be produced, applying improved methods. Provincial REDD+ action plans (PRAPs) monitoring indicators are identified and will be piloted within 2018. Capacities were built at provincial and district levels to apply mobile-based apps in forest resources monitoring, in order to improve the quality of monitoring and reporting in the government's Forest Resources Monitoring System (FRMS), which is a core source of information for the PRAP monitoring.</p> <p>With a detailed NRIP report finalized and a draft government Decision ready for final consultation with all key Ministries, significant progress was achieved towards a Mid-term NRAP Implementation plan 2017-2020 (NRIP) endorsed by MARD Minister in 2018. The NRIP Resource Mobilization Framework identifies existing resources and aims at supporting resource mobilization towards NRAP implementation. The cross-sectorial nature of the NRIP reflects the breadth and depth of stakeholder engagement, including with key ministries such as the Ministry of Planning and Investment. The NRIP integrates a gender perspective across various components and contains considerations for integrated land-use planning that should help mainstream forests into the upcoming</p>

			<p>2021-2030 planning cycle, in the context of the new Law on Planning (2017). Investment options for REDD+ implementation, as highlighted in the report on green credit mechanisms, are being pilot tested in relation to the coffee sector in Central Highlands.</p>
Zambia	TA		<p>The milestone for 2018 (adoption of the REDD+ investment plan) was achieved and work is continuing to support efforts led by the Government of Zambia to elucidate funding proposals to support further implementation of REDD+.</p> <p>Communication continues with the Zambia Climate Change Network on their efforts to develop their programmes on REDD+ implementation.</p> <p>Planning for a series of MRV related workshops is being finalised with the first of these workshops planned for September 2018. The MRV work is contextualised within the ongoing FREL activities in Zambia providing support to government staff involved in reviewing project, sub-national and national REDD+ implementation. The Safeguards Technical Working Group validated the national interpretation of Cancun Safeguards, agreed on a way forward for completing the Safeguards Information System document and was introduced to steps in drafting a Summary of Information on Safeguards (Sol). An Sol submission is expected in December 2018.</p>
Landscape approach and planning	TA		<p>Component A: Transformational change at the intersection of agriculture and forestry (FAO) FAO is working in partnership with the Centre for International Forestry Research to provide an understanding of how to achieve a paradigm shift in landscape management to reduce deforestation. Guiding elements for achieving transformational change in integrated landscape management have been identified and <u>published in an information brief</u>. This partnership is continuing to explore more specific triggers and operational approaches for achieving transformational change.</p> <p>Two desk-studies are also ongoing. “Win-win solutions at the forestry-agriculture-land use nexus and REDD+” builds on “State of the World Forests 2016” to explore more in-depth case studies of countries that are balancing agricultural production and forestry objectives, and how these objectives are reflected in REDD+ strategies and investment plans. Another study is exploring how multipurpose land-use planning is considered by countries in terms of REDD+, Land Degradation Neutrality and NDCs- as well as evidence of integration of the frameworks.</p> <p>At the recent 6th World Forest Week tools and approaches for integrated landscape management were explored during a technical session entitled “Common Ground: multipurpose land-use planning for halting deforestation”. Panelists from forestry departments in Brazil, Mexico and Indonesia as well as international organisations provided examples of best practices for balancing multiple objectives for landscape management and highlighted the need for a more cross-sectoral programmatic approach at a national level to ensure success.</p> <p>Component B: Integrated land-use (spatial) planning for REDD+ (UN Environment)</p>

			<p>Good practice briefing: A questionnaire on country experience in the use of spatial analyses for REDD+ planning will be trialled in Peru in July 2018. A report on best practices in integrated land use planning within the REDD+ arena is being developed on the basis of country experience and literature review.</p> <p>Technical learning materials: Two new GIS mapping tutorials, for wind erosion and landslide risk, are ready for review. One on forest fire will follow. Two tutorials will be translated in Spanish in 2018.</p>
Financing and private sector	TA	●	<p>An environmental and social impact framework is being developed for the 'Forest Protection and Sustainable Agriculture' Partnership (set up by UN Environment and Rabobank). A final draft was ready in June 2018. It aims to be completed by September 2018 ahead of the launch of the fund in Q4 2018. The fund aims to provide a range of concessional finance products in order to 'de-risk' private capital coming from commercial and development finance institutions. The fund prioritizes investments in UN-REDD countries such as Indonesia and others. Any emission reductions coming from these projects will count towards a country's own Nationally Determined Contributions (and hence contributes to UN-REDD countries achieving verified emission reductions against a baseline).</p>
Forest tenure and IPs rights	TA	●	<p>The UN-REDD team supported various national and international processes on the forest & climate interface by enhancing their ability to promote the rights of indigenous peoples (from participation in policy making to engaging in investment programmes and in land use monitoring and management), and to foster clear and legitimate tenure rights.</p> <p>At global level, the experiences of UN-REDD in participatory platforms for policy dialogue and knowledge exchange were shared with the negotiation stream for the new UNFCCC Indigenous Peoples' platform. UN-REDD also facilitated indigenous peoples to present and influence the UNFCCC Talanoa Dialogue by offering the UN-REDD slot to the UN-REDD indigenous representative to the Board.</p> <p>Regarding the UN-REDD community-based REDD+ programme (CBR+), although its field operations ended in 2017, a knowledge initiative continued. A number of knowledge briefs and videos were published on DRC, Nigeria and Paraguay projects. National lessons reports and a global knowledge compilation advanced.</p> <p>Specific sessions on community forestry and monitoring were delivered at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). Two technical exchanges were organized in the REDD+ and Forest Governance discussion group, the UN-REDD supported online forum with nearly 500 members (government, civil society, and academia) from 78 countries. The first one featured Zambia's newly released Community Forestry Regulations; the second featured the case of Mexico and Emissions Reduction Titling, with relevant experiences shared from Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras. A joint UN-REDD / Tunisia Directorate General of Forestry dialogue session was successfully carried out at the 2018 World Bank Land and Poverty Conference on the results of the pilot to reduce encroachment on Tunisia State forest domain through stakeholder engagement and land demarcation using the Open Tenure tool.</p>

			<p>Knowledge-based advice and knowledge uptaking took place in several countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colombia: UN-REDD provided technical and organisational advice to government and civic stakeholders to foster the participation of indigenous and Afro-Colombian peoples on the development of the National Strategy and an associated investment portfolio. • DRC: Analysis on the restructuring of the national civil-society and indigenous peoples platform for climate and REDD+ (GTCR-R) was completed, while a new communications plan, released. • Ecuador: Indigenous peoples were supported to participate in discussions for the new Proamazonia Programme (a joint GEF & GCF programme). In addition, they informed national debates on sustainable agricultural commodities, with a focus on coffee and cacao. • Kenya: A series of formal and informal policy dialogues for conflict management on forest lands between government and indigenous peoples organisations were facilitated. • Honduras: Results from UN-REDD work, as well as other sister initiatives such as Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) and Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Programme, paved the way for the approval of the “Empowerment of Women and Youth for Climate Action in the Forestry Sector in Western Honduras” project (Canada funded) • Peru: the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, the Forest Service and Regional Governments were supported to undertake an in-depth analysis of land use legislation including forest tenure; the country now has a starting point to initiate interventions at the ground level. • Vietnam: Support to the new committee on ethnic affairs (CEMA) to integrate ethnic minorities in public-private partnerships for forest products and services was advanced towards a multi-stakeholder policy event scheduled in August 2018, which will include a high-level segment with the Prime Minister. <p>In addition, knowledge and practices on how to set up and manage Grievance and Recourse Mechanisms (GRM) for forest affairs were provided to various countries in Asia, including Vietnam (through the Ministry of Justice), PNG (where GRM guidelines are underway with UN-REDD support) and Myanmar (where GRM options are under appraisal).</p> <p>A detailed work plan for this knowledge component for the period 2018-2019 was prepared in early 2018 and discussed with indigenous peoples’ stakeholders during the <u>UNPFII</u> (New York, April 2018).</p>
<p>Forest monitoring systems and MRV</p>	<p>TA</p>		<p>Open Foris training events were organized in Argentina, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Liberia, and Sudan and the Open Foris suite was also presented on a booth at COFO24, which took place in July 2018 in FAO Headquarters in Rome. Online technical support has been provided to several countries via email, skype and Open Foris Community site.</p> <p>Development of a single platform (Open Foris Online) has been launched in June 2018. Development of a new system will take 1½ years, and the first developer has been recruited to design the system.</p>

			<p>Development of transparent online <u>National Forestry Monitoring System web portals</u> has continued in 2018 in DRC and Mongolia, and remote support was given to Bhutan, Suriname and Vietnam.</p> <p>SEPAL (System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring) has been integrated into Open Foris. By June 2018, SEPAL has over 1000 registered and active users representing 225 organizations in 85 countries, and SEPAL.</p>
<p>Linking REDD+, Paris Agreement, NDCs and SDGs</p>	<p>TA</p>		<p>Under this component, UN-REDD furthered synergies and joint work with the UNDP NDC Support Programme (NDC-SP) and the NDC Partnership, supporting the specific inclusion of forest-related actions.</p> <p>UN-REDD, in support of and in close collaboration with the NDC-SP, has been contributing to the piloting of integrated support for NDC implementation, with a focus on Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire and Ecuador, providing country-level stakeholders with inputs and guidance on how integrating forests in NDCs. A Technical Cooperation initiative on the preparation of the Ecuador NDC (AFOLU) and related reporting tools started in early 2018, through a joint initiative of UNDP and FAO.</p> <p>UN-REDD staff contributed inputs on the role of forests within the broader focus of the "Agriculture, Food Security and Land Use" Thematic Working Group of the NDC Partnership. This included providing knowledge and fostering exchanges with countries during interactive exercises on NDC support for the agricultural sectors, as part of the 2nd meeting of this working group (Rome, 5-6 March 2018).</p> <p>UN-REDD provided knowledge in several other key global and regional meetings, including a "marketplace" session on REDD+ and transparency at the 2nd Technical Workshop of the Global Coordination Platform on the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) (Berlin, 25-26 April 2018) and a panel discussion on REDD+ and NDCs in the 3rd Asia-Pacific Rainforest Summit (Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 23-25 April 2018).</p> <p>Finally, UN-REDD technical staff developed an information brief on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and REDD+, with the expectation to publish this product in Q3.</p>
<p>REDD+ funding mechanisms</p>	<p>TA</p>		<p>UN-REDD consolidated knowledge and technical assistance stream to help impact investors in aligning their investment strategies with national REDD+ strategies, especially in selected countries in Latin America.</p> <p>In particular, UNDP and the Dutch development bank (FMO) initiated work on promoting sustainable practices in the soy and cattle ranching sectors to mitigate climate change in Paraguay. This will help create a large USD 220 million credit line for sustainable practices based on a GCF guarantee. UNDP approached FMO, provided information on options to align investments with national policy (i.e. the National REDD+ Strategy and prepared the concept note.</p> <p>In addition, UNDP started to work with the investment foundation &Green in the context of Ecuador to align the &Green investment capital with the implementation of Ecuador's REDD+ Action Plan by providing long term finance for a large project for productive and commercial transformation that will likely cover the cacao, coffee, palm oil and cattle sectors. Sailventures, the asset manager for &Green, has a limited capacity and mandate to</p>

			<p>support project development in the country and hence UNDP is providing technical assistance as project incubator, actively supporting the development of the first project(s) and thus creating the model(s) for agricultural investments that can reduce deforestation in Ecuador. The technical assistance is currently covering the following streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and capacity assessment of potential commercial partners; • Creation of a project development process that involves the &Green foundation in the run-up to the investment readiness of the projects so to foster trust among stakeholders; • Support to &Green to specify and apply their methodology and system to quantify the Environmental Return for &Green, (i.e. forest conservation, reduced deforestation and forest restoration) –the results of this effort will be scaled up and replicated nationally through UNDP’ knowledge management; • Fostering liaisons with key stakeholders, notably the Ministry of Agriculture, producer associations and other private actors in the context of the Proamazonia stakeholder engagement work. <p>In addition, UNDP initiated support to the Ecobusiness fund to align its investment capital with the implementation of Ecuador’s REDD+ Action Plan by exploring the option of providing a “deforestation-free” credit line for Banco Pichincha, a national private bank, which could then extend such finance to producers of other actors along the value chain in the cacao, coffee, palm oil or cattle sector.</p> <p>Briefing notes were prepared and tailored for Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru on options for accessing REDD+ funding from public sources, as well on fiduciary and operational arrangements. These briefing notes were adapted to the respective REDD+ policy and funding sources in each nation.</p> <p>Finally, special technical assessments were prepared to advise the governments of Ecuador, Cambodia, Ghana and Kenya on the option to sell UNFCCC compliant REDD+ emission reductions to oil companies (ENI and BP). In relation to this, UNDP facilitated preliminary exchanges between each government and these companies on this matter and provided advice on the technical requirements and issues to ensure full alignment of governmental decisions with UNFCCC REDD+ provisions.</p>
<p>Cross-cutting & Communications</p>	<p>TA</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new knowledge management and communications strategy and work plan was adopted. • A comprehensive update of the REDD+ Academy online UNITAR course is ongoing and will be finalized in November to include latest REDD+ knowledge and improve the learning experience. The second edition of the REDD+ Academy Learning Journals was translated into French and Spanish. • Production of nine UN-REDD impact videos has begun – with videos covering Viet Nam, Sri Lanka and Nepal ready by August. Videos will feature success stories from partner countries across the three regions. • A media trip for five journalists to East Kalimantan, Indonesia was organized to inform them about the climate relevance of peatlands and efforts to fight peatland fires. The field trip resulted in a series of articles and TV coverage. A UN-REDD impact video was produced in addition.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Africa Regional South-South Knowledge Exchange on REDD+ Safeguards was organized 12-13 June in Accra, Ghana. An Info Brief was produced to scale-up knowledge from a regional to a global level. The Exchange was organized in partnership with the Ghana Forestry Commission, SNV and Climate Law and Policy. As part of the knowledge exchange, experiences were shared with delegates from Peru and Viet Nam. • Three further regional South-South Knowledge Exchanges (India, Kenya and Paraguay) are currently being prepared and will follow in the second half of 2018. • Planning for a 10-year anniversary side event during UNFCCC COP24 in December is in full swing. Social media activities, highlighting and celebrating the Programme’s key achievements and knowledge generation since 2008, have started at the occasion of the Oslo Tropical Forest Forum held in June. • In a concerted effort to raise awareness of the UN-REDD Programme’s achievements through social media, the UN-REDD Programme’s Twitter account has now reached 19,200 followers. Our social authority is now higher than the WWF (Forest and Climate account) and is now on par with the Global Landscape Forum (GLF). • In complement, followership for the UN-REDD Programme LinkedIn account has grown from 1,000 to 2,500 followers between January and June 2018 due to intensified and targeted activities.
<p>Gender mainstreaming</p>		<p>Building on the gender achievements in 2017, the UN-REDD Programme continued supporting partner countries in integrating a gender perspective within nationally-led REDD+ action. This assistance ranged from undertaking gender-specific analyses on the ‘how-to’ integrate gender with REDD+ safeguards, strategies and policies and measures in Bangladesh and Argentina (both currently underway) to incorporating a gender perspective into REDD+ planning and implementation tools, such as Viet Nam’s Mid-term Implementation Plan and Mongolia’s REDD+ Capacity Building Program. As a result of such efforts, countries, such as Colombia with its <u>Bosques Territorios de Vida</u>, are making good progress in mainstreaming gender within REDD+ design and implementation.</p> <p>To help measure the degree the outputs of the UN-REDD Technical Assistance (TA) programme contribute to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, the UN-REDD Programme also made steady progress in 2018, through a strong collaboration effort among all 3 agencies, to further develop the methodology of and establish the baseline for its Gender Marker Rating System. The UN-REDD Programme is currently in the process of validating this methodology and baseline with its entire Team as well as developing a formal knowledge product detailing this innovative gender monitoring tool.</p>