

REQUEST FOR TARGETED SUPPORT¹

“Initial Support to Establish an Inclusive and Transparent REDD+ Stakeholder Forum”

I. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (complete cells in white)	
Main objective	To ensure the proposed REDD+ Stakeholder Forum is established in an inclusive and transparent manner, by engaging with critical and strategic stakeholders who will contribute to the national REDD+ readiness process, thereby the development of a national REDD+ strategy, in Bangladesh.
Main results expected	<p>The four key results anticipated are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Key stakeholder groups such as, but not limited to, , indigenous and non-indigenous forest-dependent communities, women’s and gender-focused groups, private sector, civil society, media, government organizations, community-based organizations, local and international NGOs, donors, academia, and research organizations, identified and prioritised for the proposed REDD+ Stakeholder Forum (RSF), based on revised stakeholder mapping and analysis.2. Basic awareness on REDD+ and national processes raised for key stakeholder groups identified.3. Establishment of aRSF consisting of key national representatives who have been self-selected by their respective stakeholder groups. The RSF will form the body from which these groups will nominate representatives to the national REDD+ Steering Committee, and the civil society and ethnic minorities representatives to the UN-REDD Programme Executive Board.4. Preliminary development of an inclusive, gender balanced and gender responsive Consultation and Participation Plan, incorporating findings and results from Results 1 to 3.

¹It is voluntary to use this form in the application process for UN-REDD Programme targeted support. If the country prefers using its own document, this form can be used as guidance on the content that is needed. See also guidance in the [Procedures for Accessing UN-REDD Programme Targeted Support](#).

The requests for targeted support should be presented in coordination with the teams of the participating UN organizations (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) and the Resident Coordinator.

It is recommended that the UN-REDD Country Focal Point submits the request. The request should be sent to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat (E-mail: un-redd@un-redd.org). The Resident Coordinator to be copied on the request.

Total amount requested (US\$)	80,000
Related Work Area/s ² as defined in the UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015	Work Area 4: Stakeholder Engagement
Planned period of implementation ³	One year (Tentative December 2014 – December 2015)
Please select below type of funding as appropriate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for funding for REDD + activities implemented in support of existing UN-REDD National Programmes. <input type="checkbox"/> Request for funding for REDD+ activities complementary to other nationally-defined REDD+ activities (national strategies, RPP and/or bilaterally funded REDD+ activities) or for initiation of REDD+ activities. (The country has no UN-REDD National Programme.	

²The work areas are: Monitoring Reporting Verification (MRV), Governance, Stakeholder Engagement, Multiple Benefits, Transparency & Accountability, Green Economy.

³ Period: from month/year to month/year.

II. BACKGROUND⁴

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) was invited to submit its Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) at the 11th Policy Board meeting of the UN-REDD Programme, held 9 to 10 December 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland. Since then, the R-PP has been finalized, incorporating comments and recommendations from the Policy Board. A National Programme Document has also subsequently been developed and is expected to commence in November 2014.

The development of its national REDD+ Readiness Roadmap initiated in 2011 was characterized by unprecedented and intensive efforts to engage with indigenous and non-indigenous stakeholders, particularly forest dependent communities. This was evident in the five regional consultation workshops held in Rangamati, Cox's Bazaar, Madhupur, Sreemongol and Thakurgaon, interspersed with three national consultation workshops.

Drawing from this positive experience, the GoB had agreed to the formation of a REDD+ Stakeholder Forum (RSF), a broad-based non-governmental set-up, designed to be a mechanism for stakeholder consultation and engagement both within the non-government sector, and between the non-government and government sectors. In the Roadmap, the RSF was envisaged to “serve as the principal outreach and communication platform for the REDD+ programme”. The Roadmap noted the existence of a Civil Society Forum, mandated by the Social Forestry Rules, which meets twice yearly, and the opportunity for the RSF to build on this experience.

Membership of the RSF was envisaged as the result of an open invitation and self-selection process, ensuring that all major stakeholder groups are represented, and that these individuals can accurately and faithfully represent the views and interests of their respective constituents. The forum will include representatives from the private sector, civil society, indigenous and non-indigenous forest dependent communities, media, women focussed groups, government organizations, community-based organizations, local and international NGOs, donors, academia, research organizations, and all stakeholders interested in the Climate Change and the REDD+ process. The determination of the structure, membership and terms of reference for the RSF will be an important activity under the Readiness phase.

The RSF is also expected to nominate representatives to sit on the national REDD+ Steering Committee (RSC), a key decision-making body. Civil society and ethnic minorities stakeholder groups in the RSF will also nominate representatives to the UN-REDD Programme Executive Board. As such, the RSF is strategically poised to ensure full, inclusive and effective participation of key stakeholders in the readiness process, including, but not limited to, indigenous and non-indigenous forest dependent communities, and women's and gender- focused groups.

III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

⁴ Depending on the phase of the country in its REDD+ efforts, some of these details are relevant. Others may be too detailed and can be further elaborated if the request is approved.

Once the National Programme is underway, one of the main priorities to be achieved within the first year of operations is Outcome 1: Improved Stakeholder Awareness and Effective Stakeholder Engagement. Among others, it involves getting a functional and effective RSF established, and a Consultation and Participation plan developed. For the former, the membership of the RSF is envisaged to include broad stakeholder groups, e.g., academia, civil society, ethnic minorities, women's and gender-focused groups, media, national and international non-governmental organisations, private sector, and all stakeholders interested in climate change and the REDD+ process. The latter is expected to identify awareness raising needs, and capacity building efforts in, and for REDD+ so that key stakeholders, including both women and men, are able to engage meaningfully in decision making processes, ultimately contributing to the design of a just and inclusive national REDD+ strategy.

A reflection of initial engagement efforts during the roadmap process showed that designing and implementing a robust stakeholder engagement process would require more time than anticipated, particularly time to build and strengthen trust, while mediating different stakeholder interests within complex social structures. Within each discrete stakeholder group, the issue of representation at a national level can be challenging, especially since certain groups such as the ethnic minorities may not be homogenous, and non-indigenous communities are not centralised geographically. Furthermore, it is not always necessary to create new networks or representation for all these groups. Where there are existing and well-established networks through previous or on-going projects, such as the forest user groups, these may form the initial entry points for the proposed stakeholder mapping (a list of some of these networks is provided on page 58 of the R-PP). Although engagement efforts during the readiness phase are envisaged to be primarily focused on policy processes at the national level, consultative mechanisms between national and local levels also need to be developed.

In order to ensure that the RSF is established in an informed, transparent and inclusive manner, this request will ensure there is adequate time and space, prior, and in parallel to the implementation of the National Programme, to address the challenges of authentic representation of key stakeholder groups at the national level; and ensure consistent information dissemination about REDD+ in order to manage expectations. An effective and functional RSF will also assist to ensure a focused and strategic Consultation and Participation plan that complements the objectives of the National Programme.

The National Programme has a decidedly narrow focus because the R-PP had identified a range of relevant initiatives and funding sources that need to be bundled to work towards REDD+ readiness. This reliance on co-funding contribution is viewed positively by the GoB because it allows them to ensure a wider range of co-benefits through building coherence among external and internal initiatives. This request is therefore envisaged as a series of bridging activities that the GoB will use to request other donors for coordination and resource contribution.

In support of Outcome 1 in the national program, this request will:

1. Review, revise and update an earlier stakeholder mapping exercise conducted during the roadmap process to determine how the GoB can engage strategically with different groups, and identify opportunities to build or strengthen alliances;
2. Conduct in-depth analysis of current and emerging stakeholders in the national REDD+ readiness process based on the criteria of interest, influence, scale, motivation and potential roles such as ability to influence national policy processes, with a view to prioritise key groups for early engagement, such as, but not limited to, indigenous and non-indigenous forest dependent communities and women's and/or gender-focused groups;
3. Identify and strengthen, where needed, existing stakeholder networks and/or recommend measures to organise new networks, if necessary;
4. Identify and incorporate steps to help ensure gender responsive activities are undertaken and inclusive representation is achieved during stakeholder awareness and engagement work;
5. Develop an introductory set of basic awareness raising materials about REDD+ in national and local languages for use during the self-selection processes that will also contribute to Output 1.1 – Public Awareness Raised;
6. Design, initiate and facilitate self-selection of legitimate national representatives of key stakeholder groups for the RSF based on stakeholder mapping and analysis; and
7. Provide baseline information through updated stakeholder mapping and analysis to assist in the development of an inclusive and gender-balanced and gender-responsive Consultation and

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

It is proposed that a national institution be contracted to carry out the activities listed above, under close supervision by UNDP. Activities will be conducted in consultation and coordination with relevant partner projects working with indigenous and non-indigenous groups.

V. FUNDING SOURCE

Co-funding of US\$50,000 will be provided by the UNDP Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility Watershed Management Activity (CHTWMA) project. Activities related to awareness raising and self-selection processes for the CHT, aligning with two (2) outputs: revised stakeholder mapping and analysis, and representatives from prioritised stakeholder groups self-selected for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum, will partially be funded by this project.

VI. SUMMARIZED WORKPLAN WITH BUDGET AND TIMELINE

Please see Annex 1 for Results Framework

Description of planned outputs and activities	Amount (US\$)	Implementation period (from month /year to month/year)
<p>Output 1: Revised stakeholder mapping and analysis</p> <p>Planned activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct a consultative, gender responsive and participatory process to review previous stakeholder mapping and analysis that will assist to develop a Consultation and Participation Plan.• Identify priority stakeholder groups based on a set of criteria, specifying corresponding self-selection process(es) where necessary, to be engaged prior to the formation of the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum.• Assess existing stakeholder networks with recommended measures to strengthen or establish new networks.• Conduct a nationally inclusive and participatory workshop to validate results of mapping and analysis.	30,000	December 2014 – February 2015
<p>Output 2: Representatives from prioritised stakeholder groups self-selected for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum</p> <p>Planned activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a set of basic awareness raising materials about REDD+ in national and local languages.• Conduct self-selection processes for representatives from prioritised groups nationally, and where necessary provincially.• Develop draft By of Terms of Reference for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum, including working	50,000	February – December 2015

arrangements with the RSC.		
Total amount requested (US\$)	80,000	

VII. MONITORING OF PROGRESS AND REPORTING

Outputs and planned activities will be monitored based on a set of proposed indicators.

Output 1: Revised stakeholder mapping and analysis

- Validated report containing priority stakeholder groups to be engaged.
- Consultation workshop reports and participation lists.
- Record of comment received from stakeholders and matrices demonstrating how these comments will be incorporated.

Output 2: Representatives from prioritised stakeholder groups self-selected for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum

- Assessment report of existing stakeholder networks with recommended measures to strengthen or establish new networks.
- A set of basic awareness raising materials about REDD+ in national language and local languages.
- Draft Terms of Reference for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum.

IV. UN-REDD COUNTY FOCAL POINT (name and title)⁵	HaradhanBanik Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests
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(Signature)

Name and title	HaradhanBanik, Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests
Institution and address	Forest Department, Ministry of Environment and Forests Office of the Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests Education and Training Wing Ban Bhaban, Sher-e Bangla Nagar, Agargaon Dhaka 1207 Bangladesh

⁵It is recommended that the UN-REDD Country Focal Point submits the request. See also footnotes on page 1.

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Annex 1: Results Framework

Result	Activity	Delivery timeframe	Responsible party	Indicator(s) of success/impact	Funds – from UN-REDD)	Co- financing (amount and source)	Budget breakdown	
							Category	Amount
Revised stakeholder mapping and analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a consultative, gender responsive and participatory process to review previous stakeholder mapping and analysis that will assist to develop a Consultation and Participation Plan. Identify priority stakeholder groups based on a set of criteria, specifying corresponding self-selection process(es) where necessary, to be engaged prior to the formation of the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum. Assess existing stakeholder networks with recommended measures to strengthen or establish new networks. Conduct a nationally inclusive and participatory workshop to validate results of mapping and analysis. 	By February 2015	Consulting national institution / UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Validated report containing priority stakeholder groups to be engaged. Consultation workshop reports and participation lists. Record of comment received from stakeholders and matrices demonstrating how these comments are incorporated. 	30,000	20,000 from CHTWMA	Personnel	10,000
							Supplies etc	5,000
							Contracts	15,000
							Other direct costs	0
Representatives from prioritised stakeholder groups self-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a set of basic awareness raising materials about REDD+ in national and local 	By December 2015	Consulting national institution / UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment report of existing stakeholder networks with recommended measures to strengthen or establish new 	50,000	30,000 from CHTWMA	Personnel	10,000

selected for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> languages. Conduct self-selection processes for representatives from prioritized groups nationally, and where necessary provincially. Develop draft Terms of Reference for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum, including working arrangements with the RSC. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> networks. A set of basic awareness raising materials about REDD+ in national language and local languages. Draft Terms of Reference for the REDD+ Stakeholder Forum. 			Supplies etc	10,000
							Contracts	30,000
							Other direct costs	0
Total					80,000	50,000		