Concept note for Targeted Support on key elements of the National REDD+ Strategy

1) Introduction/ background

The UN-REDD Programme's 'Support to National Actions - Global Programme Framework Document 2011-2015' defines targeted support as:

"All UN-REDD Programme partner countries are eligible to receive targeted support, depending upon availability of funds and capacity of the three agencies. In practical terms, targeted support means specific technical advice and other capacity strengthening support that a country may request on a critical REDD+ readiness aspect it has identified, which is not covered through other multilateral or bilateral initiatives and where the UN-REDD Programme has a comparative advantage to provide such support. Targeted support is intended to be small-scale, demand-driven, and technical or advisory in nature, and is provided to countries by the participating UN agencies in response to country needs. It can be provided in the form of backstopping of National Programmes, or other specific technical support under the Global Programme on a critical aspect of REDD+ readiness in a country, which is not available through National Programmes or through other initiatives."

Type(s) of Targeted Support - Please select as appropriate

✓ Funding for REDD+ activities implemented at the national level in support of existing UN-REDD National Programmes

✓ Funding for REDD+ activities complementary to other nationally-defined REDD+ activities (national strategies, RPP and/or bilaterally funded REDD+ activities)

✗ Funding to support national counterparts in REDD+ partner countries to participate in capacity building that will benefit the implementation of national REDD+ activities
Objective

This proposal seeks to achieve the following objective:

"To ensure that the development of the National REDD+ Strategy is supported by the full and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, in particular, through a comprehensive and effective programme of communications and support to women’s inclusion."

Broad Criteria for Targeted Support: briefly describe:

1) How is this targeted support consistent with the objectives of the UN-REDD Programme?

The UN-REDD Programme’s strategy (2012-2015) incorporates various elements designed to address REDD+ safeguards as specified in the "Cancun Agreements". These include the following:

- "Stakeholder participation and engagement is critical to developing viable REDD+ strategies and implementation frameworks, and should begin as early as possible when a country begins considering participation in REDD+.”

Corresponding to this statement of vision, a number of indicators of success are identified, including:

- “Number of REDD+ countries with benefit sharing systems designed”
- “Number of countries implementing an approach to REDD+ stakeholder engagement that is harmonized across UN-REDD, FCPF and FiP and Number of countries that seek FPIC”
- “Number of countries adopting safeguard standards for ecosystem services and livelihood benefits”

These targets are reflected in the ‘Support to National REDD+ Actions: Global programme Framework Document’ (and/or). For example:

- Output 3.2 relates specifically to transparent, equitable and accountable benefit distribution systems.
- Output 4.2 covers principles, guidelines and procedures for stakeholder engagement in national and international REDD+ processes
- Output 5.1: deals with environmental and social principles, criteria and approaches to safeguard the multiple benefits of forests under REDD+

UN-REDD's most recent adjustment to its Support to National Actions under the Global Programme, the “Support to National REDD+ Action: Global Programme Framework 2011-2015 Workplan and Budget Revision 2014”, approved at PB-11, reflects an increasing emphasis on these issues through the following statements:
• "UN-REDD Programme will broaden its support to countries to effectively implement and demonstrate how safeguards are being addressed ... support will be based on the recently consolidated UN-REDD Programme's approach to safeguards which consists of the following steps: (i) definition of goals of the safeguards approach, including interpretation of UNFCCC decisions from the country perspective and consideration of specific social and environmental risks as well as benefits that might be associated with REDD+ in the country; (ii) development of policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) relevant to REDD+ safeguards; and (iii) development of a SIS"

• "Given increasing demand for support stakeholder engagement ... the UN-REDD Programme seeks to provide the opportunity to catalyze stakeholder engagement with a special focus on ... partner countries that ... have potential to serve as successful pilots or early movers in stakeholder engagement."

Background to Targeted Support for Cambodia
In October, 2009, at its third meeting, the UN-REDD Policy Board approved the application of Cambodia to join the UN-REDD Programme. Since 2009, the UN-REDD Programme has provided support to Cambodia in a number of ways. Initial support was provided by UNDP and FAO Country Offices to the formulation of a REDD+ Readiness Roadmap, finalized in October, 2010. A UN-REDD National Programme was approved by the UN-REDD Policy Board in November 2010, at its fifth meeting. Subsequently, the RGC selected UNDP as its Delivery Partner for FCPF funding. The UNDP project document was signed on December 25th, 2013.

To date, in addition to funding of $3,001,350 through its National Programme, Cambodia has received $100,000 through Targeted Support to supplement capacity building activities and to establish information mechanisms for the three networks of community-managed areas (Community Forests, Community Protected Areas, and Community Fisheries).

2) What is the expected contribution of this targeted support to national REDD+ efforts?

Cambodia has been at the forefront of innovative use of communications to forge effective participation of all stakeholders in the REDD+ Readiness process. Among the initiatives undertaken by the REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS) in Cambodia are:

• The development and implementation of a UN-REDD Communications Strategy
• Expansion of the scope of the strategy to become a REDD+ Cambodia Communications Strategy, which is now being implemented
• Conducting an on-line survey of all partners concerning perceptions of awareness raising needs for different stakeholder groups
• Conducting numerous surveys of stakeholder's understanding of REDD+ in order to identify areas of weakness
• Building on the preceding two activities, compiling all communications materials produced by all partners in Cambodia, and forming a multi-partner review committee to ensure that such materials are accurate and of adequate quality.

• Filling the communications gaps identified through the surveys that are not met by existing materials.

• Producing several products that are of global relevance, including a REDD+ Glossary, REDD+ FAQ, a REDD+ Training Manual, etc.

• Producing a state-of-the-art national REDD+ website, and keeping it regularly updated with a wide range of documents, contributing to a high level of transparency for the REDD+ programme in Cambodia (see, for example, REDD+ Taskforce meeting minutes: http://www.cambodia-redd.org/ for the homepage; http://www.cambodia-redd.org/category/document-centre/taskforce for Taskforce minutes).

• Maintaining an active Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cambodia-REDD-National-Programme/281996938602886) and Twitter account.

• Producing regular national newsletters (see http://www.cambodia-redd.org/category/document-centre/redd-materials/newsletter) and contributing frequently to the UN-REDD global newsletter.

• Holding a number of innovative events – concerts, and (coming up) a cycle tour/tree planting event for communications to and awareness raising of the general public.

• Preparing a series of radio and TV programmes covering REDD+ topics, consisting of Q&A/debates/phone-ins.

• Preparing videos and posters to cover aspects of REDD+, including MRV, Incentive, Driver of Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Co-benefit/Benefit Sharing, and Safeguard and PPIC.

• Creating a web-database search engine of REDD+ glossary in existing Cambodia REDD+ Programme (Khmer to English and vice versa, Khmer-English, English-Khmer).

• Planning organization of puppet shows in different target provinces.

These initiatives have resulted in Cambodia having a greater proportion of stakeholders who are “very satisfied” with the REDD+ readiness process (18%) than any other country in the Asia/Pacific region, based on surveys undertaken by the UN-REDD Programme as part of a Regional Assessment of REDD+ Readiness in 2013.

However, these innovative approaches to communications as an integral part of ensuring the full and effective participation of all stakeholders are not cheap. The approved UN-REDD budget for communications was $150,000, and the same amount was approved by the FCPF. Over the 6 years during which UN-REDD and FCPF funding will support REDD+ readiness, this equates to $50,000/year. Yet the cost of a single 5 minute video is at least $10,000, and other communications events/media are even more expensive. As noted above, many of the communications materials produced by the RTS are of global relevance – products such as the Glossary and Training Manual, as well as products such as a compilation of all UNFCCC decisions, and awareness raising videos on REDD+. Therefore an investment in communications in Cambodia is not only an investment in ensuring the full and effective participation.

1 Iran had a proportion of 25%, but only 4 stakeholders from Iran participated in the survey, meaning that one person reported being “very satisfied.”
of all relevant stakeholders in Cambodia, but also a contribution to promoting the full and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in other countries as well.

At present, there is a significant risk that UN-REDD will not achieve the targets set for indicators of impact. Text for posters and videos to be used in awareness raising were drafted and reviewed many months ago, but there has been no production as yet due to the budget shortfall. These products are essential to achieving the target set by the programme and approved by the PEB.

Cambodia has also been leading efforts to ensure women’s inclusion in management of REDD+ readiness. It was a pilot country for a joint UN-REDD/LEAF/WOCAN study on barriers to women’s inclusion, which led to various interventions being identified to overcome these barriers. However, as these interventions were not conceived when the national programme was first designed, the costs are not incorporated into the budget.

3) How is it aligned with the agencies’ programming priorities for the relevant work areas?

UNDP, the lead agency on social safeguards, as per the “Support to National REDD+ Actions: Global programme Framework Document”, is responsible for a number of outputs and activities under the UN-REDD National Programme document that are in line with the activities suggested in this proposal. These include:

- Stakeholders contribute to Roadmap implementation through the CG and TTs: CG meetings
- Training and other capacity building for TT, CG and TTs
- Consultation with relevant stakeholder groups following Roadmap principles
- Development of a comprehensive national consultation validation process for the National REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework
- Implementation of a work plan for awareness raising on REDD+ and the national process
- Implementation of information sharing and capacity-building process with all stakeholders
- Establishment and maintenance of website and knowledge sharing mechanisms
- Communication of results to Cambodian and international stakeholders
- Documentation and dissemination of lessons learned from pilot REDD+ projects and sub-national capacity building
- Operation of information dissemination mechanisms for stakeholders without access to the internet
2) Activities and Workplan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Output and timeframe</th>
<th>UN Agency</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Indicator(s) of success/impact</th>
<th>Funds – from UN-REDD</th>
<th>Co-financing (amount and source)</th>
<th>Budget breakdown</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholders provided with information, and awareness raised on REDD+ through various means of communications (including videos, posters, brochures, TV/radio programmes, etc.)</td>
<td>Production of targeted awareness raising materials</td>
<td>By June 2014, at least 4 videos, and 5 posters produced; additional videos, posters and brochures produced thereafter. By September 2014, a series of TV/Radio shows prepared and broadcasting has begun</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>RTS</td>
<td>By the end of 2016, average awareness raised by specified amounts over baseline values, especially for the stakeholder groups having the lowest awareness in 2013.</td>
<td>102,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Personnel 12,000</td>
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<td>Design and delivery of awareness raising events at national and sub-national level</td>
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<td>By March, 2015, a series of sub-national concert events held. By September 2014, at least two additional awareness raising events for the</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>RTS</td>
<td>Baseline (average score of respondents to awareness survey; lowest 5 groups): Community forests: 59%. Community PAs: 65%. Sub-nat. gov’t officials: 66%. Indigenous Peoples: 72%. Community Fisheries: 76%.</td>
<td>83,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Personnel 15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other direct costs

Contracts 80,000

Supplies etc. 8,000

Contracts 60,000
| Women are effectively included into management of the REDD+ readiness process | Support to the newly established “Gender Team” | From June 2014 onwards, a functioning Gender Team is able to review and endorse all documents being prepared for presentation to the Taskforce | UNDP | RTS | Targets:  
Community Forests: 70%  
Community PAs: 73%  
Sub-nat. gov’t officials: 75%  
Indigenous Peoples: 80%  
Community Fisheries: 83%  
  
By March 2015, the draft National REDD+ strategy adequately reflects gender perspectives  
  
Baseline:  
There is no process to ensure the incorporation of gender perspectives  
  
Target:  
From June 2014 onwards, all documents submitted to the Taskforce for policy decisions have been endorsed by the Gender Team | 20,000 | N/A | Other direct costs |  
| | | | | Personnel | 15,000 |  
| | | | | Supplies, etc. | 5,000 |  
| | | | | Contracts |  
| | | | | Other direct costs |  
| Total | | | | | 205,000 | - |  

Note: Costs are in USD.

Approved by [Signature]

UN-REDD National Programme Director  

20-May-2014