

# REQUEST FOR TARGETED SUPPORT<sup>1</sup>

(Establishment of a gender sub group within Sri Lanka's REDD+CSOForum)

I. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (complete cells in white)	
Main objective	<p>The objective of this Targeted Support is to provide support in strengthening women's inclusion and address gender considerations through the delivery of the following outputs of Sri Lanka's Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)/UN-REDD National Programme (NP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Output 3.2: Stakeholder engagement in REDD+readiness process enhanced (incl. FPIC, the private sector engagement)</li><li>• Output 5.6: Framework for social and environmental risk mitigation and potential multiple benefit enhancement designed</li></ul> <p>The main rationale for this work comes from the need for Sri Lanka to fully address and respect the safeguards referred to in Appendix I to UNFCCC CoP Decision 1/CP.16 (the Cancun Agreements) throughout the implementation of the Roadmap and subsequently the National REDD+ Strategy, as reiterated by UNFCCC CoP Decision 12/CP. 19 in Warsaw, Poland. The key focus of this Targeted Support will be to assist Sri Lanka in addressing and respecting the particular safeguard item: '<i>(d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision</i>'. Paragraph 72 of the Cancun Agreements specifically makes a reference to addressing gender considerations throughout the REDD+ process.</p>
Main results expected	<p>This targeted support aims to promote and help ensure that the work undertaken by the Government of Sri Lanka in catalysing the establishment of key central mechanisms and processes and development of capacities required to implement REDD+ incorporates gender considerations and promotes women's inclusion in the REDD+ process. While the NP document acknowledges it will contribute to gender equality and the country's R-PP acknowledges women's important role in the forest sector, concrete efforts to promote women's inclusion and gender responsive aspects in the</p>

<sup>1</sup>It 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](mailto:un-redd@un-redd.org)). The Resident Coordinator to be copied on the request.

	<p>NP still need identified and operationalized.</p> <p>As such, the key result expected through this Targeted Support is to ensure greater women's inclusion and gender considerations in REDD+ policy processes. To do so, the Targeted Support will establish a gender sub-group - comprised of gender and/or women's empowerment focused CSOs - within Sri Lanka's REDD+ CSO Forum. As the work of the CSO Forum will specifically bring ideas, concerns and experiences of civil society organizations and local communities into REDD+ related policy processes, the proposed gender sub-group can help feed into this work and showcase lessons learned and good practices, including those identified in the recent UN-REDD/LEAF/WOCAN gender country case study, to demonstrate and highlight the opportunities for women's inclusion and gender integration in REDD+ in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>To help achieve this result, the following activities (further described in Section III) will be undertaken by the gender sub-group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identification and prioritization of key messages and entry points for greater gender considerations and women's inclusion in the REDD+ readiness process;</li> <li>2. Awareness-raising and capacity development to strengthen the gender sensitivity of the CSO Forum's recommendations and policy feedback as well as generate, disseminate and promote useful data and good practices from the ground; and</li> <li>3. Through effective dialogue, conduct advocacy efforts with and build capacity of policy makers and public institutions around the sub groups' key messages and make a strong case for greater inclusion of women and gender considerations in the REDD+ readiness process.</li> </ol>
Total amount requested (US\$)	30,000 USD
Related Work Area/s <sup>2</sup> as defined in the <b>UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015</b>	Governance; Transparency & Accountability
Planned period of implementation <sup>3</sup>	1 year (Tentative August 2014 – August 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-	

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

<sup>3</sup> Period: from month/year to month/year.

## II. BACKGROUND<sup>4</sup>

The submission of Sri Lanka's R-PP to the UN-REDD Policy Board occurred in February 2012 and its NP was then endorsed in early 2013.

The country was also part of an Asia-Pacific Joint Initiative between WOCAN, the UN-REDD Programme and USAID-funded LEAF Project to investigate practical entry points for women's inclusion in REDD+ policies and practices. Undertaken in 2013, this case study explored the current status of policies and practices related to gender integration in forestry and other natural resource management sectors in Sri Lanka, and their relation to REDD+ initiatives. It observed that within the R-PP, there is no explicit recognition of the importance of gender in relation to controlling deforestation and forest degradation, or the institutional and policy/legal context. Specific barriers noted by the study to the inclusion of gender and women in REDD+ and other national resource management sectors within the country include traditional ideologies and gender norms; lack of gender awareness and commitment; lack of gender indicators and monitoring and evaluation frameworks; perceptions within the forest sector institutions; and lack of women's organizations to facilitate the process. Additionally, it was found that the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs (MCDWA) and some NGOs, focusing on gender issues, have a high level of interest but their limited technical knowledge on REDD+ restricts them from engaging in the REDD+ readiness process. The study further found that the experience of rural women's engagement in the forest sector activities, even without planning and support, has led to assumptions that this will happen automatically and result in the successful implementation of REDD+ without the need for policies and practices to actively and deliberately support women's inclusion.<sup>5</sup>

Gender-differentiated needs, uses and knowledge of the forest are critical inputs to policy and programmatic interventions that will enable the long-term success of REDD+ on the ground. To ensure that national REDD+ efforts are inclusive and resilient, specific attention must be paid to the specific roles, constraints, requirements and contributions of women and men at every stage of policy and programme development, from design through implementation and evaluation. Meaningfully capturing the views, experiences and priorities of both men and women in REDD+ activities at all stages, including in REDD+ readiness, has been identified as a main contributor to success. (UN-REDD Programme, "Business Case for Mainstreaming Gender in REDD+", 2011)

As such, given the findings of the study, the creation of a gender sub group within the NP CSO Forum could help address some of these identified issues. More specifically, as the work of the CSO Forum will help inform the five outcomes outlined in the R-PP and the NP document, developing the gender sub group will create the opportunity for such work to then be informed by gender expertise and involve women as well as incorporate the roles they play and the skills and knowledge they bring into the recommendations and activities of the Forum.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> UNREDD/WOCAN/LEAF, 2013. "Women's Inclusion in REDD+ in Sri Lanka: Lessons from Good Practices in Forest Agriculture and Other Natural Resources Management Sectors". Available at: [http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=11999&Itemid=53](http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=11999&Itemid=53)

### III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

As noted above, the main objective of this proposed Targeted Support is to establish a gender sub group - comprised of gender and/or women's empowerment focused CSOs - within Sri Lanka's REDD+ CSO Forum. This sub group can help feed into the work of the CSO Forum and showcase lessons learned and good practices, including those identified in the UN-REDD/LEAF/WOCAN gender study, to demonstrate and highlight the opportunities for women's inclusion and gender integration into REDD+ activities in Sri Lanka.

Through a set of concrete activities, it is planned that the work of the proposed gender sub group of the CSO Forum will bring local gender and forest experiences to the national level as well as build the capacity of Forum members and the national government on the importance of incorporating gender considerations into its REDD+ activities. It is envisioned that this gender sub group would undertake the following three tasks:

- i. Undergo a prioritization exercise, wherein the gender sub group would review the work plan of the CSO Forum to identify key messages and entry points where gender considerations and women's inclusion could be strengthened and/or added. Through this work, it would then prioritize these messages entry points as well as identify any possible barriers faced in implementation as well as possible resources (i.e. staff time, capacity building trainings/materials, etc.) that would be needed. The results of this prioritization exercise would be presented in a brief document and action plan.
- ii. Based on the work conducted under (i) above, deliver awareness raising and conduct capacity building efforts (i.e. through handouts, workshops, trainings, etc., as applicable), within the CSO Forum to (a) highlight good practices from the local level and the importance/benefits of women's inclusion and gender in REDD+; and (b) strengthen the gender sensitivity of the Forum's work and recommendations, of which then feeds into the NP. (Where relevant and feasible, the gender sub-group can rely on existing documents to inform this work, such as the analysis, good practice examples, and recommendations of the UN-REDD/LEAF/WOCAN gender case study and the guidance presented within the UN-REDD's "Guidance Note on Gender Sensitive REDD+").<sup>6</sup> To help measure any perception changes on gender themes as a result of this activity, voluntary perception surveys will also be given to members of the CSO platform at the beginning and end of planned awareness raising and capacity building efforts.
- iii. Conduct advocacy efforts (i.e. through dialogue exchanges, workshops, trainings, etc.) to disseminate at the national level information on local gender and forest experiences. This work will specifically involve linking gender and/or women's empowerment focused CSOs to policymakers at the national level in order to open new opportunities for multi-stakeholder collaboration and knowledge exchange. Such efforts can help lead to policy work that is informed by effective, locally focused practices and aligned with the priorities of women's and gender organizations in the country. To help measure any perception changes on gender themes as a result of this activity, voluntary perception surveys will also be given to policy makers at the beginning and end of planned advocacy and capacity building efforts.

### IV. IMPLEMENTATION

<sup>6</sup>UN-REDD Programme, 2013. "Guidance Note on Gender Sensitive REDD+". Available at: [http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=11824&Itemid=53](http://www.unredd.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=11824&Itemid=53)

It is proposed that this gender sub group be part of the CSO Forum, and would function in a similar fashion. It would take part in and be present at CSO Forum meetings, as well as during any other discussions and communications - including with the REDD+ task forces (TFs) - in order to help it effectively stay updated on the national REDD+ readiness processes and ensure CSO discussions and recommendations are informed by gender expertise.

Given the CSO Forum annual work plan is now currently being designed, it is envisioned that the formation of the gender sub group would commence as soon as possible, with the goal of having the group fully in place by early September 2014. It is proposed that the gender sub group would be comprised of 3 local gender and/or women's empowerment focused CSOs, of which would go through a self selection process. The proposed work by the gender sub group will be conducted in accordance with the CSO Platform organizational and work structure.

The 3 local gender and/or women's empowerment focused CSOs should:

- Possess technical knowledge or familiarity with natural resource management;
- Possess basic understanding of REDD+ and/or climate change;
- Demonstrate strong knowledge with gender- and women-specific issues in Sri Lanka;
- Have availability to contribute to and participate in the gender sub group and meetings and discussions of the CSO Forum.

The tasks of this gender sub group (as detailed in Section III) are focused on building capacity on gender concepts and raising awareness of CSO Forum members and government officials on the opportunities for women's inclusion and gender integration in REDD+ and natural resources management in Sri Lanka. As such, their activities are time-bound and will only be required for approximately a year.

Given the possibility that some of the member organizations of the gender sub group might have limited knowledge of REDD+ or on the specific REDD+ activities currently underway within the country at the start of their work, it is recommended that an initial working session with the 3 member organizations be organized in order to give a short technical introduction to REDD+ (if necessary) as well as clarify the management arrangements in Sri Lanka on REDD+ and its NP.

#### V. FUNDING SOURCE

Please indicate any co-funding for the planned activities.

The amount being requested for this targeted support activity is 30,000 USD, and is being requested from UNDP/UNREDD Targeted Support funding. There is no other co-funding identified for this work.

#### VI. SUMMARIZED WORKPLAN WITH BUDGET AND TIMELINE

*(Please expand space as needed. Alternatively, add Annex with workplan, budget and timeline)*

Description of planned outputs and activities	Amount (US\$)	Implementation period (from month/year to month/year)
<b>Output 1:</b> Prioritization exercise completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of key messages and entry points where gender and women's inclusion</li> </ul>	5,000 USD	September – October 2014

<p>could be strengthened and/or added within CSO Forum, as well as any corresponding barriers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document and present prioritization exercise in a brief and corresponding action plan.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Output 2:</b> CSO Forum work and recommendations are gender sensitive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct awareness raising and capacity building efforts (i.e. through trainings, workshops, informal meetings, etc.) on gender and women's inclusion within the CSO Forum.</li> <li>• Conduct perception surveys</li> <li>• As necessary, utilize existing and/or develop tools and reports to highlight good practices on the ground and the importance/benefits of women's inclusion and gender in REDD+.</li> </ul>	10,000 USD	November 2014 – March 2015
<p><b>Output 3:</b> National REDD+ policy work integrates gender considerations and is informed and aligned with priorities of women's and gender organizations at the local</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct advocacy efforts (i.e. through dialogue exchanges, workshops, trainings, etc.) to disseminate information at the national level on local gender and forest experiences and good practices.</li> <li>• Conduct perception surveys</li> <li>• Establish linkages between gender and/or women's empowerment focused CSOs and policymakers at the national level in order to open new opportunities for multi-stakeholder collaboration and knowledge exchange.</li> </ul>	15,000 USD	February – August 2015
<b>Total amount requested (US\$)</b>		<b>30,000 USD</b>

## VII. MONITORING OF PROGRESS AND REPORTING

Please describe how the progress of planned activities and outputs will be monitored and reported by time.

This Targeted Support will be monitored and reported against a set of indicators for each output noted within the workplan and timeline noted above (Section VI). To briefly note, the perception surveys conducted as part of Output 2 and 3 will help inform and determine the focus of planned awareness raising and capacity building activities as well as measure how capacity on gender was built.

Below are recommended indicators for the three outputs:

### Output 1:

- Development of Policy Brief on key messages and entry points
- Development of Action Plan (to address messaging and recommendations of the Policy Brief)

### Output 2:

- # of CSO Forum members participating/involved in gender and women's empowerment

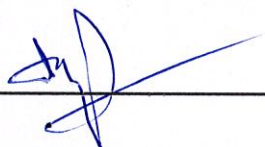
awareness raising and capacity activities conducted by the gender sub group. (Data disaggregated by sex and type of activity)

- % change in perceptions around gender with members of the CSO Platform engaged in awareness raising and capacity building activities
- # of actions in the CSO Forum's work plan that include gender considerations in their formation and implementation

**Output 3:**

- # of policy makers participating/involved in gender and women's empowerment knowledge exchange, awareness raising and capacity activities conducted by the gender sub group. (Data disaggregated by sex, ministry and department as well as type of activity)
- % change in perceptions around gender issues with policy makers engaged in awareness raising and capacity building activities
- # of gender sub group recommendations taken on board by policy makers and integrated into REDD+ related policy processes

IV. UN-REDD COUNTY FOCAL POINT (name and title) <sup>7</sup>	Anura Sathurusinghe Conservator General of Forests, Forest Department, Sri Lanka UN-REDD National Programme Director Email: npd.redd.sl@gmail.com
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(Signature)

Name and title	Anura Sathurusinghe
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<sup>7</sup>It is recommended that the UN-REDD Country Focal Point submits the request. See also footnotes on page 1.