



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT BOARDS FOR FORESTRY PROJECTS

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Vietnam

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RE: The Readiness Assessment – An Important Milestone of REDD+ Readiness

Vietnam is pleased to hereby submit its Readiness Assessment.

The Readiness Assessment is one of the important milestones that Vietnam has to undertake to receive funding from the Carbon Fund.

Overall the Readiness Assessment process has been constructive in drawing together the many REDD+ project and partner experiences and it has contributed to the analysis of strengths and weaknesses in Vietnam's REDD+ programme.

Vietnam has assessed a number of the REDD+ assessment criteria as 'yellow - meaning that the activity is progressing well with further development required' and some criteria are assessed as 'green - showing significant progress'. This does not mean that all issues for the 'green' activities have been addressed or completed, this means that on the straightforward subjective assessment that the 'green' activities are making significant and better progress than the yellow 'progressing well' activities. Key REDD+ activities that are showing good incremental progress in Vietnam include:

- The national REDD+ strategy, Vietnam developed a REDD+ strategy (the National REDD+ Action Plan) very early and this is currently being updated and further developed and the revised national REDD+ strategy will be released later this year;
- Consultations have taken place with a wide range of REDD+ stakeholders, partners and projects in different parts of the country and, for example, for the Readiness Assessment this involved over 400 participants contributing to the assessment consultations these included:
 - Consultations with ten provinces with representatives from the north, centre and south, discussions included Districts and communes;

- Assessment consultations with development partners included GIZ, JICA, WB, Norway, UN-REDD, and the Vietnam Forest and Delta Program (USAID); and
- NGOs and CSOs participated directly in workshops and through the Vietnam REDD+ Organisation Technical Working Group forums including representatives from, SNV, WWF, FFI, Centre of Research and Development in Upland Area (CERDA), and Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM);
- Vietnam has made a national REL/RL submission to the UNFCCC and a regional RL is also under development for the Carbon Fund Accounting Area;
- The proposed Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system of Vietnam is under development and is based on existing systems, with improvements to reduce the uncertainty of the activity data and emission/removal factors, and Vietnam has capacity building training plan, and has advanced technology MRV pilots in place in five provinces, and this will expand 15 to provinces in 2016/17 through the support from four partner programmes, the outputs from the pilots is in the process of being joined to the national forest management approach using the Management Information System for Forestry Sector Management (FORMIS) which will also integrate a REDD+ database, and FORMIS Phase II (from May 2013 to 2018) aims to integrate all data on forest resources from the National Forest Inventory System project; and
- The Strategic and Environmental Social Assessment (SESA) implemented as Phase 1 and Phase 2 has been implemented based on FCPF guidance on the common approach on environmental and social safeguard with all the parts that that make up Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), being available in draft including the Benefit Sharing Mechanisms (BSM) (including pilots in the UN-REDD Programme), Ethnic Minority Development Framework (EMDF), Resettlement Process Framework and Gender Action Plan in the Carbon Fund Accounting Area provinces, also under development is a Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) (currently being piloted in six provinces) and in addition the complementary Safeguards information system (SIS) funded under the UN-REDD Programme is being implemented and this will improve transparency on safeguards and is being established together with a plan to strengthen institutional capacity to follow the REDD+ relevant policies, legislation and regulations.

Vietnam appreciates the assistance from FCPF in preparing the Readiness Assessment and contributions that all development partners made to make this a meaningful and worthwhile processes and contribution to REDD+ in Vietnam.

Please accept my sincere appreciation of your kind cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Vu Xuan Thon
Director General
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