

**Ministry of Environment and Forest**

**National REDD+ Secretariat**

**Minute for Benshanguel Gumuze Regional State awareness creation workshop**

**Date: February 12-13, 2015**

**Venue: Assosa, Ethiopia**

**Agenda:**

**1. Presentations on:**

- Climate change & the Role of Forests to Climate Change
- A brief history of REDD+
- REDD+ technical Element
- Ethiopia REDD+ Readiness Process
- Social & Environmental Consideration of REDD+

**Workshop opening:**

Dr Solomon Zewdie National REDD+ Pilot coordinator presented Overview of the Regional workshop objectives, schedule and expected outputs consequently he invited BGRS Agricultural office Manager to open the workshop.

The Manager in his key note remark explained that Ethiopia is implementing climate resilient green economy strategy. In the strategy it is indicated that forest sector emit about 37% of GHG so working in the sector will realize the objective of the CRGE.

REDD+ is an incentive mechanism to reduce deforestation and forest degradation and it is started at national level in January 2013. In the readiness phase of REDD+ capacity building activities at regional and local level particularly on creating awareness is the major activity. This capacity building activity help stakeholders to understand what REDD+ means and enable them to work towards conservation of existing forest and restore the degraded forest area as well as how to get multiple benefits including carbon finance.

Finally, I would like to say well come and thank you the national REDD+ Secretariat for preparing this awareness creation program to our regional stakeholders. Starting from today for the next two consecutive days you will acquire knowledge on REDD+ basics and in order to implement REDD+ in the region. He concluded his opening speech by announcing the two days workshop on REDD+ is officially opened.

### **Presentations, Questions, Discussions and Suggestions**

#### **Presnetation1. Climate change & the Role of Forests to Climate Change and a brief history of REDD+.**

Ato Yidenkachew Habte national REDD+ strategy task force member his presentation title was **Climate change & the Role of Forests to Climate Change and a brief history of REDD+.**

In his presentation he briefly presented signs of Climate Change, causes of climate change, how greenhouse gas emitted to the atmosphere and source of GHGs and the global challenges caused by climate change.

He also give further details about global forest resource and how forests play a dual role in climate change and how forests can be a source of greenhouse gases, emitting carbon dioxide to the atmosphere and how forests can also act as a “sink,” removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it as carbon in their biomass as they grow. In addition the presenter give details on how forests and other terrestrial systems annually absorb carbon dioxide.

#### **Presntation2. History of REDD+**

The presentation includes International and national REDD+ evolution. Ato Ydenkachew in his presentation explained how REDD+ evolved starting from 1997 –Kyoto protocol and how the exclusion resulted in the formation of Coalition for Rainforest Nations-CRN ( Papua New Guinea, Costa Rica and other forest nations) to include the issue on the next COP. In COP 11 Montreal Canada a fundamental millstone was achieved since CRN are supported by other eight countries. These countries proposed a mechanism for Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation in developing countries (RED). Finally, in COP-13 at the 2007 Bali UNFCCC meeting, an agreement was reached on “ the urgent need to take further action to reduce

emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD). REDD+ has since expanded to include role of forest conservation, sustainable forest management, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in forests ( Reforestation, afforestation, agroforestry , forest rehabilitation etc) .

### **Presentation 3. REDD+ Technical Elements & national REDD+ Process**

Dr Solomon Zewdie National REDD+ pilot Coordinator presented REDD+ technical elements. The presentation focused and explained in detail on technical elements such as Measuring and Monitoring, Reference level, additionality, Leakage, Non-Permanence, reporting and verification.

Under measuring & monitoring Dr Solomon explained the five places where carbon is stored in forests (“carbon pools”) and how these carbon pools can be measured by various techniques.

He explained basic steps of carbon accounting and IPCC measurement techniques.

Under Reference level the presenter explained various methods for establishing RELs/RLs including historical rates of land cover change, projected business - as - usual (BAU) scenario using economic models, historical deforestation adjusted for factors representing national social-economic and developmental circumstances such as demographic trends, forest cover or GDP.

Dr Solomon also further explained additionality, Non-permanence and two forms of leakage that REDD+ activities are susceptible to: activity leakage and market leakage.

Concerning the national REDD+ process the presenter showed that how Ethiopia engaged in 2008 in REDD+ process by submitting letter of intent to participate in FCPF and the consequent participation steps of the country.

#### **Presentation 4. Social and Environmental Considerations in REDD+**

REDD+ Environmental Safeguard specialist presented social and environmental consideration in REDD+. The presenter first explained the essence of safeguard and where & when REDD+ safeguard concept started in international negotiation. He further explained REDD+ potential positive impacts on social, environmental and economy at global, national, regional and local level. Complementary benefits of REDD+ such as sustainable forest management and ecotourism, and Maintenance of traditional livelihoods/cultural values associated with forests and environment were explained. He also presented the potential environmental and social risks created while implementing REDD+. Finally, the presenter explained type of safeguard instrument that Ethiopia is preparing for REDD+ .

#### **Questions**

Question, discussions and suggestions were carried out after each presentations. The discussion points were summarized below.

- In our region bamboo is one of the major forest resource so do bamboo forest legible for REDD+?
- Is there any standard payment for each ton of carbon?
- What kind of support you have for regions to enter in the REDD+ process?
- How can we measure soil carbon in REDD+?

#### **Discussions and Suggestions**

- Yes, bamboo forest is considered as one of the forest type in the new forest definition of the country. It is legible for REDD+ and conservation and management of bamboo forest can reduce significant amount of carbon emission and also sequester carbon. Thus, conservation and management of bamboo forest have significance in climate change mitigation and other co-benefit mentioned in REDD+ mechanism.

- On international market there are volunteer and performance based markets but till now there are no standard payment modality for one ton of generated carbon.
- The national REDD+ Secretariat in readiness phase want to make the country ready for REDD+ financial mechanism by implementing different REDD+ elements in the country. The secretariat make some regions as pilot project areas. In general the secretariat in REDD+ readiness process provide capacity building and technical support to make the country ready for REDD+.
- Soil carbon is one of the six carbon pool and there is a soil carbon measurement standard. The soil depth used to measure carbon is between 0 - 30cm.

### **Way forward**

Ato Bekele Guta from Bureau of Agriculture & Rural Development of BGRS closed the workshop by forwarding his message for participants to contribute in REDD+ implementation in the region .

Finally, he extended his thanks to participants, facilitators and the secretariat effort, and the workshop was adjourned at 12:00 AM.

## II. Program schedule

Time (tentative)	Programme Item	Responsible/Session facilitator (TWG and REDD+ RFP & Secretariat)	Chair
8:30 – 9:00	Participant Registration	Organizers/Facilitators	
9:00 - 9:15	Opening remarks	BOARD Manger	
9:15 - 9:40	Introductions of all participants	Participants	
9:40 - 9:50	Overview of the Regional workshop objectives	Dr Solomon Zewdie	
9:50 -10:20	<b>Climate change &amp; the Role of Forests to Climate Change</b>	Ato Yidenkachew Habte	
10:20 - 10:40	<b>Break</b>	<b>Organizers</b>	
10:50 – 11:30	<b>A brief history of REDD</b>	Ato Yidenkachew Habte	
11:30 -12:30	<b>REDD+ Technical Elements</b>	Dr Solomon Zewdie	
<b>12:30 -14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Organizers</b>	
<b>14:00 - 14:30</b>	<b>REDD+ Technical Elements</b>	Dr Solomon Zewdie	
14:30 -15:00	<b>Discussion</b>		
<b>15:20 -15:50</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Organizers</b>	
15:50 – 16:30	<b>Social &amp; Environmental considerations in REDD+</b>	Ato Eyob Tenkir	
<b>16:30 - 17:00</b>	<b>Discussion</b>		
<b>17:00</b>	<b>Close</b>		

<b>Time (tentative)</b>	<b>Programme Item</b>	<b>Responsible/Session facilitator</b>	<b>Chair</b>
8:30 -9:00	Participant registration	Facilitators	
9: 00 -9:40	<b>Status of the national REDD+ Readiness process</b>	Dr Solomon Zewdie	
<b>9:40 -10:00</b>	<b>AEPA</b>	<b>Ato Mengistu AEPA Director General</b>	
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Break</b>	Organizer	
10:30 - 12:00	<b>Reflections on the next step</b>	Ato Yidnekachew Habte	
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Workshop closed</b>	<b>Organizers</b>	

### **III. Participant list**



5 Females #31 participants  
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Ministry of Environment and Forest  
National REDD+ Secretariat

Regional REDD+ Awareness Creation Workshop

Date: Feb 12/2015

Benishangul Gumuz Regional State, Assosa, February 12-13/2015

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